



# Harrison Heritage News

Published monthly by

Harrison County Historical Society, PO Box 411, Cynthiana, KY 41031

Award of Merit - Publication or Journal, 2007 Kentucky History Awards

February 2008

Vol. 9 No. 2

## “Doctor, Doctor, Give Me the News, Do You Have a Name My Baby Can Use?”

By Philip A. Naff ([philnaff@comcast.net](mailto:philnaff@comcast.net))

Thoughts and stories of romance typically fill the air with every Valentines Day in February. In previous February issues of this newsletter, in discussing romance and the marriage records of Harrison County, it was suggested that true love leaves little proof to be discovered, except for in the form of licenses and certificates now on file in the clerk's archive of old court records. However, the report of this evidence may have been premature as there may yet be more proof to be discovered.

While most physicians must know of the many maladies of the heart and their symptoms, it is not known if any Harrison County doctor ever diagnosed love as a cure. However, he often had to deal with love's after-effects . . . the children! Whether expected or not, the country doctor and physicians of Cynthiana were often there to lend a hand in the delivery of a baby, and even supplied the answer to what might have been the parent's first quandary, what to name the darling little child?

Reportedly, among my own grandmother's family, at least two of her brothers were named for the physicians who helped to deliver them. Henry Howard Elmore (b. 1889) and William Walker Elmore (b. 1891) were both born at Antioch Mills in Harrison County, and while it seems evident that Henry was named for Dr. George L. Howard (1858-1931) who practiced in the vicinity, his younger brother's namesake remains to be discovered in Harrison County (The mysterious Dr. Walker's practice may have been based in a neighboring county). The fact of their namesakes would not have been known to me had it not been told by my great-aunt, their younger sister. Neither Howard nor Walker is a surname which appears anywhere else in my Elmore family tree, and I had always wondered what the source was for their middle names.

Perhaps you, too, have some family members in your own tree who have names which don't quite fit any pattern, or surnames which appear as given names for which there are no established family ties. Might these occurrences represent the presence of a physician at the child's

birth?

Using a variety of resources, a list of nearly two-hundred pre-“Baby Boom” era physicians has been developed and accompanies this article. While close to comprehensive, in some ways the list's use may be limited. As the medical profession up to the beginning of the “Baby Boom” era was dominated by men, the supply of doctor's names given names may necessarily have been limited in its use to boys; however, the names of many males have female counterparts and a physician's surname could be perfectly adaptable as a middle name to babies of both genders. In the world of gentlemen doctors of Harrison County, so far only one female physician's presence in the county has been discovered in the 19th century; her name was Lilly Maffett (b. 1833), an English lady who was last known to be practicing in 1870 in Cynthiana. Dr. Mary C. Boyd has been the only other female physician found in practice in Harrison County before World War II.

While midwives deliver only eight percent of all children born in the United States today, their presence was in much greater demand in the 19th century, yet only one person has been yet been found in Harrison County from 1850 thru 1900 (using U.S. Census records) whose occupation was given as a midwife, Mrs. Sarah Hutcherson (b. ca. 1805 – d. 1860 or later). Undoubtedly, there were more midwives in the county than recorded by official records, and many more were the family members who assisted in the delivery of their nieces, nephews, grandchildren and cousins.

The corps of practicing physicians in Harrison County was also a very white one, with the exceptions of Drs. L.M.V. Wright and Ernest R. Alexander, both African Americans. An African American teenager by the name of Cad Cromwell was described as a “nurse” in the 1870 U.S. Census of the county, and a 10-year-old Belle Rodgers was also enumerated as a “nurse” that year. Given their ages, it seems unlikely that either girl had any formal medical training, but they may have acted as caregivers in

# Harrison County Historical Society

Bob Owen, President  
Billy Fowler, Vice President  
Janie Whitehead, Secretary  
Dorothy Slade, Treasurer  
Bill Penn, editor: pennwma@aol.com

## President's Corner

Bob Owen  
robert\_owen@bellsouth.net

2

**Program Notes -January 17 - Business meeting -** Motion to purchase Rohs restored balcony seat approved. Status of Handy House discussed noting a WCYN poll favored preserving it. *Program - Show and Tell -* Billy Fowler brought an envelope from the 1961 airport dedication; Dorothy Slade had a shelf made by Neville Haley from covered bridge wood; Harold Slade had a spice can with "Slade" bran; Janice Herrington brought old cookie cutters; Kenny Simpson had an old butter paddle; Larry Benson brought a Civil War cannon ball; *Marilynn Bell (below) had a 1939 magazine and family Bible;* Randall Boyers had WWII objects; and Robert Poindexter showed a miniature top hat from Grant's presidential campaign. **Note: Feb. was canceled due to weather; the program speaker has rescheduled for March mtg.**

*(Below) Ed Herrington holds a New Testament carried by his great-uncle in the Civil War who was a Union soldier. He also had copies of papers from another relative who fought with Morgan's Raiders. After the war, the two relatives never spoke to each other again.*



Ed Herrington, Dorothy Slade and Marilyn Bell (bottom right) show family relics at January 17th meeting. Photos, Sharon Fowler



**Correction: Captions for Jan. '08 potluck photos:** Top photo L-R -- Bob Grable, Mary Grable, Virgie Wells & Marilyn Bell; Center photo L-R -- (far left seated) Billy Kelly, (standing) Robert Poindexter, Neville Haley, JT Penn, Adrian Osborne & Harold Slade; Bottom photo L-R -- (front table) Charlene Wilson, Ed Herrington & Janice Herrington; (back table) Robert Poindexter & Col. Douglas Harper.

The recent storm and tornado reeked havoc on some of the older buildings in the county; 18 barns destroyed, 4 with major damage and 3 with moderate damage. Some of these barns date back 75 years or more. Some used mortise and tenon with pegs to form the structure. Except for some timber framing groups, this is almost impossible to replicate today and if you could, the cost would be very high. Most of the barns destroyed will probably not be rebuilt. With many farmers no longer raising tobacco, they would find it hard to justify rebuilding a lost or heavily damaged tobacco barn. The framing and tier rails of the fallen have value. Quality framing could be used to frame a small house or outbuilding. If termites or powderpost beetles have not attacked the wood and it was not cracked/broken in the collapse, then it can be disassembled and stored for reuse. One owner, who I was assisting on Saturday after the storm, was doing just that.

There are timber recyclers, including one at Stafford, KY, who buy the old lumber from tobacco and other old warehouses and process it into flooring. This is an excellent recycling effort and keeps the wood out of landfills/dumps. Another plus is that the owner can be paid for the wood. So if you have an old barn that you do not need, you might consider contacting a recycler to see if they would be interested.

The Rohs Opera House operators are trying to restore the original seats in the balcony. They are asking for \$60 donations (actual cost) that will restore one seat and will include a brass plate on the seat with the name of the donor. A motion was passed to donate \$60 to restore a balcony seat and the Society encourages others to do the same.

Switching gears, I want to address membership. To be viable, the society must grow. I challenge each member to recruit additional members. Invite extended family, relatives, friends, and acquaintances to become members of the society. To get them interested, take them to the museum and let them see the wonderful work the officers and supporters have done to preserve some of our local heritage. At \$12 per year per family, the society is an affordable endeavor.

In closing, I want to thank the Cynthiana Democrat for reprinting an article from last month's newsletter and for their generous support to many other community efforts.

### Harrison History Calendar -

March 20 - HCHS - Heather Ladick, Zeppelin Threads  
April 5 - Northern KY Regional History Day, program at: [www.nku.edu/~hisgeo/historyday/](http://www.nku.edu/~hisgeo/historyday/) HCHS is assoc. member.  
April: 11-13 - Battle of Cynthiana Reenactment Elk's Farm.  
April 17 - HCHS monthly meeting - program TBA  
April 19 - Raggedy Ann Festival.  
May 24 - Grist Mill Days.

## February in the Museum - Valentines, Veterans, and Raggedy Ann

Although February is our shortest month, it is filled with special days - everything from Groundhog Day to Leap Year Day. Some are traditional holidays, some legal holidays. Have you ever tried explaining that or the word holiday to a child?

Many of our museum faithful would attest to this thought - "Valentine's Day is a lifetime spent together." We know that two of our couples celebrated significant anniversaries recently. In December, the Slades celebrated fifty-five years of marriage - and Jack and Nora McCauley, sixty-seven years. Yet another couple of dedicated volunteers, Stella and Donald Hill, will observe their fiftieth anniversary this February.

"Each happiness of yesterday is a memory for tomorrow." Throughout the museum, there are tributes to lasting love. Our clothing display contains several bridal dresses. We have a photograph of Louise Smiser Shawhan in her dress worn in 1901. Another beautiful dress in our collection was worn by Nannie Penn in 1890. Addie Eveleth Phillips wore a dress of burgundy color instead of the traditional white or ecru. We also have a dress worn by an unknown bride.

Veterans have contributed to our collection of remembrance and caring. Noteworthy are Harold Slade's heart-shaped necklace and bracelet made from a New Guinea coconut shell, 1944. Stanley Cordray Jr. created a shell purse in Guam, 1944, for his aunt Nora.

Of course, our amazing collection of Civil War letters are lasting testimonies of faithfulness. On February 15, 1863, William Jones writes to his wife, "That valentine hit the mark first rate as I received it one morning as I came off guard. Oh dear, if I was home again I'd never leave my wife" and on the next day, February 16, he writes, "Tomorrow will be the 2 anniversary of our wedding. What a change there has been in that time. I am sorry that I ever volunteered... I dreamed of seeing you last night and it was a very happy meeting which I hope is a forerunner of what will be soon."

As a teacher, I remember attempting to convince the children that Valentine's Day did not have to be all about romantic love (that "mushy stuff" they called it) - rather caring and affection for family, friends, and neighbors. However, the media would have them think otherwise.

Charles, duc d'Orleans is said to have created the first Valentine. After the battle of Agincourt in 1415, he was imprisoned in the Tower of London. From there he sent his wife rhymed love letters or valentine poems. Valentine cards in America date to at least the early 19th century.

Our museum valentines come from the collections of Sue Toadvine Dailey, Elizabeth Barlow, and Helen Jean Wiglesworth. Some of these are dated from the early 1900's. With delicate artwork and verse, they truly are unlike today's valentines.

Hearts also remind us of our Raggedy Ann and Andy display. In one of her books about Raggedy and Johnny Gruelle, Pat Hall writes, "In giving his storybook doll a heart, Gruelle (either unwittingly or with the sense of humor for which he was known) launched a tenacious legend that would be repeated again and again as factual history; that the first Raggedy Ann doll prototypes made by the Gruelle family in 1915 possessed actual candy hearts with 'I Love You' printed on them."

This year's Raggedy Ann and Andy Festival in Cynthiana will be on Saturday, April 19, 2008. Johnny Gruelle's granddaughter, Joni will be in attendance.

When most of us were in school, we honored Abraham Lincoln and his birthday on February 12 and George Washington on February 22. Now, of course, we have Presidents' Day in February to honor all United State Presidents.

February 12, 2008 marks the beginnings of the nation's and the Commonwealth's bicentennial commemoration of Lincoln's birth. Robert Poindexter has on display at the museum several significant items related to Lincoln. We shall focus on them as well as other Lincoln connections to our community in subsequent issues of HHN. The William Kelly family have scheduled and are planning our eleventh Museum Grist Mill Day. Yet again, we have made arrangements for Jim Sayre - the great Abraham Lincoln pretender - to be with us on May 24 for Museum Grist Mill Day. Those of you who receive Blue Grass Energy's Kentucky Living magazine may have read about Mr. Sayre in the January issue.

If you as a HHN subscriber live nearby, please come visit the museum. The Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum is open on Fridays and Saturdays, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

some capacity. From 1850 thru to 1900 these girls were the first two African Americans whose recorded occupations in the census even suggested any kind of medical knowledge.

The story of one physician peaked my interest with regards to compiling this article: Dr. James Webber Baird. He attended public school in Harrison County as a youth and was third in his class at Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery. He began his practice in the Rutland community in Harrison County March 1, 1889; just a year later he moved to Scott County, where he lived at Sadieville, just across the county line from Harrison County. Riding horseback until 1913, when he bought a Ford, he retired in 1953 as one of the nation's oldest active physicians. In addition to that feat, it was reported that at one point in his career he estimated that he had delivered some 2,000 babies! (No doubt some of those babies were Harrison County natives, but I do not know if any were named for him.)

The list of Harrison County physicians is still very much a work-in-progress; no doubt a few names have been left off and more details are needed to fill in the stories of the lives of these men and women. Do you have any names of Harrison County physicians whose names need to be added to this list, or do you have any more information than that which appears below? If you do, please contact me at [philnaff@comcast.net](mailto:philnaff@comcast.net) or write to me at 4716 Andover Square, Indianapolis, IN 46226. Updates of this list, along with whatever additional discoveries can be made about the physicians who served the county's residents in the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries will be posted in the future at [www.HarrisonCountyKy.US/births/](http://www.HarrisonCountyKy.US/births/).

Known dates of birth and death for each physician follow their name. Several medical students were discovered in the county in the 19th century, usually in their early twenties, and so one should take this age as a starting point for the beginning of the practice of any physician. Identification of these physicians has been made through a variety of sources, sometimes simply by finding the appellation of "Dr." before their name, and so, as a result, some ministers, spiritualists, optometrists, dentists and other educated professionals were originally added . . . and eventually eliminated as more information was found about each of them (Those with an asterisk after their name are known doctors, but not necessarily physicians). So, if you should feel that your research was named for "Dr. So-and-so" listed below, and that he should turn out to be a veterinarian, don't be too surprised. However, if found to be true, it would make for a very interesting story!

### **Sick Call: The Physicians of Harrison County Before World War II**

Abraham (Abram) Ad(d)ams (1800 - 1883); John Adair (ca. 1829 - 1860>); William H. Adair (ca. 1822/23 - 1860>);

James B. Adams (1862 - 1908); Ernest R. Alexander (1886/7 - 1951); James Webber Baird (ca. 1866 - 1957); Thomas W. Baltzell(e) (1809 - 1892); Benjamin F. Barclay (ca. 1822 - 1850>); Charles M. (Charley) Barkley (1854/5 - 1913); Joseph (Joe) Barkley (1820 - 1896); Harry Preston Bassett\* (1878 - 1939); James Roberts/Orr Batson (1856 - 1925); John D. Batson (1824 - 1901); Andrew Jackson Beale (1831 - 1909); Grover Athey Beckett (1885 - 1933); J.F. Bell (1831 - 1862); Henry Clay Blount (1880 - 1964); George William Booher (1892 - 1918); E.B. Bowles (1865 - 1900>); Joseph (Joe) Boyd (1863 - 1910); M.W. Boyd (ca. 1822 - 1850>); Mary C. Boyd\* (? - 1931); Montgomery Boyd\* (? - 1886); Jacob Boyers, Jr. (ca. 1872 - 1900); David Franklin Brannock (1823 - 1890); S.E. Broadwell\* (1821 - 1861); William Anderson Brock (1837 - 1915); Henry Walter Bromley\* (ca. 1879 - 1957); Kenneth Walker Brumback (1900 - 1966); Edwin A. Butterfield (ca. 1823 - 1850>); William H. Carr (1853/63 - 1947); John Poyntz Chamberlin (1869 - 1957); William Clark (1828 - 1900>); Charles M. Clifford (1867 - 1913); Edward Clifford (1865 - 1948); Alpheus Conner (1841 - 1899); Asbury A. Crow (ca. 1840 - 1860>); William H. Curran (1830 - 1893); Samuel Davis\* (ca. 1849 - 1874); Jack Desha (1854 - 1899); N.S. Dill (ca. 1829 - 1860>); Nehemiah C. Dille (1819 - 1881); Malcolm Dills (ca. 1850 - 1870>); Paul Douglas (1825 - 1907); Samuel Douglas (ca. 1819 - 1870>); [Unknown] Duncan (Unknown); [Unknown] Durst\* (Unknown); Herschel Mortimer Earle (1862 - 1935); L.T. Ecklar (Unknown); Thomas J. Edwards (ca. 1842 - 1870>); Elmer Nelson Estes (1883 - 1951); J.W. (or F.M.?) Ferguson\* (1859 - 1906); Charles Ford (ca. 1826 - 1850>); Major S. Foster (1907 - 1977); Hubbard Williams Frazer (1827 - 1860); Joel C. Frazer (ca. 1797 - 1863); Francis Pitt (Frank) Garrard (1859/69 - 1930); Benjamin G. Gillespie (1870 - 1924); Lamme S. Givens (1866 - 1923); Wallace Godfrie (ca. 1833 - 1880>); Frank Gray (ca. 1859 - 1880>); D.W.C. (or Dr. W.C.?) Gregg (ca. 1830 - 1860>); Merlyn E. Grisso\* (1915 - 1975); William Hall\* (? - 1897); [Unknown] Harmon (Unknown); Joseph H. Hawkins (ca. 1813 - 1850>); Thackeray W. (Thacker) Hedges (1826 - 1897); [Unknown] Hendershot (Unknown); Cambre Hendricks (ca. 1836 - 1870>); George F. Henry (ca. 1854/5 - 1939); James P. Henry (1819 - 1896>); John Henry (ca. 1827 - 1870>); O.C. Henry (Unknown); James A. Henshall (ca. 1838 - 1880>); J. Henry Heuser (1866 - 1943); John A. Hickman (1827 - 1900>); Sylvester P. Hilman, Jr. (ca. 1818-20 - 1880>); Robert Hobday (ca. 1833 - 1860>); David Holt (Unknown); Joseph Holt (Unknown); George L. Howard (1858 - 1931); George Richard Huffman (1896 - 1970); L.D. Huffman (1854 - 1911); Nathan J. Hughes (ca. 1854 - 1880>); Floyd Edgar Hull\* (1896 - 1965); A.H. Inness\* (Unknown - 1873); James Cassidy Keller\* (1908 - 1976); Joseph T. Keller\* (1913 - 1972); Charles Hill Kendall (1869 - 1936); Donald F. Kerr (1919 - 1980); John

Kimbrough (Unknown - 1849); John A. Kirkpatrick (ca. 1825 - 1860>); W. Ada Lail\* (ca. 1855 - 1916); John A. Lair (ca. 1836 - 1884); Robert Henry Lang (1860 - 1918); William Thomas Lee\* (1917 - 1992); Roland A. Leslie\* (1917 - 1970); Charles Leuba (ca. 1846-8 - 1880>); H.C. LeVesque (1852 - 1902); [Unknown] Linville (Unknown); James P. Madison (1821 - 1899); Lilly Maffett (ca. 1833 - 1870>); Thomas Magee (Unknown - 1849); B.M. Manning (1878 - 1951); Robert Y. Manning (ca. 1843 - 1880>); Edward/Edna W. Martin (ca. 1845 - 1880>); Josephus Martin (1861 - 1942); William Henry Martin (1830 - 1923); [Unknown] McCloud (Unknown); Hervey McDowell (1835 - 1901); Marshall McDowell (1872 - 1939); Arthur McGill (ca. 1843 - 1880>); Edgar Stanley McIlvain (1879 - 1962); Archie T. McLaurin (Unknown); Andrew McMillin (Unknown); Samuel McMillin (Unknown); Richard Taliaferro McMurtry\* (1903 - 1980); M.J. McNeeley (Unknown); William T. McNees (1818 - 1901); James McPheeters (1765 - 1799); Elsworth I. McVey (1863 - 1929); Harrison Meek (1857 - 1900>); Jno. R. Mickey (ca. 1819 - 1870>); Henry Hatcher Moody (1904 - 1975); Nimrod Woodford Moore (1857 - 1943); William Benham Moore (1868 - 1955); Augustus Murray (Unknown); Thomas Hayden Nelson (1867 - 1949); [Unknown] Offett (Unknown); John Shanks Oldham (1860 - 1923); William Oldham\* (ca. 1861 - 1923); D.L. Ormsby (1822 - 1853); David C. Patterson (1866 - 1900>); Joseph M. (Joe) Patterson\* (1865 - 1926/7); George H. Perrin (1794 - 1891); Joseph(us) Perrin (1841 - 1933); Lewis Perrin (ca. 1809 - 1870>); Bailey Bannister Petty (1859/68 - 1925); Samuel T. Phillips (1830 - 1893); William French Phillips (1856 - 1914); James D./M. Poyntz (ca. 1837 - 1880>); Robert McClellan Rankin (1861 - 1928); William Ratcliff (ca. 1824/5 - 1880>); Jno. W. Redmon (ca. 1837 - 1860>); John Milton Rees (1872 - 1962); John R. Renaker (1872 - 1900>); [Unknown] Reynolds (Unknown); Henry Gilbert Reynolds\* (1872 - 1948); James P. Reynolds (1892 - 1965); Charles Rothe Rice (1881 - 1927); George W. Righter\* (1844 - 1916); John H. Righter (1825 - 1897); Thomas Megibben Righter (1876 - 1924); Jno. M. Risk (ca. 1832 - 1870>); Jno. F. Robinson (ca. 1826 - 1870>);

Grover H. Ross (1884 - 1964); Hudson Rutherford (ca. 1815 - 1874); James W. Rutherford (ca. 1849 - 1870>); Mark D. Sanford (1869 - 1950); [Unknown] Scott, Sr. (Unknown); Ot(t)is B. Scott (1868 - 1902); William H./N. Scott (1840 - 1899); Harmon Tod Smiser, Jr. (1906 - 1985); Harmon Tod Smiser, Sr. (1877 - 1922); John Harmon Smiser (1838/9 - 1902); Edith Smith\* (1875 - 1966); Granville Smith (ca. 1818 - 1880>); Higgins C. Smith\* (1847 - 1906); John Newton Smith (ca. 1802 - 1870>); Robert Smith (ca. 1835 - 1860>); Thomas D. Smith (ca. 1834 - 1870>); W.O. Smith (ca. 1831 - 1860>); Richard A. Sprake\* (1871 - 1956); Charles H. Stewart (1856 - 1888); W.T. Stewart (Unknown); Wallace Stewart (1868 - 1948); John M. Stone (ca. 1850 - 1880>); John Sutton (ca. 1812 - 1850>); Senica Sutton (ca. 1836 - 1860>); Charles Lewis Swinford (1885 - 1951); John H. Switzer (ca. 1838 - 1880>); Septimus Taylor (Unknown); Jno. R. Thornton (ca. 1819 - 1870>); [Unknown] Timberlake (Unknown - 1828); George R.C. Todd (ca. 1784 or 1824 - 1850>); Lawrence Newton Todd (1890 - 1955); [Illegible] Tomas (ca. 1843 - 1870>); George L. Truax (1841 - 1880>); John Harlan Van Deren (1871 - 1915); H.T. Vanhook (1840 - 1892); James T. Ware\* (? - 1930); Joseph Ezra Wells (1860 - 1938); Nathan Wells (1844 - 1919); W.D. Williams\* (1855 - 1910); C.C. Wills (ca. 1847 - 1880>); James M. Wilson\* (ca. 1841 - 1923); Joseph Monroe Withers (1934 - 1966); R.W. Wood (1873 - 1913); James Woodford (ca. 1829 - 1880>); David Woodruff (ca. 1791/2 - 1860>); Henry W.A. Worthen (1814 - 1883>); L.M.V. Wright (1864-1902); John Peter Wyles (1881 - 1964).

Sources: 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1900 U.S. Censuses of Harrison Co., Ky.; W. H. Perrin, *History of Bourbon, Scott, Harrison, and Nicholas Counties, Kentucky* (1882), Lucinda Boyd, *Chronicles of Cynthiana* (1894), *Physicians of Harrison County, Kentucky* (1976), Eric C. Nagle & Larry L. Ford, *100 Cemeteries of Harrison County, Kentucky* (1992), Battle Grove Cemetery burial records from 1869 to the present; articles from *The Cynthiana Democrat* and *The Log Cabin*, along with various biographies and obituaries from various other histories.

## Harrison County Genealogy Queries:

**FOOKS/TOADVINE/CRISWELL** - I am descendant of Zepporah Fooks through her daughter Mary Ellen Toadvine Slade, her daughter Emily Slade Criswell, her daughter Martha Ellen Criswell Eaton, her daughter (my maternal grandmother) Dora Jemes Eaton who married David S. Criswell, their daughter Rosetta Criswell who is my mother. I have not been able to go back further that my grandfather Criswell on the Criswell side - I am seeking suggestions? I am a writer and am researching for a story regarding the **Fooks/Toadvines** trek on the Daniel Boone trail. Any insight or suggestions would be greatly appreciated. My father's family (Tanner) settled in Germanna Colonies and took the same trail west to Boone County Kentucky. Oh, I do have one of the original "Fooks Family" by Herbert C. Fooks signed by Herbert, in my possession that has given me valuable information.

Gin-Nie Tanner Smith, 520 N. Elam Avenue, Greensboro NC 27403, e-mail: virginia.smith@mosescone.com

## Dr. Bailey Bannister Petty: Country Doctor in Renaker, Ky.



(Left) Dr. Bailey Petty is shown with (right to left) his wife Emma Jane Coleman Petty, daughter Lottie Petty, and unidentified maid. Dr. Petty lived in Renaker, Ky. Photo, ca. 1903, courtesy of the late Bailey Smith.

Below is a biographical sketch of Dr. Petty from: Connelley, William Elsey, *History of Kentucky*, Vol. I-V, Chicago & New York: American Historical Society, 1922, Vol. IV, pp. 297-8:

BAILEY BANNISTER PETTY, M.D. For considerably more than a third of a century Doctor Petty has discharged his responsibilities as a physician and surgeon in the community at Renaker in Harrison County, where he is esteemed as a friend and counsellor [sic] as well as a thoroughly able professional man.

Doctor Petty was born near Independence, Kenton County, Kentucky, October 3, 1859, the family having been identified with Kenton County since pioneer days. His grandfather, Jesse Petty, settled there on coming from Virginia. He married a Miss Stevens. Dudley Petty, father of Doctor Petty, was born in the same locality, and married Amanda Bannister, and there they spent all their married lives on a farm. Of their children four are still living: Dr. Bailey B; Dr. Charles Petty, of Independence, Kentucky; O.O. and Atwood E., both farmers in Kenton County.

Dr. Bailey B. Petty grew up on the farm, supplementing his advantages in the public schools by attending the Central Indiana Normal College at Danville. He entered the Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati, graduating in 1884, and early in 1885 began his professional career at Renaker. He has found his duties and responsibilities in this one locality, and has never considered seeking a larger city nor has he desired any reputation beyond that of a painstaking and successful country practitioner. He is a member of the Harrison County, State, and American Medical Associa-

tions. He has enjoyed a profitable practice and owns 320 acres of farm land in Harrison County.

On May 28, 1884, Doctor Petty married Emma Jane Coleman, who grew up on a farm adjoining that of her husband. Doctor and Mrs. Petty are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of which he is one of the Official Board. He is a past master of Mullen Lodge No. 296, F. and A.M., and has attended the sessions of the Grand Lodge. Politically he is a democrat. [Died, 1925]



(Above) Charley Hayes, standing, worked for Dr. Petty. Child unidentified. In background is Dr. Petty's house in Renaker, Ky. Photo, ca. 1920, courtesy of the late Bailey Smith, who provided photo captions.

# The Genealogy Box



A supplemental newsletter for genealogy and family history research in Harrison County, Kentucky.

By Philip Naff  
([philnaff@comcast.net](mailto:philnaff@comcast.net))

## “Free at Last, Free at Last, Genealogy is Free at Last!”

The census, certificates, and cemeteries. These are three things with which many genealogists like to spend a lot of their time. All start with a “c” and an “e” and so does “cents,” as in “dollars and cents,” which are two things genealogists don’t like to spend! Many of us love the joys of genealogy and the priceless discoveries to be found, however, like the people in the credit card commercials, genealogists usually have to spend a good bit to get that that level of “priceless” appreciation . . . but not always.

This article is written to help you save a few of those cents as you start digging around for your roots in Harrison County and elsewhere. This isn’t a comprehensive list of freebies, but it does offer examples of offerings to get you going. Most of these featured items aren’t intended to do your work for you,

but to make it a little easier and to save you money you might have spent had you not known about them. There is a basic cost, however, and that is you have to make the effort to “get free,” which will require that you have some kind of computer and internet access, whether in your home, a friend’s, or at a local library. Software from [Adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) may be a required download to view and print many of the following suggestions . . . but don’t worry, the software is free!

**Free Publications!:** U.S. Census records are the preeminent record source used in reconstructing family relationships, and a good understanding of how and why the records were gathered is vital to getting the most information out of them. The U.S. Commerce Department comes to the rescue with a free book all about the U.S. Census entitled *Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses from 1790 to 2000*, a 149-page book (PDF) which can be downloaded in full or in parts. Just go to [www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/ma.html](http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/ma.html).

One of the first sad lessons learned in researching a genealogy is the fact that so many small family cemeteries have been destroyed in Kentucky. Many centuries-old cemeteries which were documented just after World War II are no longer to be seen or found because of neglect or development. If you want to develop a sense of how and why conditions are so bad with some Kentucky cemeteries, or why you can’t find the graves of your ancestors you might want to read the December, 2001 final report of the Task Force on the Preservation of Kentucky Cemeteries. Just visit the website of Kentucky’s Attorney

General and click on “Task Force’s final report (<http://ag.ky.gov/consumer/cemetery.htm>)

The Kentucky Historical Society offers a 174-page “Table of Contents for the Full Run of *Kentucky Ancestors*” at [http://history.ky.gov/pdf/Publications/Ky\\_Ancestors\\_Contents100507.pdf](http://history.ky.gov/pdf/Publications/Ky_Ancestors_Contents100507.pdf). You can search the document by county of interest or surname, but of course, the content runs deeper than these tables, so don’t give up on this magazine too quickly.

**Free Research Guides and Indexes!:** The Fort Wayne-Allen County Public Library ([www.acpl.lib.in.us](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us)) in Fort Wayne, Indiana is the second largest repository of genealogical research materials to be found in the United States, after the Genealogical Library in Salt Lake City and is a wonderful place to go on a genealogy trek. To help you find your way, they have published a series of research guides called “Pathfinders” on topics such as the U.S. Census, newspaper research, adoptions, as well as with several guides to help with ethnic research. Just go to the library’s home page, click on genealogy, and a list of publications appears to the left of the library’s “Genealogy Center” online.

A 43-page “Research Outline” for genealogy research in Kentucky is provided by the LDS’ Family History Library in Salt Lake City and is available online from [FamilyResearch.org](http://FamilyResearch.org). Go to [www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/rg/images/31054\\_Kentucky.pdf](http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/rg/images/31054_Kentucky.pdf) to download and print the guide. Several such “research outlines” are available for other states as well at [FamilyResearch.org](http://FamilyResearch.org).

Websites of federal agencies, such as the National Archives, are logical sources of guides to help the genealogist or local historian in his quest. Other agencies which aren't necessarily the first to come to mind to the genealogist have interesting offerings as well. For instance, if your grandfather was a postman, like mine, you be interested to know that the U.S. Postal Service offers a guide (Publication 119) entitled *Sources of Historical Information on Post Offices, Postal Employees, Mail Routes, and Mail Contractors* ([www.usps.com/cpim/ftp/pubs/pub119.pdf](http://www.usps.com/cpim/ftp/pubs/pub119.pdf)).

**Free Maps!:** You don't have to spend a lot on gas to get to a rest stop in Kentucky for a free road map, or any other kind of map of Kentucky, for that matter. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Division of Planning website ([www.planning.kytc.ky.gov/maps.asp](http://www.planning.kytc.ky.gov/maps.asp)) has a comprehensive selection of current maps online, including some of the most up-to-date roadmaps available for each of the 120 individual counties of Kentucky. The county maps are also available from the University of Kentucky at <http://ukcc.uky.edu/maps/>.

Two more sites for Kentucky maps which are must-sees are the Kentucky Geographic Network (<http://kygeonet.ky.gov/>) and the Digital Ortho Image Download Center (<http://kymartian.ky.gov/doqq/>).

Many a local library, such as the Kenton County Public Library, has developed an online "Digital Library" ([www.kenton.lib.ky.us/gen/diglib/](http://www.kenton.lib.ky.us/gen/diglib/)). The Kenton County library offers historic 19th and 20th century atlases and maps for Northern Kentucky, among other types of

documents, that you can print out at home.

Instead of purchasing detailed topographical maps from the U.S. Geological Service, you can go to [TopoZone.com](http://TopoZone.com) and access all parts of the United States from your desk.

If you can't find your way around Kentucky after visiting these sites, you are lost in more ways than one!

**Free Forms and Charts!:** Several genealogy websites such as [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com), [Genealogy.com](http://Genealogy.com), [www.FamilyTreeMagazine.com](http://www.FamilyTreeMagazine.com), [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) and many other online companies too numerous to mention offer many types of forms for you to use as you make progress with your family research: ancestral charts, research calendars, research extracts, correspondence records, family group sheets, U.S. Census forms, and many other types of forms are available from their websites. All you have to do is to select and download a PDF file of the form you need, and either print as many as you need from your computer or print a single copy to use as a template to photocopy from later.

CyndisList.com offers many links to freebie forms offered online. Just go to [www.cyndislist.com/supplies.htm](http://www.cyndislist.com/supplies.htm) and scroll down to "Online Charts & Forms to Print or Download."

Many of the offerings are from Ancestry.com; to access them directly go to their home page, click on the "Learning Center" tab, then click on "Get Started" on the next page you will find "Starter Tools" under which is the heading "Charts & Forms." Pick and click and you are on your way to "free."

[HeritageQuestOnline.com](http://HeritageQuestOnline.com), an invaluable resource especially for accessing old histories and

genealogies now out of copyright protection which have been scanned, digitized, and indexed at their site. I was once on the verge of mailing a \$60 check for a copy of the 608-page Garr genealogy (*Genealogy of the descendants of John Gar, or more particularly his son, Andreas Gaar, who emigrated from Bavaria to America in 1732*), but discovered in the nick of time that it was available through Heritage Quest's online service. One can copy portions or complete volumes from the site, but of course, you ultimately have to pay for the ink to have them printed up at your library or at home.

## Genealogy News in the News!

**Kentucky Genealogical Society Installs New Officers:** At the last meeting of the Kentucky Genealogical Society in Frankfort on January 12, the newly elected officers of the KGS were installed, including Harrison County native, Oddville High and U.K. graduate, genealogy enthusiast, and retired Air Force officer, Col. Doug Harper. Elected as one of three a "Members at Large" his first assignment is to arrange for the program of the KGS's annual seminar in August.

**The Rebirth of *Kentucky Ancestors*:** Anne Rogers, KHS Director of Public Relations & Marketing, reports that "the next issue of *Kentucky Ancestors* is currently in pre-press production with an anticipated publication date in March." She also notes that the KHS "is committed to provide each member who chose *Kentucky Ancestors* as a benefit at least four issues of the quarterly publication, even if it means extending the term of their annual membership."

*Join Today or Renew Your Membership in the*

# Harrison County Historical Society

Visit us on the web at [www.harrisoncountyky.us/historical-society/](http://www.harrisoncountyky.us/historical-society/)

Membership includes an **informative monthly newsletter** with original articles focusing on the people, places, and historic events of Harrison County's past, along with reports of the **monthly meetings** of the historical society, as well as news of exhibits and events at the Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum. And, of course, membership includes **an open invitation** to attend all of the society's meetings and events in Cynthiana.

***Dues are only . . .***

**\$12 per household per year (Jan. thru Dec.)**

*If you have any questions you can write to:*

**The Harrison County Historical Society**  
**P.O. Box 411**  
**Cynthiana, KY 41031**

*or e-mail:*

**Bob Owen** ([robert\\_owen@bellsouth.net](mailto:robert_owen@bellsouth.net))  
*President, Harrison County Historical Society*

**William A. Penn** ([pennwma@aol.com](mailto:pennwma@aol.com))  
*Editor, Harrison Heritage News*

***Why have others joined the society?***

*Some members have just recently become residents of the county, while others have family ties that go back to the county's establishment. Many others join from afar (three of every seven members reside outside of the county) having discovered that Harrison County was once home to their ancestors, aunts, uncles, or cousins. All would like to learn more about family and local history, and of efforts to preserve and document that history. Libraries and other historical societies are members, too, helping to preserve and to pass on the word of the "goings-on" of the Harrison County Historical Society.*

***Please Join by Sending In This Form Today!***

**Read past issues of our award-winning newsletter, the *Harrison Heritage News*, at**  
**[www.harrisoncountyky.us/harrison-heritage-news/](http://www.harrisoncountyky.us/harrison-heritage-news/)**

---

***Please make me a member of the Harrison County (Ky.) Historical Society in 2008!***

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address / PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, & ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Genealogy (Surname) or Local History Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments or Suggestions? (Continue on back, if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

If you are new member, please check here \_\_\_\_\_. If you are renewing, please check here \_\_\_\_\_.

If offered, would you prefer to receive the monthly newsletter via e-mail (pdf)? Yes / No (Circle one).

**Personal checks & money orders accepted. Please return this form to the  
Harrison County (Ky.) Historical Society, P.O. Box 411, Cynthiana, KY 41031**