

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM.

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, December 11, 1875.

Volume XIV-No. 9.

Whole Number 685.

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG

and
Harrison County

EARLIEST SETTLEMENT

to the Present Time.

PREFACE

The writer in undertaking the task of compiling a history of Clarksburg and Harrison county is aware of his incompetency to give one as full and accurate as will be desirable to the numerous descendants of the brave pioneers who first settle this region of country, and encountered all the hardships incident to a wilderness life. In the prosecution of this work he will not attempt to amuse readers with rhetorical flourishes, or excite their admiration with false heroics, but relate facts in a plain unvarnished style. As a matter of course he will make no attempt at originality, for originality is neither demanded nor permissible.

In compiling this history, he has been greatly assisted by Messrs. John Gibson, John Stealey, Daniel Southworth, A. Werninger, E. M. Davisson, M. Goff, Sr., Col. Luther Haymond and others. He also is much indebted to the courtesy of James H. Taylor, Esq., for giving him access to the records in the County Court Clerk's office.

If any of the readers of this history should find inaccuracies in it, it will confer a favor on the writer if they will furnish him corrections in order that he may publish them in an appendix at the close of the work.

The design of this is to furnish the people of the county of Harrison and town of Clarksburg with a correct history of this locality, embracing the deeds of many of their ancestors, showing them the gradual stages by which our town and county have arrived at their present commanding importance. There will be no aim at any thing ad captandum, but a simple relation of facts. Hoping that his readers will grant him indulgence for his errors, he remains the public's obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR,

CHAPTER I.

Previous to 1776 all that part of Virginia known as Northern Virginia lying west and northwest of Augusta county was called the District of West Augusta. In 1776 the counties of Monongalia and Ohio were organized. Monongalia embraced all the territory now included in Monongalia, Randolph, Upshur, Harrison, Taylor, Marion, Doddridge, Lewis, Ritchie, Tyler, Pleasants and Wood. The first settlements were made in Clarksburg while yet a portion of Monongalia county.

The first white man who ever sojourned within what are now the limits of Clarksburg was John Simpson, a trapper. He came and located himself at the mouth of Elk creek in the year 1764 and pursued his occupation for more than twelve months. He then went to the south branch of the Potomac where he disposed of his furs and skins and returned to his encampment at the mouth of Elk where he remained until Clarksburg began to be settled when he sought regions more wild, more congenial to his taste and better adapted to his favorite pursuit. Mr. Simpson while encamped at the mouth of Elk creek, located several hundred acres of land acquiring what was then known as "a tomahawk title." This title was obtained by blazing a few trees near a spring, cutting the initials of the claimant on a tree, and the number of acres claimed. This title did not confer any legal right, but it was respected by pioneers, and they were not unfrequently sold for a small consideration. Mr. Simpson when he became ready to leave his encampment at the mouth of Elk sold his "tomahawk title" to a Mr. Robinson. This land lies upon the opposite side of the West Fork from Clarksburg and is now owned by Mr. Irving Stealey and his brothers.

About the time that Mr. Simpson came to Clarksburg two brothers, John and Samuel Pringle, came into what were subsequently the limits of Harrison county, and dwelt for several years in a large hollow sycamore tree on the Buckhannon river at the mouth of Turkey run. They were deserters from Fort Pitt and had dwelt in seclusion for sometime on the head waters of the Youghogany river in the State of Maryland, but settlers beginning to come into that region, they became apprehensive of discovery and punishment for desertion, and wandered further west, and finally found refuge in the hollow sycamore. These men subsisted on the game which was abundant until 1767, when their ammunition became reduced ~~xxx~~ to two loads, and however dangerous the operation might be they found that they were reduced to the necessity of again visiting the haunts of civilization. John Pringle leaving his brother Samuel to guard their few Penates in the hollow sycamore, and appointing a time to return, sat out for a trading post on the Shenendoah. Samuel Pringle suffered a great deal during the absence of his brother. The stock of provisions left him became entirely exhausted. One of his charges of ammunition was expended in a fruitless endeavor to shoot a buck. The time fixed for his brother's return had already expired and ~~xx~~ he was apprehensive that he had been recognized, apprehended and returned to Fort Pitt and would never return to his brother in the hollow sycamore. With his remaining charge, he had the good fortune to kill a fine

buffalo, John soon after returned with the welcome news that peace had been concluded with both French and Indians, and that danger of punishment for desertion had passed. They agreed to abandon their sycamore tree.

They left their solitary abode with much regret, and they resolved that as soon as they could induce others to accompany them, they would return to the home of their exile. On the south bank of the Potomac, there was then an adventurous pioneer population who were accustomed to the frontier manner of living and who were fond of hunting, and the Messrs. Pringle found many of these ready to join them in making a settlement on the Buckhannon.

In the autumn of the ensuing year, 1768, Samuel Pringle and several others visited the region which had been so glowingly described to them by the Pringles. Being highly delighted with the country, they returned home, determined to revisit it. The ensuing Spring they revisited the Buckhannon river region with the view of locating farms and growing a sufficiency of corn to enable them to support their families in their new homes. John Jackson and his two sons, George and Edward, settled at the mouth of Turkey Run near where the Pringles had dwelt in their historical sycamore, and which is about three miles from the town of Buckhannon and where David Carper, Esq., now resides. John Hacker, one of the party settled further up the Buckhannon. Alexander and Thomas Sleeth settled near to Mr. Jackson.

Not long after this Samuel Pringle conducted other settlers into this region, among whom were John and Benjamin Cutright. Before the arrival of Samuel Pringle, John Hacker had, without being aware of it, begun to improve some land which Pringle had chosen for himself. To obviate any unpleasantness, Hacker agreed that if Pringle would make as much improvement on Hacker's creek, a stream recently discovered as he (Hacker) had made on Pringle's claim, they would exchange. Pringle agreed to this and set about the work, which he soon completed, and they exchanged, and thus the matter was amicably adjusted without recklessly shedding blood or foolishly expending money.

When these settlers had finished cultivating their crops in 1769 many of them returned to their families on the South Branch, but when they revisited their new farms in the fall they found their corn entirely destroyed by the buffaloes, and consequently they were compelled to delay the removal of their families to their new homes until they could grow another crop.

About the time of the settlement on the Buckhannon river, Captain James Booth and John Thomas located on the stream now known as Booth's creek.

We come to the settlement of Clarksburg. From the present fresh and youthful, if the word be allowed, appearance of Clarksburg it is difficult to realize that our flourishing town is one hundred and three years old and that its founders have long since "gone to that bourne from whence no traveler returns." We find upon consulting the "Chronicles of Border Warfare," from which this chapter has been mainly compiled, that Clarksburg and the region thereabouts were settled in 1772. Col. Daniel Davisson, the grandfather of our fellow citizen Edgar M. Davisson, settled on the spot where the stone house

now stands belonging to the late Col. Despard's estate, the residence of the late Col. Richard Fowkes. Thomas Nutter, whose descendants still reside in the same vicinity, and some of them on the same farm, settled on Elk creek about two miles and half above Clarksburg. Samuel Cottrell settled on Elk creek near the place where Hon. Thomas W. Harrison now resides. Sotha Hickman located on the opposite side of the creek near what is now known as the "Old Factory," above Cottrell. Samue Beard settled at the mouth of Nannie's run further up the creek, and Andrew Cottrell at the farm now owned by Hon. Charles S. Lewis. Obadiah Davison settled on the West Fork about three miles above Clarksburg, near the old salt works, and John Nutter at what is now known as "the old stone house," a short distance beyond the limits of the town on the Weston turnpike.

The first settlers were men of big hearts and indomitable resolution. They had to live in constant watchfulness, for the Indians frequently made incursions into this region and relentlessly killed and scalped, men, women and children, and frequently entire families were thus destroyed. Besides the dangers incident to pioneer settlements the winters were almost unendurable. They were without churches, schools or mills, except hand mills which some of them had to grind their ~~own~~ corn with which they made their bread. Their trusty rifles kept them supplied with meat. Sugar and coffee were unknown luxuries, and salt, it may be said, was regarded as one of the "precious metals". Salt wells had not been discovered in this region then, and the settlers had to procure all their salt at Winchester, a distance of one hundred and sixty-five miles. This salt was brought over the mountains on pack-horses, and by the time it reached Clarksburg it cost five dollars a bushel, and sometimes more.

After the settlement of those just named in Clarksburg and vicinity, others continued to arrive gradually from year to year, and the cabins of the settlers in Clarksburg were built on each side of Main street between the place where the Presbyterian church now stands and the residence of Mrs. Baltable, the larger portion of the town for many years being on the east side of Elk creek. We have not been able to learn at what period in its infantile history the town was deemed worthy of a name, but it was at a very early age, and it was named in honor of Colonel (afterwards General) Joseph Clark who distinguished himself in the wars with the Indians on the Virginia frontiers.

About the same time that Clarksburg was settled a large accession was made to the settlement on Hacker's creek. It fact so many emigrants arrived in the fall of 1772, that the former settlers had not sufficient grain to supply them for the next year, and the year 1773 is traditionally known among the descendants of these settlers as "the starving year." On the first of April of that year the bread-stuffs of the settlement had become entirely exhausted and the people suffered greatly until cereals could be grown. Their suffering were, however, much mitigated by the able and active exertions of Col. William Lowther, who afterwards became justly distinguished for his bravery in defending the frontiers against the Indians. He was subsequently Sheriff of Harrison county and a delegate to the General Assembly of the State. His name is still held in veneration by the descendants of the settlers of Hacker's creek.

Clarksburg continued to receive an occasional accession to its settlers, but with its great difficulty of access it could not have been expected to settle rapidly. There were then no wagon roads to the place. All the necessaries that were transported from the east across the mountains on pack-horses.

Shortly after the settlement of Clarksburg, Nutter's Fort was built on the land of Thomas Nutter, ~~w~~ two miles from Clarksburg, on Elk creek. The people from all the surrounding settlements, in time of threatened danger from the Indians would remove their families into this fort.

The settlers of Harrison county were not disturbed by the Indians until 1774. In the spring of that year the Indians having become alarmed at the encroachments of the whites upon their territory commenced a sanguinary war upon the frontier settlement of northwestern Virginia and Pennsylvania.

On the 12th day of July, 1774, as William Robinson, Thomas Hellen and Coleman Brown were engaged in pulling flax in a field opposite Simpson's creek, a party of Indians under the lead of the celebrated Cayuga Chief Logan approached unperceived and fired upon them. Brown fell dead, his body being penetrated by a number of balls, but Robinson and Hellen who were unhurt, sought safety in flight, but both were overtaken and captured and taken by the savages to their towns where they were caused to run the gauntlet and subsequently adopted into Indian families with which they remained until liberated by Lord Dunmore's treaty.

It may be out of place to deviate so far from the legitimate course of our history as to give in it a brief account of the Indian Chief Logan, whose deeds and sayings have become historic. Logan has been represented as being remarkably humane and the friend to the white man, and during the French and Indian war when those of his tribe were engaged on the side of the French he remained at his cabin in the wilderness taking no part in the conflict. In the month of April, 1774, and according to other accounts in May of that year, a party of Indians were encamped at the mouth of Yellow Creek on the Ohio side of the Ohio river about equi-distant between Wheeling and Pittsburg, near the residence of Joshua Baker. These Indians were suspected of hostile intentions, they had not manifested any appearance of committing depredations, Mr. Baker and his neighbors were very much alarmed by their contiguity to these Indians and were making preparations to leave their homes and seek refuge elsewhere, when a party of white men who were assembled at Baker's house fired on some Indians and killed them, and among them were Logan's brother and daughter. When Logan's relations were slain by the hands of exasperated whitemen, he exchanged the pipe of peace for the tomahawk and became active in seeking opportunities to be avenged upon the whites. He accordingly set out at the Ohio river with eight men, but no opportunity was found for him to gratify his vengeance until he discovered the party just mentioned at the mouth of Simpson's creek. Notwithstanding Logan conceived that he had great cause for taking his vengeance on the whites, yet he does not appear to have been actuated by the cruel spirit which generally characterized the savage, for Mr. Robinson after he was liberated from his Indian captivity, testified to having received many acts of kindness from him. After the treaty mentioned Logan went to Detroit. He became gloomy and melancholy and manifested symptoms of mental derangement, drinking to excess. In this desponding condition he left Detroit for

obtained from abroad were

Miami and is said to have been murdered on the journey.

In 1776, George Jackson, the father of Judge John G. Jackson, and grand-father of General John J. Jackson of Parkersburg and of the late Maj. James M. Jackson of Clarksburg, settled in Clarksburg on the lot now occupied by Mr. D. J. Adams. He and his descendants were destined to occupy a conspicuous page in the future history of Clarksburg.

In June, 1777, a party of Indians came to the house of Mr. Charles Grigsby on Rooting Creek, in Harrison county. Mr. Grigsby being absent from home, the Indians plundered his house of everything they considered valuable, and which they could carry away, destroying whatever else they found, capturing Mrs. Grigsby and her two children. Mr. Grigsby returned soon after they had gone and witnessing the desolation, and not finding his wife and children, collected some of his neighbors, set out in pursuit of the savages, hoping to overtake them and rescue from a captivity worse than death, his wife and children. This hope was of but short duration, for following the trail of the savages until they had arrived at Lost Creek about six miles from the point at which they started, they found the bodies of Mrs. Grigsby and her youngest child murdered and scalped. The woman being in delicate health and the child entirely helpless were impediments to a rapid retreat and fearing pursuit they inhumanly murdered them in order to rid themselves of the incumbrance.

The pursuers after witnessing this distressing scene were stimulated to more ardent exertions and pushed forward, expecting to overtake the savages speedily, leaving two of the party to perform the rite of sepulture to the mother and her unfortunate infant. But the Indians becoming aware of their approach, separated and thus eluded their pursuers, who had to return without accomplishing their purpose.

A short time after this two Indians came to Coon's fort, on the West Fork and waited in ambush for an opportunity of doing mischief. While they were thus waiting Mr. Coon's daughter came out of the fort for the purpose of lifting some hemp in a field near by. Being engaged at her work, Thomas Cunningham and Enoch James passing along entered into conversation with her and after talking a few moments proceeded on their way. They had not proceeded far when they heard the report of a gun, and upon looking back saw an Indian run up to the girl, tomahawk and scalp her. It appeared that the Indians had been waiting for some time for an opportunity to capture the girl and when one of them attempted to approach her for that purpose, she started to run to the fort to give alarm, and this caused the Indian to shoot her. The Indian was shot at by James but at too great a distance for his shot to do any injury.

About the last of April, 1778, a party of about twenty Indians came to Hacker's Creek and the West Fork. The inhabitants settled on these streams had removed to West's fort on the Creek and to Richards' fort on the river. They would leave their families during the day in the

forts under the protection of a few men and would repair to their farms and perform their labor in companies, for the purpose of being able to defend themselves against the attacks of the Indians. In the first week of May of this year a company of men were thus engaged on a farm on Hacker's Creek, and were considerable dispersed, some clearing, others fencing and a few ploughing, when they were unexpectedly fired upon by the Indians and Thomas Hughes and Jonathan Lowther were shot down, and the others belonging to the company being unarmed, fled for safety. Two of the company having the Indians rather between them and West's fort went to Richards' fort, as well for their own safety as to give the inmates of the fort warning of the approach of the savages. They had, however, had notice of their approach. Isaac Washburne had been to mill the previous day, on Hacker's creek, and on his return was shot, tomahawked and scalped some distance from the fort. Upon his failure to return home that night, the inmates of the fort became alarmed and early the next morning a party went in search of him. They had not proceeded far before they found his mangled body, and the inhabitants were already on their guard when the two men from Hacker's Creek came. The Indians then left the neighborhood without committing further depredations, and the settlers were too weak to pursue them.

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Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, December 25, 1875.

Volume XIV-No. 11.

Whole Number 687

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG
and
Harrison County
from its
EARLIEST SETTLEMENT
To The Present Time.

Chapter II.

The county of Harrison was organized in 1784, and named in honor of Benjamin Harrison, then Governor of Virginia. The county extended from Cheat Mountain, the present eastern boundary of Randolph county, to the Ohio river including what is now embraced in the counties of Randolph, Upshur, a portion of Marion, a portion of Barbour, a portion of Taylor, Harrison, Doddridge, Tyler, Pleasants Pleasants, Ritchie, Wirt, Wood, Jackson, Gilmer, Calhoun, and Lewis. We extract the following from the minutes of the County Court.

The first County Court for Harrison county was held in the house of George Jackson, on the Buckhannon river, on the 20th day of July 1784. A commission of the Peace and a commission of Oyer and Terminer for the said county directed to John P. Duvall, Benjamin Wilson, William Lowther, James Anderson, Henry Delay, Nicholas Carpenter, William Robinson, John Powers, Thomas Cheney, Jacob Westfall, Salathiel Goff, and Patrick Hamilton, who were present and who thereupon took the oath of allegiance to the Commonwealth, which was administered by Benjamin Wilson, gent, to John P. Duvall, and by him to the above named Justices, and also the oath of officers as directed by law. Benj. Wilson was chosen Clerk.

At this Court it was ordered that Clarksburg be the place for erecting the public buildings for this county and that one quarter of an acre of land belonging to Daniel Davisson be appropriated to the purpose of erecting public buildings thereupon, together with one quarter of an acre formerly belonging to Jos. Hastings adjoining, to be appropriated to the same purpose, Said Davisson's gift shall be numbered eight, and the gift in land made by Hastings, numbered seven, which said Gentlemen, viz; Daniel Davisson and Joseph Hastings, in the court hath agreed to make a deed in fee simple to the present Court and their successors, so long as the Court House and other public buildings shall continue thereon."

"This Court, adjourned to the Court in course at the house of Hezekiah Davisson in Clarksburg."

Clarksburg now began to assume a considerable degree of importance. It had become the capital of a county embracing as much territory as is now within the limits of the first Congressional District. It became a central point of interest to the settlers on Tygarts valley river the Buckhannon river, Booth's creek, Ten-mile creek, Hacker's creek, the West Fork and Simpson's creek. The people labored under great disadvantages from the want of wagon roads. Sleds were used as substitutes for wagons. In some instances the farmers substituted a kind of wooden wagons with the wheels made of the round blocks of a large tree which was quite a convenience on a farm. The people of this region, however, lived almost entirely upon what they grew and manufactured themselves. The farmers' wives spun and wove the cloth from flax and wool grown on the farms, which clad their families. The luxuries of coffee and tea with their concomitant, sugar, were scarcely known, except maple sugar, which was manufactured by the settlers to a considerable extent and which, we may say, added considerably to the luxury of a frontier life. Our first settlers had but few luxuries, but they were contented without them. So far as the actual necessities of life were concerned the earth yielded them an abundance of cereals, and the wild animals of the forest which could be captured with little trouble, furnished them with abundance of meat. Buffaloes, elks, deer, bears, and wild turkeys were to be found in every part of the county. The streams were alive with the finest fish. For many years salt was the most difficult article of prime necessity to obtain and travelers said frequently long line of pack horses could be met on the Alleghany mountains, each laden to its capacity with salt, and making their way to Clarksburg and contiguous settlements. After wagon roads were opened to Clarksburg and stores were established, goods were packed from the town a long distance on horse back. If the farmer bought a bushel of salt he had a sack with him into which to empty the salt, and put it into a shape to be conveyed home on his horse. If he wished to purchase ten gallons of whiskey which some of them did, as temperance pledges and crusaders had not then come in vogue, he would bring two five gallon kegs and strap them strongly together throw the strap over the pack saddle with a keg on each side of the patient horse. If he purchased a few bars of iron they ~~would~~ had to be bent so that they would fit his pack saddle. Wild animals were so abundant that the ~~farm and peltry~~ farmers collected a vast amount of furs and peltry. These were conveyed to market at Winchester on pack horses.

The first marriage that took place in Harrison county of which we can find any record was on the 27th of July, 1784. Joseph Wamsley was married to Mary Robinson by Rev. Isaac Edwards.

The first County Court which was ever held in Clarksburg commenced in the house of Hezekiah Davisson on the 17th day of August, 1784. Joseph P. Duvall was Chairman of the Court and his associate Justices were Nicholas Carpenter, James Anderson, Henry Delay, Jacob Westfall, Thomas Cheney and Patrick Hamilton. We omitted to mention in the proper place that William Lowther was the first

Sheriff of Harrison County. The term of ~~the~~ the court lasted two days. At this court, Salathiel Goff, James Anderson, Jacob Westfall, Patrick Hamilton, Thomas Cheney and William Robinson, Gentlemen Laymen, were licensed to solemnize the rites of matrimony according to an Act of the Virginia Legislature, entitled "an Act to authorize and confirm marriages in certain cases."

Owing to the paucity of clergymen in the frontier settlements, it became necessary for the Legislature to provide for the solemnization of the rites of marriage by others than clergymen. These were dubbed "Lay Ministers" and whenever one of them signed a certificate of marriage, ~~the~~ appended L. M. (Lay Minister) after his name.

From the minutes of this court it will be discovered that tax paying was then as now considered a burden, for the court made the following order:

"That John Manear be exempted from public, county and parish Levies."

The summary manner in which land suits were decided in those primitive days is to be admired and contrasts favorably with the great delay that now generally attends such suits. In regard to land suits we find the following:

"Ordered, that the sheriff summon a party of twelve men to ~~appear~~ appear on the land of John Hacker and Elijah Stout to inquire into and settle the bounds of land between them and report their proceedings to the next term of this Court."

The party appeared at the time for which they were summoned and heard the story of each litigant and of a witness or two on each side, made up their decisions and reported to the next Court. The decision of the jury was confirmed, and there the matter ended without even a motion for a new trial. No Circuit Courts were held in Harrison County. Those desiring to litigate in a higher Court than the County Court had to go to Morgantown.

This term of the court Samuel Freeman was appointed constable and ordered to swear into office.

At the same term of the Court Thomas Cheney, James Anderson, Nicholas Carpenter, William Robinson, John Powers, Henry Delay, and Jacob Westfall, were ordered to take a list of white persons and buildings, distinguishing between dwelling houses and houses; and also a list of ~~the~~ tithables subject to taxation in the various settlements of the county. The word settlement was then used, it appears instead of district. The settlements then in the county were known as Booth's Creek and Berkeleys Run, Simpsons Creek, Elk creek, Loss creek, Little Buffalo, Buckhannon river, Wilmoth, Parker's settlement and Horse shoe settlement.

The Court recommended Thomas Cheney, John Powers, Christopher Carpenter, John McColly, Edward Jackson and Salathiel Goff to His Excellency Governor Harrison as proper persons to be commissioned as Captains of the militia in Harrison county, and John Goodwin, Jr., Thomas Webb, Hezekiah Davisson, David Sleeth, John Jackson and Philip Manear as Lieutenants, and Jacob Spiegler, Benjamin Webb, Lewis P. Duvall, Isaac Richards, John Cutright and James Goff, as ensigns.

At the September and October terms of the Court for that year, but a small amount of business was transacted. At the November term of the Court, we find by consulting the minutes, the following:

"William Haymond, gentleman, produced a commission from His Excellency, the Governor, of principal Surveyor of this County, bearing date the 26th day of August, 1784, and entered into a bond with John P. Duval and Henry Delay of two thousand pounds, payable to His Excellency, &c, for the faithful performance of his office, and the said bond is ordered to be filed in the Clerk's office." The court at this term established the following rate of charges for ordinaries or taverns; "Wine one shilling and six pence per pint; Jamaica Spirits, one shilling per half pint; Peach and apple brandy, six pence per half pint; Rye whiskey, six pence per half pint; Beer, six pence per quart; Cider, six pence per quart; Mead, six pence per quart; Breakfast, cold, eight pence; Dinner, one shilling; Supper, cold, eight pence; Bed per night, if clean sheets, four pence; Bed for night, if sheets not clean, nothing; Horse at hay per night, seven and a half pence; Corn and oats per gallon, seven and a half pence; Pasturage for twenty-four hours, 4d." This was very cheap in comparison with the hotel bills for the present day. The board and lodging of a man for twenty-four hours would be but forty-seven and two-thirds cents. The traveler could stop at a tavern and have himself fed with a warm supper and breakfast, have himself lodged and his horse fed with a gallon of oats or corn, and hay ad libitum and his entire bill would be but fifty-three cents.

Maj. William, Haymond who was qualified as Principal Surveyor. was the grand father of Col. Luther Haymond, and held the office until 1821, thirty-seven years.

At the November term of the court in 1784 the first grand jury was impaneled and sworn. It was composed of the following gentlemen; Benjamin Jones, foreman, Henry Rannion, Thomas Barkley, Robert Plumber, Joseph Davison, Benjamin ~~and~~ Coplin, Joseph Hastings, John Ratcliff, Daniel Cain, John Wood, Ebenezer Petty, William Davis, Amaziah Davisson, Anson Davisson, Jonathan Stout, David Wamsley, Daniel Stout and Aaron Smith. This grand jury found no indictments. The county expenses for that year were eighteen pounds, nine shillings and eleven pence. Taxes assessed and collected were forty-five pounds two shillings and sixpence.

No very remarkable event transpired in Clarksburg or Harrison county during the winter of 1784-5. At the March term of the County court in 1785 a contract was entered into with Daniel Davisson to make a pair of stocks and a pillory for the punishment of offenders, for the sum of five pounds, nineteen shillings and eleven pence. A witness was fined three hundred and fifty pounds of tobacco for contempt in failing to appear before the court in obedience to a summon. It appears from this that tobacco was regarded as a legal tender in those days, and it is fair to presume that a season that was more than ordinarily favorable to the growth of tobacco would bring about "inflation."

Supper warm nine pence;

Breakfast warm nine pence;

Previous to October, 1785, Clarksburg was only a town by courtesy. The Legislature of Virginia at that time by enactment declared it a town which reads as follows: "An act for establishing the town of Clarksburg in the county of Harrison."

"1st. Whereas, a considerable number of lots have been laid off, and houses built thereon by the proprietors of the place fixed for the erection of the Court house and other public buildings in the county of Harrison, and application being made to this assembly that the same may be established a town.

"2d. Be it therefore enacted, that the said lots so laid off, or hereafter to be laid off by the trustees, shall be and the same are hereby established a town, by the name of Clarksburg, and that William Haymond, Nicholas Carpenter, John Myers, John McColly and John Davisson, gentlemen, are hereby appointed trustees of said town, who, or any three of them shall have power from time to time to settle and determine all disputes concerning the bounds of said lots, and in case of the death, resignation, or the removal out of the county of any one or more of the said trustees, it shall be lawful for the freeholders of the said town to elect and choose others in their stead, and those so chosen shall have the same power and authority as any one particularly named in this act.

3d. Provided, always, and be it further enacted, that half an acre of ground, or so much thereof as may be thought necessary, either in one entire or two separate parcels, shall be laid off by the said trustees in the most convenient part of the said town, and appropriated for the purpose of erecting thereon the Court house and other public buildings, and the said trustees have full power to lay off as many lots, streets and alleys as to them may seem convenient, for the benefit of the said town, and that the possessor of any lot, or lots in the said town shall, before the first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety build thereon a dwelling house, of at least sixteen feet square, either of stone, brick, frame or hewn logs with a stone or brick chimney, and upon failure thereof, shall forfeit their lot or lots to the said trustees, to be further disposed of as they may think proper for the benefit of the said town.

"4th. And be it further enacted, that the freeholders of the said town shall enjoy all the rights, privileges, immunities that the freeholders of other towns not incorporated have and enjoy."

At the March term of the County court in 1785 John Prunty contracted to build a log jail for the sum of nineteen pounds and fifteen shillings, giving a bond for the faithful performance of his contract with Daniel Davisson as security. At the following November term the work was completed and the court ordered the money to be paid. "The jail was built where the Presbyterian church now stands.

At the December term of the court this year the following claims were allowed for wolf scalps:

| | s. d. |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Wm. Westfall, for 1 old wolf, | 12 6 |
| Geo. Westfall, " " " " | 12 6 |
| Job Westfall, " " " " | 12 6 |
| J. Thoringast, " " " " | 12-6 |
| Ed. Jackson, " " " " | 12 0 |
| Adam Bash, " " " " | 12 6 |

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| John Reed, " " " " | 12 6 |
| John Webb, " " " " | 12 6 |
| David Casto, " " " " | 12 6 |
| Thomas Webb, " 2 " " | 25 0 |

Total

L 6 17s 0d

It appears from the foregoing that wolves were plenty and that our ancestors had to give a premium for their destruction.

The Court contracted with Daniel Davisson at the March term in 1786 for the building of a frame Court House, for the sum of ninety pounds. George Jackson was his security for the faithful performance of his contract. Lots began to appreciate in value, about this time. Daniel Davisson sold a lot near the Court House for twenty pounds, to Joseph Pennall. Lots of one half acre then sold at from three to twenty five pounds, the price being regulated by their distances from the site of the Court house.

In May of this year Daniel Davisson was licensed to keep an ordinary. The amount paid for the privilege is not stated.

It is proper in this place to mention a matter that makes a flaw in the chronological order of this history; viz, that when Maj. William Haymond was commissioned Surveyor for Harrison County, he traveled from Clarksburg to Williamsburg on horseback, a considerable portion of the journey being through a wilderness, for the purpose of being examined as to his qualifications for the office to which he had been appointed. He was found to be thoroughly qualified.

In pursuing the civil history of the brave pioneers who settled our county and towns, we find that we have not kept up the account of the Indians depredations in their proper order.

In the year 1784 the settlement on the West Fork in the region of the place where Weston now is, suffered to some extent from an Indian invasion. A party of Indians came to the house of Henry Flesher who resided within the limits of the present corporation of Weston, and fired at him as he was returning from the labors of the field. The gun fired at him had been charged with two balls, both of which took effect in his arm. He made as rapidly as he could for his dwelling with the savages close after him and gaining upon him, he being unable to proceed rapidly on account of his advanced age. Just as he was entering the door one of them stuck him with the breech end of his gun, and knocked him inside the house, and his wife closed the door. The savages did not attempt to force an entrance, but after looking around for a time departed. The family, however, did not feel secure, but left their dwelling, and fled to the woods which they deemed more secure and all the family except one young woman, lay in the woods during the night. She made her way to the Hacker's creek settlement conveying intelligence that the Indians were near. The settlers of Hacker's creek sent Thomas Hughes to West Fork whither he went and conveyed Mr. Flesher and family to his own settlement where there was more safety. This happened in September, 1784. A few days after as Daniel Ratcliffe was on his route to the Brushy Fork of Elk creek on a hunting expedition he was shot, tomahawked and scalped, by the same party of Indians, as was supposed that had visited Mr. Flesher's.

In 1785, six Indians came to Bingamon's creek, and made their appearance upon a farm occupied by Thomas and Edward Cunningham. At this time the two brothers,--for such they were,--were dwelling in separate houses very near to each other, but not in a direct line. Thomas was at the time east of the mountains on a trading excursion, four children were all inside of their dwelling partaking of their dinner, and Edward Cunningham and his family in their house. A stalwart Indian entered the house of Mrs. Thomas Cunningham. He was seen by Edward Cunningham who immediately closed his door and fastened it, and seized his gun, and went to a small aperture which served for a port hole was ready to fire whenever the savage should make his appearance. But the Indian seeing that he would be exposed to fire from the other house, secured the door, apprehending no danger from the woman and children. In Thomas Cunningham's house there was a like aperture as that in Edward's. At this the Indian stationed himself and when Edward came to the aperture in his dwelling, fired at but missed him. Finding an adze in the house, the Indian immediately began to cut a hole in the bark part of the building in order that he might pass out without being exposed to Edward Cunningham's fire. While this was going on another Indian approached who was shot and wounded by Edward, but dragged himself off.

While the Indian was engaged in cutting a hole in the wall Mrs. Cunningham made no effort to escape, being assured that it would incense the savage, and that if she could escape from the house she would fall a victim to the savages who were lurking around outside. She was also aware that she could not take her children with her, and she could not, for a moment entertain the idea of leaving them in the house with the merciless savage. She even trusted that he would withdraw as soon as he could and leave them unmolested. A few moments served to show her the fallacy of this hope. The Indian having made the hole in the wall sufficiently large for his egress, turned and tomahawked one of the children and threw its body in the backyard, and ordered the mother to follow; knowing that death was inevitable, if she disobeyed she went out, walking over the body of the child, with her other children screaming after and clinging to her. The Indian followed and scalped the murdered boy and set fire to the house, and retired to an eminence in the field with his prisoner where were two other Indians with their wounded companion, leaving the other two to watch the opening of Edward Cunningham's door when the burning of his house should force the family from their shelter. They were disappointed in this by the exertions of Mr. Cunningham and his son. When the flames communicated from one house to the other they ascended to the loft, (second story) threw off the loose boards and thus extinguished the fire, the savages shooting at them all the time, ineffectually, however.

The savages despairing of accomplishing any thing and fearful of pursuit, collected together and prepared to retreat. Before setting out they murdered and scalped Mrs. Cunningham's son and daughter before her eyes. She stood motionless with grief; and expecting every moment for her and her infant at the breast to suffer the same fate. But she was doomed to go into captivity. On their route to their towns the Indians slew her infant in the most bar-

barous and inhuman manner. She was shortly ransomed by the notorious white renegade, Simon Girty , who for one time evinced a small degree of humanity. She made her way home after many hardships and sufferings, and was reunited to her husband, and they lived to a good old age, leaving a large family of children who were born after the tragic events related.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM.

W. F. Williams, Publisher

CLARKSBURG, W. VA., SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1876.

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG and HARRISON COUNTY,
from its
Earliest Settlement to the Present Time.

CHAPTER II.

The first Court House in Clarksburg was completed according to contract by the term of the County Court in February, 1787, and the contractor ordered to be paid. This house was erected on the east part of the lot owned by the late Dr. Davidson. In regard to the population of Clarksburg at that time, tradition and record are silent, but it is supposed there were not more than a dozen families. Among them were Jackson, Haymonds, Davidsons, Carpenters, Pruntys, Hickmans and a few others. We have not been able to learn what degree of commercial importance Clarksburg had assumed at that time if any. We learn from Mr. Elias Hickman now residing on Ten Mile creek, in this county, who was born in Clarksburg, on the 5th day of January, 1797, that the first merchant in Clarksburg was Joseph Somerville, who for some years had the mercantile field in Clarksburg all to himself. After a few years Adam Hickman, the father of the said Elias added, another mercantile establishment, about two years thereafter. The first merchants who did business in Clarksburg conveyed their goods from Winchester over the mountain on pack horses and mules. Their mercantile operations were confined mostly to iron, salt, powder, lead, shot, sugar, coffee, and other necessaries.

In October, 1786, the Legislature of Virginia passed an act dividing the county of Harrison and organizing the county of Randolph. This made the Tygart's Valley and the Buckhannon rivers the eastern and southwestern boundaries of Harrison county.

In 1787 the Legislature of Virginia, on the 10th day of October passed an act authorizing the establishment of Randolph Academy, appointing and incorporating the Trustees of the same. The preamble to the act reads as follows:

Moses Chapline, Ebenezer Zane,

"WHEREAS, The inhabitants of the counties of Harrison, Monongalia, Randolph and Ohio, are, from their remote situation deprived of the advantages arising from the establishing of the public seminaries within this State, and it is just and reasonable that the one sixth of the fees of the surveyors of said counties which are now applied towards the support of William and Mary College, should be applied to the establishment of a public seminary within one of the said counties."

The following are the names of the trustees appointed by the Legislature, Edmund Randolph, Benjamin Harrison, Patrick Henry, Joseph Prentiss, James Wood, George Mason, George Nicholas, John Harvey, Thomas Mathews, William Ronald, Henry Banks, William McClerry, John Evans, William Johns, Francis Worman, John Pearce, Duvall, George Jackson, Benjamin Wilson, Nicholas Carpenter, John Powers, Archibald Woods, David Chambers, John Wilson, Jacob Westfall, Jr., Robert Maxwell and John Jackson, Jr.

It was provided that the Academy should be located at some point in the four counties named, by the said trustees. It was subsequently located at Clarksburg, and a comfortable frame building erected occupying a portion of the ground now occupied by the present brick structure. George Towers, an Englishman, of eminent scholastic attainments, taught in this Academy for a number of years, commencing as soon as it was erected and ready for occupation. There are yet surviving a few of our most aged citizens who enjoyed the benefit of his instructions. It appears that the funds derived from the surveyors were not sufficient to keep up the Academy, for by an act of the Virginia Legislature passed the 12th of November, 1787, the trustees were empowered by way of a lottery to raise a sum of money not exceeding one thousand pounds to be applied by them to the use of the Academy.

On account of the remoteness of several of the Trustees of the Academy and they being frequently prevented from attending the meetings of the said trustees, the Legislature on the 12th of November, 1781, appointed the following additional trustees: Benjamin Coplin, John W. Loffburg, Maxwell Armstrong, George Arnold, William Barklay, William Robinson, John Haymond and William Arnold.

The first deed we find recorded is the conveyance of three acres of land on Booth's creek by Hezekiah Davisson and his wife, Ann Davisson, to John Prunty, on the 16th day of December 1784. On the 19th of September, 1786, Col. William Lowther's term as Sheriff having expired, he was succeeded by James Anderson. The larger portion of our readers are aware at that time and until comparatively a recent period the oldest justice of the Peace was Sheriff of the county. He held the office for two years and then was succeeded by the next oldest official and thus the office went round among the justices, of the county, and we believe there were two or three instances, in the history of this county in which one individual became the oldest justice twice in his lifetime and consequently served for two terms as Sheriff. When the office of Sheriff devolved upon any Justice of the Peace who had no inclination to enter upon the activities

of the office or who from not having sufficient property was unable to give the required security, he "farmed out," the office as it was styled, receiving a handsome bonus for it. We believe that genial gentleman, Capt. Thomas Horner, was the last Sheriff who farmed the office from a justice of the Peace. He held the office for four years or two terms thus, and upon a change of constitution, and the office becoming an elective one he was elected by the people for two terms.

Sometime in the year 1789, Bishop Asbury--a man whose name and memory are held in veneration, not only by Methodist, but by all believing christians, who rejoice in the progress of religion and vital piety, preached in Clarksburg. The only building that could be found sufficiently commodious to accommodate the congregation was a large barn belonging to Mr. Daniel Davisson. We learn that the settlers for many miles around came in to hear the venerable Bishop, some of them on foot.

The last persons belonging to Harrison county who suffered death at the hands of the Indians, were Nicholas Carpenter, Esq., and his son and some others. Early in September 1791, he set out with a drove of cattle to Marietta, Ohio, intending to sell them to the settlers at that place. He and his party proceeded without molestation until they arrived within a few miles of the Ohio river, where they encamped for the night. The next morning while they were dressing they were fired upon by the Indians and one of the party killed and another wounded. The surviving members of the party endeavoring to save themselves by flight, and Mr. Carpenter being lame from a former wound soon became faint and sought safety by wading into a pond of deep water, but his wily foes soon discovered him and his son who had sought a refuge in the same place, and tomahawked and scalped them both. Geo. Taygett, one of the drovers, was never heard of. Jesse Hughes was the only one of the party who escaped.

By an act of the Virginia Legislature of December the 4th, 1789, the owners of the lots in Clarksburg, were allowed three years further time in which to improve their lots. In that year George Jackson built a tub mill on the present site of the mill owned by Maj. Samuel R. Steele, and at the same time erected a small tan yard on the present site of the tan yard owned by Messrs. John Stealey & Son. During the next year, 1790, Jacob Stealey, the father of our worthy and venerable fellow citizen, John Stealey came to Clarksburg from Morgantown, and purchased an interest in the tan yard of Mr. Jackson, and they soon built up a prosperous business. Mr. Stealey subsequently became the sole owner of the tannery, and at his death it passed into the hands of the present senior proprietor, and this useful and prosperous tannery is likely to be one of Clarksburg's perpetuities.

The mill remained in the possession of the Jackson family for a great number of years and was then purchased by Dr. Gittings and by him sold to Hon. John S. Carlile and subsequently by him to Maj. Steele, the present owner.

After the cessation of Indian depredations, the people of Clarksburg and Harrison county, kept on the "even tenor of their way", during the remainder of the eighteenth century. Mr. John Stealey informs us that his recollection of events extends back to 1795, and that he does not think that more than ten families resided in Clarksburg at that time, that he remembers that families of the name of Jackson, Davisson, Lyon, Armstrong, Maulsby and Robinson resided in the place at that time, and they are all that he can now recall to mind except his father's family. The slow progress made in the settling of the town and county is no matter of surprise, for this region of country was almost inaccessible, without wagon roads, and only occasionally in communication with the balance of the world.

We of the present generation owe a heavy debt of gratitude to the brave, hardy and adventurous pioneers who settled this wilderness which now blossoms as a garden, for their posterity. The settling of new counties at that time could not be accomplished as now, in a few years. There were no steamboats, no railroads, and this region could not be reached by the heavy, lumbering "wain."

It is proper to state that for a great number of years after the settlement and organization of Harrison county, there was no other court held in the county, than the County Court. There was then what was called a district court held twice a year at Morgantown, for the district composed of the counties of Harrison, Randolph, Monongalia and Ohio. This court commenced on the 15th day of May and the 15th day of September each year. This court was appellate and also had original jurisdiction.

On 1798 Harrison county was again divided and the county of Wood organized. Wood county was made up of territory lying westerly of a line to begin thirty miles from the Ohio river, on a line dividing the counties of Harrison and Kanawha and thence northwesterly to intersect the line of Ohio county, at 21 miles distant from the Ohio river.

The Legislature of Virginia was very indulgent to the owners of lots in the town of Clarksburg for on the 5th of January, 1798, we find that an act was passed allowing the owners of lots in the town of Clarksburg, in county of Harrison the further time of five years in which to improve and save their lots.

In 1794 the Legislature of Virginia authorized George Jackson to erect iron works on the West Fork of the Monongahela river near Clarksburg, and a furnace was subsequently built near where Mr. John Steele's mills now stands. These iron works, from what we learn never proved a great success.

This, our second chapter embraces all that we are enabled to gather of the history of our town and county, to the end of the last century. In concluding this chapter we shall treat of some matters purely personal.

Col. Benjamin Wilson, the first county court clerk of Harrison, tradition represents as being a very worthy gentleman. He took a very active part in giving shape and order to the affairs of Harrison county in its early days. He was a gentleman of marked ability. He was the father of the late Col. Josiah D. Wilson, of Wilsonburg,

and the grandfather of Col. Benjamin Wilson, the present member of Congress from this district.

Col. William Martin settled in Harrison county in the year 1780, before its organization, and became a very prominent and useful citizen, serving as deputy sheriff and sheriff for a number of years. He was the father of A. W. Martin, now a prominent citizen of Barbour county, also of Luther Martin, of Grafton, and of T. W. Martin, of this county, and also of the late Mrs. A. Werninger, Mrs. Dr. ~~Mr~~ McKeenan, and Mrs. J. Shuttleworth. His widow, by his second marriage is still living at a very advanced age.

The office of surveyor was continued in the Haymond family for eighty-three years. Col. William Haymond, the first surveyor of Harrison county, entered upon his duties in 1784, and served until 1821, thirty-seven years. He was succeeded by his son Thomas the father of our fellow-citizen, Col. Luther Haymond, who served until his death in 1853, thirty-two years. He was succeeded by his brother Cyrus Haymond, who served until 1867, fourteen years. His father and his two sons held the office nearly a century. They were all very useful men, and took a prominent part in the affairs of our county.

Col. William Haymond was eminently useful in settling questions of county boundaries, and was frequently appointed a commissioner by the state for that purpose.

Mr. George Jackson was another of the representative men of Clarksburg and Harrison county, in its early history, and his son, John G. Jackson, became distinguished at a very early age. Both father and son were distinguished for their great business enterprise, and much of whatever prosperity that attended our people in an early day was due to the talented energy and enterprise of these men and their compeers.

Jacob Stealey, the father of John Stealey, was another representative man among our early settlers. He was a man of great industry and thrift, and made for himself a handsome fortune.

The people who settled Clarksburg and Harrison county, and their descendants have great attachment for this portion of the country, for we find that our people rarely emigrate. When we look around us we still find the descendants of the brave, hardy pioneers who settled this county clinging to their childhood's home."

In Clarksburg and vicinity we have the Jacksons, Davissons, Stealeys, Nutters, Martins, Hickmans, Cottrells and other names, which were familiar here one hundred years ago.

In 1766 the brothers Pringle first occupied their hollow sycamore on Buckhannon river, and the name of Pringle is now borne by many of the citizens of Upshur county. The descendants of the Westfalls, Hackers, Cunninghams, Fleshers, &c., are still numerous in this and adjoining counties. This speaks well for our town and county. The people living in them do well, and they are generally content to dwell in the houses of their fathers, without leaving them to seek some imaginary Eldorado, Mr. Elias Smith, who resides near the mouth of Simpson's Creek in this county, is living on the farm settled by his father more than a hundred years ago.

We must say something about the snakes that infested this region in the early days. We have been informed that rattle snakes were very ~~at~~ plentiful, as were copperheads, but we cannot learn that any lives were destroyed by them. That rattlesnakes were

plenty there can be no doubt, for some of them still linger, but we are very much inclined to be sceptical on the copperhead question as we never have seen the copperhead assigned to this region by any writer on American snakes. We found a snake in our garden a couple of years ago very much resembling a copperhead, but upon examination we found no poisonous fangs. We believe the snake that has always been styled a copperhead in this region of country is perfectly harmless. If, however, there is any proof that a poisonous copperhead snake has ever infested this region we would like to obtain possession of it.

In the circuit court clerk's office of our county may be found a deed for five hundred and eighty seven acres of land on the Ohio river, in what is now Marshall county executed by George Washington, the father of his country, to Archibald McClean, on the 8th day of August, 1798. a few months before Washington's death. This deed is accompanied by a memorandum from Washington to Mr. McClean, in his own hand writing, stating the terms upon which he would sell or lease this land, dated, "Mount Vernon, 6th Augt, 1798." It appears that the bargain was consummated two days afterwards. The land was sold at \$10 per acre. McClean then resided in Alexandria. This land is still known as Washington Bottom, and is noted for its fertility.

In our next chapter we will open with the 19th century.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, January 8, 1876.

VOLUME--NO. 13

WHOLE NUMBER 689

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG
and
HARRISON COUNTY
from its
Earliest Settlement
to the
Present Time.

CHAPTER III.

We promised ^{at} the close of the last chapter to begin this one with the commencement of the 19th century, but we find that we have suffered some events in the early settlements to straggle by the way, and it now becomes our duty to bring them up and present them to the reader, but before doing this we must correct some errors which we made in our first chapter. We stated that Clarksburg was named in honor of General Joseph Clark, It was in honor of General George Rogers Clark, who as we said, was a distinguished soldier, and rendered ~~the~~ efficient service in the wars against the Indians, and also against the French and Indians, and who captured Vincennes, now in Indiana. This name was given to Clarksburg about 1799, seven years after its first settlement. The citizens met and had a consultation concerning the name they should give their town when the name "Clarksburg" was proposed by Samuel Shinn, one of the settlers, in honor of the said General Clark, and unanimously adopted.

In our first chapter we stated that Samuel Cottrell settled on the south side of Elk creek, near the present residence of Hon. T. M. Harrison and Sotha Hickman near what is known as the old factory. It was just the reverse, Hickman settled near the residence of Mr. Harrison and Cottrell near the old factory.

We have not been able to learn at what period the buffalo were driven from this region. The last elk killed here ever seen in this region was by William Haymond, uncle of Colonel Luther Haymond, in the latter part of the eighteenth century. He shot and

wounded the elk on Owen Davis Fork of Simpsons creek, and pursued and ~~and~~ caught him on Turkey Foot run, near the present residence of Mr. William Lynch.

John Prunty and William Lowther were the first delegates elected to the Virginia Legislature. Mr. Prunty served the people of Harrison county for twenty consecutive years in the Legislature.

We find from an old document which has fallen into our hands that the first road established by order of court in Harrison county, was that from William Lowther's to the lower ford of Elk creek. The first surveyor of this road was Robert Lowther; the second, Joseph Husted; the third, Isaac Richards; the fourth, Joel Lowther; the fifth, John Runion; the sixth, William Lowther, Jr.

The Lowther Family.

As the Lowther family occupied a prominent place in the early history of our town and county it will not be amiss to trace the genealogy of the family a short distance in the past and also bring it down to the present day.

In the seventeenth century, there lived in the mining districts of Cornwall, England, three brothers, William, George and Francis Low. These were all miners, and evinced great skill in their particular avocation, and were also noted for their great industry and integrity of character. This was in the reign of William and Mary, and so marked had these worthy brothers become that the attention of their sovereigns was called to them, and these sovereigns authorized them to add ther to their family name as a testimonial of the sovereign recognition of their skill and virtues. The name ~~had~~ originally been Leo (Lion) which cognomen was applied ~~was~~ because of the great strength of character and bravery of one of this family who was conspicuous as a soldier and follower of Oliver Cromwell. In process of time the name became written Low, but by sovereign authority it was made Lowther, and so remained. William, the eldest of the brothers Lowther, had a son named Robert, who married a lady named Aquilla Rees, with whom he emigrated to America. Col. William Lowther was the son of this couple, and he was one of the first settlers of Harrison county. The maiden name of Col. Lowther's wife was Sudna Hughes, daughter of Thomas Hughes and the sister of Elias, Jesse, Thomas and Job Hughes. Col. William Lowther had three sons, Robert, Elias and Jesse. Jesse Lowther was the first white child born in Harrison county. Captain Robert Lowther married Miss Catherine Cain, daughter of Daniel and Susanna Cain. He was the father of the late Dr. John C. Lowther, of Clarksburg, and the grandfather of our fellow citizen Evan F. Lowther.

The Present Century

From 1800 to 1805 we cannot find the current of events in Clarksburg or Harrison county was ruffled by any remarkable event. During this period the County Court which was the judicial tribunal which settled the ~~differences~~ between the people, grew and increased in importance, As the county became more populous the business of this court increased. We find that during the time mentioned this Court was presided over by John McColley, William Robinson, Benjamin Robinson, William Haymond, John Hall, John Prunty and Thomas Cheeney. Some of these only temporarily.

In the year 1801 John Prunty and John G. Jackson were elected as Delegates to the Legislature. Mr. Prunty was successively re-elected every two years until 1815. In this year Gov. Joseph Johnson came to this county at the age of sixteen. He is a native of Orange county, New York, and was born in 1785. He is still living in Bridgeport in this county and in good health and his mental faculties strong. While we are speaking of Gov. Johnson, we will give a brief history of his career in this county and State, which has been highly creditable. In the war of 1812 he was a captain of volunteers, and acquitted himself honorably. In 1815 he was elected a representative of the Virginia Legislature in the House of Delegates. He was elected a Representative in Congress in 1823 and again in 1825, 1835, 1837, and 1839, he was successively elected to the same honorable position, and again in 1845 and 1847, making altogether fourteen years which he served in Congress. In 1852 he was elected governor of Virginia, serving four years.

Gov. Johnson's politics have ever been democratic. In the days of his prime he was considered one of the most successful stump orators in Virginia.

Gov. Johnson is passing his days calmly and happily at his home, Oakdale, near Bridgeport, where he is pleased to have his friends visit him and where they are always sure to meet with a cordial reception and agreeable entertainment, for the venerable governor notwithstanding his advanced age still converses with great zest and animation, and there is no one whose conversation is more instructive. He is an exemplary member of the Baptist church and passes his days, we believe patiently and happily awaiting the call of his Master.

In 1801 George Jackson of Clarksburg was elected to Congress. He is said to have been a gentleman of fine practical sense and made the people a faithful Representative. In 1803 he was succeeded by his son John G. Jackson who was successively re-elected until 1810, and again from 1813 to 1817, when he was appointed a judge of the United States Circuit Court.

Mr. Jackson was in Congress when the restrictive measures were adopted prior to the war of 1812 and was prominent in the discussion of the embargo, ~~xxx~~ &c. It has been said that he had few superiors in Congress.

On the 10th of November, 1805, one of the most tragic affairs occurred near Clarksburg that has ever been recorded in the annals of crime. Mr. Abel Clemens, who resided near Old Factory, a man who was deemed an orderly, well-disposed citizen, murdered his wife and eight children while they were asleep.

He had concluded to change his place of residence, and on the afternoon of the fatal day had carefully packed all his household goods for the purpose of being ready to remove to some point but a few miles distant the next morning. A female relative was spending the night with the family. After the members of the family had fallen asleep he took an axe and deliberately murdered every one of them.

The female relative awoke soon after he commenced the horrid work and quietly slipped away not doubting if she remained, but that she would share fate of the others. After Clemens had completed his work of death, he fled, and concealed himself in a cliff of rocks, north of Elk creek, a few hundred yards northeast of the present residence of Dr. A. F. Barnes. He remained there several days until he was discovered and arrested. A special term of the County Court was called for his trial, of which the following is the record:

"At a court held for the county of Harrison on Thursday, the 28th day of November, 1805, and in the thirtieth year of the commonwealth, for the examination of Abel Clemens on suspicion of his having been guilty of the murder of Barbara his wife, Elijah, Hester, Rachael, Mary, Elizabeth, Benjamin, Parthena and Ann Clemens, on the night of the 10th of November present, between the hours of nine in the evening and six in the morning of the 11th inst. Present Benjamin Robinson, William Martin, John Davis, Richard Bond and Allison Martin, Gentlemen Justices, The prisoner being led to the bar and it being demanded of him whether he was guilty of the offense where-with he stands charged said he was in no wise guilty thereof. Where-upon sundry witnesses were examined, and the court having considered the testimony are of the opinion that the prisoner ought to be tried in the District Court. And this Court now adjourns."

Mr. Clemens was tried by the District Court in Morgantown in the year 1806 and found guilty, and suffered death by hanging.

From all the circumstances connected with this revolting tragedy, we are led to conclude that Clemens was insane, and we find that opinion prevalent among many of our older citizens, some of whom remember the circumstance. We have learned that Clemens had been despondent for some days before he committed the act. He was not in prosperous circumstances, and had become impressed, as he subsequently said in his confession, that his family would starve. Previous to his execution he wrote a confession and stated, that he killed his wife and children to prevent their lingering death by starvation, thinking they would suffer much less in dying by the former process than the latter.

He was considered, as we have learned, an inoffensive man, never before having developed any bad traits of character or evinced moral turpitude. Man rarely rushes into the commission of heinous crimes at once. The process of working himself up to them is gradual and hence we conclude that Clemens must have been insane. Moral insanity in those primitive days, however, was not plead in extenuation of crime, or if plead, the plea was not regarded and so he had to suffer the penalty of a violated law.

The place at which Clemens concealed himself is known to the present time as Clemens' Rock, and has become a conspicuous land mark, being used at one point to mark the boundary of the corporate limits of Clarksburg.

On the 3d of January, 1803, the Legislature of Virginia passed an Act, "That all acts and parts of acts that require the owners of lots in the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison to build upon the same in a limited time, shall be and are hereby repealed, and such lots shall not be liable to forfeiture, any law to the contrary notwithstanding."

The laws enacted by the Legislature of Virginia at various times requiring the owners of lots in town to improve them within a certain specified time or forfeit them, appear to have been very arbitrary. These lots were acquired by purchase and according to the present opinions concerning the rights of property, a man can purchase a lot or parcel of land in town or any where else and let it remain unimproved as long as he chooses, and nobody, not even the corporation or the State has any right to interfere with him, except it be necessary to condemn the land for the public good in opening a street or a public highway, and then he is bound to receive an adequate remuneration.

At the time of which we speak the western limits of Clarksburg were about the present location of Despard street, and between that and Elk creek was a dense forest of large tulip, oak and sugar maples in which the hunter could amuse himself shooting squirrel, but in roaming this forest his ears occasionally caught the ominous sound of the rattle snake.

In the year 1801 the town of New Salem began to assume a prosperous aspect. This town had been created by an act of the Virginia Legislature on the 19th of December, 1794, appointing John Patterson, John Davis, Samuel Lippincott, James Davis, Zebulon Maxson, Benjamin Thorp, Thomas Clayton, William Davis, Jacob Davis, George Jackson and John Haymond, gentlemen, trustees ~~of~~ thereof. The town was laid out on the lands of Samuel Fitz Randolph, Salem holds its own very well, and is still a flourishing village. The descendants of Samuel Fitz Randolph still reside in New Salem and vicinity.

At the August term of the County Court in 1800, it was "ordered, That John G. Jackson, gentleman, aged twenty-one years, be recommended to the Judge of the General Court as a person of honesty, probity and good demeanor, and the same certified." We suppose this was to enable him to obtain license as a lawyer. The records do not say this was the Hon. John G. Jackson who afterwards served in Congress with much ability.

The early settlers of Clarksburg and Harrison County appear to have been men of good morals. The indictments by the Grand Juries do not appear from the records to have been numerous. At the November term of the County Court in 1801 there were no indictments by the Grand Jury. At the March term the same year there were two, at the August term two, one for Sabbath traveling and one for unlawful retailing of spirituous liquors. At the March term, 1803, there were seven, and the same number at the following May and August terms; at the November term, five; at the March term 1805 there was none; at the May term two; at the August term, five; at the

November term, five; at the March term, 1806, there were none.

This shows a very good state of morals. It is but just to our ancestors to state that a considerable portion of these indictments were against surveyors of roads for failure to keep their roads in good condition, a thing it was then as now very difficult to do.

The Legislature of Virginia on the 23d of December, 1805, passed an act for the benefit of William Martin and Watson Clarke, deputy sheriffs of Harrison County, allowing them two and a half per cent. on their collection of the revenue tax of Harrison county, in the year one thousand eight hundred, in addition to the five per cent. already received.

By a special act of the Legislature on the 22d of December, 1801, Col. Benjamin Wilson was authorized to erect a dam not exceeding five feet in height, from his land in Harrison county, across the West Fork of the Monongahela river, below the mouth of Elk creek to the land of David Carpenter, for the purpose of establishing iron works, a water grist mill, saw mill, or any other machine or engine useful to the public. This dam was to be provided with a slope, by or through the same for the convenient and safe navigation of the river, to be adjudged of by commissioners appointed by the County Court of the said county of Harrison. The act also provided for those citizens who would be damaged by the erection of said dam to be paid for the same.

This dam was subsequently built by Mr. Wilson and the iron works established together with other machinery. We have not been able to learn what degree of success attended the enterprise. The dam was built at the place now occupied by John R. Steel's mill dam. This Mr. Wilson was the son of Col. Ben. Wilson, who was among the first settlers.

No material change took place in Clarksburg in the affairs of Clarksburg and Harrison county until 1809. In 1806 Mr. Job Goff, the father of Messrs. Waldo P. and Nathan Goff, Sr. of Clarksburg, and Col. David Goff of Randolph County, emigrated from Ostsego county New York, and settled on Simpson's creek in this county. Not long afterwards Col. Charles Moore, the grandfather of our fellow citizens, Messrs. Jasper Y., ~~xxxxx~~ and A. C. Moore emigrated with his family from the state of Delaware and settled in Clarksburg. He was also the grandfather of Mrs. Waldo P. Goff and Mrs. Jackson.

About the year 1809 quite an excitement was produced in Clarksburg by the arrival in town of Gen. Pearson, a member of Congress from North Carolina, who came with his second and physician, for the purpose of engaging in a duel with Hon. John G. Jackson, then the Representative from this District. A meeting was arranged and James Pindall, Esq. acted as second of Mr. Jackson. The place assigned for the meeting was on the Philippi road, about a mile East of Clarksburg. When the parties met, the seconds could not agree on terms owing to some disparity in the weapons, and the meeting was adjourned to Bladensburg, Maryland, at which place it subsequently took place. Mr. Jackson was rather severely wounded, and it has been said never fully recovered from it, though he survived the affair several years, and lived an active, useful life.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, January 22, 1876.

VOLUME XIV--NO. 15.

WHOLE NUMBER 691.

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG
and
HARRISON COUNTY
From Its
Earliest Settlements
To The Present Time.

CHAPTER III.

John Milton Wire.

Mr. Wire is not an octogenarian, yet he is old enough to be one of the connecting links between the past and present generation, and has a very vivid recollection of events that transpired sixty years ago, and we are much indebted to him for valuable information.

He was born in Harrison county in 1802, and has continuously resided in Clarksburg, and although following the laborious occupation of a stone mason, he has devoted his leisure to reading, and has thus become possessed of a vast store of information. In fact "Uncle Milton," as he is familiarly called by his numerous friends, is a kind of perambulating encyclopaedia. He is a kind hearted, genial old gentleman, with a cheerful word for every body he meets. He appears always contented, and such is his equanimity of temper and regularity of habits that he is likely to live to a very great age. His father, Daniel Wire, was born in Randolph county in 1774, and came to Harrison county in 1799.

Elias Hickman.

This is an other of the old citizens of Harrison county, who now resides on Ten Mile creek. He was born in Clarksburg in 1717 and is the son of Adam Hickman who settled near Clarksburg in 1792. We frequently see him in town and he is still quite active and robust. He informs us that he attended the Randolph Academy in Clarksburg for ten years, all of which time Rev. George Towers was Principal of that institution.

The stone house on Main street known as the Fowkes house, was completed in 1799, and is yet standing.

Hon. Hugh Nelson, the Judge who presided over the first Circuit Court of Harrison county continued to preside until 1812, when he was

promoted to the Supreme bench and was succeeded by Hon. Daniel Smith, of Harrisonburg, Rockingham county.

On the 11th of December, 1790, the Legislature of Virginia passed an act establishing a ferry across the West Fork above the mouth of Limestone creek, from the land of Hezekiah Davis to the land of Wm. Barkley. The price for a man being three pence and of a horse the same.

In 1806 a ferry was established across the West Fork from the land of Jacob Eib to the lands of Robert Wilson and Daniel Davisson, The price for a man 6 l-4 cents, for horse the same.

Incidents.

In 1810 the first road wagon arrived in Clarksburg. It was a covered wagon, and excited much attention, many people assembling to look at it. It has been said, that the Circuit Court which was in session adjourned to participate in the general excitement over the arrival of a "covered wagon". This wagon brought a load of merchandise from Baltimore. After this, this method of conveying goods to Clarksburg from the East became common. There were men who made it their regular business to run wagons from Baltimore to Clarksburg and this was continued until the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was completed to Cumberland. Merchandise was then transported to Cumberland by railroad and thence to Clarksburg in wagons. It required six weeks for a wagon to make a trip from Clarksburg to Baltimore and return. After steamers began to run the Ohio river, a portion of the people was transported in wagons from the Ohio river. Early in the present century Wilson's iron works supplied the people in this region of country with iron. These were the iron works established on the West Fork where John R. Steel's mills now stand, or near that point. Early in the present century Hon. John G. Jackson established a salt manufactory three miles above Clarksburg, which for several years furnished a large scope of country with salt.

The Habits of the People.

The people for the first two decades of the present century both in town and country were remarkably social. Parties, balls, &c., were very common, and among the people working bees of various kinds were common, which generally closed with a dance. Although, as we have seen the Code was sometimes resorted to, "~~fixt~~"fisticuffs" was the most common method of settling differences. We have heard the story of one of these which occurred in the beginning of the present century which we will relate as it occurred between two prominent citizens. Two men engaged in a fight one day near the court house when one got the fingers of his antagonist in his mouth and at the same time was dealing him such heavy blows with his fists that he was in a fair way to conquer, when the father of the prospective victor rushed in and separated the combatants. After he had accomplished this, the son observed, "Father, why did you separate us? I would soon have had him whipped?" The father replied, "I would rather see you whipped like a man than to see you bite your antagonist to death like a dog." These fights rarely begot any lasting feud. After the

contest ended, the parties usually "drank friends," as it was termed and the matter ended.

In 1819 Rev. Mr. Buckingham of the M. E. church organized a society of his church which worshipped in Randolph Academy. He is said to have been a preacher of great zeal. The society increased rapidly, and in 1821 a brick church was erected which stood until after the late war closed.

In our former chapter frequent mention has been made of John Pearce Duvall. He was the first State Senator ever elected from Harrison county. Some of his descendants still reside in this county, among them Geo. T. Ross, one of our most prominent citizens.

From 1817 to 1820 Hon. James Pindall was the representative of the Clarksburg district in the Congress of the United States. He was a gentleman of eminent talent, and a lawyer of great ability. He resigned his seat in Congress in 1820.

Nothing very marked occurred in the history of Clarksburg and Harrison county from 1815 to 1824. The growth and development of the town and county was gradual. The inaccessibility of this region of country, its distance from the seaboard and navigable streams, prevented a rapid development of its rich resources and our people were content to dwell amid the scenes of quiet and peace without "making haste to be rich." During these years Hon. John G. Jackson had his iron works and woollen manufactory near town in successful operation. The people lived very much upon what was produced in their midst, and were not dependent upon foreign importations.

Mr. Jackson's iron works and woollen manufactory were superintended by Mr. Leonard Hoskinson, the father of our fellow citizen, Hezekiah Hoskinson, who proved an efficient manager and continued in that position until the death of Mr. Jackson.

Gov. Johnson in 1823 became prominent in politics. He had served his county in the State Legislature from 1815 to 1819 when he retired to his farm. Early in the year 1823 he announced himself as a candidate for Congress. This was before the days of nominating conventions, and several candidates soon entered the field to contest the Congressional prize with Gov. Johnson. These were Philip Doddridge, Thomas S. Haymond, Mr. Browning and Judge Duncan. During the canvass the several candidates met in Wheeling and after a very exciting public discussion, all of them withdrew except Johnson and Doddridge, both gentlemen of marked ability. The canvass was conducted to the end with great energy by both contestants, but Johnson was elected by a handsome majority.

Hon. John G. Jackson for some years prior to his death had been engaged in improving the navigation of the West Fork by building locks and dams, and had completed four of these dams at the time of his death, one of which was not far from the present residence of Mr. Washington Reynolds.

The West Fork at an early period in the settlement of this region of country had been declared a public highway by the Legislature of Virginia and it has been used as such ever since for rafting the fine timber which could be found on its banks and contiguous

thereto. In former days an occasional flat boat was launched upon it and laden with various kinds of produce and floated to Pittsburg.

In the country round about Clarksburg the sites of the old forts used by the early settlers to protect themselves against the Indians may still be seen. The site of Nutter's Fort, two and ~~xx~~ a half miles from Clarksburg on the Buckhannon road is still quite distinguishable. There was a fort on the West Fork on what are now the Fair Grounds, of which no special account can be found in the "Chronicals of Border Warfare," and of which no vestige can now be seen.

In 1816 Lewis county was taken from Harrison and organized and the Court House located at Weston. The organization of Lewis deprived Harrison of some rich territory and some excellent citizens. The organization of Lewis and the building up of another county town so near Clarksburg had the effect of retarding the growth of our town which appears to have been remarkably slow. We have stated that at the first settlement of Clarksburg, the larger portion of the town was built on the east side of Elk creek and it appears that as the town extended on the west side of the creek, it receded on the east side.

During the eight yers from 1816 to 1824 the inhabitants of Clarksburg suffered at intervals, as we learn, from bilious fever, in some instances of a very malignant character and proving alarmingly fatal.

Hon. Daniel Smith, of Albermale county presided over the Circuit court of our county until 1819 when he was succeeded by Hon. Lewis Summers. Judge Summers, commenced his first Circuit Court in Clarksburg, on the 9th day of April 1819. On this day Oliver Phelps, Esq., who had for some time held the office of Prosecuting Attorney, resigned, and James Wilson, Esq., was appointed to that position, and qualified, and entered upon the duties of his office.

At this term of the Court the grand Jury was composed of the following gentlemen: Daniel Kincheloe, Foreman, Joseph Johnson, John Cather, Stephen Dix, Joshua Nixon, Isaac Shinn, Felix Robinson, Henry Critichfield, Obadiah Davisson, Joseph Romine, George Kniseley, Elisha Ayres, James Fleming, Elijah Marsh, Chapmen Grant, William Campbell, Joshua Davis, Adrian Anglin, Thomas Hough and Christian Gisley.

Of all these Grand Jurors, we believe only one survives,-- Gov. Joseph Johnson. This, however, is not a matter to be wondered at, when we consider the shortness of human life, and take into account the fact that it will be fifty seven years on the 9th of next April since this Grand Jury was impanelled and sworn.

There does not appear to have been a large amount of business for this Grand Jury, as there were not many indictments found. From the accounts of our Courts there appears to have been a great deal of civil business disposed of therein. The civil docket was generally heavy. We are inclined to believe that this was not so much owing to the litigiousness of the people as to the circumstances by which they were surrounded. In many instances land titles were defective. This of course always led to lawsuits. Again the jurisdiction of justices of

the Peace in matters of debt was limited to very small amounts, and this is one of the causes that encumber the journals of our courts of records.

Hon. Dabney Carr the first Chancellor who ever presided over the Clarksburg Chancery Court, and who entered upon his duties as Chancellor in Clarksburg in May, 1812, continued to preside until 1824 when he was succeeded by Hon. Henry St. George Tucker, who held his first court in Clarksburg on the 17th day of May, 1824.

In 1817 Col. William Martin's term as sheriff expired, and he was succeeded by Daniel Davisson, Esq. In 1819 Mr. Davisson was succeeded in the office by P. Johnson, Esq., whose deputy, J. Heiskell, appears from the records to have transacted a large share of the business.

At this period we find that the laws in relation to the collection of debts were very rigorous. We find that the Sheriff not unfrequently returned his executions, "Executed on the body of the defendant." Imprisonment for debt was common. The unfortunate debtor was either assigned a room in jail or allotted prison bounds as it was termed. We learn that many of the most honest and upright citizens of our town and county were confined to "prison bounds."

As the laws of imprisonment for debt have been repealed in all the States of the Union, it is hardly necessary to say any thing in condemnation of their oppression, or to show their absurdity. The poor man, while these laws were in existence could be arrested and taken from his family, who were probably dependant upon his labor for support and confined in jail, where he had no power to make any exertions for the relief, either of his family or his creditors.

While we are speaking of imprisonment for debt we will give the Prison Rules or Prison Bounds of Harrison county as passed by the Circuit Court at the September Term 1819. The Court at its previous April Term had appointed E. S. Duncan, L. E. Davisson and Jonathan Jackson, Commissioners to lay off and assign the prison rules for the county, and at the September Term the said Commissioners reported as follows:

"To the Honorable Judge of the Superior Court of Laws of Harrison County. In pursuance of an order of said Court made at the spring term of this present year, we have in conformity to said order, proceeded to lay off the Prison Rules for said County, commencing at a stake in the lot of John Wilson, Jr., about nineteen poles West of the Court House, and ten poles South of the Main street, running thence North seventeen degrees east ten poles to a post on the South side of said street, thence North fourteen poles crossing said Main street to a stake on John S. Sehon's line thence South seventeen degrees East thirty-three poles on the North side of an alley crossing Second street to a stake in David Hewes' lot, thence South eighty degrees East, forty-five and one-half poles crossing Front street to a stake in the line between Peter Lynch and Thomas Synott's lots; thence with their line ten degrees West,

twenty-six and one-half poles crossing Main street to a stake in the lot occupied by Amos Thompson, thence North seventy-five degrees West, forty-four poles crossing Front street to a stake on the East side of said street thence South 17 degrees West twelve poles to a stake, thence North seventy-three degrees East twelve poles and nineteen links to a stake on the South side of Mechanics' street, thence on a line with the public grounds North seventeen degrees East, twelve poles to the corner of the Court House building, thence North seventy-three degrees West nineteen poles to the beginning, enclosing an area of ten acres, as will appear by the annexed plot."

Dated September 19th, 1819.

(Signed)

E. S. DUNCAN,
L. E. DAVISSON,
JONATHAN JACKSON.

The Court adopted the report of the Commissioners and established the prison bounds accordingly. If an unfortunate debtor after he had been arrested by the Sheriff armed with a writ of *capias ad satisfaciendum* could give what in those days was denominated a "prison bounds bond," he was permitted to roam through the streets so far as they were included in the "bounds," loaf in bar-rooms or sit on a dry goods box and whittle with a jack knife, but if the poor fellow could not give the bond, he had to be incarcerated in jail. The prisoners in "bounds" could not go over the boundary without forfeiting their bond and subjecting themselves to close confinement.

Edward S. Duncan, one of the foregoing Commissioners, was at that time a promising member of the Clarksburg bar and subsequently became one of the most distinguished Circuit Judges of Virginia,

Jonathan Jackson, was the father of the celebrated Stonewall Jackson who figured so conspicuously as a Confederate officer in the first two years of the rebellion. "Stonewall" Jackson was born in Clarksburg, in the dwelling now occupied by Mr. David Davisson, on Main street, and his early years were spent in Clarksburg. His father died while the future hero was very young, and we learn that his family were led in ~~very~~ rather straitened circumstances, and Gen. Jackson made whatever distinction and fame posterity will accord to him by his own industry and energy.

The following are the names of those who served as Grand Jurors at the October term of the Circuit court in 1823:

Daniel Kincheloe foreman, William Martin, Thomas Haymond, Thomas Bond, Thomas McKinley, Caleb Boggess, Benjamin Bassel, Jacob Israel, Joshua Nixon, Abner Stout, Stephen Dix, James S. McCullough, Notley Shuttleworth, Urian Ashcraft, Jonathan Whiteman, Reuben Powell, Samuel Cochran, Abel Whitmore, Levi Watkins, Michael Greathouse and Thomas P. Moore.

Of these gentlemen Mr. Notley Shuttleworth was quite a noted citizen, of Clarksburg. He was a man of undoubted integrity and occupied some responsible position of public trust, the greater portion of his life. He was the father of Capt. J. H. Shuttleworth, now postmaster of Clarksburg, and also of Benjamin, Notley A., and James M. Shuttleworth of this place and Samuel A. Shuttleworth, of Romines Mills, all influential citizens.

We give an occasional list of grand jurors for the purpose of calling to the remembrance of the present generation their progenitors.

During this period of which Samuel P. Moore and Benjamin Wilson, Jr., served as Presidents of the County court. Eli Marsh and Waldo P. Goff were Deputy Sheriffs during a portion of the period from 1820 to 1824.

We have lengthened this chapter to an extent which we did not anticipate. We have from the sources at our command given the history of our town and county for the first twenty-four years of the present century. The next chapter will begin with the events of 1825, retracing our steps whenever we learn of an event worth incorporating into this history.

Note.-- The Author desires to give brief biographical sketches of the most noted citizens who have lived in our county and town, and any person who will furnish him with biographical outlines of such will receive his heartiest thanks.

T H E E C L A R K S B U R G T E L E G R A M .

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, February 5, 1876.

VOLUME XIV--NO. 17.

WHOLE NUMBER 693.

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG and HARRISON COUNTY,
From Its

EARLIEST SETTLEMENT to the PRESENT TIME.

CHAPTER V.

In 1810 the town of Shinnston was located in one of the most fertile regions of Harrison county, was settled and soon became a place of considerable importance, and is yet a prominent point in our county, being settled and surrounded with an industrious, intelligent people.

In 1819 a mill was built on the West Fork near the present site of the town of West Milford, and in 1823 a town was commenced, and soon grew into a thriving place. This town is in a fertile region of our county, and is inhabited and surrounded with a good population.

In 1818 John Williams became postmaster at Clarksburg, and continued to occupy the position until 1830.

In 1806 Col. David Hewes, from the State of New Jersey, settled in Clarksburg and opened a tavern on the ground now occupied by Mr. Lloyd Lowndes' store and dwelling. He kept this hotel until his death in 1831. He lived to a good old age, dying in his eighty-sixth year. He was the father of our fellow citizen, Col. David T. Hewes. Col. Hewes erected all the buildings now standing on what is known as Lowndes' corner. As we advance in tracing the history of our town and county, our admiration increases at the public spirit and energy of

Hon. John G. Jackson

From the beginning of the present century until his death he appears to have been the "head and front," and the life and soul of every public enterprise. He was a man of indomitable energy, and great powers of endurance. Notwithstanding he was a learned lawyer, and an able jurist, and also a distinguished politician, yet he prosecuted successfully more branches of business than any other man in the county. At one time he had a saw mill on Elk creek at what was called Mile's End, now known as the Old Factory, a furnace, wool carding machine, fulling mill and nail mill; three miles from town on Elk creek he had a forge. Three miles from town on the West Fork, he owned large salt works which supplied this whole region of country with salt. At the same time he was engaged improving the navigation of West Fork, and we have been ~~farmer~~ informed that he visited and inspected every department of his extensive business, at least once a week, when not absent from home. He also

at the same time carried on the business of farming and stock raising to a considerable extent. He owned a large and fertile farm adjoining Clarksburg.

Judge Jackson was a very extraordinary man and though he died at an early age, being but a few years above forty, he had accomplished much for the good of the people in this region and long will his memory be cherished by our people.

LANDS.

Notwithstanding the fertility of the lands in this region their price was very low for many years after the settling of the country. In 1820, the lands which were subsequently owned by Mr. Elmer Hart on the west side of the West Fork from Clarksburg, were sold for three dollars per acre. Mr. Hart has since sold these lands at one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. In 1825 one hundred acres of the land now belonging to Gen. Goff on the North side of Elk creek, a part of which is now in the corporation, sold for ten dollars per acre. The same land we suppose is now worth two hundred dollars per acre. The lands now owned by Mr. James M. Mines were sold in 1830 for eight dollars an acre, and the purchaser it was said had played the lunatic to give such a price, but subsequent events showed that he evinced great good sense. The owner of these lands does not desire to dispose of them, but we will suppose they would bring at least a hundred dollars per acre.

Among the early settlers in Clarksburg,

James Reed, Esq.,

deserves honorable mention. He came to Clarksburg in 1817. He was a gentleman of excellent business qualifications, and occupied many important positions of public trust. He was for many years justice of the peace, and was among the ablest members of the County Court. He was also a Commissioner in chancery for many years, always giving great satisfaction.

He died at an advanced age in 1864.

The Clarksburg Senatorial District.

We have not been able to learn who first represented our people in the State Senate, with the exception to Mr. John P. Duvall, who was the first representative. For a long time Harrison, Lewis and Wood counties constituted a Senatorial District. These counties then embraced the territory now included in half of Marion half of Taylor, half of Upshur, all of Lewis, Harrison, Ritchie, Doddridge, Gilmer, Braxton, Calhoun, Wirt, Wood, and a part of Pleasants and Jackson. Waldo P. Goff, Esq., of Clarksburg, represented this district for several years. He was succeeded by Thomas Bland, Esq. of Lewis county, and he by Daniel R. Neal, Esq., of Wood county.

The County Court.

We feel that we have not done this ancient and honorable institution that justice to which it is entitled, for though it is not as ancient as the Jewish Sanhedrim or the Grecian Areopagus, nor quite as honorable as "the Star and Garter," it is still ancient and honorable. In the more primitive days of our county and town the

Justices composing this court worked without pay, and they labored faithfully, honestly performing their duty. The Senior Justice presided over the court. There was no elective President then as under the present constitution, for the Justices themselves were not then elected but appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the County Court; so it will be seen that this institution was a self-perpetuating one. It was like the King, it could not die. Nothing ever killed a County Court but a new State Constitution. For the most part these courts were ably conducted, and their decisions generally gave great satisfaction. In primitive days they possessed much power. They recommended men to the Governor for military offices. Their senior member became sheriff. They had almost unlimited jurisdiction over the local matters of the county, and though so much was entrusted to this court, it was rarely abused.

By the way of variety, we will relate an anecdote which we have heard concerning a member of the County Court of Harrison county at an early day in our history. This member was a gentleman of ability and possessed great influence with the court, but was given to occasional convivial habits. The session of the court in this instance had been unusually protracted, and the member aforesaid, becoming disgusted with the tedium, got intoxicated in order to relieve the monotony of the occasion. When in the height of his conviviality, he entered the court room and very peremptorily ordered its adjournment, but the court instead of adjourning ordered his arrest, and mulcted him in a heavy fine, which he paid, and retired a wiser, and it is supposed, a better man, for he never repeated the offense.

Among the early settlers in Harrison county, in the present century was Mr. Benjamin Morris, who was born near Trenton, New Jersey, on the 24th of January, 1799, and emigrated to Harrison county in 1816. In 1826 he married Mary, the daughter of Walter McWhorter, Esq., In 1828 he purchased a farm on Lost Creek in this county and settled on it, and has resided on it ever since (48 years). He has lived the quiet, retired and contented life of a farmer, enjoying the confidence and respect of his neighbors. He has been for many years a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife have lived a married life of fifty together, and are both hale and healthy, with a fair prospect of surviving many years. They are the parents of twelve children, all of whom grew up and married, and ten of them are still living. In the house in which he has resided for forty eight years, no death has ever occurred.

On the 22nd of March, 1819, the first United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia was commenced in Clarksburg, Hon. John G. Jackson being the presiding Judge. He was appointed to that position by James Monroe, President of the United States, and his commission was signed by President Monroe and John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State. Edward Jackson, Esq., was appointed Clerk of the court, and Thomas Synott, Crier. Judge Jackson's commission was dated February 24th, 1819. The following are the

names of the gentlemen who composed the first Grand Jury: Samuel P. Moore, John Webster, John Righter, Joseph Wilkinson, Andrew Corbin, William Davis, Benjamin Coplin, William A. Rogers, William Campbell, Lambert Flowers, Samuel Washington, Jacob Stealey, Joseph Cheuvront, Chapman Grant, James McCauley, John L. Schon, James G. Watson, William Haymond, Jr., James Tibbs, Ralph Berkshire and James Hurry.

The attorneys who qualified as member of the bar of this county, were Edwin S. Duncan, Jacob Beeson and John James Allen.

Judge Jackson continued Judge of the District Court of this District until his death, which occurred in the latter part of the year 1824. On the first day of November, 1824, Judge Jackson held his last court.

Hon. Philip C. Pendleton, of Berkeley county, Virginia succeeded Judge Jackson, and held the only court he ever held in Clarksburg, in June 1825, commencing on the 6th day of that month. The Grand Jury at this term of the Federal Court was composed of the following named gentlemen:

John L. Foreman, James Craig, Daniel Haymond, Lewis Bond, Frederick Harsh, Benjamin ~~xxxx~~ Veach, Joseph Morgan, James Tibbs, Daniel Stringer, Bazaleel Wells, William Willey, William Lazier, William Wells, Charles Wells, James McVicker, David Morgan, Henry Deputy, Robert Chenoweth, Hugh Evans, Jacob Pindall, James Brown, and Thomas Laidly.

We have not been able to ascertain whether Judge Pendleton resigned or whether he died. We suppose the latter.

Hon. Alexander Caldwell whose ~~name~~ succeeded Mr. Pendleton held his first U. S. District Court in Clarksburg, commencing on the 7th day of November, 1825. He was appointed by John Quincy Adams, and his commission was signed "J. Q. Adams, President; H. Clay, Sec. State." Judge Caldwell served as Judge of the Federal District Court until 1831, and in Sept. of that year held the last term of his Court in Clarksburg.

That "ancient and honorable institution," the County Court still maintained its status and dispenser of justice. In 1832 Benjamin Coplin, Esq., was Chairman of the Court; in 1833 Charles Lewis, Esq., (father of Hon. C. S. Lewis), occupied that position. In 1834 Waldo P. Goff, Esq.; in 1835, James Reed, Esq.; in 1836 Edward Stewart; in 1837, Charles ~~xx~~ Lewis, Waldo P. Goff, and James Reed. These gentlemen appear to have served in turn as president pro tem.

In 1832, Judge Summers still presided over the Circuit Court. At the spring term, the following gentlemen served as Grand Jurors, Thomas Haymond, Foreman, Robert McKinley, John M. Patton, John B. Bartlett, James Devers, Cornelious Reynolds, Joshua Nixon, Marshall Ross, Joseph Wilkinson, Evan T. Duvall, James McDonald, Samuel Kemble, Walter McWhorter, John Allen, Hezekiah Stout, John Gifford, George Towers and John B. Lowe.

The Distinguished Men of Clarksburg and Harrison County.

We wish to call the attention of our readers to the many distinguished men Clarksburg and Harrison County produced, while this region of country was of difficult access and there was but little communication with the outside world. We have already referred to the distinguished Judge John G. Jackson. Among the distinguished men born in Harrison county was.

FELIX GRUNDY.

His birth place was on Simpson's creek. While yet in his early boyhood his father removed with his family to Kentucky, and Felix was educated at Bardstown Academy. After he had finished his academic course, he studied law and at a very early age became distinguished at the bar. He commenced his public career at the age of twenty-two, having at that age been elected a member of the Convention to amend the Constitution of Kentucky. In this convention, he won distinction as a public speaker and also from the wisdom of the measures which he advised. After that he served six years in the Kentucky Legislature, and while yet a young man he was elected a Judge of the Supreme Court of Kentucky. He held this position but a short time until he resigned and removed to Nashville, Tennessee, where he soon became eminent as a lawyer. He was specially noted as one of the greatest criminal lawyers of his day, and his practice extended into several States, being frequently called as far south as Louisiana. Notwithstanding his extensive legal practice he soon became engaged in politics. In 1811 he was elected to represent the Nashville District in Congress. In 1813 he was defeated, but for several years after that he represented Davidson county, Tennessee, in the State Legislature. In 1827 he was defeated, after a closely contested canvas, by Hon. John Bell for Congress. In 1829 he was elected United States Senator and served until 1835. In 1837 he was appointed, by President VanBuren, Attorney General of the United States. He resigned this position in 1840 and was again elected United States Senator. He died at his home in Nashville in December, 1840.

Mr. Grundy was a man of gigantic intellect, and possessed a power of oratory that swayed all that came within its reach.

James Pindall.

Mr. James Pindall was born in Harrison county and he at a very early age became a distinguished member of the Clarksburg bar. He was elected to Congress in 1817, and was re-elected to Congress in 1819, but resigned in 1820, choosing rather to pursue his profession than mingle in politics. We regret that we have not been able to obtain material that would enable us to give a more extended biographical sketch of Mr. Pindall.

Gen. John G. Jackson,

Among all the distinguished men who were and have been born in the county of Harrison, none have surpassed Gen. John J. Jackson who is yet living in the city of Parkersburg. He is a son of Hon. John G. Jackson and was born in Harrison county in 1800. He was educated at West Point, and graduated at a very early age, and entered the army as a Second Lieutenant, and served in Florida in the war against the Seminoles. He subsequently resigned his commission in the army, and studied the legal profession and soon became a successful lawyer. He settled in Parkersburg, and several times represented Wood County in the State Legislature, in which body he always occupied a prominent position. As a business man Gen. Jackson has been very successful, having accumulated a very handsome property. During the long contest for United States Senator in the Legislature at Charleston during the winter of 1875 Gen. Jackson, though not a candidate came within two votes of being elected. That he was not elected was regretted by a large majority of the people of the State regardless of their party bias.

During Gen. Jackson's long life there never has been a word of reproach uttered against his purity of character. His honesty and integrity have never been questioned.

Gen. Jackson has two sons who occupy prominent judicial positions. Hon. John J. Jackson, Jr., is Judge of the United States District Court worthily and honorably occupying the position filled by his illustrious grandfather, Hon. J. M. Jackson is Judge of the Circuit Court of the Parkersburg Circuit. Jacob B. Jackson, Esq., another of his sons is a distinguished lawyer and member of the Legislature. Gen. Jackson's mental faculties are as strong as they ever were, and he actively supervises his business, and frequently unravels knotty legal questions when his services are required in that direction. He bids fair to survive many years yet. Before closing this chapter, however, it is not amiss to say that Gen. Jackson has, for many years, been a consistent member of the Episcopal church, and has made himself very useful in the ecclesiastical councils of that body.

Gen. Thomas (Stonewall) Jackson.

We believe that Stonewall Jackson was a distant relative of Gen. John J. Jackson, though they occupied adverse positions in the late troubles. Gen. Stonewall Jackson was born in the town of Clarksburg about the year 1825. His father died while the son was in his boyhood, and his mother after remaining a few years removed to Weston. Young Jackson's opportunities for obtaining an education were very limited. At a very early age, seventeen, as we are informed, he was elected constable. Through the influence of his friends he received the appointment of cadet at West Point. He graduated with honor and entered the army as Second Lieutenant and served with distinction in the Mexican war, and was promoted to a captaincy. After the close of the Mexican war he resigned, and became a Professor in the Virginia Military Institution, which position he occupied until the commencement of the late civil war and although an advocate of unionism, he appears to have believed in the doctrine of paramount state sovereignty, and submitted, though reluctantly to the fiat of his State and attached himself to the fortunes of the Confederacy and entered the Confederate army where he run a brilliant military career, being killed in the spring of 1863.

Gen. Jackson has been spoken of as a man of pure moral character and a devoted Christian of the Presbyterian faith.

The Wilson Family.

This is a family that has been known in Clarksburg and Harrison county from its first settlement more than a hundred years until the present day. Col. Benjamin Wilson, the first Clerk of the County Court of Harrison county was a man who was very useful, and highly respected. He left a numerous offspring, many of whom emigrated to other States. John Wilson, Esq., one of his sons, was for many years a marchant in Clarksburg. Col. Josiah D. Wilson settled at Wilsonburg, in this county and engaged in the business of farming and engaged in the ~~business~~

also in merchandizing. He was very successful. Col. Benjamin Wilson, the present Representative in Congress from this District is a son of his.

The Lynch Family.

This is another family that settled in Clarksburg at an early day and numerous branches of the family still reside in Harrison county, and are among our most respectable citizens.

In our next chapter we will treat still more of the matters that have come under our observation of the present generation.

Note--We again say to those who find errors in our history, do not feel any hesitancy in informing us of them. We will take it as a favor.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, February 12, 1876.
VOLUME XIV. NO. 18. WHOLE NUMBER 694.

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG AND HARRISON COUNTY
From Its
Earliest Settlement to the Present Time.

CHAPTER VI.

Under the act of the Assembly of Virginia passed in 1817, incorporating the town of Clarksburg, there was no board of Trustees elected until 1832. In May of that year the following gentlemen were elected Trustees for the incorporation: Charles Lewis, T. S. Prim, A. Werninger, William M. Bartlett and John Field. Charles Lewis, was subsequently elected President of the Board of Trustees; John Field, Clerk; James Reed, Assessor; Notley Shuttleworth, Bailiff; and Jacob Stealey, Treasurer; of these we believe Mr. Werninger is the only one who survives. The assessed value of the property in the corporation that year was \$110,745, and 107 polls. A tax of seven cents on the one hundred dollars worth of property was levied, and a capitation tax of fifty cents on each poll. Altogether a revenue of \$124, was collected that year; out of that the Bailiff, Assessor and Street Commissioner were paid their salaries and the remainder was applied to the improvement of the "streets, lanes and alleys." The Board of Trustees were then elected for the term of two years. In 1834 to 1836 John Stealey was President of the Board of Trustees, and A. J. Smith, Clerk. In 1836 Charles Lewis was again elected President of the Board, and Richard W. Moore, Clerk. They were both re-elected in 1838 and also in 1840. In 1842 Luther Haymond was elected President and Jas. P. Bartlett Clerk, and they both served seven years, until 1849 when the charter was amended and the Trustees were subsequently elected annually.

In 1852 Stephen Dix, one of the old settlers of Harrison county, died at the advanced age of eighty eight years. He was born in the State of Pennsylvania in 1764. He often related the fact of his having heard the elder Adams read the Declaration of Independence from the steps of the State House in Philadelphia on the fourth day of July 1786, the tenth anniversary of American independence. He settled in Harrison county in 1794 and built a mill at the now pleasant village of Quiet Dell, on Elk creek. He conducted this mill for eighteen years until 1812, when he sold it, and removed near Clarksburg and built what was subsequently known as the Factory Mill, on Elk Creek, which he shortly afterwards sold to Hon. John G. Jackson. Mr. Dix however continued to reside in the vicinity of Clarksburg pursuing the peaceful occupation of a farmer until his death. He was for the greater portion of his life a member of the M. E. Church and was regarded by all his acquaintance as a sincere christian. He was the father of Mr. Nathan Dix of this county and the uncle of Gen. John A. Dix of New York.

In 1829 Hon. Lewis Maxwell was elected to Congress from the Clarksburg district and was re-elected in 1831. In 1833 he was defeated by Hon. John J. Allen. In 1835, Hon. Joseph Johnson was elected and re-elected in 1837, 1839 and 1841.

In 1815 Phineas Chapin, Esq., emigrated from Connecticut and settled in Clarksburg, and pursued the practice of the law, and made himself a useful citizen. He was the father of Virginius P. Chapin, Esq., one of our most genial and well-known fellow citizens. Phineas Chapin died in 1856.

Among the citizens who settled in Harrison county during the first two decades of the present century were Thomas Prin, Thomas Anderson and Charles Swearingen.

Thomas Prim was one of Clarksburg's most industrious and useful citizens. We have formerly given a brief sketch of Mr. Anderson's life.

Charles Swearingen came to Clarksburg early in the present century and made himself a useful citizen for many years, and several years ago he removed to Marion county where he is still living at an advanced age.

In 1840 the people of Harrison like all other people of the United States partook largely in the excitement of the Presidential campaign of that year, between William Henry Harrison and Martin Van Buren. Both candidates had zealous friends in Harrison county and the canvass was prosecuted with as much zeal in Harrison county as in any rural district in the United States. On the 3rd day of September of that year a grand Mass Meeting of the Whigs was held in the city of Wheeling, which was conducted on a magnificent scale. Harrison County had three hundred representatives in attendance. All the vehicles and horses belonging to the Whigs in the county were called into requisition, and our old Whigs gave themselves a grand political jubilee.

During this campaign a political difficulty occurred between one of the editors of our town and one of the most prominent citizens, which came near resulting in very serious consequences.

In 1835 Romine's Mills became a post town in our county.

Hon. Alexander Caldwell continued to preside over the United States District Court for the District of West Virginia until his death in 1839 when he was succeeded by Hon. J. T. Pennybacker. Mr. Caldwell held his last court in Clarksburg in September, 1838, and Mr. Pennybacker held his first court in Clarksburg in September, 1839. The grand jury at this term was composed of the following gentlemen:

Phineas Chapin, Foreman, John Parrot, Nathaniel Burrell, Allison Morris, Fielding Kyger, John Hanway, William J. Willey, John Cantrill, Joseph D. Hill, John B. Lacey, William Johnson, James Radcliff, Benoni Israel, James Fitz Randolph, John Barker, John Carter, Thomas Boggess, John L. Sehon, Jr., Henry Paugh, John Wells, Robert T. Haney and Mathew Walters.

In 1840 the town of Clarksburg only extended west to Fourth street, That portion which had been added to the town by the Act of the Legislature of Virginia of the 16th day of January, 1828, had not then been settled, nor had any attempt been made to improve any part of it.

In 1849 the charter of the town of Clarksburg was amended so as to extend its limits. By this act all the free white inhabitants

of the town of Clarksburg were made and constituted a body politic and corporate by the name and style of "The trustees and commonalty of the town of Clarksburg, in Harrison county," to have perpetual succession and be known in law, with capacity to sue and be sued, to implead and be impleaded, prosecute and defend all actions and suits and matters whatsoever, with authority to have and use a common seal and to change and renew it at pleasure. The power to purchase, take and hold lands and tenements with goods and chattles, either in fee simple or any less estate therein, and to dispose of it for the benefit of said corporation.

It was enacted, that the boundaries of said town should be as follows; "Beginning at the mouth of Elk creek and running up said creek to a small drain emptying in to said creek a few rods below the North western turnpike bridge on the lands of James M. Jackson; thence due east one hundred rods to a stake (this made the North-western corner of the boundary of the corporation near the present depot buildings, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company), thence due south to Elk Creek, thence down said creek to a point in said creek due west from a certain spring, known as the Monticello Spring, on the land of John Stealey, thence due west to the West Fork river, thence down the said river to the beginning. This act was one of great length and conferred considerable powers upon the Trustees. By this act the real property within the limits of the corporation could not be taxed above fifty cents on the one hundred dollars worth, and the capitation tax was limited to twenty five cents.

In 1806, Josiah Adams settled in Clarksburg and resided in the town until his death, which occurred the 7th day of May, 1860. He was an industrious, enterprising man.

A Retrospect.

In the early history of this region of country there was a line of forts extending all the way from fort Duquesne, (Pittsburg), up the Monongahela to Hacker's Creek, in Lewis county, commencing at Redstone Fort where Brownsville, Pennsylvania, is now situated, the next one being George's Creek Fort, in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, Morgan or Kearn's fort, near Morgantown, on Decker's Creek, about one half mile from the point at which it empties into the Monongahela, Prickett's Creek Fort, about four miles below Fairmont, Edward's Fort on Booth's Creek, in Marion county, the site of which is now partially occupied by the residence of Mr. Aurelius D. Goff,, and ~~father's~~ where Mr. Job Goff, the father of Messrs. Waldo P. and Nathan Goff, first settled. Then came Robinson's fort on Simpson's creek, four miles northeast of Clarksburg, Nutters fort on Elk creek, two and half miles Southeast of Clarksburg, West Fork fort on the West Fork river, near ~~on Hacker's creek. This line~~ of forts was a great defense against the incursions of the savages. West Milford and West's fort on Hacker's creek. This line of forts was a great defense against the incursions of the savages.

Biographical.

Dr. David Davidson was one among the first of Harrison county's citizens born in the county. He for a long life occupied a prominent position as a physician. He lived to a very advanced age and died on the 28th of October, 1870. For the greater portion of his life he was consistent and influential member of the M. E. Church.

Maj. James M. Jackson.

Maj. Jackson was well known in this portion of West Virginia and the writer of this can say of a truth that he never met with a more scholarly gentleman--one better read in the classics or more thoroughly familiar with the standard literature of the age and one of superior conversational powers. Although a learned lawyer, his tastes led him into the more flowery paths of literature, and it was a rich treat to converse with him, as his conversation was highly interesting. His memory was remarkably retentive. He could repeat page after page of the Iliad in the original from memory. Enjoying an easy fortune, Maj. Jackson devoted much time to his favorite literary pursuits. He died January 18th, 1871. He was the son of Hon. John G. Jackson.

Jedediah Waldo,

Settled on Booth's creek in Harrison county in 1794, and soon became one of the most useful citizens of the times. He raised eight sons, who after having attained the years of manhood, settled in different portions of the far West, some of them as far west as California, all occupying honorable and some of them distinguished positions. He was the grandfather of Waldo P. Johnson who was elected a United States Senator from Missouri in 1861 and who subsequently joined the fortunes of the Southern Confederacy and represented Missouri in the Confederate Senate until the Confederacy ceased to exist. Dr. Waldo died December 10th, 1840.

Hon. Waldo P. Johnson,,

May very properly be placed in the list of distinguished men born in Harrison county. He is the son of the late William Johnson, of Bridgeport, in this county, and his mother was the daughter of Dr. John G. Waldo. He emigrated to Missouri in early manhood and engaged in the practice of law and soon became distinguished in his profession and entering the political arena he soon won distinction there, and as we have stated was elected United States Senator in 1861 and was subsequently a Confederate Senator. We believe he now occupies a prominent judicial position in Missouri. He is a brother of that very genial gentleman John C. Johnson, of Bridgeport.

James P. Bartlett

Was for many years a well-known citizen of Clarksburg and Harrison county, as the proprietor of the widely known hotel, the Bartlett House. He died the 28th of March, 1872.

Jedediah W. Goff

The eldest son of Job Goff was a member of the Legislature of Virginia, served Harrison county in the Legislature of Virginia from 1823 to 1825, was re-elected in 1825, but a short time before the Legislatue

was to convene he was taken ill and died at his home in Bridgeport, in this county, on the 5th day of December, 1825, the day the Legislature convened in Richmond.

Col. Cyrus Vance

Was born in Pennsylvania and emigrated to Virginia and settled in Clarksburg in early life where he became a useful citizen, holding several important official positions, serving as justice of the peace, postmaster, member of the legislature, and Mayor of Clarksburg. He was exercising the duties of the latter office at the time of his death, which occurred on the 10th day of August, 1875. Col. Vance was a gentleman of high integrity, enjoying the confidence of all who knew him.

Past Freaks of the Weather in Harrison County.

We are indebted to Hon. Nathan Goff, Sr. for the following statement:

On the 14th day of April, 1816, snow fell in Harrison county, to the depth of six inches and remained for two or three days before melting. On the 16th of April, 1854, snow fell to the depth of eight inches. On the 28th of April, 1854, it fell to the depth of three inches; snow fell to considerable depth on the 9th, 14th and 15th days of April, 1857, and also on the 19th day of May, of the same year. On the 23d day of April, 1858 snow fell to the depth of six inches and remained on the ground until the next day, on the 5th, 10th and 11th day of June, 1859, a frost--killing frost, destroyed all vegetation that it would effect. Wheat, corn and garden vegetables were entirely destroyed. Desolation reigned throughout this part of Virginia. The farmers had beautiful fields of corn in advanced stage of growth, and all of it had been cultivated once or twice when this desolating frost came, and blackened the face of the earth and rendered the very atmosphere noxious with the stench of vegetation, which had been deprived of life by the relentless frost king. The future looked appalling. It was near the middle of June--near the season when early vegetables should be ready for the table, and every thing of that kind had been deprived of life. No early beans--no early peas--no early roasting ears.-- But after a very short season of despondency the farmers rallied--replanted their gardens and fields and the season thereafter proving favorable, their crops grew with great rapidity, and the frost, as if to compensate for his visit in the early summer, postponed his return until very late in the autumn, and they had the good fortune to gather very remunerative crops.

The Cold Friday.

In February, 1834, on a certain Friday of that month the cold transcended any thing that had been known in Harrison county, or that has since been experienced. It is said that the thermometer fell to 26 degrees below zero. This was indeed an extraordinary freak of the weather and this cold extended throughout the South, though modifying, as it advanced in Southern latitudes. In Louisville, Kentucky, it was twenty-four degrees; in Nashville, Tennessee, it was twenty degrees; in Mobile, Alabama, it was two degrees below zero, and in Pensacola, Florida, it was at zero.

This weather was fought with very serious consequences throughout the South. For several days preceding it had been warm and spring-like, and the farmers and planters had been busily engaged in preparing their ground for planting, and the sudden change proved very detrimental to health. Many people were frozen to death--such as had started on journeys without being prepared with sufficient ~~wax~~ clothing to meet the emergency.

On the 12th day of January, 1812, the thermometer fell 16 degrees below zero in this region. Men traveling and animals exposed to the weather suffered severely.

Clarksburg Newspapers.

Notwithstanding the great want of commercial facilities, and the difficulty of communication with the outer world, our people at a comparatively early period in their history, enjoyed the advantages of a local paper. In 1808, Forbes and Alexander Britton, two brothers, established the Clarksburg Gazette, which they conducted until 1818 when they ceased publishing it. The Gazette was Federalist in politics, and though a small paper was conducted with ability, and had a very liberal circulation considering the sparseness of the population. Capt. Forbes Birtton, one of the proprietors of the "Gazette" was the father of Capt. Alexander Britton, proprietor of the National Hotel.

In 1817, William McGrenahan established a newspaper in Clarksburg which he called the Rattlesnake. This paper was also Federal in politics. He continued the publication of this paper under the cognomen of "Rattlesnake" until 1824, when he suspended publication. In 1828 he revived the paper under the more mild name of the Compiler and continued it under this name and other names until 1844. Robert Sommerville, continued the publication of the paper under the name of the Clarksburg Republican for some years, when he was succeeded by Mr. P. T. Crihfield who continued the paper until 1856, under the names of the Age.

In 1824, Messrs, McCrea, Chapin & Harrison commenced the publication of the Clarksburg "Intelligencer," also Federal in politics. The publication of this paper was continued until 1828. This paper, it is said, was conducted with ability, and wielded considerable influence during its existence. Mr. McCrea, a member of this firm was Sandy McCrea, well known to our older citizens. Mr. Chapin was Phineas Chapin, also well known. Mr. Harrison was the late Hon. William A. Harrison.

About the year 1839, Dr. Benjamin Dolbear commended the publication of the Clarksburg "Democrat," and conducted the Presidential canvass of 1840 with great zeal for the VanBuren ticket, and he and Mr. Sommerville, whose paper was Whig, made times very lively during that canvass, neither of them shrinking from the argumenium ad hominem when he felt that his cause demanded it.

In 1852, Major William Cooper came from Pennsylvania and commenced the publication of "Cooper's Register," an extreme Democratic journal. This paper Maj. Cooper conducted with much ability until 1860, when he associated Mr. Wm. Gordon with him as publisher. In the canvass of 1860, the "Register" advocated the election of Breckenridge and Lane, the candidates of the Southern democracy. This course led the editors into the Southern Confederacy, into which both the editors went and united their fortunes with that government.. The publication of the "Register" was suspended.

Joseph Israel commenced the publication of a paper in Clarksburg in 1830 and continued it about one year. He printed "The Chronicles of Border Warfare" in 1831.

In 1844, Benjamin Bassel, Esq., commenced the publication of a democratic paper in Clarksburg, called the "Scion of Democracy," and continued it for some years.

In 1859, Levi Powell published the "Campaign" in the interest of William L. Goggin, the Whig or opposition candidate for Governor of Virginia.

In 1861, when the war cloud began to rise, Mr. Cyrus Ringler published a union paper in Clarksburg.

We have given the history of journalism in Clarksburg to the beginning of the late civil war, endeavoring to arrive at accuracy. Journalism never seems to have been excessively profitable and it appears that if a man was desirous of obeying the Scripture injunction. "Make not haste to be rich," he would have found the newspaper business in Clarksburg to have been very safe; under the present state of affairs, he might incur more risk.

In 1841, Hon. George Summers, of Kanawha county, represented this district in Congress, Kanawha county then belonged to the same Congressional District as Harrison county. Mr. Summers was re-elected in 1843. He was a man of extraordinary ability, and it is said one of the finest orators Virginia ever produced.

In 1845 Hon. Joseph Johnson was again elected to represent the Clarksburg District in Congress, and re-elected in 1847, making the 7th time he had been elected.

In 1841 Col. Luther Haymond, now cashier of the Merchants' National Bank at Clarksburg and E. J. Armstrong, Esq., of Pruntytown, were elected to represent Harrison County in the Virginia Legislature.

In 1844, the Presidential contest was quite exciting in Harrison County, but the excitement did not reach the same elevated pitch that it did in 1840 when the Whigs had for their standard bearers "Tippecanoe and Tyler too." The Tyler appendage to their ticket, had assumed a shape after his election that had a tendency to dampen their ardor in 1844, though they rallied and made a gallant fight. Some amusing anecdotes are yet related of the canvass of 1844. It has been said that some of the Democrats in this county had never heard of James K. Polk, and it is related that one old gentleman

when the intelligence of Polk's nomination was communicated to him by a neighbor, responded: "The very man we want," and waving his hat, and exclaimed, "Hurrah for _____ what did you say his name was?"

Mr. Polk, it was said, was nominated for his available "obscurity", but he had been Speaker in the House of Representatives in the United States from 1835 to 1837.

As we progress and get the material we give
Biographical Sketches
of men who have lived in our county.

Hon. Lewis Maxwell

Was born in Harrison County in 1792, and was raised until he had almost attained to manhood on a farm. As the story goes, one day as he was ploughing with an ox-team, wearing buck-skin breeches, rolled up to his knees, the thought suddenly struck him, that there was a higher destiny for him. After reflecting upon the matter for some time still following the plough and ox-team, he appears to have arrived at a determination, which he expressed in the following soliloquy: "I will go to school--I will study law--I will go to Congress and I will accumulate wealth." As soon as he could make the necessary arrangements he commenced going to school at Randolph Academy, and remained there until he believed he had acquired sufficient education to enable him to study law. He then commenced his legal studies with Hon. John G. Jackson. He then obtained license and commenced practice in Tyler county in 1815. In 1817 when Lewis county was organized, he settled in that county and soon obtained a large practice. He represented Lewis county several times in the State Legislature and subsequently represented this District in the Congress of the United States. Mr. Maxwell accomplished all that he had laid out for himself. He studied law, went to Congress and accumulated a large estate. He died sitting in his chair in 1862, at the age of seventy-two.

Dr. Michael D. Gittings

Has been closely identified with the history of Clarksburg and Harrison county. He was born in Montgomery county, Maryland, thirteen miles from Washington City, on the 21st day of February 1796. He settled in Clarksburg in 1828, for the purpose of practicing his profession, that of a physician, and soon obtained a large practice. He bought the mill then owned by Dr. Williams (now owned by Mr. Steel) and enlarged and improved it. In 1847 he removed to Zanesville, Ohio, and remained there until 1864 when he removed to Marietta, Ohio and remained at that place until 1867, when he returned to Clarksburg where he still lives, being now near eighty years of age.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM

Clarksburg, W. Va., February 19, 1876,

VOLUME XIV--NO. 19.

WHOLE NUMVER 695.

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG AND HARRISON COUNTY
From Its
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CHAPTER VI.

Noah Dunnington.

Among the older inhabitants of Clarksburg, Mr. Dunnington deserves a biographical sketch. He was born in Prince William county, Virginia, in 1808, and emigrated with his parents to Monongalia county in his early boyhood. He settled in Clarksburg in the tailoring business in 1830, and has pursued that business in Clarksburg with two or three short intermissions for forty-six years. Mr. Dunnington has always possessed a character for high integrity and industry, retaining the confidence of his fellow-citizens, and by an active, temperate life he has enjoyed excellent health and shows but few of the ravages of time.

Elisha Owens

Is a cotemporary with Mr. Dunnington and we believe came to Clarksburg about the same time, and they were for a portion of their lives in partnership in business. In 1864 Mr. Owens received an appointment on the Capitol police force at Washington city. He subsequently became a Door Keeper of the United States Senate, and held that position until the spring of 1875.

Charles Lewis.

Mr. Lewis was the son of Asher Lewis, one of the early settlers in Clarksburg. Charles Lewis is represented as being a gentleman of ability and for a long time a very prominent public citizen, serving as a justice of the peace and President of the County Court, and when a Masonic Lodge was organized in Clarksburg he became the leading Free Mason of our town. He was the father of Hon. Charles S. Lewis.

Josiah Adams

Was another of the earlier citizens of Clarksburg--a man of active business habits, and one generally successful. He was the father of our fellow-citizen, D. J. Adams, and of Col. P. B. Adams, of Parkersburg.

George I. Davisson,

A respectable lawyer of Clarksburg and a very useful man in his day, was for ~~many~~ many years clerk of the Harrison county court. He was the father of our well-known fellow-citizen, Edgar M. Davisson. He died in 1836.

Augustine J. Smith

Was another of the prominent members of the Clarksburg bar, and a genial, popular gentleman. He was very successful in business. He was the father of our enterprising fellow-citizen, Mortimer W. Smith.

Dr. Jesse Flowers

Was one of Harrison county's most talented citizens and represented the county in the Legislature of Virginia several times between 1840 and 1850. A few years ago he removed to Marion county and in 1872 he represented that county in the West Virginia Legislature. He died at his home in Marion county a few months ago.

Richard W. Moore.

Mr. Moore was for many years identified with the history of Harrison county. He came to this county from Delaware in 1806. He was for a number of years clerk of the County Court and also the United States Circuit Court. He was a gentleman of excellent business qualifications and fine social qualities. He died in 1847. He was the father of Jasper Y. Moore, the present clerk of the United States District Court and of Major Alexander C. Moore, Prosecuting Attorney for Harrison county.

Benjamin Robinson,

Mr. Robinson was among the first settlers of Harrison county and was also one of the earliest justices of the peace, and an important member of the County Court in his day. He was the grandfather of F. A. Robinson, now circuit court clerk of Harrison county.

Noted Events.

What was known in this region as the "Great Freshet" occurred in April, 1852. All the streams in Harrison arose to an unprecedented height. The West Fork inundated a considerable ~~part~~ portion of the Western portion of Clarksburg. The water is said to have been four feet deep in Mr. John Peck's blacksmith's shop which stood then where it stands now. Almost the entire portion of Pike west of the intersection of Main street was covered with water. Elk creek arose to a proportionate height with the river. There was a brick store house standing near Mr. Steel's Mills. This house was swept away, carrying with it the bridge, a few yards below it. The damage caused by this freshet throughout the county was extensive. A few buildings were washed away and a large amount of fencing but no lives were lost.

The Shooting Stars.

Harrison county was not exempt from its share of falling stars, on November, 1834, when there was such an immense meteoric shower. A very good joke is told of a man who resided in the county a short distance from Clarksburg, and who had come to town the day before, and although the people of our town and county were noted for their regular habits, yet occasionally a man could be found who would imbibe too freely, and our country-man was one of this sort. His wife had sent him to town on foot with a pound or two of butter and a few dozen of eggs to barter for sugar and coffee. Instead of

bartering, he disposed of his eggs for cash and proceeded to swallow it in the shape of strong liquors and tarried long over his cups. Just after dark he staggered out of town in the direction of his home, but he had not proceeded far before he was overcome with the liquor he had imbibed, and was soon in the arms of Morpheus, having been placed in that position by Bacchus. Some time between midnight and dawn he awoke, when he was considerably bewildered seeing the stars falling around him as thick as snow flakes. He soliloquized thus: "What in the world can be the matter; if 'twa'nt night I should think t'was the day o' judgment. I guess 'tis day o' judgment and the Lord havn't a big day's work on hands, has begun 'fore day. Well if it 'tis day o' judgment the old 'oman will not scold 'cause I brought no sugar'n coffee home. She'll have something else to think 'bout. That's some comfort." He plodded his way slowly home amid the blazing meteors where he arrived shortly after day-break, when he found his better half "nursing her wrath to keep it warm," and much to his disappointment the day of judgment did not intervene to prevent his getting a severe blowing up for his intemperate and imprudent habits.

But we again turn to the more regular routine of events.

In 1849 Hon. James M. H. Beale of Mason county represented this District in the Congress of the United States. He was re-elected in 1851. In 1853 the Hon. John F. Snodgrass of Wood county was elected to represent this District in Congress. He died on the 5th of June in 1854, in Parkersburg, while trying a case in which he was engaged as counsel, and Hon. Charles S. Lewis of Clarksburg, now Judge of the Circuit Court was elected to fill the vacancy. In 1850 Hons. Joseph G. Johnson, J. F. Snodgrass, G. D. Camden and Hon. P. G. Van Winkle represented this Convention District in what was known as the Reform Convention of the State of Virginia. This Convention framed a Constitution more liberal than the State had hitherto enjoyed, and the elective franchise was extended, and the people were given a voice in the choice of many officers which were formerly made by appointment. Previous to this the Governor of Virginia had been elected by the Legislature. Under the Constitution formed in 1850 the office was made elective by the people. In 1851 the people of Virginia for the first time in their history had the privilege of choosing a Governor.

Hon. George W. Summers, of Kanawha county, was the Whig candidate and Hon. Joseph Johnson of Harrison county was the Democratic candidate. Mr. Johnson was the successful candidate.

In 1855, Hon. John S. Carlile was elected to Congress on the American or Know Nothing ticket. Mr. Carlile soon distinguished himself in Congress. We will have more to say of his public career when we again take up biographical sketches.

In 1847, the great contest between John S. Duncan, Esq., and Gov. Johnson took place for representative in the Legislature from Harrison county. Gov. Johnson had been unusually successful as a politician and was considered an old war horse that would be hard to beat. Mr. Duncan was considered one of the most talented men of his age in Virginia. The contest was very bitter and every inch of ground was contested. Johnson was elected by a few votes. The election was contested by Mr. Duncan and referred back to the people. Mr. Duncan declined the second race.

In the beginning of the year 1846, President Polk appointed Hon. John W. Brockenbrought judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, and he held his first court in Clarksburg, commencing the 30th of March, 1846,. Hon. George H. Lee was appointed United States District Attorney about the same time, and entered upon the duties of his office the first day of this court. The following are the names of the gentlemen who composed the Grand Jury: Waldo P. Goff, foreman, George W. Jackson, Caleb Dorsey, John McGee, John B. Lacey, Thomas L. Prim, John Davis, Alstorpheus Werninger, Granville G. Davisson, Cruger W. Smith, John Hursey, Thomas A. Hornor, Eli Marsh, David Davisson, Andrew Radcliff, Matthew Neely, Benjamin Bassel, Jr., James G. West, James K. Smith, James M. Jackson, James P. Bartlett, Alvin N. Bastable and William E. Arnold.

Judge Brockenbrough is still living in Lexington, Virginia. He is a gentleman of great legal attainments and while presiding over the United States District Court in Clarksburg, he won the profound respect of the members of the legal profession, and of the citizens generally.

The completion of the Northwestern turnpike which was about the year 1840, was of considerable importance to our town and county. There was a regular tri-weekly stage line to Winchester, Virginia, kept up from that time until the completion of the Northwestern railroad in 1859. The completion of this railroad, although it did not appear at first to give any great impulse to the business of our town and county, opened up rapid intercourse with distant points, and gave a speedy market to our farmers and graziers.

Cattle Raising.

Almost from the first settlement of our county the raising of beef cattle has been the chief industry of our people. Prior to the days of railroads beef cattle were driven on foot to Baltimore. The cattle dealer after having purchased his drove of cattle and collected them all at one point, would hire a few hands to drive for him, prepare provisions for his drovers and load them in a wagon, designed to accompany the drove, and when all were ready, would set out on the tedious journey, generally about six weeks. At that time there were at proper intervals along the great route to Baltimore what were denominated "Cattle Stands" or "Cattle Yards," at which the dealer could obtain an enclosed pasture for his stock at night, while he and his employes generally camped out and cooked and ate the provisions brought with them in the wagon. As these driving excursions were generally made in warm weather the "camping out" was quite pleasant. When the cattle reached Baltimore they were in nearly as good condition as when they were started. We learn from old drovers that a drive of twenty-five or thirty days did not affect them as seriously as forty-eight hours transportation on the railroad.

Another Retrospect--The Great Sleet.

In order that we may present all the interesting events to our readers, we find it necessary to go back, sometimes, a great many years. The spring of 1820 was made memorable by what has since been

designated as "the Great Sleet." About the 15th of March of that year a very heavy snow fell which was immediately succeeded by an immense fall of sleet. This sleet falling upon the snow became encrusted and adhered to it even upon the branches of trees, and proving very heavy, vast destruction was caused by the breaking down of timber in the forest and also fruit trees in the orchards. The encrusted sleet upon the snow enabled dogs in pursuit of game to run over it without breaking through. Deer, owing to their jumping gait and sharp hoofs would break through the encrusted sleet and snow and their progress being thus impeded, they were easily caught, by dogs, and these animals which prior to that time had been very abundant, were almost decimated. One of our aged citizens informs us that the morning after this great sleet fell the sun arose clear and the reflection of the rays from the icy trees and the icy surface of the hills around Clarksburg, surpassed in magnificence any scene he ever beheld. It was equal to any thing ever depicted by oriental romance, surpassing in grandeur any thing that the wonderful lamp of Aladdin conjured up.

Col. Richard Fowkes.

No citizen of Harrison county was ever more identified with Clarksburg and Harrison county than Col. Fowkes. He was a gentleman of decided traits of character and as he was much in public life, he was well and widely known.

Col. Fowkes was born in Montgomery county, Kentucky, on the 24th of June, 1794. He served with distinction in the war of 1812. He served in Capt. Warfield's company of Col. Richard M. Johnson's regiment during the entire term of service of that regiment, ~~part~~ participating in numerous engagements, among which were the celebrated battles of the Thames and Tippecanoe. He was an eye witness of the fall of the distinguished Indian Chief, Tecumseh, at the battle of the Thames. As a soldier, though quite a youthful one, he frequently won the commendation of his officers by the faithful and prompt discharge of his duties. He was among the bravest of the brave and true. Shortly after the close of the war, he settled in Clarksburg, and he soon became one of the most distinguished citizens of our county, occupying many positions of public trust, serving as Sheriff of Harrison county for a number of years. He was also for a long time one of the prominent merchants of Clarksburg.

In 1863 Col. Fowkes was appointed postmaster at Clarksburg, by president Lincoln, in which office he remained until his death, which occurred suddenly, from congestion of the heart, on the 18th day of Feb., 1866. In all the public positions which he occupied he gave great satisfaction. He was universally popular. He was prominent in the movement at the beginning of the late war to restore Virginia to her true status to the Federal Union.

Benjamin Coplin.

Mr. Coplin was one of the first settlers of Harrison county, and among the first members of the County Court. He was one of the solid men of the ancient regime and bore a conspicuous part in the public affairs of our county in early times. He has numerous descendants living in this and the adjoining counties.

John Hursey, Esq.

Mr. Hursey was born in Maryland in the year 1800 and came to Clarksburg in 1822. He was a gentleman of great industry, and one who was highly respected by his neighbors and acquaintances. He served a large portion of his life as a justice of the peace and a member of the County Court. He was Chairman of the first meeting which was held in Clarksburg, and we believe the first in the State, to take into consideration measures for the restoration of the Government of Virginia. Mr. Hursey died in October, 1864. He was a consistent christian.

Health and Longevity.

We do not suppose that any part of the American continent can surpass Clarksburg and Harrison county in point of good health. Through the assistance of B. F. Shuttleworth, Esq., we have been enabled to obtain the ages of the following citizens of Clarksburg:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|----|--------|
| John Gibson, | aged | 85 | years. |
| John Stealey, | " | 84 | " |
| Mrs. Elizabeth Pike | " | 84 | " |
| Mrs. Jane Martin | " | 82 | " |
| Mrs. Lucy Hite, | " | 81 | " |
| F. T. Harrison | " | 82 | " |
| Elmer Hart, | " | 81 | " |
| Waldo P. Goff | " | 80 | " |
| Dr. M. D. Gettings | " | 80 | " |
| Daniel Southworth | " | 80 | " |
| William Louchery | " | 80 | " |
| Thomas Anderson | " | 80 | " |
| Frank Davis (col'd) | " | 85 | " |
| Watt Colston, (Col'd) | " | 85 | " |
| Moses Jackson | " | 85 | " |

These are persons in Clarksburg eighty years old and above. The average age of these fifteen persons is eighty two years, three months and six days.

Mrs. Jane Martin

is a Revolutionary Pensioner, being the widow of Col. Willing Martin, a Revolutionary soldier of whom mention has been made in preceding chapters of this history. Mrs Martin retains her physical and mental faculties remarkably well, and her memory is very accurate, and and her conversation relating to facts and events is exceedingly interesting and instructive.

John Gibson is a pensioner of the war of 1812.

Frederick T. Harrison is a brother of the late Hon. William A. Harrison, and is also a pensioner of the war of 1812.

Thomas Anderson is also a pensioner of that war. Dr. Gettings also served in the war of 1812.

The following citizens of Clarksburg are above seventy years of age.

| | | | |
|------------------------|------|----|--------|
| Nathan Goff, Sr. | aged | 78 | years. |
| Mrs. Salina Moore | " | 78 | " |
| Robert Stutler | " v | 78 | " |
| Mrs. Patterson | " | 78 | " |
| Mrs. T. Anderson | " | 77 | " |
| Prs. G. Prichard | " | 79 | " |
| George Prichard | " | 79 | " |
| Lloyd Lowndes | " | 77 | " |
| William Lee | " | 76 | " |
| John G. Kennedy | " | 74 | " |
| John M. Wire | " | 74 | " |
| Edward Owens | " | 74 | " |
| Mrs. Cynthia Bartlett | " | 73 | " |
| Mrs. Ann Prim | " | 72 | " |
| Mrs. Daniel Southworth | " | 73 | " |
| Dr. Austin | " | 73 | " |
| Elisha Owens | " | 71 | " |
| A. Werninger, | " | 70 | " |
| Rezin Davis | " | 72 | " |
| A. Britton | " | 71 | " |
| B. S. Griffin | " | 75 | " |
| Daniel Keenan | " | 72 | " |
| Mrs. R. S. Taylor | " | 72 | " |
| Mrs. Rezin Davis | " | 70 | " |
| Isaac Baker | " | 78 | " |
| Mrs. William Lee | " | 73 | " |
| Mrs. M. Nuzum | " | 72 | " |
| Mrs. Armstrong | " | 70 | " |
| Mrs. Carder | " | 70 | " |
| Mrs. John Gibson | " | 70 | " |
| John S. Johnson | " | 70 | " |
| Mrs. Ann Lewis | " | 73 | " |
| Mrs. Caton | " | 73 | " |
| B. Page, (col'd) | " | 71 | " |
| M. Chapin | " | 75 | " |
| S. Bartlett, | " | 75 | " |

Here are thirty seven persons in Clarksburg whose ages range between seventy and eighty, to which add the fifteen ~~above eighty years of age make an aggregate of fifty-two persons in Clarksburg above the age of seventy years. The average~~ above eighty years of age make an average of fifty-two persons in Clarksburg above the age of seventy years. The average

age of these fifty two citizens of Clarksburg is seventy six years, four months and fourteen days.

The following persons residing in the County of Harrison outside of Clarksburg, are over ninety years of age:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Elisha Griffin, | aged 96 years |
| Levi Bond | " 92 " |
| Gov. Joseph Johnson | " 90 " |
| Mrs. Sarah Ross, | " 96 " |
| James Barton | " 92 " |
| Dr. J. F. Randolph | " 94 " |
| Mrs. Custer | " 90 " |
| Elisha Hall | " 92 " |
| Zadok McIntyre, | " 90 " |
| Mrs. Levi Bond | " 90 " |
| Cynthia Lee (colored) | " 98 " |

It will be seen from the foregoing that there are eleven persons in Harrison county now living, above the age of ninety. The average of these eleven is ninety-two years, eight months and twenty two days. Of these Gov. Johnson served in the war of 1812 as a captain.

The following persons residing in Harrison county are above the age of eighty years:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Joseph Gusman, | age 86 years |
| Cap. Isaac Smith, | " 82 " |
| Joseph Jenkins | " 89 " |
| John McPherson | " 82 " |
| Thomas Hickman | " 83 " |
| John Davis | " 89 " |
| Phineas F. Randolph | " 83 " |
| Samuel Cottrell, | " 86 " |
| John Garrett | " 88 " |
| Reuben Bond | " 88 " |
| Elias Smith | " 80 " |
| Jonathan Bell | " 80 " |
| Mrs. Jeriel Swiger, | " 82 " |
| William McIntyre | " 88 " |

Here are fourteen persons in our county between the ages of eighty and ninety. The average of these fourteen persons is eighty four years, eight months and seventeen days. Add to these the eleven persons above 90 years of age and we have twenty-five persons in Harrison county above the age of eighty years. The average age of these twenty-five persons is eighty-eight years two months and twenty-six days. Add the fifteen persons in Clarksburg who are above eighty to these twenty-five, and we have forty persons in the county of Harrison who are above the age of eighty years, and the average age of these forty persons is precisely eighty-six years. Of these octogenarians, Samuel Cottrell is a pensioner of the war of 1812; as is also Zadok McIntyre.

Mrs. Sarah Ross, is the widow of the late Cyrus Ross a well known citizen of this county.

Our means of information in relation to this matter have not been favorable. Could we get correct information from all parts of the county, we could doubtless swell the list of both nonagenarians and octogenarians.

The facts which we have here related in regard to the longevity of our people show that we are blessed with extraordinary health, and that for good health and longevity our climate cannot be surpassed.

Correction--Phineas Chapin, was born in Springfield Massachusetts, and died in Clarksburg on the 17th day of May 1857.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM.

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, February 26, 1876.

VOLUME XIV--NO. 19.

WHOLE NUMBER 696.

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG AND HARRISON COUNTY
From Its
Earliest Settlements to the Present Time.

CHAPTER VI.

Hon. John S. Carlile.

Of the citizens of Clarksburg, and Harrison county, who have made a national reputation, Hon. John S. Carlile stands in the front rank.

Mr. Carlile was born in Winchester, Virginia, on the 6th of December, 1817, and at the age of fourteen entered a country store as salesman and clerk, and at seventeen commenced business for himself, devoting his leisure hours to the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1840, and in 1842 he settled in Beverley, Randolph county, Virginia, and engaged in practice, subsequently removing to Clarksburg. He soon became prominent and in 1847 was elected to the State Senate and served till 1850. In that year he was elected a Delegate to the Convention of Virginia of which body he was quite a distinguished member. In 1845 he was elected to Congress. In 1861 he was elected to Congress under the Restored Government of Virginia, and was soon thereafter transferred to the Senate, in which he served until 1865. Mr. Carlile was also a Delegate to the Virginia Convention in 1861 which was called to consider the Federal relations of the State. This was the convention that passed the ordinance of Secession. Mr. Carlile took strong Union grounds and upon his return home took a prominent part in the movement to restore the government of Virginia on a loyal basis. He was one of the leading spirits in this movement.

After the expiration of Mr. Carlile's term in the United States Senate, he removed to Frederick county, Maryland, and resided there two years, and then went to Baltimore. In 1868 he returned to Clarksburg and took up his residence, and subsequently purchased and removed to the beautiful and valuable farm known as Waverly, two miles from Clarksburg, on the Weston road, where he still resides.

As a popular declaimer Mr. Carlile has few superiors. He is yet in the vigor of life, and although for several years he has not publicly participated in the political matters of the country, yet should an emergency arise that would call him from his retirement, he would again wield a large influence upon the politics of the country.

Bridgeport Legislators.

Our neighbors

Our neighboring town of Bridgeport in ante bellum days was very prolific in Legislators, and furnished as many, if not more than any other portion of the county. Hon. Joseph Johnson, Ex-Governor, represented Harrison county in the legislature five years ~~years~~ John Davidson represented our county four years. Jedediah W. Goff, a brother of Nathan Goff and W. P. Goff, four years, William Johnson one year, D. D. Wilkinson one year.

The following gentlemen residing on Simpson's creek, some of them in the immediate vicinity of Bridgeport represented Harrison county, John Prunty for twenty-two years, John Cather for five years, William Newlon for two years, D. Wilkinson one year, Pumphrey Paris one year.

We find it necessary to correct ~~relaxation~~ some errors which we have made in relation to those who have represented the Clarksburg District in Congress. We stated in a former number that Hon. Lewis Maxwell represented this District in Congress in 1829 and in 1831. Such was not the case. Hon. Philip Doddridge was the representative from this District for the terms commencing in 1829 and 1831.

Hon. Lewis Maxwell was representative in Congress from Virginia from 1827 to 1833, but it was from an adjoining District. Mr. Maxwell, though a resident of Harrison county when he conceived that there was a higher destiny for him than plowing with an ox team, subsequently settled in Lewis county and resided in that county when he was elected to Congress, Lewis and Harrison then being in separate Congressional Districts.

Hon. George W. Summers was not elected to Congress in 1841, but Hon. Samuel L. Hays of Lewis county. In 1843 Mr. Summers defeated Mr. Hays. In 1845 Gov. Johnson was again elected, and in 1847 declined being a candidate and in course was not elected as we have formerly stated, but was succeeded by Hon. Robert Thompson, of Kanawha county. He was succeeded by Hon. James M. H. Bealle, who was elected in 1849 and in 1851. He was succeeded by Hon. John F. Snodgrass, in 1853, who died in 1854, and was succeeded by Hon. Charles S. Lewis, and he by Hon. John S. Carlile who was succeeded in 1857 by Hon. Albert G. Jenkins who was re-elected in 1859. This closes the Congressional history of our District until the commencement of the war.

The Independent Virginian.

In our notice of the newspapers which have been published in Clarksburg previous to the war, we omitted the the "Independent Virginian." This paper was established in September 1824, by Messrs. Lee and William McGranaghan. We have a number of it before us issued on the 18th day of November, 1824. It was a small four column paper, Democratic in politics. In the prospectus, the editors deplore the evil times upon which they had fallen. They say:

"A new era in politics has commenced which threatens devastation; the principles and legacies left us by our fathers. Whether the people are to elect their Chief Magistrate or whether he is to be elected by a minority in Congress is a question which they ought to be informed of. The Independent Virginian like a beacon in the night, will illumine the way to correct principles

and the peoples' rights."

It appears that there were doggerel rhymesters in those days about Clarksburg, for we find in this paper a string of rhymes with the following title:

"To Miss Sarah Hard to Please."

This poet does not appear to state why Miss Sarah is hard to please, but goes on to rehearse his own good qualities, and to implore her to be pleased with him. Here is one verse which will be sufficient to show the merits of the rhymester:

"Plain common sense I do not lack,
And yet that's a lawful tender,
Yet I ne'er made an Almanack
Nor saw the witch of Endor."

We believe this is about the farthest fetched thing we ever saw, or rather the greatest stretch of imagination that was ever exercised in order to get rhyming words. The author of this, if still living, is very aged now, but we do not think he could have survived such an effort for above a half century.

In this paper we find the following paragraph concerning a couple of large radishes, grown in Bridgeport:

"We frequently see in the newspapers accounts of large beets, parsnips, pumpkins, &c., but Harrison county cannot be beaten. There was raised in the garden of Jedediah W. Goff, Esq., in the town of Bridgeport, in this county, two radishes, one weighing seventeen and one-half pounds, the other fourteen and one-half. One of which measured twenty-seven and three-fourths inches in circumference."

In this paper a physician, whose name has been effaced by rough handling, advertises his rates of charging, which were as follows:

"For visit twenty-five cents a mile, going, returning twelve and a half cents per mile.

"Bleeding and extracting or opening abcess with a lancet, twenty-five cents each.

"Prescription from one to two dollars. Medicine per dose, from six and one-fourth to twenty-five cents.

"Worm medicine fifty cents. Flux medicine from one to five dollars. Fever medicine from two to five dollars. Curing cancer from two to five dollars. P. S. In cases of failure to cure fever, flux or cancer, upon an early application, there will be no charge for medicine." This physician proposed to cure cancers very cheap and as cancers are now generally considered incurable, he must have retained the secret in his own bosom and died without communicating it to the world.

We see from an advertisement in this paper that Chas, A. Swearingen was Marshal of this Chancery District. Our fellow citizen A. Werninger was then a merchant in Morgantown and advertises in this paper the opening of "a large assortment of seasonable dry goods, also groceries, hardware, queensware, glassware, medicines and stationery."

We have not been able to learn how long this paper continued in existence.

Gideon D. Camden.

Judge Camden is a well known citizen of Clarksburg, and has been closely identified with the history of our town and county, since 1834, when he came to Clarksburg from his native county, Lewis, and entered into a law partnership with Hon. John J. Allen, and soon acquired a lucrative practice. He was elected Circuit Judge in 1852 and re-elected in 1858. In 1872 he was elected State Senator for the counties of Harrison, Doddridge, Ritchie, Gilmer and Calhoun. His term of office expires on the first of next January. Judge Camden is remarkably well preserved for one of his age.

John Duncan

Was a son of Hon. Edward S. Duncan, and though he died at a very early age had attained prominence as a lawyer. He made the famous canvass for the Legislature with Governor Johnson, of which we have heretofore spoken. We learn that Gov. Johnson paid him a great compliment after the canvass ended, saying that Mr. Duncan was the ablest antagonist with whom he had ever measured lances. Mr. Duncan was a genial gentleman of fine social qualities, and universally popular.

Eli Marsh, Esq.,

Was a very prominent citizen of Harrison county for many years, having served as Sheriff and County Court Clerk. He was very successful in business and acquired a handsome estate. He died in the spring of 1874, at his residence, Rose Lawn, six miles southwest of Clarksburg.

Samuel Fittro.

One of the most pleasant, genial old gentlemen with whom you meet about Clarksburg, is Mr. Samuel Fittro. You will always find him in a pleasant humor, ready to give or take a joke, and utterly devoid of malice. He resides on a farm about three miles from town, on the West Milford road. He has spent a long and active life in the vicinity of Clarksburg, enjoying the confidence of all acquainted with him. According to Pope's definition, he is the noblest work of God--an honest man.

George Pritchard.

Mr. Pritchard is one of our oldest citizens, having resided in Clarksburg for sixty years, coming to this place from Morgantown, in 1816. He came here at the instance of Hon. John G. Jackson to assist him in erecting his various manufacturing establishments. Mr. Pritchard's life has been one of varied fortune. He has been a man of great industry. In his younger days he conducted a large blacksmithing establishment and was very skillful in his branch of business. He is yet quite vigorous for one of his advanced age.

Thomas Hickman

Is a son of Sotha Hickman, who settled near Clarksburg in 1772, one

hundred and four years ago. Mr. Hickman is now eighty-three years of age. He has pursued the quiet and peaceful life of a farmer, and notwithstanding his great age enjoys excellent health and retains his faculties both mental and physical almost unimpaired.

Before concluding this chapter however we deem it proper to give a few more biographical sketches:

Richard Despard, Sr.

Mr. Despard was a native of the City of Dublin, Ireland. In early life he emigrated to and settled in the city of New York where he became a prominent merchant. About the year 1824, he removed with his family to Clarksburg, and entered into mercantile operations in which he continued the remainder of his life. He was succeeded by his son Richard Despard, Jr. who prosecuted the business until his death in 1859. Richard Despard, Sr., was a highly cultivated gentleman of the old school. He was liberal and public spirited and did much for the prosperity of our town and county.

Richard Despard, Jr.

Son of the former, was an enterprising and successful merchant of Clarksburg and one who enjoyed the confidence of the people.

Colonel Burton Despard,

Son of Richard Despard, Sr., was during his life one of the most prominent citizens of our county. As a lawyer he was eminently successful. He was a gentleman of unbounded public spirit, and liberality. He was first in every public enterprise and contributed liberally of his large means to every object of charity that was brought to his notice. Col. Despard was eminently successful in all his undertakings and accumulated a large estate. Much of the growth and prosperity of Clarksburg is due to his enterprise. He died on the second day of October, 1874, regretted and lamented by all our people. No citizen of Clarksburg, since its settlement has died whose loss has been more sensibly felt.

Big Masters.

In early days our people possessed great military spirit and much interest was taken in "training days." Regimental drills were held in Clarksburg, and all who were subject to military duty were promptly on hand and the aged would also attend to witness the evolutions. In those days the officers were finely caparisoned and a regimental parade was generally conducted in a tasteful style. But after the training was ended then came a season of jollity. Those who were of convivial habits, indulged freely, and some would become intoxicated, intoxication begot quarrels and quarrels begot fights, and bloody noses were not unfrequently sights, though nothing more serious than "fisticuffs" rarely took place. "Big Muster Day," as it was

termed, was a great day with many of the people, as that was a day for those who were fond of a "spree" to indulge in it to their hearts' content. Horse swappers were in their glory. Candidates could shake hands with the voters ad libitum.

Methodism in our Town and County.

We are indebted to Hon. Nathan Goff for a history of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Harrison County. At a very early day in our history, Methodist societies were organized in our county. Mr. Goff's acquaintance with the workings of Methodism reaches as far back as 1818. At that time he informs us he was acquainted with the following Methodists in Harrison County and Clarksburg.

Rev. Benjamin Webb, local preacher, and wife who resided on Simpson's Creek, near Bridgeport, and Rev. Shadrach Johnson, also a local preacher, and his wife, who resided on Pleasant Creek (now in Taylor county). Rev. _____ Masters who resided on Bingamon Creek, Rev. Randolph Spicer Smith, who lived on Lost Run, (now in Taylor County); Rev. Aaron Cheveront, who lived above West Milford, on the West Fork; Rev. Henry Warder and wife residing near Pruntytown; Rev. John Woodyard and wife, living in the same vicinity; Revs. Asa and Levi Shinn, near Shinnston. The foregoing named gentlemen were all local preachers.

The following were lay members of the church at that time.

William and Samuel Kemble, living near Pruntytown; Jonathan Shinn, near Shinnston; Michael Dunn and wife, Mrs. Chamberlain; Mrs. Caleb Davis, Mrs. John Webster, Miss Patsey Easter, Mrs. Asher Lewis.

Miss Easter was the daughter of a distinguished Methodist preacher of the Eastern portion of Virginia, Mrs. Asher Lewis was the mother of the late Charles Lewis, Esq., and the grandmother of Hon. Charles S. Lewis.

Methodism in Clarksburg.

In 1815 a Methodist society was organized in Clarksburg and became a part of the Harrison County Circuit, and that year Rev. John Bare was the preacher in charge, and there is an interregnum until 1819 of which we can get no account. In 1819 Rev. William Hook was in charge of the Circuit and in 1820 and 1821 Rev. Bennett Dowler. Then another interregnum. and in 1823 the Church in Clarksburg became a station and Rev. Peregrine Buckingham became the Pastor and remained until 1825 and was succeeded by Rev. Thomas M. Hudson, who was in charge one year. From the time we are enabled to give the names in regular order and the years in which they had charge, as follows:

in 1829; Rev. George S. Holmes in 1827 and 1828; Rev. Jacob Flake Callender in 1832; Rev. Daniel Limerick in 1830 and 1831; Rev. Nathaniel in 1834; Rev. James Mills in 1833; Rev. James H. McMechen in 1837 and 1838; Rev. Joseph Boyle in 1835 and 1836; Rev. Thomas Tinchcomb in 1839; Rev. Benjamin F. Saehill in 1839; Rev. John J. Swayzey in 1840; Rev. Jeremiah Hamnett in 1841; Rev. Hiram Cree in 1842 and 1843; Rev. Cornelius H. Jackson in 1844; Rev. James Henderson in 1845; Rev. Thomas McCrary in 1846; Rev. Jonathan Cramer in 1847; Rev. Wesley Smith in 1848; Rev. Andrew J. Lyda in 1849 and 1850; Rev. Samuel R. Dawson in 1851; Rev. R. S. Woodyard in 1852; Rev. Alexander Martin in 1853; Rev. Timothy B. Taylor in 1854; Rev. Jeremiah Hare in 1855; Rev. J. B. Blakely in 1856 and 1857; Rev. Jeremiah Hare in 1858; Rev. S. R. Griffith in 1859 and 1860.

From 1860 to 1864 the church at Clarksburg was without a pastor or a place of worship, the church edifice being used for military purposes. In 1864 the West Virginia Conference sent to this station Rev. E. L. Nicholson, and the congregation then worshipped in the Court House until the end of the war. After the war closed the old church was found to be so out of repair as to be utterly unfitted for the purposes for which it was originally designed, and the Acedemy building which had been used as a military prison, was then used by the Methodists as a place of worship. In 1866 Rev. A. Hall was sent to this station. In 1867 Rev. S. W. Davis was stationed as pastor of the church in Clarksburg. In 1868 Goff Chapel, so called in honor of Hon. Nathan Goff, Sr., an elegant church edifice, was completed. This chapel was erected while Rev. Mr. Davis was pastor. He continued in the pastorate for three years, and was succeeded in 1870 by Rev. G. W. Morgan, who in 1871 was succeeded by Rev. E. C. Wayman who remained two years and was succeeded by Rev. James L. Clark, the present pastor of the church.

Goff Chapel.

This church edifice does treat credit to the Methodists of Clarksburg. It is of a plain architectural style with a basement containing a comfortable lecture and Sunday school room. The church room proper will comfortably seat six hundred persons.

The following are the names of the Elders who have presided over the Clarksburg district.

Rev. Daniel Hilt from 1818 to 1820; Rev. William Stevens from 1820 to 1824; Rev. Mr. _____ from 1824 to 1830; Rev. Robert Hopkins from 1830 to 1834; Rev. James G. Sanson from 1834 to 1840; Rev. William Hunter from 1840 to 1844; Rev. Simon Elliott from 1844 to 1848; Rev. Samuel J. J. Worthington from 1848 to 1854; Rev. Moses Tichnell from 1854 to 1856; Rev. Gordon Battelle from 1856 to 1860; Rev. J. L. Irwin from 1860 to 1864; Rev. A. J. Lyda from 1864 to 1868; Rev. Samuel Steel from 1868 to 1872; Rev. A. Hall from 1872 to 1874. In 1874 Rev. W. W. Bolton the present incumbent entered upon his duties as presiding Elder of this district.

Of the preachers stationed in Clarksburg, we have not been able to learn much of their subsequent history after their term of service expired here. Rev. Nathaniel Callender spent a long and useful life in the ministry and died in Louisville Kentucky, a few weeks ago. Rev. Jeremiah Hamnett shortly after the expiration of his pastorate in Clarksburg became Professor of Ancient Languages and Literature in Alleghany College, Meadsville, Pa., a position which he has held continuously ever since. His wife died a short time ago. Rev. Joseph Boyle died in St. Louis, Missouri, a few years ago. During a large portion of Rev. J. L. Irwin's term as presiding Elder he was Chaplain of the 14th regiment of W. Va. infantry. After the war he became agent of the American Bible Society and continued to exercise the duties of that office ~~yk~~ until his death, which occurred in 1871. He was a gentleman of sterling qualities.

Churches in Clarksburg.

We have already given accounts of the organization of the Primitive Baptist Church in Clarksburg and of the Presbyterian Church. The Baptists organized a church in Clarksburg about the year 1848, and for a time worshipped in the Court House, but in the year 1852 their present brick church edifice was erected. Not many years after a dissension arose in this church in relation to the reception of a member who had been expelled from another congregation, which for a time threatened the destruction of the organization. Some of the parties rushed into the newspapers and this gave the general public the cause of contention. The church finally weathered the storm, and is now in a prosperous condition.

The Episcopal Church.

Mr. Richard Despard who came to Clarksburg from New York City about the year 1824 and settled in Clarksburg was a member of the Episcopal Church, as well as the members of his family. Through his influence an Episcopal clergyman occasionally visited Clarksburg and preached. We learn that at one time he supported a minister almost entirely. In process of time Christ Church was organized and a church edifice erected. The congregation has never been very large. There are now about forty-five communicants. We expect in a succeeding chapter to speak more at length of the religious societies of Clarksburg.

The Catholic Church.

There has been a large number of Catholics in Clarksburg ever since the completion of the Northwestern Railroad, but they had no church edifice until near the close of the war, when their present handsome and commodious structure was erected. They have a large number of communicants.

Rev. Gordon Battelle,

Was a gentleman of extraordinary ability. He was a teacher for some time in the Academy here. He was one of the leading spirits in the Convention which formed the first Constitution of West Virginia.

Rev. Dr. Alexander Martin.

Is still living and is now President of a University in Indiana. He was a teacher in the Academy here in Clarksburg. He was the first President of the West Virginia University at Morgantown, and built up for that institution an excellent reputation. He held that position until a very recent period.

Southern Methodists.

It is proper to state that after the division of the Methodist Episcopal church in the United States, a Southern branch of the church was organized in Clarksburg, which has been prosperous and continues so, its members being among our best citizens. We have not been able to learn the extent of the membership, &c.

In giving the names of the aged people in Harrison County last week, we overlooked

Mr. Robert Bartlett.

He is now eighty-six years of age and still possesses great vigor of both mind and body. He resides on a farm a few miles north of Clarksburg. He is a brother of the late James P. Bartlett of Clarksburg.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM.

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, March 11, 1876.

VOLUME XIV--NO. 22.

WHOLE NUMBER 698.

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG AND HARRISON COUNTY

From Its

Earliest Settlement to the Present Time.

CHAPTER VII.

(The table below should have appeared last week. In order to properly understand it, the reader is referred to the closing paragraph in our last issue.)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------|------|
| For John S. Carlile, | 1500 | |
| For A. G. Jenkins, | 27 | |
| Carlile's majority, | | 1473 |
| For C. J. Stewart, | 1523 | |
| For B. R. Pennybaker | 518 | |
| Stewart's majority, | | 1005 |
| For John J. Davis, | 1586 | |
| For John C. Vance, | 1562 | |
| Davis' majority over Patton, | | 958 |
| Davis' majority over Wilkinson, | | 941 |
| Vance's majority over Patton, | | 934 |
| Vance's majority over Wilkinson, | | 917 |

It will be seen that the Union element in Harrison county was largely in the ascendant.

The friends of the Southern Confederacy began the work of enlisting men for the Confederate service and a company was soon organized. This company rendezvoused at Clarksburg for the purpose of taking the railroad for Grafton, to join Col. Porterfield who then had a considerable force at that place. This company coming into Clarksburg aroused the indignation of the Union people, and many were in favor of ejecting them by force of arms after they had arrived in town. After a time a truce was effected it being agreed that the

Confederates might remain in town all night provided they would stack their arms in the jail and quietly depart the next day. This they did.

On the 11th of June the Convention met in Wheeling. The same men were returned from Harrison county as had served at the Convention on the 13th of May, with the addition of Messrs Davis and Vance who, by virtue of their having been elected members of the Legislature became also members of the Convention. Hon. A. I. Boreman was chosen President of the Convention, Hon. John S. Carlile was appointed Chairman of the Committee to prepare business for the Convention.

The Convention adopted a declaration in which it represented that "the true purpose of government is to promote the welfare and to provide for the protection and security of the governed," that the Bill of Rights of Virginia, framed in 1776, reaffirmed in 1830 and again in 1851 expressly reserves this right to a majority of the people; that the act of the general assembly of Virginia calling the Convention assembled in Richmond on the previous February without the previously expressed consent of a majority of the people; that the Convention had not only abused the powers nominally entrusted to it, but with the active aid of the Executive, had usurped and exercised other powers to the manifest injury of the people which, if permitted, would inevitably subject them to military despotism; that the Richmond Convention by its pretended ordinances, had required the people to separate from, and wage war against the Government of the United States and against the citizens of the neighboring States, with whom they had heretofore maintained friendly business and social relations, that it had attempted to subvert the Union founded by Washington and his co-patriots in the former days of the Republic, which had conferred unexampled prosperity upon every class of citizens and upon every section of the country; that it had attempted to transfer the allegiance of the people to an illegal Confederacy of rebellious States, and had required their submission to its edicts and decrees; that it had attempted to place the whole military force and military operations of the Commonwealth under the control and direction of such a confederacy, for offensive as well as defensive purposes; that it had in conjunction with the State Executive instituted, wherever their usurped power extends, a reign of terror intended to suppress a free expression of the people's will; making elections a mockery and fraud; that the same combination, even before the passage of the pretended ordinance of Secession, instituted war by the seizure and appropriation of the property of the Federal Government, and by organizing and mobilizing armies with the avowed purpose of capturing or destroying the capital of the Union; that they had attempted to bring the allegiance of the people of the United States into direct conflict with their subordinate allegiance to the State, thereby making obedience to their pretended ordinances treason against the former.

That they, therefore, the Delegates there assembled in Convention, to devise such measures and take such action as the safety and welfare of the loyal people of Virginia might demand, having maturely considered the premises, and viewing with great concern the deplorable condition to which this once happy Commonwealth would be reduced,

unless some regular adequate remedy were speedily adopted, and appealing to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe for the rectitude of their intentions, that they did thereby in the name and in behalf of the good people of Virginia solemnly declare that the preservation of their dearest rights and liberties, and their security in person and property imperatively demanded the reorganization of the Government of the Commonwealth, and that all acts of the Richmond Convention and the Executive of Virginia tending to separate the Commonwealth from the United States, or to levy and carry on war against them were without authority and void; and that the offices of all who adhere to the said Convention and Executive whether legislative, executive or judicial, are vacated.

This declaration received the unanimous vote on the 17th day of June, 1861. The Convention then proceeded to re-organize the Government of Virginia. On the 19th of June the Convention passed the ordinance restoring the Government of the State of Virginia. This ordinance provided for the appointment of a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General to exercise the same duties and with the same powers as provided by the then existing laws of Virginia, to serve six months or until their successors were elected and qualified, and the Legislature was required to provide for an election by the people of a Governor and Lieutenant Governor as soon as in their judgment such an election could properly be held. A Council of five members was provided to be appointed for the Governor, that office to expire with that of the Governor. It was provided that the members of the Legislature who had been elected on the 23rd day of May should assemble in Wheeling on the first day of July and proceed to organize themselves as under existing laws. It provided that all the officers, State, District or county, whether Executive, Legislative or judicial should before entering upon the duties of office, take an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof as the supreme law of the land, any thing in the Constitution and laws of the State of Virginia or in the ordinance of the Convention which assembled at Richmond on the 13th of February, 1861, to the contrary notwithstanding; and to up-hold and defend the Government of Virginia as vindicated and restored by the Convention which assembled in Wheeling on the 11th day of June, 1861. Any officer refusing to take such an oath, was to have his office declared vacant by a special writ from the Governor who was also to provide for a special election, to fill such vacancy. The Convention completed what was then deemed necessary to be done, adjourned on the 20th of June to assemble again on the second Tuesday in August.

We have noticed the proceedings of these Conventions in Wheeling at some length because some of the most prominent actors in them were citizens of Harrison county. The important part that the citizens of Harrison played

Harrison county for the Confederate army; we believe this company was attached to the 31st Regiment of Virginia (Confederate) Infantry. This we believe was the only company organized for the Confederate army in Harrison county, although many others went into the Confederacy from our county, some entering the military service and others the civil service of the Government. Some of the citizens of Harrison county won considerable distinction in the military service, John S. Hoffman, now one of the Judges of the Court of Appeals was a Colonel and commanded the 31st Infantry. W. P. Cooper, now editor of the Fairmont INDEX, was Major in the 31st. Gideon D. Camden, Jr., was also a Major in the Confederate army.

It will be seen that Harrison county was represented on both sides in the late conflict. It may be inferred from this that our people are not lacking in military spirit.

Clarksburg early in the war became an important depot of military supplies. About the first of June 1861, Captain Charles Leib, A. Q. M., was stationed at Clarksburg. The Federal forces at an early period of the war were stationed at Weston, Buckhannon, Beverly and at other points South and Southeast of Clarksburg. The subsistence of all these forces was shipped by rail to Clarksburg and thence shipped by wagon to whatever point they were needed; consequently an immense number of clerks, wagon masters, teamsters, hostlers and other was employed in and about Clarksburg. Capt. Leib became quite an important personage, or rather as we may say, a very potent official. He had the power to impress teams and teamsters, and further he had the dispensing of a large amount of funds. This added no little to his importance. Capt. Leib was a capricious man, and appeared to be controlled as much by his caprices as by a sense of justice. He soon became unpopular with many of our people.

Capt. Leib

Was a Pennsylvanian by birth, but at the breaking out of the war, he was a citizen of Chicago. In 1860 he edited a campaign paper advocating the election of Mr. Lincoln. After the war commended Mr. Lincoln, at the instance of Hon. Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania, appointed him Captain and Assistant Quarter-master. Capt. Leib was a scholarly man, a graceful writer and not wanting in oratorical powers. The Senate of the United States rejected Capt. Leib's appointment and he was relieved of the Post Quarter-mastership at Clarksburg about the first of March, 1863. About the end of his term of service here he published a book entitled "Nine Months in the Quartermaster's Department or how to make a Million." This part of the title of his book originated from the fact that it had been said by some that he had made a million of dollars by speculation. He was inclined to treat the charge as a joke. Capt. Leib's book was to a great extent, devoted to venting his spleen against certain citizens of Harrison county who had incurred his displeasure. This he did without stint. His book fell stillborn. He died in New Mexico a few months after leaving Clarksburg. Requiescat in pace.

The war for a time had the effect of suspending services in the churches of Clarksburg for a time, the church buildings being used for military purposes. The buildings of the Presbyterian, M. E.

Harrison played in the scene then being acted before the world deserves a place in a more worthy history than ours. While Mr. Carlile and others of our citizens were making these demonstrations in favor of the Union, another portion of our citizens were going into the Confederacy. Many of them could not endure the restraints with which public sentiments hedged them about, and consequently betook themselves into the Confederate lines. Some of our officers refused to take the oath prescribed by the Wheeling Convention of June the 11th, and as a matter of course their offices were vacated. The offices of the Circuit Court Clerk and that of Sheriff of Harrison county were thus vacated. The office of Circuit Judge was also vacated. Hon. William A. Harrison was elected Circuit Judge and F. A. Robinson Circuit Court Clerk under the restored Government and took the requisite oath of loyalty to the Government of the United States, and also to the restored Government, and entered upon the duties of their positions. Col. Richard Fowkes, who was Coroner at that time, took the prescribed oath and became EX-OFFICIO Sheriff.

Military Operations

Early in May, 1861, a company of volunteers was organized in Clarksburg, and A. C. Moore was elected Captain, N. A. Shuttleworth first Lieutenant and Oscar H. Tate second Lieutenant. This company went to Wheeling by the way of Parkersburg to procure arms, Grafton at this time being in the possession of the Confederates. They failed to procure arms, and returned by the way of Parkersburg. In the month of May several regiments arrived at Clarksburg, and took up a position at this place. Recruiting for the Federal army went on in earnest. Col. David T. Hewes, versed in military tactics, was commissioned as Colonel of the 3rd Virginia Infantry and his regiment was organized and mustered into service in Clarksburg. His headquarters were at Camp Hewes, which his officers named in honor of their commander. Two companies of this regiment were organized in Harrison county, one by Captain Notley A. Shuttleworth and the other by Capt. A. C. Moore. Capt. Shuttleworth's Lieutenants were, 1st, W. Watts Werninger, 2d L. A. Myers. Moore's Lieuts. were 1st W. L. Hursey and 2nd Nathan Goff, Jr. Messrs. Shuttleworth and Moore both subsequently attained the rank of Major and Werninger and Myers the rank of Captain, and Goff the rank of Brigadier General in the United States volunteer army.

Capt. John H. Shuttleworth was commissioned as Quartermaster of the 3rd Virginia Infantry. Dr. Theodore L. Lang, then of Clarksburg, now of Baltimore, made himself very efficient in enlisting volunteers for the 3rd Infantry and upon the organization of the Regiment he was made Adjutant of the Regiment. He subsequently attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. While the 3rd Infantry was in process of organization and after it had been organized, the late Colonel Richard Fowkes acted as Commissary, and so great was his efficiency that he made a warm friend of every member of the regiment.

As we have stated heretofore, one company was recruited in

and the M. E. church South were all occupied the entire war or so much occupied, that no services were held in them. After a time the Baptist and Episcopal churches were opened for service and the managers of these churches very generously permitted and Methodists and Presbyterians to worship in them.

We shall now get out of the "sound of battle and clangor of arms" for a time and indulge in a breathing spell by correcting a few errors which inadvertently appeared in our chapter. We stated the Rev. Shadrach Johnson and wife resided on Pleasant creek. It should have been near Pruntytown. We stated that certain events transpired within Mr. Nathan Goff's acquaintance from 1818 to 1820. It should have been from 1806 to 1820. We stated that Rev. Mr. William Hook was stationed in Clarksburg in 1820 and 1821. It should have read Rev. William Hank. Rev. John Swayze was stationed in Clarksburg in 1835 and 1836. Rev. Simon Elliott was presiding Elder of the Clarksburg District but one year, and was succeeded by Rev. John Swayze.

In political matters we have left out many matters of interest for the want of data. In 1808 Hon. Thoman Wilson of Morgantown was elected to Congress from this District and made a very useful member of the National Legislature.

BIOGRAPHICAL

Col. Cyrus Ross

Col. Ross for a great number of years was one of the most noted citizens of our county. He was a very successful man and acquired a very large estate. He was a man of generous impulses, and remarkable eccentricities. He served for a long time as justice of the peace and member of the County Court. He was also a director of the Merchant's National Bank at Clarksburg at the time of his death, which occurred in 1872.

William E. Lyon

Is another citizen of Harrison county who deserves more than a passing notice. For nearly a half century he has been conspicuously before the Clarksburg and Harrison county public. He served for many years as deputy sheriff. In all his public transactions he has acquitted himself with honor. Mr. Lyon resides on a farm a short distance from Lumberport, and although above seventy years of age, he yet possesses remarkable vigor of intellect and physical strength.

Col. Josiah D. Wilson

A few years ago Col. Josiah D. Wilson passed away. He was the son of Col. Benjamin Wilson who had commanded a regiment in Lord Dunmore's expedition against the Western Indians, and who was one of the first settlers of Harrison county, and the first County Court Clerk of the county, and he was the father of the Hon. Benjamin Wilson, the present representative in Congress from this dis-

trict. Col. Wilson never mingled to any great extent in public life, but quietly pursued the avocation of a farmer, intermingling with his agricultural pursuits the business of a merchant. He was a man of great industry and energy of character. He was very successful in business and very popular among his neighbors and acquaintances. The town of Wilsonburg was built upon his land and named in honor of him.

Col. George T. Ross.

Col. Ross is yet living and is one of the substantial citizens of Harrison county. He is the grandson of John Pearce Duval who settled in Harrison county in 1772. Mr. Ross is a large farmer and grazier residing near Bridgeport. He is a gentleman of remarkable industry and richly deserves the success which has attended him. He is not an aged man, but in the prime of life and bids fair to live many years of usefulness.

Hon. B. Tyson Harmer.

Judge Harmer is a native of Winchester, Virginia, but removed to Harrison county and settled in Shinnston when he was quite a young man. He has all his life been a working man,--one of high integrity and one who not only enjoys the confidence of his neighbors, but of the people generally. We believe Mr. Harmer never appeared on the public arena until after the war, when he was elected Supervisor of Clay Township for several terms. When the Township and Supervisor system was abolished by the present Constitution he was elected President of the County Court of Harrison county, which office he now holds. Mr. Harmer is quite a genial gentleman. He appears always in a happy mood and anxious to make everybody happy with whom he comes in contact. Judge Harmer is a very prominent member of the Order of Odd Fellows and served for several years as the Grand Chaplin of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia. We believe he is also an official member of the M. E. Church, of which he is a worthy member.

Rev. Hamilton McCree.

Mr. McCree was at one time stationed in Clarksburg. Several years ago he was compelled to withdraw from active work in the ministry. He located in Brooke county in this State, and engaged in agricultural pursuits, and has become one of the most successful farmers in that county, which is one of the best farming counties in our State. Mr. McCree is still living.

Rev. Robert Hopkins

Was another of the prominent stationed ministers of the Clarksburg M. E. Church in days that are past. He still lives in Sewickleyville, Pennsylvania, and still preaches.

Conrad Ash.

This gentlemen, an old and respectable citizen of Harrison county,

died in April, 1874, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. He was an industrious, honest man.

Peter Ash

A brother of the above named is still living, and is eighty-five years old. He like his brother was, is a quiet and unobtrusive farmer.

Inhabitiveness.

Like all other people who dwell among mountains and hills, our people are remarkable for their attachment to their homes. Robert Bartlett whom we mentioned in a former chapter as being eighty-six years old has resided on the farm on which he now lives, seventy years.

A Colored Centenarian.

There is a colored man living in Bridgeport in this county who is thought to be a hundred years old or more. He was brought to Harrison county by Mr. John Reynolds, the father of Mr. Washington Reynolds in an early day. His ownership was subsequently transferred to Hon. John G. Jackson and became his body servant during Mr. Jackson's career in Congress. He entered Mr. Jackson's service in 1801 and thinks that he must have been then near thirty years of age. Had he been 29 years old then it would make him one-hundred and four years old. There is no record of his age, but we do not think it is erroneous to conclude that he is at least a hundred years old.

The Beginning of the War.

There not being a unity of sentiment in Harrison county at the beginning of the late war, a good deal of bitterness of feeling prevailed among our people. Those with Southern views were not tolerated with the best grace in the world, while they on the other hand were not behind their Union neighbors in tolerance. But considering the exciting times there were but few serious disturbances among neighbors. After the Federal troops took possession of this region of country the Southern sympathizers generally remained quiet, obeyed the laws and conducted themselves as good citizens. We mean those who remained at home, for as we have heretofore said many of them had gone into the Confederacy. Occasionally during the war some man of Southern proclivities would think the Lincoln government intolerable, and make his way into the confederacy, but it would more frequently happen that some one of those who in their ardor at the beginning of the war, had rushed into the confederate army, returned and delivered himself to the first Federal force he would find, accept a parole and go to work on his farm. Some who are now our best citizens did this while many remained until the "last ditch" was reached, and after the surrender of Lee came to their homes and have lived quiet, peaceful citizens since. After Clarksburg was first occupied by Federal forces in 1861, it was constantly occupied by them until 1866.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM
W. F. Williams, Publisher

CLARKSBURG, W. VA., SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1876

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG and HARRISON COUNTY
from its
Earliest Settlement to the Present Time.

CHAPTER VIII

It was on the 17th of May, 1861, that fifteen hundred Confederates under Col. Porterfield, took possession of Fetterman, and on the 23d, occupied Grafton. A few days after the 3d Ohio commanded by Col. Morrow entered West Virginia at Benwood, and the 14th Ohio, commanded by Col. Steadman, arrived at Parkersburg, and moved on towards Clarksburg, repairing the bridges which had previously been destroyed by the Confederates. This regiment reached Clarksburg about the last of May. Other Federal troops followed rapidly.

On the 3d of June, 1861, Col. (afterwards General) B. F. Kelley routed Col. Porterfield's forces at Philippi. Many of the confederate sympathizers from Harrison county had gone there a short time previous to give a word of comfort and encouragement to their friends in arms, not dreaming of a battle. These men were rather inconvenienced by Col. Kelley's abrupt appearance, and deeming "discretion the better part of valor" got away from the ill-fated town without "minding the order of their going," and now that "wars are all o'er," these men tell their union neighbors many funny stories of their flight, and their "hair breadth escapes."

From the time federal troops first came into Harrison county they continued to come and the town of Clarksburg was a military post from May, 1861, to 1866. In the mean time civil matters were not neglected. The general assembly under the reorganized government of Virginia convened in Wheeling on the first day of July, 1861, and organized as the DE FACTO Legislature of Virginia, and was so recognized by the federal government.

On the 9th of July, 1861, Hon. John S. Carlile of Harrison county was elected United States Senator. Shortly after Hon. Jacob B. Blair of Parkersburg was elected to Congress of the United States to fill the vacancy from this District caused by the transfer of Mr. Carlile to the Senate. Col. (now General) Tyler, com-

manding the 7th Ohio, passed through Clarksburg with his regiment, at an early period of the war on his way to the mountains.

Judge Brockenbrough of the United States District Court for the District of Northwestern Virginia, having united with the Southern Confederacy, and President Lincoln recognizing the office as abandoned, in July, 1861, appointed Hon. John J. Jackson, Jr., of Parkersburg to the vacant judgeship. He held his first Court in Clarksburg in August, 1861. The President not having appointed a United States District Attorney for this District, Judge Jackson appointed Hon. William A. Harrison as Special District Attorney. Jasper Y. Moore, Esq., was appointed and qualified as clerk, Col. Richard Fowkes as crier. E. M. Norton, Esq., of Wheeling, having previously received the appointment of U. S. Marshal for the District, was qualified and entered upon the duties of his office at this court. James M. Lyon, Esq., was appointed deputy U. S. Marshal and entered upon the duties of his office. The following are the names of the Grand Jurors: John A. Dille, Foreman, Arthur C. Dever, Thomas W. Harrison, Cyrus Ross, Benjamin Martin, William E. Lyon, George Loomis, Cincinnatus J. Neal, Williams M. Evans, Barnett F. Ball, Andrew S. Core, Daniel D. T. Farnsworth, Henry Dougherty, Aaron Peterson, John W. Woodford, Mailing Myers, James D. Hays, James Musgrove, Alfred Rogers, Hiram Lynch, Wm. H. Williams, and Shadrach Hurst.

Of these Cyrus Ross, Benjamin Martin, Cincinnatus J. Neal, Hiram Lynch and Shadrach Hurst have since died.

This Grand Jury found a number of indictments for treason.

Hon. John J. Jackson, Jr., still retains the position of judge of this court. He has discharged the duties of it faithfully and satisfactorily. Col. Fowkes served as crier of the court until his death, when his son William Fowkes received the appointment which he still holds. Col. Benjamin Smith, a prominent lawyer of Kanawha county was subsequently appointed U. S. District Attorney by President Lincoln. He was succeeded in 1868 by the present incumbent, Gen. Nathan Goff, Jr. E. M. Norton served as Marshal until 1865, when he was succeeded by Capt. Samuel D. McCullough, of Wheeling, who served until 1866, when Andrew Johnson changed his policy and removed him and appointed Samuel Walker, of Clarksburg, whom the Senate refused to confirm on political grounds. E. M. Norton was then appointed and served until 1868 when he resigned and Maj. Hedgeman Slack the present incumbent received the appointment.

During all the year 1861, after the federal troops first entered Clarksburg, our town was the scene of active military operations. At one time several Indiana regiments were stationed in or near the place. In June, 1861, Gen. Geo. B. McClelland had his headquarters in Clarksburg.

The Academy was occupied as a guard house or prison, and was

frequently full of civil prisoners. Many of the citizens of the town and county suspected of being confederate sympathizers were arrested and brought before the military authorities at Clarksburg, where they were examined, and if there was no proof found against them they were permitted to take the oath of allegiance and go home. If they were found guilty of overt acts, they were sent to Camp Chase.

In the fall of 1861, the first (West Va.) Cavalry was stationed at Clarksburg. This regiment was commanded by Col. Anisansel, an officer well skilled in tactics and quite fond of the pomp and circumstance of glorious war. Col. Anisansel in January, 1862, made a raid into some of the counties south of Harrison and brought in a few prisoners. Upon his return to Clarksburg, he found orders awaiting for him to report with his regiment, at New Creek. Before leaving Clarksburg, however, he and Capt. Leib, the Post Quartermaster concluded to play a small game of mutual admiration, an account of which we cannot resist an inclination to give, not to injure anybody, but for the purpose of amusing the reader.

Capt. Leib and his employes concluded that they would present Col. Anisansel with a brand new sabre as a reward for marching into Webster county and back again in the dead of winter. The presentation took place with all due pomp and ceremony in front of Capt. Leib's office on Main street one evening just at dusk. The mud was then very deep on Main street, and the cavalry filled the street from Bartlett's hotel to Elk creek. Col. Anisansel reined up his charger EN MILITAIRE in front of Capt. Leib's office. Leib soon appeared on the door steps with the new sabre in hand. Leib was a very pleasant man, rather oratorical then otherwise. He made a very handsome presentation speech to Col. Anisansel, and at the conclusion handed him the sword. Upon receiving the sword Col. Anisansel attempted a response, which he made as follows:

"Capt. Leib, it is with much pleasure, I receive this sabre. It is a good sabre--a pretty sabre, and a sabre I will be much proud to wear, but I am much prouder to have done that which makes you give me this handsome sabre, and I will try to honor it. I am a foreigner as you all know. In my country where I come from the best families have coats of arms and on these coats of arms they have inscribed mottoes to their taste. You have none of these in America. You are all good plain republicans. Even the first families of Virginia have no coats of arms and no mottoes, but I belong to a family that had an escutcheon, and on that escutcheon was inscribed, "Touch me and I will cut." I tell you now, I do swear that whoever touch this sabre the Colonel of the First Virginia Cavalry will cut him. " Turning to the citizens assembled on the pavement near, "People of Clarksburg, I am going to leave you. I have orders to march my regiment to New Creek. I start in the morning. My stay with you has been pleasant to me, pleasant to my men, and I hope pleasant to you. I know you have treated me and my men well, and I hope that my men have treated you well, for my men were not enlisted from the hells and bagnios of cities, but from the valleys and mountains of the rural districts where they inhaled the pure air of heaven and consequently they are God-fearing men (at this moment one of his men who had imbibed too freely,

tumbled off his horse with a squelch) and have enlisted to fight for the right--to put down treason and the God of battles is on their side." At this juncture a general confusion in the ranks of the First Virginia Cavalry caused the speaking to cease.

The Convention which had assembled in Wheeling on the 11th of June, 1861, adjourned on the 20th, to meet again on the 6th of August. When it re-assembled, it passed an ordinance providing for the formation of a new State out of a portion of the territory of the State of Virginia, it provided for an election to be held on the fourth Thursday in October, for the people in the counties included in the counties specified for the new State, to determine whether they were in favor of the proposed new State and also provided that they should at said election, elect Delegates to a Convention to assemble in Wheeling on the 26th of November to form a constitution for the proposed new State. At that election Hon. Thomas W. Harrison, and Rev. Mr. Powell, an itinerant Methodist preacher, were elected to represent Harrison county in the proposed convention. The vote in favor of the new State was very large, while that against it was small.

As we were not citizens of Harrison county, at the time we feel no delicacy in mentioning one matter which it appears all of the people of the other portion of the State overlooked and withheld from our people, the credit which was due them. We allude to the part our people took in the restoration of the Government of Virginia and also in the formation of the new State. It was in Clarksburg that the question of the restoration of the government was first mooted. At a meeting of twelve hundred citizens of Harrison county in the Court House on the 22nd of April, 1861, Hon. John S. Carlile adopted a resolution favoring the call of a Convention of the loyal people of Northwestern Virginia on the 13th of May to take measure for their protection. Then the dominant idea was to organize a new State. If we have not been misinformed this was what Mr. Carlile desired and what he urged upon the convention which assembled on the 13th day of May. He believed that a new State thus organized out of the loyal portion of the State of Virginia would be recognized by the Federal Government and admitted into the Union. Others who had magnified notions of treason against the State of Virginia opposed this idea of the immediate formation of a new State as revolutionary, and after considerable contention over the matter, the Convention of the 13th of May came to the conclusion of forming the new State by legal circumlocation rather than by direct revolution. That is, they would restore the Government of Virginia upon a loyal basis, and the Federal Government would recognize the restored Government. The restored Government could then give its consent to the formation of the new State and after that Congress would give its consent. All the counties represented in the Legislature of the restored Government of Virginia with the exception of two or three belonging to the territory of the proposed new State, and consequently there would be little difficulty in getting the consent of the Legislature to the formation of a new State. Mr. Carlile was censured for his revolutionary opinions in desiring to organize a new State without going through the legal formula, but we can not see that he was deserving of censure. The loyal people of Virginia

regarded themselves as abandoned by the State of Virginia. Virginia had abandoned the Union. Here were a portion of the people of the State of Virginia left without a state government. Had they organized themselves into a new State and called it West Virginia, we cannot see but what the Federal Government could have recognized them as easily as it could have recognized them as the state of Virginia. As it was, there was a Virginia during the war belonging to the United States. However this may have been the prime move which eventually resulted in the formation of the State of West Virginia was made in Harrison county and from what we have learned Hon. John S. Carlile is entitled to the credit of it.

The winter of 1861-1862 was not noted for any very remarkable occurrence. In January, 1862, the 73rd Ohio Infantry came to Clarksburg and remained until the following May. Our people watched with much interest the operations of the army. In the spring of 1862 when Congress passed the act abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia some of our Union men were found to censure it, but the news was generally received quietly.

When Capt. Leib was relieved of the Post Quartermastership at Clarksburg on the first of April, 1862, he was succeeded by Capt. Huntington under whose administration the heavy business of the post was kept going. In 1862 our fellow citizen, G. J. Stealey was appointed Captain and Assistant Quarter Master, by President Lincoln, and in the spring of 1862 Samuel R. Steel, another of our fellow citizens, received from the President the appointment of Captain and Commissary of Subsistence.

In August, 1862, President Lincoln issued a call for three hundred thousand additional volunteers. The loyal people of Harrison county became very much in the spirit of enlisting. Two companies were enlisted in Harrison county in a few days, one at Clarksburg, and the other in the region of Shinnston and Lumberport. These two companies went immediately to Wheeling and were mustered into the service of the United States in the 12th Regiment of (West) Virginia Infantry. The company enlisted at Clarksburg was styled Company "E" and was officered as follows: Cornelius Mercer, Captain, Oscar H. Tate, First Lieutenant, and James R. Durham, Second Lieutenant. The Lumberport and Shinnston company was styled Company "G" and had the following officers: James M. Moffett, Captain; Val B. Hail, First Lieutenant and Elam F. Piggott, Second Lieutenant. A company of cavalry was also organized at the same time and was shortly afterwards mustered into service as Company "E" of the 3rd (West) Virginia Cavalry with Lot Bowen, Captain; Timothy F. Roane, First Lieutenant. The names of the other officers not remembered. At the same time the Upshur Battery was enlisted from Upshur and Harrison counties. Alexander C. Moore, of Clarksburg was Captain of this Battery and Francis M. Lowry, First Lieutenant. The names of other officers not remembered.

About the last of August, 1862, Gen. Albert G. Jenkins, formerly a member of Congress from this District, but then a General in the service of the Southern Confederacy, made a raid through Randolph and Upshur counties, and it was apprehended that he had designs upon the military stores at Clarksburg, and consequently a

considerable Federal force was soon concentrated at this point. The 12th Infantry which had just been mustered in at Wheeling was ordered to Clarksburg, as was the 14th Gen, Jenkins, however, did not come. This alarm, however, caused our people to be more vigilant and the powers that had control of matters were more careful thereafter to keep a sufficient military force within reach of Clarksburg.

The convention to frame a Constitution for the new State assembled on the 26th day of November, 1861, and remained in session until the 18th of February, 1862, after having framed a constitution to be submitted to the people on the 3d of April, 1862.

The result of the election throughout the State was almost a unanimous vote for the ratification of the new Constitution, there being eighteen thousand eight hundred and sixty two in favor of ratification, and five hundred and fourteen against it.

The Legislature of the reorganized government convened in Wheeling on the sixth of May, 1862, and gave its formal assent to the formation of the new State of West Virginia within the jurisdiction of the State of Virginia, according to the stipulations and provisions of the constitution of the new State, by the passage of a bill to that effect. The act was ordered to be transmitted to the Senators and Representatives of Virginia in Congress, together with a copy of the Constitution, with the request that they should use their endeavors to obtain the consent of Congress to admit West Virginia into the Union.

The memorial of the Legislature together with the act granting assent to the formation of the new State were presented in the Senate on the 29th of May, 1872. No act was passed, however, until the December following. On the 31st of that month an act of Congress was approved admitting West Virginia into the union when certain conditions were complied with. It was enacted by Congress that:

"The State of West Virginia be, and is hereby declared to be one of the United States of America, and admitted into the union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever, and until the next general census shall be entitled to three members in the House of Representatives of the United States. Provided always, that this act shall not take effect until after the proclamation of the President of the United States hereinafter provided for. It being represented to Congress that since the convention of the twenty-sixth of November, 1861, that framed and proposed the Constitution for the said State of West Virginia, the people thereof have expressed a wish to change the seventh section of the eleventh article of said constitution by striking out the same and inserting the following in its place, viz: The children of slaves born within the limits of this state who shall at the time aforesaid be under the age of ten years shall be free when they arrive at the age of twenty-one years, and all slaves over ten and under twenty-one years, shall be free when they arrive at the age of twenty-five years, and no slave shall be permitted to come into this State for permanent residence therein. Therefore,

"Sec. 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That whenever the people of West Virginia shall through their said convention, and by a vote to be taken at an election to be held within the limits of said State at such time as the convention may provide, make and ratify the change aforesaid, and properly certify the same under the hand of the President of the convention, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to issue his proclamation stating the fact and thereupon this act shall take effect and be in force on and after sixty days from the date of said proclamation.

On the 12th day of February, 1863, the convention re-assembled and made the change proposed in the Act of Congress, and shortly afterwards finally adjourned.

The vote on the constitution as amended was taken on the 26th of March, 1863. It resulted in its adoption by a majority of seventeen thousand. The result having been certified to the President of the United States, he, on the 19th day of April, 1863, issued his proclamation as provided for by the Act of Congress declaring West Virginia one of the United States of America. The convention prior to adjournment in February provided that if the voters of the State should adopt the amended constitution at the election on 26th of March that an election should be held on the fourth Thursday in May following, to choose members of both branches of the Legislature, a Governor and other State officers, Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals, Judges of the various Circuit Courts, and county officers. An election was accordingly held on that day which resulted in the election of Hon. Arthur I. Boreman, of Parkersburg, as Governor, Samuel Crane of Randolph, Auditor, Campbell Tarr, of Brooke, Treasurer, J. E. Rogers, of Tyler, Secretary of State, and A. B. Caldwell, of Ohio, Attorney General. Hon. William A. Harrison of Clarksburg and James H. Brown of Charleston, were elected Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals. These officers were elected without opposition.

Hon. Thomas W. Harrison, of Harrison county, was elected Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit, composed of the counties of Harrison, Barbour and Marion. Hon. Edwin Maxwell, of Harrison, and Col. Daniel Haymond, of Ritchie, were elected State Senators from the Senatorial District composed of the counties of Harrison, Doddridge, Tyler, Pleasants and Ritchie. Nathan Goff, Sr., and Solomon S. Fleming were elected to the House of Delegates from Harrison county, David W. Robinson was elected Sheriff, F. A. Robinson was elected Circuit Court Judge and Thos. L. Moore, Recorder for Harrison county, Selden M. Ogden, Assessor of the Lower District and Col. Luther Haymond, Treasurer of the Upper District. Few of these officers had opposition. In 1862 and 1863, A. Werninger, Esq., served as Internal Revenue Agent for the United States Government and made himself very efficient.

The winter of 1862 and 1863 passed over with no very remarkable military event transpiring in Clarksburg. Of course the people were alive all the time to all the military operations going on throughout the country. As a depot for military supplies Clarksburg continued to increase in importance.

In May, 1863, it began to be rumored that a rebel raid was

approaching in the direction of Clarksburg. Gen. Roberts, who was commanding the Federal forces at Buckhannon, thinking he was not able to meet the raiders fell back on Clarksburg. Other forces were ordered to Clarksburg and all the region around Clarksburg and along the Baltimore and Ohio railroad was in a state of excitement. The rebel General Jones was approaching with a considerable force; detached parties of his command captured Morgantown, Rowlesburg, Buckhannon and Weston, and destroyed the Baltimore and Ohio railroad at various points between Clarksburg and Grafton. The Federal forces and home guards gave them a brave fight at Fairmont, so they did not tarry long but marched on to Shinnston in this county and took possession of it, there being no Federal troops in that place. A large detachment detoured from Shinnston in the direction of Clarksburg and advanced as far as Lambert's Run, where they were met and repulsed by Captain Lot Bowen with his company of cavalry, aided by a number of the citizens of Clarksburg, who went out with him as amateur soldiers. Captain Bowen pursued them to the bridge spanning the West Fork on the Shinnston Pike. Capt. Bowen lost one excellent young man, a one Mr. Custer, son of Mr. Alexander Custer of this vicinity. During this raid the rebel scouts frequently came within sight of Clarksburg, but the place was not attacked. They deemed it too strong. The main object of this force of rebels was not to fight but forage. Small scouting parties traversed the country and drove off all the best horses and beef cattle that could be found. In place of horses they took they would frequently leave their own jaded and worn out animals.

Many amusing incidents occurred during this raid. Some of our citizens when riding about the country on business were fired upon and chased by the Confederates, the design being not to kill them, but to take possession of their horses. These raiders as soon as they procured as many horses and cattle as they could manage retired. The citizens of our county suffered immense loss from the depredations of these raiders. Many of our farmers losing their work horses found it difficult to procure animals to work their crops. After this raid still further precautions were taken in guarding Clarksburg against attack and capture of the military stores.

The year 1863 passed on and the people of Harrison rejoiced and mourned the defeats and victories of the contending parties. As there were two parties in our county, of course there were joy and sorrow over every decisive battle.

We have omitted to mention that in the latter part of the year 1861 and the early part of 1862 Lieutenant Charles Allen, a very able and efficient officer was acting Commissary at Clarksburg. He married Miss Mattie Moore of this place early in 1862. His country was deprived of his valuable services by his death in September 1863.

Early in the war Henry Haymond, of Clarksburg, was appointed Captain of the Regular Army and assigned to the 18th United States Infantry. Before the close of the war he was brevetted Lieutenant Colonel for gallantry on the field.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM
W. F. Williams, Publisher

CLARKSBURG, W. VA., SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1876

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG and HARRISON COUNTY
from its
Earliest Settlement to the Present Time.

CHAPTER VIII

1864 passed in Clarksburg and Harrison county very much as the year previous, with the exception that there was no raid in the direction of Clarksburg that year. During the war Clarksburg was a military post and as a matter of course there was always a commander of the post. Sometimes this onerous duty fell on one and sometimes on another. Gen. B. F. Kelley was several times commander, but Col. Wilkinson of the Sixth West Virginia Infantry retained the command of the post here longer than any other officer.

Among the jolly, genial officers who were stationed in Clarksburg during the war none could transcend Capt. Comley of the Commissary Department. He was a universal favorite. Capt. Mattingly of the 6th West Virginia was a brave officer and received a wound in 1864 in a conflict with the Confederates which lamed him for life. He was for some time commander of the post at Clarksburg.

In October, 1863, an affair happened in Clarksburg which was much deplored by all soldiers and citizens who entertained proper views in relation to the duties of good soldiers. There was a citizens' ball, given at the Court House. Soldiers were not invited to participate. At this ball persons of all political sentiments were present. An idea had become prevalent that this ball was a Confederate affair. There were two companies of soldiers stationed at Clarksburg, one cavalry and one artillery. They were encamped a short distance from town and about nine o'clock at night they rode into town at a rapid pace, alarming the inhabitants--many of them thought it was the Confederates coming--and rode on until they came near the Court House when they dismounted, fastened their horses, and made a raid on the party in the Court House. They rushed upstairs where the party were at supper and ejected the men present with great violence, beating some violently, and hurling the others down stairs and frightening the ladies beyond measure, some of whom jumped out of the windows.

The affair created intense excitement among our citizens. The officers commanding the companies were reported to their superiors who took no further cognizance of the affair then to remove them with their commanders to some other point.

In 1864 we had another election for members of the Legislature and Congress. Hon. Chester D. Hubbard was the Union candidate for Congress, opposed by Samuel Crane, another Union candidate. Mr. Hubbard was elected. Hon. Edwin Maxwell and Dr. A. F. Barnes took a tilt for the State Senate. Judge Maxwell was "the lucky man." Nathan Goff, Sr., and Solomon S. Fleming were re-elected to the House of Delegates. This was the year of the Presidential election. In 1860, Harrison county had given Mr. Lincoln twenty-two votes. In 1864 it gave him above seven hundred majority over McClellan.

How times change and we change with them. In 1859 a Grand Jury of Harrison county found an indictment against Horace Greeley, Editor of the New York TRIBUNE, for circulating incendiary documents through the mails, and indicted Ira Hart and William Hall for aiding and abetting the same Greeley by subscribing for and reading the said TRIBUNE. Gideon D. Camden, then Judge of the Circuit Court, issued a bench warrant with a view of getting Gov. Wise of Virginia to make requisition on the Governor of New York for the said Greeley. In 1870 Horace Greeley was the honored visitor of Clarksburg and was welcomed by all without distinction of party. In 1872 Judge Camden was making speeches advocating his election to the Presidency.

In the beginning of the year 1865 there was a draft made upon the citizens of Harrison county which for a time created quite an excitement. Many of the people were in favor of the Board of Supervisors offering a county bounty of four hundred dollars in order that the quota of the county might be filled without resorting to the draft, but the draft came before the county bounty matter was arranged by the Supervisors, and many of our citizens were drafted. Enormous prices were given for substitutes. After those who had been drafted reported to the Provost Marshal at Wheeling, the Board of Supervisors proposed an order giving four hundred dollars county bounty to such volunteers, and the drafted who would go into the service were allowed the same, and consequently they made a handsome thing of it, as the war closed in a few months and their services were no longer needed.

Corporation of Clarksburg

We have previously brought the history of the Government of the corporation of Clarksburg up to 1849.

In 1849 Nathan Goff, Sr., was President of the Board of Trustees, and E. L. Stealey, Clerk. In 1850 Nathan Goff, Sr., was re-elected and R. F. Criss elected Clerk. In 1851 James P. Bartlett was elected President and Burton Despard, Clerk. In 1852 Dr. Kincheloe was elected President and Luther Haymond Clerk. The same gentlemen retained their positions until 1856, when W. P. Cooper was elected President and Samuel R. Steele Recorder, and in 1858, 1859, and 1860, Nathan Goff, Sr., was elected President and

Samuel R. Steele, Clerk. In 1861, 1862, 1863, and 1864 the corporation was in a state of suspended animation on the account of the presence of "grim-visaged war."

We omitted to mention at the proper place that Hon, John J. Davis, of Clarksburg, was one of the Electors for the State at large on the McClellan ticket in 1864.

Early in the spring of 1875, many of the citizens of Harrison county who had gone into the Southern Confederacy, returned and gave themselves up to the military authorities. These were generally paroled and permitted to go to their homes. Upon the news of Lee's surrender reaching Clarksburg the people were generally jubilant with joy. Those who had sympathised with the Southern cause, were rejoiced that the strife was ended. Clarksburg was illuminated, both dwelling and business houses with very few exceptions were illuminated from the tunnel to the western extremity of the town. Speeches were made upon every street corner, and everything passed off in the most agreeable manner.

A few days after, when the sad and tragic news of the assassination of President Lincoln reached our town it cast a gloom over our people, such as is rarely seen. A public meeting was called at the Court House in which all participated without distinction of party. Speeches were made and appropriate resolutions were adopted.

Oil Fever

For some time before the war our people became interested in the oil business and much capital was invested in the oil business in Wirt, Ritchie and Wood counties. During the war this fever, though somewhat abated, continued in a mild form until near the end of the war when it increased to an intense degree. Oil wells were bought and sold at fabulous prices. Many of the citizens of our county invested large sums in oil speculations. Oil leases were taken almost every where in the State--as well where oil wasn't as where it was. Some of the savans solemnly asseverated that Harrison county was in the **great** oil belt. Leases were taken in our county, and one within the corporation of Clarksburg. A gentleman by the name of Darrah from Monroe, Michigan, sank a well near the mouth of Elk creek to the depth of seven hundred feet. He prepared a tank ready to receive the oil. He had pumped the tank full of water one evening and next morning he found a thin coating of oil on the surface, and imagined that he had reached the Eldorado of his dreams. But before night a cruel wag informed him that he had emptied a vessel of oil into the tank the night previous. He worked on despondingly a few more days, but found no oil, and then forever abandoned the enterprise. Our people soon discovered that the surface of the "harmless earth" would yield them a better remuneration for labor, than its bowels.

The Gold Fever

Although we Harrison county people reside in the healthiest region of the globe we are subject to a kind of mental fever which sometimes, if not dangerous, is rather serious in its results. A few years ago it was thought gold was discovered in the Southern part of this county. The land was leased and a company organized in Clarksburg and started under the name of the "Harrison County Gold and Silver Mining Company." A man was employed to mine and get specimens of the gold. He procured some which were forwarded to the United States Mint, at Philadelphia, for the purpose of being assayed. The assayer of the mint reported that the quartz furnished him yielded gold at the rate of twelve dollars per ton. The mining was renewed, but no more quartz could be found. It subsequently was discovered that the quartz tested at the mint was not found in the Harrison county mines, but in California. How it reached the Harrison county mines is one of those mysteries which yet remain unexplained. The Harrison County Mining Company sold their land, retaining the mineral part of it, which is not yet considered valuable, and suspended business.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

Hiram Lynch

Mr. Lynch was born in Harrison county and resided continuously in it from his birth until his death. He was a very industrious farmer and at one time owner of a large body of land, which he subsequently divided among his sons. He raised a large family of sons, who are now among our best citizens. He was the father of James, William, Isaac, Peter, Wesley C., and Josiah W. Lynch. He died in 1873, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. He had been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church for a large portion of his life, and lived a consistent christian.

Cruger W. Smith, Sr.

Mr. Smith came to Clarksburg while yet a young man, and commenced the business of a tinner and dealer in stoves. Owing to his indefatigable industry he was very successful in business. He was elected and served several years as Circuit Court clerk of Harrison county. The latter years of his life were spent in the coal trade, for which he had great aptness and adaptation. He died in 1875. He was an acceptable member of the Presbyterian church.

David W. Robinson

Mr. Robinson has for many years been prominent before the Harrison county public. He was the first sheriff of Harrison county after the formation of the new State. He discharged the duties of this responsible office to the satisfaction of the people generally. Mr. Robinson is a gentleman of very fine business qualifications. He has recently become a citizen of Clarksburg.

Caleb Boggess.

Mr. Boggess was one of the early settlers of Harrison county. He was a justice of the peace and member of the County Court for many years of his life. He was also a practical surveyor, and a very useful man in his day. He was the father of Col. John R. and Caleb Boggess, Esq., of Clarksburg.

John B. Denham

In the language of the dying Daniel Webster, John "still lives," and bids fair to remain many years in the land of the living. Mr. Denham, or as he is more familiarly known as "Uncle John," is one of the jolliest, most genial old gentleman in Harrison county. He is a man of fine common sense, and appears to be always in a good humor with himself and everybody else. He was a deputy United States Assessor for Harrison county from 1864 until the office was abolished, and he performed his duties faithfully and no stain of peculation rests upon him. Since his term of office expired, he is quietly pursuing the occupation of a farmer, and he is a very successful one. He is a consistent Methodist.

Dr. James Denham

Dr. Denham is a brother of the last named--a man of fine scholarly attainments, pure morals, and well skilled in his profession. Dr. Denham is also a gentleman of excellent business qualifications and has for many years been a commissioner in chancery. The Messers. Denham both reside in Eagle district.

Fernando A. Robinson

Has been clerk of the Circuit Court of Harrison county since 1861 up to the present time, and has discharged the duties of the office in such a satisfactory manner that he has always been easily re-elected. He is a gentleman of genial manners and one who understands his business.

James Monroe

We believe that Mr. Monroe belongs to a collateral branch of the family from which a president was made at one time. He is a brother of the late Speaker of the House of Delegates. He is now sheriff of Harrison county and discharges the duties of the position intelligently and satisfactorily.

Thomas L. Moore

Mr. Moore was at a very early age elected a member of Legislature for Harrison county and discharged the duties of the position with much ability. He was one of the most popular men in Harrison county, and although a Whig and the Democrats being largely in the ascendancy in the county, yet he was never beaten for an office in the county. He was for several years clerk of the County Court, and the first Recorder for Harrison county under the new State. He was eminently useful and after his death which occurred in 1869, his loss was deeply felt and he was much lamented. He was a high-

ly cultured and polished gentleman. He was the brother of Jasper Y. and Alexander C. Moore.

Samuel Walker

Mr. Walker is a native of Winchester, Virginia. He is now proprietor of the Walker House in this place. Hotel keeping has been the business of his life, and the traveling public everywhere recognize him as a genial, accommodating landlord, and his amiable lady understands the duties of the landlady as well as any person we have ever known. Walker still lives--at the Walker house.

Jesse Miller

Is also a native of the Valley of Virginia. He settled in Harrison county nearly forty years ago, and engaged in farming, and trading in livestock. He has experienced many vicissitudes of fortune, but his indomitable energy has never failed him. Although now near the age of seventy-five years, he still has all the activity and energy of youth, and transacts an immense amount of business. In his old age he finds that dame fortune looks on him favorably. He is farming very successfully in the vicinity of West Milford, and has a mercantile establishment in Clarksburg. We hope "Uncle Jesse" may live many years yet in the enjoyment of health and contentment and a comfort to his numerous friends.

Rev. James L. Clark

Mr. Clark can justly be claimed by the citizens of Harrison county and Clarksburg as one of them. He has been pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church (Goff Chapel) in this place for the last three years, and has been a careful and able shepherd; not only this, but he has been active in every good work. Mr. Clark was President Elder of the Wheeling District from 1864 to 1869. He is one of the ablest theologians in West Virginia. According to the rules of his church he was, at the M. E. Conference this spring appointed to a new field of labor. The people of Clarksburg generally will feel his loss and his church over which he has had pastoral control for three years will regret his departure very much.

Solomon S. Fleming

Mr. Fleming has been a faithful public servant. He represented Harrison county in the Legislature in 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, and 1868, being elected every year. The last session of the Legislature in which he served he was elected Speaker of the House of Delegates, in which capacity he served with ability. Since that time he has lived in retirement at his home in Shinnston pursuing the avocation of a farmer.

Rev. Adam C. Rider

Mr. Rider is a Methodist preacher of the old regime. He is an honest, faithful, christian man, and has no objection to hearing people shout--to seeing them get "shouting happy." He has spent a good portion of his life in the itinerant service, but in his more

advanced life he has located and become a successful farmer. He still preaches whenever opportunity occurs.

Selden M. Ogden

Mr. Ogden is one of the most reliable, substantial citizens of Harrison county. He has discharged the duties of the office of Assessor for Harrison county for several terms, and always discharged the duties of that office satisfactorily.

James M. Mines

Mr. Mines is a native of the Eastern portion of Virginia and emigrated to Harrison county with his family while yet a young man. Mr. Mines has spent a life of unremitting industry and has accumulated a valuable estate. Mr. Mines served several years as Supervisor of Coal Township acceptably to the people. He is a good and useful citizen.

Dr. Benjamin S. Griffin

Everybody knows Dr. Griffin. In former days he served long and satisfactorily as Postmaster in Clarksburg. Dr. Griffin is now very advanced in life, but he has not lost his taste for reading, but still devours books AD INFINITUM. He is enjoying a peaceful and happy old age.

Dr. Asher F. Barnes

Dr. Barnes emigrated from the land of "steady habits", Connecticut, a great many years ago, and settled in Clarksburg and engaged in business as a druggist with much success. He retired from business several years ago with a competence, and now resides at his beautiful village, North Bend, within sight of Clarksburg. Dr. Barnes was elected to the Legislature in 1868, and served to the satisfaction of his constituents.

Clarksburg as a Commercial Town

It appears that three-quarters of a century elapsed after the settling of Clarksburg before its commercial importance was recognized. Prior to the war there were but few mercantile establishments in our town. At the commencement of the war the following were the mercantile firms in Clarksburg:

Lloyd Lowndes, T. S. Spates, J. & W. P. Irwin, A. Smith & Co., L. D. Ferguson, James P. Davis, Aaron Criss, and two or three minor establishments not now remembered by the writer. Dr. J. M. Bowcock and Dr. J. L. Carr, each kept a handsome drug store. After the close of the war Clarksburg took a fresh start in almost everything. The old regime was abandoned and business assumed an activity not before known. New mercantile establishments sprang up and improvements became the order of the day. Mr. Ira Hart, Messrs. Osborne and Bro. and C. C. Zinn established foundries and machine works, and Messrs. Duff, Hoskinson & Co. erected their extensive planing mills, all of which added business to our town. Our merchants have prospered, and our mechanics have done well.

Before the war there was a branch of the Northwestern Bank of Virginia established at Clarksburg with Nathan Goff, Sr., President, and Luther Haymond, Cashier. This furnished our merchants and cattle dealers with banking facilities and was quite a convenience. Since the war this has been changed into the Merchants' National Bank of West Virginia at Clarksburg. Nathan Goff, Sr., is still President of this Bank, Luther Haymond, Cashier, and Lee Haymond, Assistant Cashier. The directors are Nathan Goff, Sr., W. P. Goff, T. S. Spates, Lloyd Lowndes, A. C. Moore, E. L. Stealey, George T. Ross, and John Irwin.

Some years after the close of the war the Bank of West Virginia was established in Clarksburg with T. S. Spates as President and John C. Vance as Cashier. These gentlemen retain their positions. The Directors are T. S. Spates, R. T. Lowndes, P. H. Goodwin, F. A. Robinson, Walter Ebert, B. F. Shuttleworth, and David Davidson. This bank is only a bank of discount and deposit, not a bank of issue. Mr. Russell Horner is the Clerk of this bank. Both the banks of Clarksburg are well managed and are on a solid basis, safe and prosperous, as an evidence of this their stock whenever offered for sale obtains a heavy premium. It is very rare that stock can be bought in either of them.

Harrison as an Agricultural County

For fertility of soil, we do not suppose any county in West Virginia surpasses Harrison. Although the land is hilly, it is generally fertile to the summits of the highest hills. The level land and even the hills where not too precipitous to cultivate yield largely of all the cereals. The steep hill sides produce grass luxuriantly, and consequently our county is noted as one of the best grazing regions in the State, and is noted for the superiority of its beef cattle, and also for the excellence of its butter.

Harrison county is also well adapted to sheep breeding, and many of our people during the past few years have turned their attention to the breeding and rearing of blooded sheep, and their efforts have been attended in most cases with success.

Bridgeport

The town of Bridgeport is small, but there is enterprise in it, and that enterprise is having a good effect upon our county, Messers. Davidson & Hurry of that place are running a large woolen manufactory very successfully, and they consume much of the wool grown in this county.

Sorghum

A few years prior to the war the people of Harrison county commenced the cultivation of sorghum (Chinese sugar cane) and pursued the business to a considerable extent for several years, and also with profit, but recently the cultivation of it has almost entirely ceased.

Our soil and climate is admirably adapted to the growth of Indian corn, wheat, rye, oats, and Irish potatoes. Wheat generally yields, oats nearly always, Indian corn is a sure crop, as were potatoes until the potatoe bug made its appearance. All kinds of garden vegetables can be raised in the greatest abundance.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday April 1, 1876

Volume XIV-No. 25

Whole Number 701

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG and HARRISON COUNTY
from its
Earliest Settlement to the Present Time

CHAPTER IX

After the close of the rebellion the people of our town and county quietly returned to their former avocations. Many farms had been neglected during the war, but when the days of peace returned life and activity appeared to reign everywhere. It is true that speculation was still rife. Some appeared inclined to the belief that hard times would never return. Money was abundant.

The Confederates who returned to their homes this year were received generally with a certain degree of coldness by their Union neighbors. This feeling, however, gradually wore off, and where a Confederate evinced any disposition to accept the situation, he soon passed among his neighbors as though nothing had happened. The Constitution of the State was so amended that they could neither vote nor hold office. This amendment was ratified by a vote of the people on the 19th of May, 1866.

In October, 1865, Colonel Daniel Haymond was elected State Senator from this District, and Nathan Goff, Sr., and Solomon S. Fleming were elected to the House of Delegates from Harrison county. Captain T. F. Roane, who had been a gallant cavalry officer in the Federal volunteer service during the war, was elected Sheriff of the county and James H. Taylor, Recorder.

This year the government of the corporation was revived and Nathan Goff, Sr., was elected President of the Board of Trustees and Col. T. S. Spates, Clerk. This year Clarksburg entered upon a career of prosperity which has been gradually onward ever since.

We omitted to mention in the proper connection that Capt. Robert S. Gardner, one of our present fellow citizens, early in 1863 succeeded Capt. Huntington as Quartermaster of the Post of Clarksburg. Captain Gardner managed the Post with efficiency and gave general satisfaction. In 1864 he was stationed elsewhere and Captain Dodge succeeded to Clarksburg, and he in turn was succeeded by Captain Fisher. Captain Conley remained in the Commissary Department at Clarksburg until near the close of the war when he was succeeded by Captain Thomas H. Singleton of Wheeling. Captain Fisher was the last Quartermaster stationed at Clarksburg, Captain Gardner near the close of the war was brevetted Major, as was Capt. Singleton. Maj. Singleton was subsequently appointed

by the President, Collector of Internal Revenue for the First District of West Virginia. He died of consumption at his home in Wheeling, in the Spring of 1871. Capt. Huntington died in Ohio before the war closed. Capt. Leib died in New Mexico a few months after leaving Clarksburg.

Among the officers of the army who were stationed in Clarksburg during the war none stood higher in the estimation of our people than Colonel Hay of the 87th Pennsylvania and Captain Mattingly of the 6th (West) Virginia. The latter was subsequently elected Sheriff of Wood county in this State and discharged the duties thereof with honesty and fidelity.

General Benjamin F. Kelley was also very popular with our people. Gen. Goverts who fell back on Clarksburg from Buckhannon at the time of the Jones Raid was not popular. The people almost universally believed that if he had held his ground at Buckhannon, that the raid would have been stayed, and that much loss of property would have been averted. But he fled from Buckhannon, destroying the bridge spanning the Buckhannon river, which was fordable at that time at almost any point for guniea pigs. After he arrived at Clarksburg, he made hasty preparations to burn the bridges in this vicinity, but was prevented by the remonstrances of the citizens.

In the Fall of 1864 the Confederates under command of Gen. Witcher made another raid in this direction. Our people hearing of this, hastily extemporized an army of cavalry and marched to meet them. The expedition was unfortunate, and was forced to surrender. General Witcher took their horses and accoutrements, paroled the men and sent them home.

At the beginning and some time after the commencement of the war our farming citizens were much inconvenienced by having their wagons and teams impressed into the service. The demands of the Government were imperative and there was no means of dodging the impressment, it mattered not what loss and inconvenience the farmer might suffer thereby.

During the war there was a great revival of religion in Clarksburg. In the beginning of the winter of 1864, Rev. Mr. Nicolson, then preacher in charge of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Clarksburg, held a series of services in the Court House in Clarksburg at which more than one-hundred and fifty persons professed conversion. Many of these converts are now pillars in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Early in the war earthworks were thrown up on Criss's Hill, not so much, it is presumable, as a means of defense as to give employment to the soldiers. At a subsequent period the summit of Pinnickinnick was strongly fortified under the supervision of General B. F. Kelley. The breastworks are still there, and will long remain as an evidence that grim visaged war at one time "reared his horrid front" amid our hills and valleys.

But to proceed in the order of events. In the year 1867 our people continued to go on in the "even tenor of their ways." The industries of our county continued to prosper. After the close of the war the people set to work in earnest to build up the waste places. Lands were opened, new fences built and old ones repaired. Agricultural operations received a new impulse. This year the West Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical Society at Clarksburg was organized. R. T. Lowndes was elected President of the Society. He and the other officers proved very efficient. The first Annual Fair was held in September 1867, and although the managers had but a short time to make their arrangements this exhibition was quite a success, and through the efficiency of the management the success has continued with remarkable uniformity. Mr. Lowndes was continued in the Presidency until 1870 when he was succeeded by Maj. Samuel R. Steel, who was retained in the Presidency until 1874, when he was succeeded by Maj. Lee Haymond who continued in office until 1876 when he was succeeded by Enoch Tinsman.

Newspaper

In the latter part of the year of 1861 R. S. Northcott began the publication of the National Telegram at Clarksburg.

It was devoted to the cause of the Union. He continued to edit the paper until August, 1862, when he resigned his position. Hon. John S. Carlile then took charge of the paper, and changed the name to that of the Clarksburg PATRIOT. In 1864 Mr. Northcott again became proprietor of the paper and placed it in charge of Col. John T. Griffin, who edited and published the paper, and gave it its original name of NATIONAL TELEGRAM. In 1865 Mr. Northcott again became editor and conducted the paper until 1869, when Messrs. McWilliams and Toothacher, of Parkersburg, took charge of it and conducted it during that year. In 1870 John McWilliams conducted the paper alone. In 1871 Mr. Northcott again took editorial charge of the paper, and continued in the position until 1874, when Mr. Emanuel Lowry became editor and proprietor. During 1873 and 1874 Mr. Thomas S. Heatley, of New York City was associate editor of the paper. During a portion of the year 1873, William A. Northcott, son of R. S. Northcott, was associated with the paper. Mr. Lowry conducted the paper but a few weeks, and sold it to Mr. Lewis Cauldwell, who edited and published the paper until 1875, when he sold it to the present editor and proprietor. In 1865 Maj. Cooper established the CONSERVATIVE, a democratic paper in Clarksburg, and continued to publish it until 1868, when he sold the paper to Messrs. Frysinger and Walters, who conducted the paper in partnership until 1871, when Mr. Frysinger disposed of his interest to Maj. C. W. Walters, who continued the paper until 1872 when he sold it to Maj. Cooper again, who published the paper for a few weeks. After a time Maj. Walters came into possession of the paper again and published it a few months and abandoned the enterprise. In 1872, Maj. John Hodgson, of Westchester, Pa., a veteran journalist, established the Clarksburg SUN, and continued its publication until the latter part of the year 1874, when he removed his office to Parkersburg and changed the name of the paper to that of the Parkersburg ENQUIRER.

A short time ago Mr. Scott established the Clarksburg NEWS, a democratic paper.

Maj. Walters and Mr. Heatley each tried the experiment of publishing a daily paper in Clarksburg, but the enterprises were soon abandoned, as it was discovered they would not pay.

The Clarksburg Mills

For many years Clarksburg has been noted for its excellent flouring mills. Hon. John S. Carlile many years ago purchased the mills on Elk creek in Clarksburg and prepared them for the manufacture of flour on an extensive scale. After a few years he sold these mills to Maj. Samuel R. Steel, who has run them and continues to run them very successfully. The Point Mills on the West Fork, we believe, were erected by Hon. Edwin S. Duncan and at his death Mr. Geo. S. Hoffman became the owner of them and shortly after the close of the war, Mr. John R. Steel became a joint owner with Mr. Hoffman and an active supervisor of the works. These mills have also been very successful. To each a good saw mill is attached. The Messrs. Steel both understand the business of running a mill.

Mr. James M. Mines also owns an excellent mill two miles from town on Limestone creek.

The Educational Facilities of Clarksburg

It does appear to us that our people have never been sufficiently alive to the importance of education, for although we have many highly educated ladies and gentlemen in Clarksburg, they have not been educated at home. Parents and guardians sent enough money abroad for educational purposes to build and endow two good colleges. Randolph Academy, it is true, had some excellent teachers, and many of our people received a good education, but until recently we have not had an institution of a high order for female education, consequently our citizens have had to send their daughters to a distance, at a heavy expense in order to afford them the desired educational facilities. A few thousand dollars invested in a college or seminary will be returned with a large interest before a great lapse of time, for it will save the amount our citizens pay for educating their children elsewhere, and also bring others here to be educated. Broadus Female College is now opened in our midst, and we indulge in the hope that it will receive encouragement from our people, and that they will use their endeavors to place it on a permanent basis.

The Clarksburg Graded School was established in 1867, and has been in successful operation ever since. This school is supported by levying a tax on the citizens of the school district. It has afforded general educational facilities to our people.

In addition to the schools we have, a male college is demanded.

In 1867 Gen. Nathan Goff, Jr., and Solomon S. Fleming were elected to the House of Delegates, A. Werninger who had been elected State Senator in 1866, held over. William I. Boreman, of Tyler county succeeded Daniel Haymond as Mr. Werninger's colleague.

The political strife in our town was very bitter for the first few years after the close of the war. The confederates were disfranchised, and smarting under their disabilities, a great cry was made against the "proscriptiveness" of the radical party, as it was termed.

In 1868, on the 28th day of May, the Republican State Convention was held in Clarksburg. It was largely attended. At that convention W. E. Stevenson was nominated for Governor, Gen. I. H. Duval for Congress, in the first district, and A. Werninger for Senator. Stevenson was opposed by Johnson N. Camden, of Parkersburg. The election was warmly contended but Stevenson was elected by a decided majority. Gen. Duval was opposed by Henry S. Walker but was elected by nine hundred majority. Mr. Werninger was elected by a large majority. In that year the Legislature of West Virginia was in session the greater portion of the year, preparing the code. In July, Gen. Nathan Goff, Jr., having been appointed by the President, United States District Attorney for the district of West Virginia, his seat in the House of Delegates became vacant, and the Republican County Convention which was held in the next month, nominated Col. Sidney Haymond and Solomon S. Fleming as the regular candidates for the House of Delegates, and F. W. Cunningham, of Hessville to fill the vacancy occasioned by Gen. Goff's resignation. Mr. Cunningham declined the nomination and Dr. A. F. Barnes was substituted. These men were all elected, Mr. Fleming by 13 votes. Mr. Werninger was also elected by a large majority.

At the Presidential election in 1868 Grant and Colfax for President and Vice President carried Harrison county by a considerable majority. The bitterness of politics had not yet passed, though our people generally kept themselves restrained and but few open ruptures occurred. Our town and county continued to prosper. In 1868 the democrats elected a board of Trustees. Politics in our Board of Trustees very rarely extended beyond the election. When the members of the board entered upon the duties of their offices they discharged them with fidelity. Our Board of Trustees after the close of the war, regardless of their political sentiments entered into the spirit of improvement and the streets and side walks of our town soon assumed a new appearance, and this improvement still goes on,

We omitted to mention in the proper connection that Maj. A. C. Moore was elected Prosecuting Attorney in 1866 and was re-elected in 1868, 1870, and 1872, and now holds that office. He was opposed each time by John Bassel, Esq.

Under the free school system of West Virginia, Dr. Emory Strickler was elected County Superintendent of Free Schools in 1864, and re-elected in 1865. He was succeeded in 1866 by Dr. Fletcher. He was succeeded in 1867 by Dr. William Meigs, who was re-elected in 1868. In 1869 Prof. D. C. Louchery was elected; in 1871, Cruger W. Smith; in 1873, J. R. Adams, who was re-elected in 1875 and is the present incumbent.

In 1869 Nathan Goff, Sr., and Hon. John J. Davis were elected to the House of Delegates from Harrison county. This session of the Legislature passed what was known as the "Flick Amendment" to the Constitution and which removed the disability of the rebels. Some of the democratic members opposed this amendment because it enfranchised negroes as well as rebels. The succeeding Legislature, however, which was democratic, ratified it, and in 1871, it was ratified by the people and became a part of the Constitution.

At the election of 1869 Hon. William I. Boreman was elected State Senator from this District and served the people very acceptably.

In 1870 a political revolution took place in West Virginia. The Republican majority in the State prior to that time had been from five to seven thousand. In 1870, before the confederates were enfranchised, the democrats carried the State by two thousand majority, John J. Jacob, the present incumbent being elected Governor. That year Gen. Nathan Goff was the Republican nominee for Congress in this district and Hon. John J. Davis the Democratic nominee. The District had previously been Republican by about eight hundred majority. Both candidates were men of ability and unexceptional personal character. Both citizens of Clarksburg. At the beginning of the contest Gen. Goff's friends were sanguine of his election. They knew that they had a gallant standard bearer and they doubted not that he would lead them to an easy victory. On the contrary Mr. Davis and his friends entered the fight with the odds against them and were not sanguine of success, but a political revolution was developing. In point of ability and personal character Goff and Davis stood on equal grounds, and the supposition by both parties was that Goff would be elected by the usual Republican majority. A revolution, however, took place for which there was no accounting, and this revolution extended not only over the First District, but over the whole state, the democrats electing all the State officers, and the Congressmen from the First and Third Districts. In the First District Davis' majority over Goff was about thirteen hundred. The Legislature was largely Democratic. Hon. C. S. Lewis and Thomas J. West were elected to the House of Delegates from Harrison county, both Democrats. Hon. Charles F. Scott, of Ritchie county, a Republican was elected to succeed Hon. A. Werninger in the State Senate. In Harrison county, notwithstanding, the democrats elected the members of the House of Delegates, the Republicans elected the county officers of Harrison county. Maj. A. C. Moore was elected Prosecuting Attorney; John A. Hursey, Sheriff; F. A. Robinson, Circuit Court clerk; and James H. Taylor, Recorder. The Legislature in its session in 1871 passed an act providing for the calling of a convention for the purpose of Amending the State Constitution. This provided that the people should hold an election in May, 1871, to determine whether the said convention should be called. At this election the people of Harrison county voted largely against the convention, but a majority of the people of the State voted in favor of the Convention and the act further provided that the Delegates to the said convention should be elected at the general election on the fourth Thursday in October, 1871, and that there should be as many Delegates elected as there were members of both Houses of the Legislature. The election was rather an exciting one. ~~Col.~~ Benjamin Wilson and Col. Daniel Johnson, of Tyler county, ~~###~~

were elected Delegates to represent the Clarksburg Senatorial District in the convention. Messrs. Jahn Bassel and Beverly H. Turty were elected to represent Harrison county.

Messrs. Thomas J. West and Truman Elliott at the same election were elected to the House of Delegates from Harrison county, and Mr. Robert Patterson, of Pleasant county was elected to represent the Clarksburg District in the State Senate. The democrats made a clear sweep in this region. The convention prepared a constitution, which by some was considered anomalous, but by others was regarded as the acme of political perfection. It was provided in the schedule of this constitution that it should be submitted to the people of the State on the 22d of August, 1872, for their "ratification" or "rejection", and further, that at the same poll they should elect all the officers under the said constitution from Governor to Surveyor of roads. They voted that day for "ratification" or "rejection," for Governor, Auditor, Treasurer, Attorney General, State Superintendent of Free Schools, a member of Congress (not under the Constitution, but under the laws governing the election of said members), four Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals, State Senators, members of the House of Delegates, Prosecuting Attorneys, Sheriffs, clerks of the circuit courts, clerks of the county court, (the new constitution had abolished the office of Recorder, and also the township and supervisor system and substituted the County Court, and of course the county court clerk was an indispensable adjunct of the court,) county Surveyors, Assessors, Justices of the Peace, Constables, School Commissioners and Surveyors of Roads. This made up the longest ticket ever voted in West Virginia.

The contest was bitter. The democratic convention met in May of that year in Parkersburg and nominated Johnson N. Camden for Governor. This produced dissatisfaction in the party. The democratic leaders attempted to make loyalty to the new constitution a test of fealty to the party, but there were many of the party who could not be drilled into the support of it, Gov. Jacob had become very popular with the people and the failing to nominate him at the Parkersburg convention was regarded with much displeasure by many of the party, and he was urged to become an independent candidate. The Republican State convention was subsequently assembled at Grafton and failed to nominate a ticket for the State offices, and this gave encouragement to those who favored Gov. Jacob's being an independent candidate. He subsequently announced himself as a candidate and large numbers of the democrats with almost the entire Republican party rallied to his support.

Col. Benjamin Wilson was nominated by the democrats for Congress. He was considered the candidate of the Greeley party. Hon. John J. Davis, who although a democrat, opposed the Greeley party, became an independent candidate and the Republicans rallied to the support with a portion of the democrats.

In this election the Republicans did not organize except in the Presidential contest, but united with a portion of the democrats in supporting what was known as the "People's Ticket," made up of both Republicans and Democrats. On this ticket Hon. John J. Davis was elected to Congress, and Hon. Charles F. Scott elected to the State Senate from the Clarksburg District. Col.

Thomas S. Spates and Mathias W. Davis were elected to the House of Delegates from Harrison county.

Col. Wilson contested Mr. Davis' seat in Congress and after a long and well fought contest, the seat was finally awarded to Mr. Davis. The ground for contest was the day on which the election was held. Under the former constitution the general election for members of the Legislature was held every year on the fourth Thursday in October and on the same day every two years, it was provided that the Governor and other State Officers should be elected and also a member of Congress from each district. The Constitutional Convention in changing the time of holding the general election in 1872 from the fourth Thursday in October to the fourth Thursday in August made no provision in regard to the election of members of Congress, but it was inferred that as there was a statutory provision that the election of members of Congress should take place at the general election of State and other officers that the time for the election of members of Congress would necessarily be changed so as to be accommodated to the general election, and this opinion generally prevailed until Hon. Charles J. Faulkner of the second Congressional District gave a contrary one. The people of this, the first District, however, generally believed the the fourth Thursday in August was the proper day for holding the election, for they polled a full vote. An election, however, was subsequently held on the fourth Thursday in October, Col. Wilson again being a candidate. A small vote was polled--something more than three thousand in the District. Col. Wilson, having no opposition, received all with the exception of a few hundred scattering ones.

At the election in August, 1872, Maj. A. C. Moore was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Harrison county, James Monroe Sheriff, F. A. Robinson, Circuit Court Clerk, Hon. B. Tyson Harmer, President of the County Court, James H. Taylor, Clerk of the County Court, F. M. Brooks, Assessor of the Upper District and W. W. Boggess, Assessor of the Lower District of Harrison county and Thomas Hawker, Surveyor. Enoch Tinsman and Jesse Money Penny were elected Justices of the Peace for Clark District and Cyrus Vance and Samuel Walker for Coal District, all residing in Clarksburg.

The constitution was ratified by a small majority of the vote of the State, and the State, county and other officers entered upon their duties at the time designated in the new constitution. Hon. Gideon D. Camden was elected with Mr. Scott as State Senator.

Under the new constitution that ancient and honorable institution, the County Court, has been revived. Those who are in favor of the ancient regime are much attached to the County Court, and regard it as being sacred, and worthy of being perpetuated. Others regard it as being a relic of monarchical England which ought to be forever abolished in a free government. We shall not venture in this place any opinion concerning it, but leave our people to examine it and judge for themselves. This they can do at almost any time, for it can nearly always be found in the Court House, Sundays and holidays excepted.

The new constitution provided for biennial sessions of the Legislature instead of annual ones, or rather for biennial elections, for although we have had but two Legislature elected under the new constitution, yet we have had four sessions of the Legislature, and one besides of the Senate as a high court of Impeachment/

The year 1873 was not marked by any political event in our town and

county. There was no election in our county that year except for school officers. The present incumbent, J. R. Adams, was elected County Superintendent of Free Schools.

In the year 1871 Col. Burton Despard erected the elegant block of store rooms on the corner of Main and Despard streets consisting of six elegant lower rooms which added much to the beauty of our town.

In order to show the progress of Clarksburg since the close of the war we will give the improvements which have been made. The first business buildings that were erected were commodious store rooms built by Col. T. S. Spates on the south side of Main street, near the Court House. These were built after the modern style. Not long after this Messrs. Lloyd Lowndes, Abraham Smith and Enoch Tinsman built a block of these elegant store rooms on the south side of Main street, near the Presbyterian church. Subsequently the Odd Fellows erected a three story building on the South side of Main street, a short distance West of Col. Spates' building; the lower room is an elegant store room and is occupied by Dr. J. L. Carr's Drug Store, the second floor is used for offices, and the third floor for lodge and encampment rooms. About the same time Messrs. Smith, Brown & Co., in connection with Rev. Mr. Pool, erected the block now occupied by Messrs. Smith, Brown & Co., and the third floor of which is the city hall.

In 1872 Col. Despard erected the block of buildings of which we have previously spoken, on Main street. The next year he erected the fine block of business houses and offices on Despard street. In this block is the Bank of West Virginia. The next year he erected the large and commodious house, the lower floor of which is now occupied by Messrs. Holden & Co. The second floor of this room is used as a Masonic lodge and chapter room.

In 1870 Jesse Miller erected the fine store room now occupied by him on Pike street, near Walker's Hotel. About the same time James Clifford erected an elegant and substantial brick store room on Pike street, near the Baptist Church, and Mr. A. W. Prichard erected a three story brick block on West Pike street. Messrs. B. F. Shuttleworth & Bro., in 1874 erected a very large and substantial two story brick store house on Main street at the Elk Creek bridge. In 1872 Messrs. D. Boughner & Son, erected a very handsome two story brick block on the corner of Main and Fourth streets, opposite the St. Charles Hotel.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday April 8, 1876

Volume XIV-No. 26

Whole Number 702

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG and HARRISON COUNTY
from its
Earliest Settlement to the Present Time

CHAPTER IX

In 1873 David Davidson built his handsome two story brick store house on Main street. In 1872 Messrs. J. & W. P. Irwin built a handsome brick block on Despard street. Recently Messrs. Boughner & Sons have erected a handsome addition to their new block, and Messrs. W. C. McCormick & Co., have just completed a brick store room on the south side of Main street, on the lot formerly owned by Nathan Goff, Sr. A year or two since Mr. James Ward erected a handsome store room near the depot.

Altogether about forty new business houses have been erected in Clarksburg since the close of the war.

Mr. E. B. Hursey some years ago erected a large furniture store on Pike street, and Messrs. Boughner & Sons erected one on Fourth street, now occupied by Mr. Lorin Odells. ~~Mr. James Stewart~~ erected the house now occupied by Wells & Bro. as a drug store, on Pike street. About 1870 Dr. A. F. Barnes erected the store house now occupied by John Mahn as a drug store.

When we come to the other establishments which have been built up since the war, we find that we are on the road to prosperity. Mr. Ira Hart has built a very large brick foundry and machine works. Messrs. Joseph F. Osburn & Bro. have erected a large new foundry, and also a large machine works. Messrs. Duff, Hoskinson & Co. have erected an extensive planing mill. Messrs. Boughner & Son have built a blacksmithing establishment, on Fourth street, occupied by Messrs. Bowie & Swartz. Messrs. George W. Sires & Son have erected a blacksmith shop, on Pike street, and O. H. Tate on water street.

A few years ago Mr. Rufus Maxwell, of Tucker county, erected a steam saw mill on the opposite side of the West Fork, from Clarksburg, near the West Milford bridge, and a short time ago Hiram Munday established one on Elk Creek, a short distance from Mr. John Peck's blacksmith shop. Messrs. Fordyce Bros. & Co. three years ago established an extensive carriage manufacturing establishment on Pike street, opposite Walker's Hotel.

When we come to the family residences which have been erected, we feel appalled at the task of speaking of each one specifically and shall not attempt it. Mrs. Caroline Jackson, Hon. John J. Davis, Hon. Edwin Maxwell, Col. N. J. Coplin, George Bastable, A. Smith, W. H. Freeman, M. G. Holmes, A. G. Smith, Jasper Y. Moore, E. T.

Baldwin, Mordecai Lewis, E. L. Stealey, B. F. Shuttleworth, W. R. Alexander, Thomas Finnell, Mrs. Finnell, L. D. Ferguson, Dr. B. F. McKeehan, E. A. Peck, Rev. F. J. Cather, Hon. W. A. Harrison, Dr. William Meigs, A. M. Reager, John A. Davis, Werninger Jarvis, A. G. Fordyce, William Fordyce, David W. Robinson, F. A. Robinson, J. W. Odell, H. F. Criss, Ira Hart, Hon. Thomas W. Harrison, Conrad Ross and Alexander Duff have all erected large and commodious residences.

James P. Davis has erected eight new buildings, ample and convenient for renting. About twenty-five have been erected in the vicinity of the Depot, and thirty more in the bend of Elk Creek; eighteen in Adams's suburb, five in Baker's. B. F. Shuttleworth & Bro. have erected about twenty-five tenements houses in various parts of the town, and, scattered here and there, are about twenty-five others.

We have so far omitted to mention that Mr. Richard Metherel erected last year a very elegant store house, at the corner of Pike and Sixth streets, and that last year Messrs. Amith & Bell erected one of the finest and largest livery stables on Pike street, opposite Walker's Hotel, that can be found in the State of West Virginia.

Taking all the new buildings which have been erected since the war we find that they amount to fully two hundred.

Goff's Chapel, the new M. E. Church, has been built since the war. The gas works have also been put into successful operation. Our principal streets have been graded and macadamized. At least ten miles of good pavement have been built.

The Corporation of Clarksburg

In 1869 Col. T. S. Spates was President of the Board of Trustees of the corporation of Clarksburg and Maj. N. A. Shuttleworth, Clerk. During the year Col. Spates resigned and R. S. Northcott was chosen to fill the vacancy. In 1870 the town having accepted Chapter 42 of the Code of 1869 as the basis upon which to govern the corporation, the officers were thenceforward designated as Mayor, Recorder and Common Council of Clarksburg. R. S. Northcott, was elected Mayor and Samuel R. Steel, Recorder and O. H. Tate, Town Sergeant. In 1871 A. Werninger was elected Mayor and Samuel R. Steel, Recorder. In 1872 John C. Vance elected Recorder. In 1873 Cyrus Vance was elected Mayor and John C. Vance re-elected Recorder. In 1874 Cyrus Vance was re-elected Mayor and John A. Davis, Recorder. In 1875 Cyrus Vance was again re-elected Mayor and John A. Davis, Recorder. Col. Vance died before the expiration of his term and Enoch Tinsman was elected by the Council to fill the vacancy. At the election on the first Thursday in January 1876, Enoch Tinsman was elected Mayor and Henry Haymond elected Recorder.

The complete list of officers for the year 1876 is as follows:

Mayor--

Mayor--Enoch Tinsman.

Recorder--Henry Haymond

Councilmen--John C. Vance, W. L. Cole, B. M. Despard, C. S. Spates, and C. J. Foff.

Sergeant--James Smith

Street Superintendent--William Little.

Assessor--Isaac Ramey.

In 1874 the people of this State again elected members of the Legislature. Under our present Constitution, State Senators are elected for four years. There are two elected from each District. At the election in 1872, Gideon D. Camden and Charles F. Scott were elected State Senators to represent the Clarksburg District. The Constitution had provided that one Senator in each District should, after the first election, serve two years and the other for four years, in order that one Senator in each District should be elected every two years. The first Senators were to determine by lot which should serve four and which two years. The four years fell upon Judge Camden and the two years upon Mr. Scott. In this District the Republicans held no nominating conventions, but Mr. Scott became their candidate by tacit consent. The Democrats held a nominating convention and nominated Mr. Absalom Knotts, of Calhoun county. The Republicans of Harrison county held no convention, but W. D. Carlile and M. W. Davis became their candidates for the House of Delegates as Mr. Scott had done. A. L. Husted became the Republican candidate of the Delegate District composed of the counties of Harrison, Barbour, and Taylor, in the same way. For Congress, the Republicans held a nominating Convention in Wheeling, and nominated Gen. Nathan Goff. The Democrats held a nominating convention at Ellenboro and nominated Col. Ben Wilson. The contest was tolerably warm, and the friends of all the candidates were sanguine of their success. Col. Wilson was elected to Congress by a majority of 168 votes. C. F. Scott was elected to the State Senate by a large majority.

The Democrats of this county held a nominating convention and nominated Thomas J. West and Trueman Elliott for the House of Delegates. Mr. Ice, of Barbour, was the democratic opponent of Mr. Husted. For Delegates Mr. Carlile, Republican, and Mr. West, Democratic, was elected for Harrison county. Mr. Ice, Democrat, was elected for the Delegate District.

Improvements in the County

In 1874 a cheese manufactory was established on Lost Creek in this county which so far has succeeded very well. In 1875, Mr. Hood, near Shinnston in this county, established another cheese manufactory which is succeeding well. In 1874 Mr. Austin Shinn established a manufactory at his mill in this county, for the purpose of manufacturing axe, picks, and other handles.

The mills in Clarksburg and throughout Harrison county have been greatly improved since the war. Mr. Bennett D. Rider, of West Milford has an excellent flouring mill. Messrs. Boggess & Robinson have an excellent mill at Lumberport. John Brown at Brown's Mill, Mr. Jas. M. Mines on Limestone, near Clarksburg and Mr. Davis, at Quiet Dell, all have good mills. Mr. John C. Johnson has a saw mill at Bridgeport, Col. Henry Haymond has one at Romines' Mills and Mr. John Bussy and Beverly H. Lurty each have one in the vicinity of Cherry Camp. Every kind of improvement has been going on rapidly in our county since the close of the war. The farmers have been building new residences and cleaning up their lands, improving their breeds of stock, and are on the way to prosperity.

Bituminous Coal

There is a strata of bituminous coal underlaying a great portion of Harrison county. We have coal all around and in Clarksburg. The Harrison County Mining Company and the Pinnickinnick Company operate within the limits of the Corporation. Dr. Ramsay's Coal Mines are within a mile, as are the Despard Mines and the Wakeman Mines. There are Coal Mines at Wilsonburg and Reynoldsburg, west of Clarksburg, and also at Tyrconnell, in the eastern portion of the county. Besides the two large mining companies which we have mentioned as operating in Clarksburg, there are three mines in the corporation worked by individuals for home consumption. Coal is cheap, very cheap, as our citizens purchase it delivered at one dollar and twenty-five cents per ton.

BIOGRAPHICAL

Mrs. Katherine Custer,

Who is the mother of James and Alexander Custer of this vicinity and resides with her son James, is a native of the State of Maryland, but has resided in this county near Clarksburg for about thirty-four years. She has been a woman of remarkable physical constitution and mental vigor, and is now in her ninety-fourth year. She is the grandmother of the famous George A. Custer of the United States Army.

Rev. John A. Williams

Mr. Williams has spent much of his life in the itinerant service of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is also a successful farmer and is one of the substantial men of Harrison county. He resides near Sycamore Dale.

James C. Custer

If a stranger should come into Clarksburg, and meet with a pleasant jolly looking gentleman weighing above three hundred pounds, he may be sure that he has found James C. Custer, and if he has any knowledge of human nature he will know at first sight he has found a real clever, honest man. He belongs to the family from which General Custer sprang, being his uncle, but "Uncle Jim," as he is

familiarly called by his intimate friends, and they are many, although not aspiring to military glory, has always had an ambition as exalted as that of his illustrious kinsman, though not directed in the same channel. He has been ambitious to discharge his duty to his family, his neighbors and to his God, for he is an excellent citizen and a good christian. He was born in the State of Maryland, but settled in the vicinity of Clarksburg about thirty-four years ago.

Alexander Custer

Is a brother of James. He is also a good citizen and a good christian. Religion is always uppermost in his mind, "He is instant in season, and out of season." He is an industrious farmer and resides near Clarksburg.

Trueman Elliott

We have no better citizen in Harrison county than Trueman Elliott. He is a successful farmer and cattle dealer. He was honored in 1871 by the people of Harrison county with a seat in the Legislature, and so far as we have learned served to the satisfaction of his constituents. He is a gentleman of high standing among his acquaintances.

Col. Lot Bowen

There is about as much energy and vim concentrated in Col. Bowen as any man we ever saw. He came from Pennsylvania and settled near Sycamore Dale in this county several years before the war. He is a successful farmer and cattle dealer. In 1862 he recruited a company for the 3d West Va. Cavalry, of which he was made commander, and he subsequently arose to the grade of Lieutenant Colonel. After the close of the war Col. Bowen resumed his business of farming and grazing and has pursued it on an extensive scale, and with a considerable degree of success. Col. Bowen ships more beef cattle to the Philadelphia and Baltimore markets than any other dealer in Harrison county. He stands high amongst business men, as his integrity is unquestioned. His industry and energy cannot be surpassed. Col. Bowen is a warm-hearted genial gentleman, and is very popular among his neighbors.

Nathan Dix

Mr. Dix resides in the vicinity of Clarksburg. He is almost an octogenarian. He is a son of the late Stephen Dix who furnished a remarkable instance of longevity, dying in his ninety-first year, not in his eighty-eighth as we stated in a former part of this history. Nathan Dix was born in Harrison county on the 22d day of March, 1797. He has resided in Harrison county continuously all his life, and has been an excellent citizen. He still retains his mental vigor and physical strength in an eminent degree.

Jacob C. Nutter

If Mr. Nutter lives a couple of years he will be an octogenarian, being now seventy-eight years of age. He is a descendant of the Nutters who were among the first settlers, in this county. He was born in Harrison county, and all his life has been spent in it with

the exception of a few years. Six or seven years ago he emigrated to Missouri, but he was too old ever to wean himself from Harrison county, and after two years probation he returned to the land of his birth. His life has been one of active industry and he has been very successful in business. He is a good citizen.

Benjamin F. Shuttleworth

Mr. Shuttleworth is comparatively a young man. He has been for many years engaged in mercantile operations and also in dealing in real estate. He has been very successful in business and has done much to improve more lots than any other man or firm in Clarksburg, and he is still pursuing his business with as much energy as he ever did.

Ira Hart

Mr. Hart is one of the sort of men that it always requires to give life and energy to a town. He builds up. He has for a great many years been carrying on large and extensive machine works in Clarksburg, where a man can buy any kind of machinery he want from a post-hole borer to a steam saw mill. Mr. Hart is also a gentleman of inventive genius, having had several of his inventions for improvements in machinery patented. He in connection with R. T. Lowndes of this place recently completed a narrow gauge railroad eighteen miles from Smithton, in Doddridge county southward in the lumber region of that county. This road is already doing a very large business. Mr. Hart's machine works in Clarksburg do an immense business. He is bound to succeed, for his energy and perseverance are such that they will overcome every obstacle. Mr. Hart is very progressive in his opinions--a real friend of progress and improvement. He belongs to that class of men that makes the world move. He is the enemy of fogyism and lives in an age of the world when he can enjoy the pleasure of seeing the world move with more than ordinary rapidity.

Joseph F. Osborn

Mr. Osborn is another one of our progressive citizens. He came from the State of Pennsylvania and settled in Weston a few years before the war, and established an iron foundry. During the war he came to Clarksburg and established a foundry and by his indefatigable industry he soon established a good business which has been continuously increasing. A few years ago he associated his brother, Alexander H. Osborn, with him and they added machine works to their business and are now engaged in a extensive trade. Mr. Osborn is one of the kind who builds up and keeps the world moving.

Rev. Anthony Garrett

Mr. Garrett is one of the substantial men of our county. He is a minister of the Baptist church in high standing. We believe that he is a native of Harrison county. He is a successful farmer and is much esteemed wherever known. He is an influential citizen and deservedly has the confidence of his neighbors.

Rev. Aaron Vincent

Mr. Vincent is what is denominated in Methodist parlance, a local preacher.

local preacher,--a useful man. He also practices medicine on the homoeopathic system, and is also a good farmer, and a good citizen.

The Gore Family

This is an old family in Harrison county, and two of them, Trueman and Tilghman W. Gore reside within a few miles of Clarksburg, on the Fairmont pike. They are all good farmers--own large lands and are good citizens.

Col. Thomas S. Spates

Col. Spates came to Clarksburg about the time the Northwestern railroad was completed. He has since been engaged in mercantile pursuits, and has evinced great business tact. He is a gentleman of energy and industry. Col Spates' financial ability is of the highest order. He has been public spirited and liberal and is one of the men who assist in moving the world.

Daniel Boughner

Mr. Boughner is one of our most enterprising merchants. He came to Clarksburg in 1865 from Ritchie Court House, and commenced business here and has been uniformly successful. Mr. Boughner is a gentleman of great financial ability and does his part towards keeping the world in motion, especially the business world. He is public spirited and has assisted in the material growth of our place since he has been in it.

The Lost Creek Neighborhood

One of the most fertile regions of Harrison county is upon Lost Creek, and there are settled along in the vicinity of that creek many wealthy farmers, and they have churches and school houses, convenient in every community. They are industrious people, and that region of Harrison county is about as desirable as any in it. We cannot, however, take time and space to describe every community in Harrison county. Our rural neighborhoods are generally quiet and orderly. Our lands are fertile throughout the entire county, and our county would soon have twice the population it now has were it not for the

Mania for too much Land.

From what we have been able to learn our people from the earliest settlement of the county have had a great propensity to add to their broad acres, and in increasing the number of acres they have always increased their taxes and accumulated so much land that they could not give it the proper culture, and hence many land owners have been comparatively poor while they owned hundreds of acres of the best land in the world. They would find themselves burdened with taxes and also burdened with more land than they could keep enclosed under good fences, and also more than they could keep divested of briars and bushes. Their large lands instead of contributing to their comfort and convenience have added to their cares and diminished their comforts.

We have thus digressed to say something about lands, and we believe we will close this chapter by delivering our people a short homily upon some of their other peculiarities. Our people are no worse than other people, but they have always nursed certain kinds of prejudices and indulged in peculiarities which have conflicted with their interest. What these prejudices are it is not necessary to say, for they are becoming to be rid of them, and the others they will see and get rid of them, if they desire to do what is for the best interest.

But there is a peculiarity of our people that we desire to give them a little talk about, and that is their mania for trade and speculation. There is too much of this going on. The large landholder depends too much upon buying his neighbors calves and rearing them into beeves, and does not bestow enough care in breeding calves. The inattention to breeding frequently causes them to buy cattle to graze their luxuriant pastures. More attention to breeding good stock would be profitable. Then the growing of more grain and potatoes would also be profitable to our farmers.

Our next chapter, which will be one of miscellanies, will close this history.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, April 15, 1876

Volume XIV-No. 27

Whole Number 703

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG and HARRISON COUNTY
from its
Earliest Settlement to the Present Time

CHAPTER X

The Contrast.

There is a great contrast between Harrison county and Clarksburg fifty years ago, and Harrison County and Clarksburg at present. Fifty years ago no railroad traversed our county, not even a turnpike was known. Our people then thought they were fortunate in having a tri-weekly mail from the Eastern cities; now the mail is received twice a day. Then it would require eight or ten days to receive intelligence from Baltimore; now time and space has been annihilated by the electric telegraph, and we hear of important events which transpire in the most remote parts of earth almost as soon as they transpire. Little did our fathers imagine that their town nestled down among the hills, remote from water navigation and no harbinger to convey news but "the tumbling old stage coach," should in a half century be placed in a position to communicate in a few seconds with the city of London, should it become necessary, but this state of things now exists, and within the last few years direct telegraphic communication has actually passed between London and Clarksburg. A few years ago when John Selby, now Lord Viscount Montague was settling his colony in Upshur county, he communicated with his friends in London from Clarksburg by telegraph. In former years our merchants traveled from Clarksburg to Philadelphia and Baltimore on horse back when they replenished their supply of goods, and were eight or ten days in reaching Baltimore and nearly two weeks in reaching Philadelphia. Now they reach Baltimore in twelve hours and Philadelphia in sixteen hours and New York in nineteen hours. Our people in town and county have grown rich and nearly all of them are surrounded with the comforts, and many of them with the luxuries and elegancies of life. We are a favored and prosperous people.

In our former chapters we have dealt with the past. We have been showing what our town and county have been in the best manner we could, and we will close our labors with this chapter by endeavoring to show what they are.

Our county is one of almost illimitable resources. The entire county with very few exceptions is fertile; even the summits of the highest hills are rich and covered with large forest trees which are valuable for lumber, and when the forests are cleared off the most luxuriant grass grows. All our lands produce corn and other

cereals in abundance. We have, in Harrison county an immense area of bituminous coal. We suppose that one half of the lands are underlaid with a strata of coal. This strata varies in thickness from five to ten feet. Much of this coal will remain in the "bowels of the harmless earth" for many years, even many centuries, for with all the railroad facilities we can ever get here, it will take centuries to remove all the coal in Harrison county to market. Those who reside at a distance from coal regions will be inclined to be incredulous when we tell them that good coal is delivered to the citizens of Clarksburg at one dollar and thirty three cents a ton, and can be had at the mines at eighty-five cents per ton.

In portions of Harrison county iron ore abounds, and by many it is thought to be in abundance to justify the erection of forges for working it. Mr. A. J. Cork who resides three miles southwest from Clarksburg has a whole mountain of alum on his land, which will doubtless be utilized at no distant day. We also have in our county many valuable quarries of limestone and sandstone.

The inexhaustible coal in the regions of Clarksburg and its water power will at no distant day make Clarksburg a large manufacturing point.

In one direction our people have made immense progress since the close of the war, and that is in the improvement of their stock. Several of the citizens of our county have been introducing Durham and Alderney cattle, and also the best breeds of sheep. Among those who have been foremost, we have Hon. John J. Davis, Hon. John S. Carlile, Messrs. James and Josiah W. Lynch, Maj. Samuel R. Steel, and John R. Steel have made themselves very useful in introducing the best breeds of hogs.

Very recently two cheese factories have been established in Harrison county, one on Lost creek by H. W. Maxon, the other by William Hood, near Shinnston. So far these factories give every indication of a prosperous career. We believe that dairy farming in this county can be made profitable.

The State of Society in Harrison County

The society throughout our county is good, and in many places very good. The morals of the county would always compare favorably with those of any other community. Until a few years past many communities lacked educational facilities, but this want has been overcome, and our people are now thoroughly in the spirit of education, and are a reading people. Newspapers are generally taken, and hence the citizens of Harrison county are as well improved as any other moral people. The society is good and generally refined. There is a church in almost every community in the county. The prevailing religious denominations outside of Clarksburg are Methodists and Baptists. There are a few congregations of Presbyterians, and also United Brethren, and Protestant Methodists. In Clarksburg we have Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Catholics, and African Methodists. We believe there is one society of Latter Day Saints or Mormons in our county. There are three denominations of Baptists in our county, the Primitive, Missionary, and Seventh Day.

Both branches of the Methodist church are very well represented in Harrison county.

There are four Methodist Episcopal churches in Clarksburg, M. E. Church North, M. E. South, an M. E. church colored, and African Methodist church, so there are four places in Clarksburg where Christianity is taught according to Methodist views. Then we have a Baptist church and a Baptist church colored, so we have altogether nine places of worship in Clarksburg. This is pretty good evidence that we are a Christian people.

Roads and Bridges

Harrison county has as good roads and bridges as any county in West Virginia. Some of our bridges are built on a very substantial and costly scale. The bridges spanning the West Fork at West Milford, at Clarksburg, and three miles south of Shinnston are all substantial structures, and there is a very elegant and strong bridge being built at Shinnston at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars. Our county is growing rapidly in wealth and population, the result of the increase of energy and enterprise among our people.

Clarksburg and its Business

The commercial business of Clarksburg, when we take in consideration the size of the place, is large. It has now about 3,000 inhabitants. A very heavy business is done in the grocery line. Large quantities of groceries are sold. The men engaged exclusively in this business are John T. Griffin, J. W. K. Hays, A. W. Pritchard, J. T. Boggess, Lloyd Lowry, G. J. Stealey, J. U. Thorn and William Holden. Messrs. Smith Brown & Co. and Messrs. D. Boughner & Sons, each keep a grocery store in immediate connection with their dry goods houses. Col. T. S. Spates keeps a large hardware store. The other dry goods men generally mix groceries with their trade. The following are the dry goods merchants of our town:

Lloyd Lowndes, T. S. Spates & Son, Holden & Co., Jacob Edel & Co., J. & W. P. Irwin, Smith, Brown & Co., D. Boughner & Sons, Jesse Miller, B. F. Shuttleworth & Bro., R. R. Barrett, and James Clifford. These stores all keep groceries except T. S. Spates & Son.

There are two very large clothing establishments in Clarksburg, David Davidson and Thorn & Despard, at either of which a man will find no difficulty in suiting himself both in price and quality.

We have in Clarksburg a large hardware store with a stock that enables it to vie with any in any of the cities. Messrs. E. T. Baldwin & Co. are the proprietors of this store and they do a very large business, wholesale and retail. Messrs. S. A. Holmes & Co. keep a hat, boot, shoe and store which is very large and also do a large business, wholesale and retail. Mr. Enoch Tinsman and Joseph L. Robinson each also keep a large shoe store. Mr. Silas Hoff keeps a large grocery and meat store, where many of our citizens get their beefsteak, ham and other provisions. Mr. W. L. Cole and Richard Metheral each keeps a butcher establishment.

Book Store

James P. Davis & Co. have a very large assortment of books, periodicals and fancy articles, and do a liberal share of business.

Jewelry Stores

Mr. Arnold Brandley and Benjamin Lambrecht each has a handsome jewelry store and each keeps a full assortment in his line, and each is skilled in his business.

Drug Stores

We have eight drug stores in Clarksburg, owned by Dr. J. L. Carr, Messrs. Ferguson & Goff, Mr. Bussell, H. F. Criss, John Mahn, Wells & Bro., Dr. S. C. Bosley and Thompson Bros. (just opened).

We have two millinery stores owned by Mrs. Pollard and Mrs. Hartman, who both keep extensive assortments, where the most fastidious taste of the most fashionable lady cannot fail to be pleased.

We also have in Clarksburg four fashionable dress-makers, Mrs. Lowry, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Dunnington, and Mrs. Dakan.

We have one wholesale liquor store owned by Mr. Charles J. Goff.

In Clarksburg there are two large furniture establishments owned by Mr. E. B. Hursey and Mr. Orin Odell, both of which do an extensive business. We have two establishments for the manufactory of saddles and harness, owned by Messrs. Rezin Davis & Son and Mr. A. M. Owens, where the best of work is executed. Messrs. J. F. Osborn & Bro. own a large foundry and machine works and do an extensive business.

Mr. Ira Hart owns the largest machine and foundry works in West Virginia outside of Wheeling and Parkersburg, does a very large business in the way of manufacturing saw mills, casting car wheels and any thing else that comes to hand.

There are two large tin establishments in Clarksburg, owned by Messrs. W. C. McCormick & Co., and A. Caywood, both of which transact a liberal share of business in their line, and have lately removed into new stores built expressly for them.

Mr. Walter Ebert who has been long established in business in Clarksburg, still pursues "the even tenor of his way" as a hat merchant.

Tanneries

Messrs. John Stealey & Son, who have been established in business as tanners carry on extensive manufactory of leather. Mr. William Sumner also has a large tannery and does a very large business.

Mills

Maj. Samuel R. Steel has a good grist and saw mills in Clarksburg on Elk creek where he has long done a large business. John R. Steel & Co. own a large grist and saw mill on the West Fork, in Clarksburg and do a liberal share of business. Messrs. Boggess & Munday own an extensive steam saw mill located in the west end of town and are sawing a very large amount of lumber.

Messrs. Duff, Hoskinson & Co. have an extensive planing mill and do much good work. We have in town several carpentering firms who are experienced in their business. Among these are Mr. Ed. Reed, Jasper Pew, Hickmas & Morrison, John W. Drummond and Sa, Brown.

Livery Stables

We believe Clarksburg has the finest livery stable in the State, that owned by Messrs. Smith & Bell. It is also very large, and their stock of saddle horses, buggies and other vehicles is very large. Mr. W. W. Hays and Mr. George Deison each owns an extensive livery stable and each keeps ample accommodation.

Huckstering

The huckstering business has become quite an important feature in the trade of Clarksburg. Immense quantities of poultry and butter and eggs are constantly being shipped from Clarksburg to the Eastern cities and the trade has become a source of much profit to the people of the adjoining counties. There are now two large huckstering establishments in our town, owned by Messrs. Ruhl & Koblegard and by Messrs. Gandy & Bro. These establishments both do a very extensive business. They each keep several wagons traversing the country for a large region around Clarksburg buying all the poultry, butter and eggs they can find for sale, and bring them to Clarksburg and ship immediately East. The larger portion of their transactions are made with country merchants.

Carriage Manufactories

Messrs. Fordyce Brothers have a large Carriage manufacturing establishment in the West end of Clarksburg, where the business is carried on extensively in all its various branches. Mr. A. G. Fordyce has erected a large new carriage manufactory on Pike St. adjoining Messrs. Smith & Bell's livery stable and will carry on the business extensively. Both carriage manufactories promise to be successful.

Hotels

Clarksburg has four hotels, all of which feed and lodge to the satisfaction of their customers. The Walker House is the oldest institution of the kind in Clarksburg, and its proprietor, Samuel Walker, Esq., is well known to the traveling public.

The Mountain House is kept by M. W. Ball. Everybody knows "Mack" and he "knows how to keep a hotel," and his house is well patronized.

The St. Charles Hotel is kept by M. A. B. Thorn who has just

entered upon the business under fair auspices, and will prove a pleasant landlord.

The Nutter House, near the depot, derived its name from the proprietor, and is quite a convenience to the traveling public.

Confectioneries

Messrs. Glancy, Mulrooney, Feeney and Mrs. Brennan keep confectionery establishments.

Variety Store

Mr. Richard Pike keeps a variety store in town which we omitted to mention in the proper place.

Sewing Machine Depot

Mr. J. H. Hanson keeps a general depot for the sale of all kinds of sewing machines and sewing machine fixtures on Pike street, adjoining John T. Griffin's store.

Mrs. McGowan also keeps a millinery establishment which we did not notice at the proper place.

We have in Clarksburg four blacksmith shops, one conducted by Mr. John Peck who has been long established in business in Clarksburg, one by Oscar H. Tate, one by Geo. W. Sires & Sons, and one by Bowie & Swartz.

Physicians.

We have eight practicing physicians in town, all well skilled in the art restorative, but unfortunately for their worldly success our people are too healthy to give them constant practice. They are, Drs. Bowcock, McKeehan, Ramsay, Carr, Hunt, Austin, Gittings, Goff, Bosley.

Dentists.

Dr. Van Osten, is a resident dentist of Clarksburg, and is a gentleman well skilled in his profession, and any one standing in need of a dentist's services will find him all they wish. Dr. C. Donaldson is also well skilled in his profession and has been for some time well-known to the people of this vicinity.

Photographer

Mr. G. S. Davis is the only photographer we have in Clarksburg, but he is a skillful artist and gives satisfaction to all who desire correct representations of their "human faces divine."

Lawyers

Clarksburg has no lack of lawyers, and our people who desire

to enter into litigation will find no trouble in procuring counsel. The resident members of the Clarksburg bar are Edwin Maxwell, John J. Davis, Nathan Goff, Jr., Thomas W. Harrison, John Bassell, Caleb Boggess, G. D. Camden, Sr., G. D. Camden, Jr., John S. Carlilr, W. Scott, Lewis Haymond, E. M. Davisson, E. W. Patton, R. S. Gardner, and A. L. Hustead, fifteen in all. Then we have one Judge of the Supreme Court resident in Clarksburg and one Circuit Judge.

Clarksburg has been very lucky in having distinguished men in it. Prior to the war Hon. Geo. H. Lee, a resident of Clarksburg, was one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Virginia. Under the organization of the new State, Hon. William A. Harrison, one of the first Supreme Judges, was a resident of Clarksburg. In 1866, Hon. Edwin Maxwell was elected, who was a resident of Clarksburg, so Clarksburg had the honor of having two of the Supreme Judges until the death of Judge Harrison. In 1872, when Judge Maxwell was engineered out of position by the new Constitution, Judge Hoffman, a resident of Clarksburg was elected. At one time in the history of Clarksburg there was a period of twenty years during which the members of Congress for the Clarksburg District was furnished by Harrison county. Since the organization of the new State Harrison county has furnished a member of Congress for six years.

Clarksburg has among her citizens six United States officers --exclusive of the postmaster--the U. S. District Attorney, Clerk of the U. S. District Court, Deputy U. S. Marshal, two U. S. Commissioners and a Register in Bankruptcy.

THE CLARKSBURG TELEGRAM

Clarksburg, W. Va., Saturday, April 29, 1876

Volume XIV-No. 29

Whole Number 705

HISTORY OF CLARKSBURG and HARRISON COUNTY
from its
Earliest Settlement to the Present Time

CHAPTER X

In closing the history of Clarksburg and Harrison county we feel some regret, for although the labor has been an arduous one, and prosecuted often under disadvantages, yet it has been pleasant, for it has brought us into more intimate acquaintance with our people. We have wandered into the past and gathered whatever we thought would interest the reader. We have given as accurate information as was in our power of our pinneer fathers, and we have endeavored to do justice. We have not "set down aught in malice." When we have noticed a few more matters pertaining to our town and county, and said something more of our enterprising citizens, we will make our bow and retire.

Irs Hart's Energy and Enterprise

In what we have heretofore said of Mr. Hart, we feel that we have not done him full justice, for there are few men possessed of as much energy and who have the same public spirit. Mr. Hart's advantages of aducation were not very great, although he managed to acquire about as much learning as any person in Clarksburg cotemporaneous with him. He would attend school in the morning, and would work each afternoon and Saturday making wool carding machines. He manufactured a great many of them. He began business for himself at twenty-one years of age with a cash capital of fifteen dollars. He began business as a bridge builder. In 1847 he erected the bridge across Elk creek at its mouth which was the first covered truss bridge in Harrison county. Mr. Hart made the first engine lathe ever manufactured or used in the county, and he has it in his possession yet. He made the first threshing machine in the county, and the first thresher and cleaner, which was a machine entirely of his own invention. He had this machine patented, and Messrs. Aultman & Taylor, of Mansfield, Ohio, are manufacturing seven hundred of these machines annually. These machines have never been surpassed and are admirably adapted to the uses for which the inventor designed them. Mr. Hart is the only man in Harrison county who ever built a suspension bridge. The bridge which spans Elk river at Sutton was built by him. The cables of this bridge are six hundred feet in length. He manufactured the first circular saw mill ever made in West Virginia. He made the first steam engine ever made in the State outside of Wheeling. He manufactured the first locomotive ever made in the State. Mr. Hart's manufacture of saw

mills which are very different from any others, are scattered over many portions of the country, and wherever they are introduced, they exclude those of foreign manufacture. Mr. Hart is an original and independent thinker. He marks out his own course and pursues it. It is true that he adopts other men's ideas and plans and frequently adopts them, if they stand the test which he applies to them, but he is progressive and is in advance of the age in which he lives in many things. He has, in his life, advocated measures which others at the time would style utopian, but which future experience demonstrated to be correct. In ANTE BELLUM days Mr. Hart was an anti-slavery man. In this he was thought impractical and visionary, and that he was nursing an utopia, but ere he had arrived at middle age he saw his theories in regard to freedom adopted by the government. In 1859 Mr. Hart advocated political measures which were rejected by his neighbors, but those measures are now in the ascendent. But politics are not his forte, for he is engrossed with manufacturing and inventing new machinery--with railroad enterprises. Such men as Mr. Hart are benefactors of their race. He is yet in the prime of life and will doubtless accomplish much, if permitted to live many years longer. May success crown his efforts, for he deserves it.

John Cain

We much regret that in our former notice of the various businesses of Clarksburg we inadvertently omitted to mention John Cain, one of our standard carpenters and master builders, and many of the elegant dwellings of Clarksburg bear the impress of his mechanical skill and taste.

Other Things About Harrison County

Harrison county has always been distinguished for the ability of its members of the bar. Some of the first lawyers of the State of Virginia in former days lived in Clarksburg, such as Pindall, Lee and numerous others. The Clarksburg bar is now as able as any in the State. In regard to politicians there is a sufficient number in Harrison county now to answer the demand of the State, and such has always been the case. One time in the history of Harrison county it furnished a member of Congress for twenty-four years in succession. At one time a State Senator for thirty years. At the present time Clarksburg and Harrison county have a fair share of the public officials of the State and United States. In our former notice of United States officials we omitted to mention C. H. Wheeler, Esq., who is Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue. T. H. C. Fitzhigh, Esq., of Bridgeport, is also in the Internal Revenue service.

In noticing the manufactories of our county we have not as yet said anything of the pottery business. There is a pottery in Shinnston that turns out large quantities of crockery ware and supplies a large scope of the surrounding country.

C. C. Zinn

Is another one of our public spirited citizens, and till recently did a very large manufacturing business. He is an energetic

public spirited gentleman, and deserves much credit for his enterprise. Mr. Zinn some time ago disposed of his manufacturing establishment with a view of emigrating to California, and spent the recent winter in that State, and returned home a short time since under the impression that West Virginia will compare very favorably with California as a dwelling place for man while he is undergoing his probationary state in this sphere and his numerous friends will be pleased to learn that it is his intention to remain in Clarksburg.

John Peck

Among our good citizens, none stand higher than Mr. Peck. He has long pursued the avocation of a blacksmith in our town and is widely known as a skillful workman and a gentleman of high integrity.

Alpheus W. Pritchard

Mr. Pritchard is one of those gentlemen who never vary from the "even tenor of their way." His path of life is straight and he never deviates from it. He has been very successful in life.

Richard H. Green

Among the good citizens of Harrison county, none are more deserving than Richard H. Green. He is a substantial farmer residing about three miles north of Clarksburg, and is one of our most industrious men and a successful tiller of the soil.

Capt. Timothy F. Roane

Capt. Roane is a citizen of Harrison county, and one who is universally popular. He quite distinguished himself in the late "disturbance" as a Captain of Cavalry. He is a gentleman of excellent capacity, and served as sheriff of Harrison county from 1866 to 1870.

Frederick W. Cunningham

Mr. Cunningham resides in the region of Hessville where we have many of Harrison county's best citizens. He is well informed and now holds the position of Justice of the Peace. He was nominated by the Republicans in 1868 for the House of Delegates but declined. He has been strongly solicited frequently since that time to become a candidate for various positions, but although well posted on political topics, he appears averse to entering public life.

Post Offices in Harrison County

There are Post Offices at Clarksburg, Bridgeport, Shinnston, Adamsville, Prospect Valley, Lumberport, Wilsonburg, Wolf Summit, Cherry Camp, New Salem, Sardis, Brown's Mill, West Milford, Big Buffalo, Kincheloe, Lost Creek, Rockford, Brown's Creek, Johnstown, Romine's Mill, Quiet Dell, Sycamore Dale, and Grassland, twenty-three post offices. It will be seen that the people of our

county are furnished with convenient mail facilities.

The Villages of Harrison County

The largest town or villages in our county with the exception of Clarksburg are Shinnston, West Milford, Bridgeport, Cherry Camp, New Salem, Lumberport, and Rockford, Adamsville, Brown's Creek, Quiet Dell, Brown's Mill, Sardis, Romine's Mills, Rockford and Johnstown, are smaller places. Every community almost in Harrison county has a village and post office in the centre of it.

Education in Harrison County

The people of our county appear to have entered heart and soul into the spirit of education. At the close of the war there was a scarcity of school teachers in our county. It was difficult to procure a sufficient number of teachers to teach the public schools of the county, but since then large numbers of young ladies and gentlemen have educated themselves with a view of teaching, and the supply of competent teachers is now equal to the demand, and we will venture the assertion that there is no county in the State, taken in the aggregate, that has a better corps of teachers of the public schools. Our public school houses are something of which we may justly feel proud. There is in almost every sub-district in the county a comfortable frame school house with all the modern appliances. General intelligence is being diffused among our people. The masses are becoming a reading people. Newspapers are generally taken, and we are keeping pace with the spirit of the age.

The old Randolph Academy had its name changed in 1847 to Northwestern Virginia Academy. The following is a programme of the semi-annual performance of the Academy on the 23d day of September, 1852, while Rev. Gordon Battelle was principal:

ORDER OF EXERCISES

PRAYER

MUSIC

JUNIOR PERFORMANCE

- 1 Nathan Goff, "Temperance," Zeublin
- 2 Meigs Jackson, "The Revolution," Otis
- 3 Charles Ebert, "Hohenlinden," Campbell
- 4 John T. Griffin, "Mortality," Barbauld
- 5 Henry C. Goff, "The Indian," Sprague
- 6 David Hewes, "The Natural and Moral World," Anon.
- 7 G. D. Camden, "Marco Bozarris," Halleck
- 8 R. J. Smith, "Scotland," Flagg
- 9 W. R. Smith, "The Irish Union," Plunkett
- 10 John C. Vance, "South Carolina," Hayne
- 11 Rezin C. Davis, "Massachusetts," Webster

Senior Performance

- 1 Greece, David McCarty, Alleghany Co., Md.

- 2 Our Country, Edwin M. Horrell, Clarksburg
- 3 The Hero, William Warner, Lewis county.
- 4 Hope, Gabriel White, Clarksburg
- 5 War, Morgan F. Pullin, Lewis county
- 6 Power of Mind, George W. Duvall, Weston

BENEDICTION.

The Junior Performance appears to have been declaiming what had been selected from authors, while the Seniors delivered original orations.

County and District Officers

The following is a list of the officers in which the people of Harrison county are interested.

Member of Congress

Col. Benjamin Wilson.

State Senators

Gideon D. Camden, of Harrison county and Charles F. Scott, of Ritchie county.

Members of the House of Delegates

Thomas J. West and W. D. Carlile.

County Officers

Hon. B. Tyson Harmer, President of the County Court; Maj. A. C. Moore, Prosecuting Attorney; F. A. Robinson, Clerk of the Circuit Court and James H. Taylor, Clerk of the County Court. James Monroe, Sheriff. John W. Monroe, Deputy Sheriff. F. M. Brooks and W. W. Boggess, Assessors. J. R. Adams, Superintendent of Free Schools. Thomas Hawker, Surveyor.

The following gentlemen are Commissioners of the Circuit Court: John C. Vance, Timothy F. Roane, E. W. Patton and John R. Boggess.

The following are Commissioners of the County Court: A Werninger, Dr. James Denham, John R. Boggess, and John A. Hursey.

The following is a list of the Justices of the Peace in Harrison county: Coää District, Samuel Walker and Samuel Thompson; Clay, A. W. Shinn and George F. Randall; Clark, Jesse Money Penny and Enoch Tinsman; Eagle, John W. Boggess and Frederick J. Cunningham; Elk, Jas. M. Carpenter and Holdridge C. Kniseley; Grant, L. D. Swisher and Flavius W. Cunningham; Sardis, James M. Plant and Mathew J. Orr; Simpson, Emanuel Benedum and Arthur C. Dever; Ten Mile, James A. Wood and Jesse F. Randolph; Union, Jonathan McPherson and Waldo B. Bond.

The following is a list of the Constables in Harrison county;

Coal, District, C. B. Deison; Clay, Michael D. Martin; Clark, Isaac Ramey and E. N. Rector; Eagle, C. N. Harbert; Elk, Hiram B. Cottrell; Grant, James Paugh; Sardis, Allen Martin and John Q. A. Gerard; Simpson, Thomas H. Kenhy; Ten Mile, James Bumgardner and Hiram Wilson; Union, Joseph Prichard.

There are a number of Notaries Public in Harrison county, but we have not been enabled to get their names. The following gentlemen residing in Clarksburg are Notaries Public: A. Werninger, A.L. Husted, John C. Vance, Lee Haymond, James H. Shuttleworth, Virginus P. Chaplin, F. Y. Hornor, John R. Boggess, Edgar M. Davisson and G. D. Camden, Jr.

There are in Clarksburg two lodges and an encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. There is a Masonic Lodge and also a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. There is a Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Shinnston and also a Masonic Lodge. Among those who occupy prominent positions in the Masonic Order in Clarksburg are Hon. John J. Davis, W. H. Freeman, Dr. J. M. Bowcock, Jacob Edel, Cecil S. Spates and David Watkins. Messrs. Davis, Freeman, Bowcock, Edel and Watkins are actual Past Masters. Cecil S. Spates is High Priest of the Royal Arch Chapter. Messrs. Davis and Freeman are Past Senior Grand Wardens of the State of West Virginia. Jacob Edel is District Deputy Grand Master.

There are several gentlemen in Clarksburg who are prominent in the Order of Odd Fellows. E. A. Peck is now Grand Master of the State of West Virginia. James P. Davis is Past Grand Master. Hon. B. Tyson Harmer, of Shinnston, Past Grand Chaplain. Col. T. S. Spates, Maj. John C. Vance, Mayor Tinsman, Col. John T. Griffin, Alexander Duff and a number of other citizens of our town and county stand high in the order.

The Ladies Benevolent Society

Two or three years ago some of the ladies of Clarksburg organized a Society for the purpose of contributing to the relief of the sick and destitute. Each member was required to pay a small initiation fee and a small weekly stipend. This association has been productive of much good. The ladies who originated this good work were Mrs. John Hodgson, Mrs. Hite, Mrs. J. F. Woods, Mrs. John R. Steel, Mrs. E. Hartman, Mrs. J. H. Hanson, Mrs. J. H. Shuttleworth, Mrs. Ira Hart, Mrs. M. W. Smith, Mrs. J. J. Duncan, and several others. This association still exists and is alive and active.

Clarksburg Literary Society

Several of the citizens of Clarksburg last fall organized themselves into an association styled the Clarksburg Literary Society. As an educator this society has been a success. It meets once a week on Friday evening, and selection and original essays are read and questions discussed. There is a large number of members and the interest in the workings of the society continues, and new members are joining the association.

Among the progressive farmers of Harrison county is

Thomas J. Nixon

who resides on the West Fork, six miles north of Clarksburg. Mr. Nixon has a beautiful farm and takes much pains in cultivating it. He is also a stock man and taken much pains in breeding the best.

Sylvester N. Bartlett

is another good farmer and stock raiser, and has done much to improve the breed of cattle in our county.

James M. McCann

bids fair to become eminently useful among the farmers and stock raisers of our county. He is a young gentleman of energy and is moving in the right direction. He is the corresponding editor of the American Stock Journal, and is well qualified for the position.

Harrison county is rapidly growing in wealth and population. The resources of our county are great. For farming and grazing there is no region of country that can surpass Harrison county, and our people are constantly making improvements. They are mingling more farming with their grazing which is a good thing, because we have need of growing more grain, raising more hogs, growing more potatoes. We have observed that a large amount of money goes out of our county each year for the purchase of bacon, flour and potatoes, all of which Harrison county should produce in sufficient abundance for home consumption, and we are glad to record the fact that our people are becoming alove to their interest in this respect and are increasing the area of their grain fields and enlarging their potato crops and giving more attention to the breeding of hogs.

Old Documents

Some of the most ancient legal papers that can be found in Harrison county are in possession of Peter H. Goodwin of this vicinity who has courteously permitted us to use them in the compilation of this history. These documents consist of bonds, contracts, receipts and mercantile letters. Here is a verbatim copy of the oldest one.

June Ye 15, 1734

Then I sould unto Joseph Hite all my Right and interest of a seartain Lott of Land called Number Eighteen for two pound ten shillings to me in hand paid, as witness my hand ye land lies near head of Opaquen.

Signed,

ISAAC PARKINS.

Then we find a letter addressed to James Buchanan, merchant of Falmouth, Virginia, from Daniel and Alexander Campbell, dated Glaassgow, Scotland, 14th Febryary, 1761. Also one addressed to Messrs. Hite & Buchanan, merchants, Falmouth, Virginia, from Samuel Gildart & Co., Liverpool, dated Sept. 17th, 1771. One dated

London, March 3d, 1772, from Ninian Balletine to James Buchanan, merchant, Falmouth, Virginia. One from Thos. and Robt. Dunlap, Glassgow, Scotland, to the same, dated 14th March, 1757.

In this lot of papers there are many others which are of great interest in showing how writings were got up a century ago.

By the way in speaking of the enterprising farmers of our county we will call attention to Peter H. Goodwin, who owns a beautiful farm in the vicinity of Clarksburg and one which he cultivates with much care, and one which he makes very productive.

We now close our history of Clarksburg and Harrison county. We have labored to instruct and amuse our readers. If we have succeeded in instructing and pleasing them even in a small degree our labor has not been in vain. We are convinced of having committed many errors, but we hope our readers will pardon them. We respectfully make our bow to our readers.

