



Harrison Heritage News

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THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.—DRAWN BY A. R. WARD.—(SEE PAGE 467.)

“The Freedmen’s Bureau,” illustration from the July 25, 1868, Harper’s Weekly, which depicts a man, representing the Freedman’s Bureau, standing between white men unhappy with the granting of rights to the freed slaves. Source: commons.wikimedia.org.

Justice for Former Slaves: The Freedmen’s Bureau Cynthiana, Ky., Field Office - 1866

Bill Penn

During southern Reconstruction after the Civil War, the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (the Freedmen’s Bureau) was established in the War Department in March 1865 to “undertake the relief effort and the unprecedented social reconstruction that would bring freed people to full citizenship. It issued food and clothing, operated hospitals and temporary camps, helped locate family members, promoted education, helped freedmen legalize marriages, provided employment, supervised labor contracts, provided legal representation, investigated racial confrontations, settled

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Harrison County Historical Society

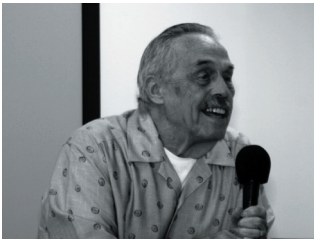
Billy Fowler, President
Bob Owen, Vice President
Marilynn Bell, Secretary
Dorothy Slade, Treasurer
Bill Penn, editor: pennwma@aol.com

July 15, 2010 Meeting Program Notes -

During a brief business meeting, President Billy Fowler read a report of the Kentucky Heritage Council drafting a letter to the city and county regarding the archeological survey of the Handy House. Billy Fowler reminded everyone that the Museum would celebrate an anniversary on July 23 and 24 with a silent auction featuring an afghan crocheted by Helen Jean Wiglesworth and a copy of *Rattling Spurs and Broad Brimmed Hats*- the out of print book by Bill Penn. The Museum will be featured on the Coffee Break radio program on Friday, July 23rd.

Also, members were encouraged to support the Art Walk on July 30 and 31. The next regular meeting of the Historical Society, August 19, will feature Show and Tell for the program.

Program: Kevin Stonerock both entertained and informed through skits and songs of the history of steamboats in particular and four different characters representing the personages who would have plied their trades on the Ohio River. (Submitted by Marilyn Bell, secretary).



(left) June Historical Society speaker, retired Justice Department agent Jerry Dailey.

Photo, Sharon Fowler



(right) One of the fine architectural elements of the Handy House is the fanlight window over a pair of paneled doors in the parlor. The window has been removed for repair in this photo, ca. 1990, by Bill Penn.

Harrison County History Calendar

- Jul 30 - Art Walk downtown Cynthiana
- Aug 19 - Historical Society Meeting - Show and Tell program
- Sept 16 - Historical Society Meeting - Meet at Wayne and Phyllis Stafford's log cabin. (see President's column this page)

President's Corner

Billy Fowler
billyfowler@kymail.com

I will start this column by once again reporting on the progress of the long term lease of the Handy House to the Harrison County Historical Society. At my last report the Archaeological Survey had been completed and was awaiting review by the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC). KHC has completed their review and issued a letter to the local governments. The next step in the process is a meeting with representatives of the City Commission, the County Fiscal Court, their surveyor and me. This meeting is scheduled for later this week. I will report next month on the outcome of this meeting and any further developments that may occur.

Moving on I would like to remind everyone of the Show-and-Tell scheduled for the August Historical Society meeting. I know there are members that have not attended one of these. You have no idea of the fun you have been missing out on. We schedule two of these each year as a way to allow members and non-members to participate informally. We simply gather around and take turns showing off some item that we bring in. Some people feel they do not have an item to show. That is alright! Just come and see what everyone else brings. Chances are you will not only enjoy the discussion but will also likely be reminded of something you can bring next time.

September will be another special meeting. We will once again meet at Wayne and Phyllis Stafford's log cabin. We had an excellent meeting there last year and they have made additions to the cabin since that meeting. Along with enlarging the structure and adding air-conditioning Wayne and Phyllis have also added several antiques. It is easy to find, go west on US 36 to Breckenridge then turn right on Dutch Chapel Road. Their driveway is about 1 1/2 miles on the right at mailbox number 1432.

We hope to see everyone at both of these upcoming meetings and bring a friend.



(left) Courthouse clock tower. Photo, 1959, Bill Penn.

Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum

Martha Barnes, President www.cynthiana-harrisoncountymuseum.org.

Museum Celebrates 16th Anniversary

All of us at the museum truly were pleased with the numbers of July visitors. On July 23 and 24, we celebrated our 16th anniversary. Hosts Doug Miller and Betty Gayle from WCYN's morning Coffee Break Show broadcast from the museum on Friday. Since our opening in July 1994, the staff of WCYN has hosted a program to celebrate our anniversary and to recognize our volunteers. Part of our museum collection includes the first control board from WCYN. We appreciate the continuous support of our hometown radio station.

As well, we are grateful to the staff of The Cynthiana Democrat. With the initial plans to open a museum, the Democrat has supported and promoted the Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum since its beginning. We appreciate the continuous publication of "Museum Musings" and other museum activities in our hometown newspaper.

During the following weekend, July 30 and 31, we participated in Cynthiana's Second Art Walk. We welcomed Susan Davisson as our visiting artist. Susan, a young Cynthiana resident with Harrison County roots, creates unique, beautiful jewelry from old silverware, "Jewelry by the Spoonful."

We hosted literally hundreds of visitors throughout the weekend, especially during the Friday evening (6-9 pm) Art Walk. The number of guests was thrilling - both

first timers and old friends, local and out of town. What fun and encouragement for those volunteers who work diligently to administer, maintain, and share the museum!

Now, we look forward to more activities, more gatherings, and even more visitors. Soon it will be time for more school groups. We welcome your thoughts, suggestions, ideas, and especially your visits.



(above) WCYN Radio's Doug Miller interviewed Museum volunteer Thelma Haley during the live remote presentation of Coffeebreak at the Museum's 16th Anniversary July 23. Photo, Sharon Fowler.

Harrison County Marriage Indexes on Sale; 33% Off

General Index to Marriages No. 3 (1948-1984)

10,500+ entries on nearly 300 pages!

Sale Price: \$26 (Regularly \$39 postpaid.)

Marriage Records Index, 1985-2008

7,500+ entries on nearly 200 pages!

Sale Price: \$16 (Regularly \$24 postpaid.)

Each volume is a complete alphabetical, every name, bride and groom marriage records index and includes license and marriage dates with their corresponding document numbers and/or book and page citations (Marriage Records Index, 1985-2008 only lists marriage dates, no license dates). Introductory texts explain how each index was created and how to obtain copies of the original marriage records. All books are comb-bound with protective presentation covers, front and back, for a durable and attractive appearance. These indexes are offered exclusively in print; they will not be posted to the web.

Checks & money orders accepted. Personal checks must clear before any order ships. No returns or refunds are allowed or offered. *These indexes are only available from Philip Naff* (philnaff@comcast.net), 4716 Andover Square, Indianapolis, IN 46226. Shipping (via USPS Media Mail) is FREE. Get yours today! (Offer lasts until September 15, 2010. Just mention this offer to get the deal.)



(left) The Freedmen's Bureau also supervised schools for black children, including in Cynthiana. This photo, ca. 1865-1868, pictures students standing outside a freedmen's school in North Carolina. The 1868 Kentucky Freedmen's Bureau annual report showed three-fourths of the Bureau teachers were black, the remainder white, as in this photo.

Source: photo, <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-civilwar/8.0>; Collins, *Annals of Ky*, Vol. 1, p. 192.

Continued from p. 1

freedmen on abandoned or confiscated lands, and worked with African American soldiers and sailors and their heirs to secure back pay, bounty payments, and pensions." The law was to expire one year from the end of the war.¹

Because "Kentucky stubbornly refused to ratify the Thirteenth Amendment, nullify the slave code, provide for the destitute freedman, and supply protection against the terroristic activities of white supremacists..."² a Kentucky Freedmen's Bureau was established December 26, 1865. The War Department divided the state bureau into three administrative districts with Cynthiana reporting to the Lexington office. The Kentucky Freedmen's Bureau records in the National Archives include correspondence from a Cynthiana, Kentucky, office during 1866. Presumably, this office was set up by March, for the first letter was dated March 1866, when Robert Jones was relieved as superintendent on March 19, 1866. Captain J. W. Read, 53rd Kentucky Volunteers, was appointed 8th District superintendent by Gen. John Ely, Chief Superintendent, Lexington subdistrict on March 16, 1866. This district appears to have covered at least Harrison, Grant and Pendleton Counties. Field office reports, letters received and sent, contracts, certificates, registers, censuses, affidavits, and other documents are included in the Cynthiana district records. To enforce Freedmen's Bureau regulations, a squad of Company A, 119th USCI [United States Colored Infantry] was stationed at Cynthiana by April 1866. Joseph B. Hartley was another agent in the Cynthiana office between March and June, 1866.³

According to historian Marion B. Lucas, Kentuckians "reacted vehemently against the presence of the bureau," with the desire of most whites to keep freedmen "in their place." "Taken altogether, the end of slavery and the implementation of the Freedmen's Bureau resulted in a

level of violence that made the years 1866-1877 among the most lawless in Commonwealth history."⁴

One of the first complaints received in the Cynthiana office concerned depredations against blacks. In a letter dated March 28, 1866, the Cynthiana superintendent reported that Company A, 119th USCI, reported to Captain Read after receiving complaints that "young Rankin, son of the proprietor of the Rankin house is causing him great trouble; openly threatening to kill someone in the Bureau." Captain Read was instructed to have "evidence of either white or black persons in order to have him arrested and sent to a Louisville prison. Rankin was said to be one of the ring leaders in Secesh mob actions. He entered a Negro cabin with others, threatened them with revolvers. Young Rankin was with Morgan."⁵ No follow up correspondence was in the file.

Ironically, an early complaint was lodged against a Union officer whose command guarded Cynthiana during the Civil War. In a letter dated March 30, 1866, it was reported that Mrs. Hanna Newby, formerly a slave of Col. William Warner, "had her children bound over by him taken by him. She said she did not give consent until they were 18 and 31 respectfully. [Warner commanded the Lexington-based 18th Kentucky Vol. Infantry during the Civil War, with detachments assigned to Cynthiana]. The bureau arbitrated labor contracts and the complaint seems to say that Col. Warner disregarded an agreement."⁶

Labor contracts negotiated by the bureau were frequently the source of trouble. The Cynthiana News summed up the labor market at the beginning of 1867: "The farming community were looking for hands, and the Freedmen were looking for places. No. 1 hands commanded about \$180 per annum; common hands got anything and sometimes nothing. Many are worthless

because of drunkenness and the mean habit of stealing.” Ed F. Dulin said he didn’t want to enter into a contract with some of his former servants for they are quarrelsome but didn’t want to be called before a Freedmen’s Bureau tribunal. One of his former servants “hasn’t done two days work for me” since freed. Dulin said he would take care of old infirm former slaves out of kindness, and noted all of his former slaves are “of some kin” to each other. Correspondence dated August 25, 1866, also concerned a labor contract. Jesse Graddy of Woodford County was deponent in a Thomas Graddy complaint that two blacks contracted to him fled to Harrison County and he knew of no reason why. Phoebe, one of the laborers, said she couldn’t please her employer, even after doing all the washing and house work required of a white family: “Said she had bad treatment from Mrs. Lute Graddy. Mr. Graddy said Phoebe was properly paid.”⁷

A few masters refused to free their slaves and only did so at the point of a bayonet. In April 1866 Charlotte Jones said two of her children were being held in bondage by Alfred Kendall of Williamstown, who was arrested later by Freedmen’s Bureau troops. In July 1866 the Cynthiana district office also sent troops to James Garnett’s residence in Pendleton County to retrieve two children who were taken to Geo. W. Henry, Harrison County, whose district officer had apprenticed them. Apparently Garnett was not fulfilling the labor contract or was accused of mistreating the children.⁸ The files do not contain all case records.

The Cynthiana News contained articles in 1866 that mirrored universal southern opposition to giving former slaves the right to vote. Under the headline “Negro Suffrage” an editorial maintained putting Negroes equal to whites would start an “irrepressible conflict.”⁹ Later that summer a racial incident involving a supposedly drunk black man and the Rankin House was reported in the Cynthiana News. The African American entered the bar and requested a drink of whisky. After being ordered to leave, he became engaged in an argument with some white men, picked up a rock and hurled it into the hotel, injuring several men. A crowd caught him but he avoided jail by paying a fine.¹⁰

Surprisingly, a review of the available copies of the 1866 Cynthiana News contain only one reference to a Freedman’s Bureau office in Cynthiana. In September 1866 the newspaper reported: “Freedman’s Bureau – We have just been informed that a new business has been established for this county and Pendleton. The headquarters of the officer has been established in Falmouth. This ... will, we suppose, be under the new bill of Congress.”¹¹ The “new bill” came about when President Johnson vetoed a bill in February 1866 to extend the original one-year period of the Freedman’s Bureau. Congress overrode the veto July 16 to extend the law to July 1868.¹² The newspaper article said the bureau

would be expected to regulate the labor of the black man in these counties. Although editor A J. Moray, a former Southern sympathizer, believed the Freedman’s Bureau was unconstitutional, “the law should be obeyed with as much grace as possible.”¹³ Possibly alluding to the former Cynthiana bureau office, the editorial continued: “We had hoped we had seen the last of these bureaus but it seems that our people are yet to be harassed and annoyed. Everything has quieted down. The freedmen seems to be doing well (good feelings between laborer and employer).” Offended by having federal troops enforcing laws, Moray wrote: “The officers of the law in this county are as good men as can be found and they should be permitted to settle all difficulties that occur here.”¹⁴ The Freedmen’s Bureau Cynthiana records do not extend beyond October 1866, about the time the agents were moved to Falmouth. Reading editor Moray’s comments about being “harassed and annoyed,” the bureau may have moved out of Cynthiana because of objections by local citizens,.

The Freedmen’s Bureau also established schools in most central Kentucky counties, probably including Harrison County. Contrary to many southern states, educating slaves had not been illegal in Kentucky but there was “scattered white opposition ... to the idea of literate bondsmen.” Antebellum slaves received limited education through churches, private schools, and sometimes by slave owners. By 1868 black children in Cynthiana used as a school a house by the river near the railroad tracks. A second school was subsequently established on Water Street under the leadership of local citizens, with a board of trustees and a principal named Mr. Orton.¹⁵ It is likely the first school was established by the Freedmen’s Bureau. Records for other counties indicate attendance at bureau schools was fairly strong and increased as the word spread among the black community. For example, in the village of Midway, Woodford County, the April 1867 initial class of 21 male and 21 females increased to 24 male and 34 females six months later.¹⁶

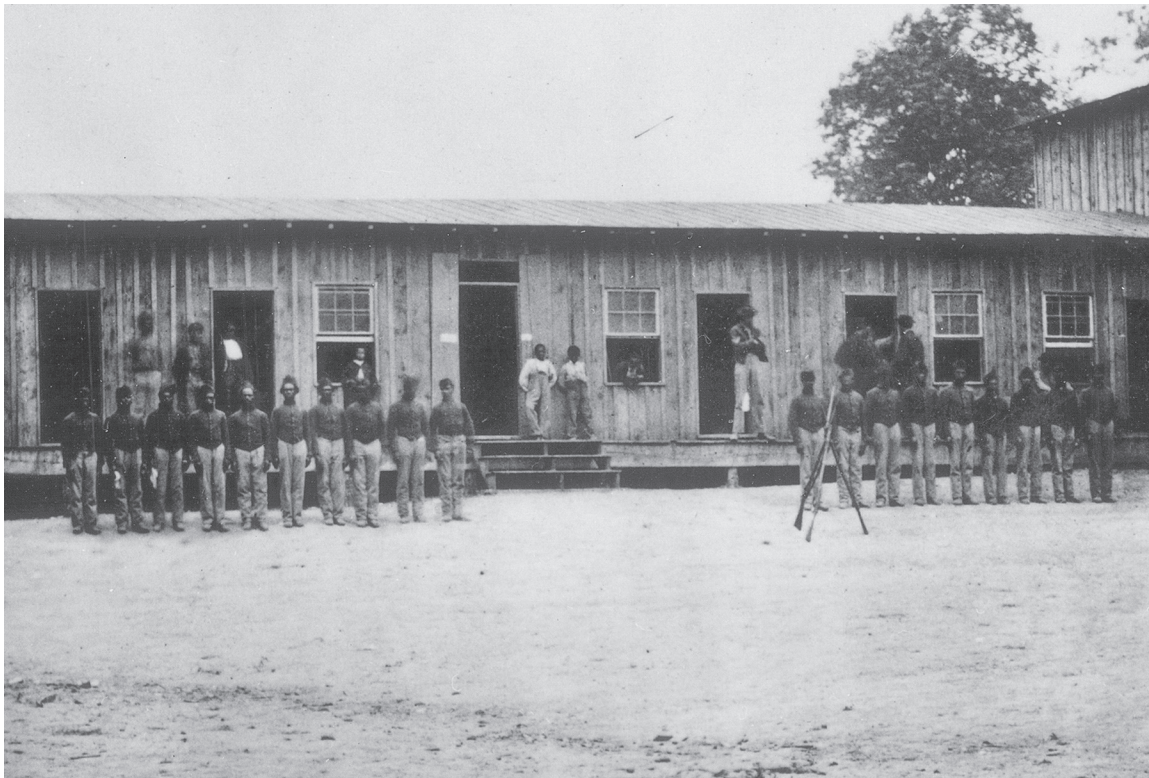
The bureau also documented African American marriages. Harrison County Court Order books list eleven marriages of former slaves during the period the Freedmen’s Bureau was operating in Kentucky. Although the bureau could have helped with these marriages, there was a law passed in 1866 which “declared cohabitating blacks legally married and their children legitimate if they paid a fifty-cent fee and recorded with a county clerk their intention to remain husband and wife. Those paying an additional twenty-five-cent received a marriage certificate.”¹⁷ The low number of freed slave marriages on record in the county may have been due to the fees.

On March 5, 1869, all Kentucky Freedmen’s Bureau offices were closed down except in Louisville, which remained open until 1872.¹⁸

See endnotes on p. 6.

(Endnotes)

- ¹ Freedmen's Bureau Field Office Records, National Archives, Records of the Superintendent at Cynthiana, Kentucky, compiled March 1866-October 1866, on microfilm in Record Group 105, Records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, 1861-1879, M1904, roll 94.
- ² Ross A. Webb, "The Past is Never Dead, It's Not Even Past": Benjamin P. Runkle and the Freedmen's Bureau in Kentucky, 1866-1870, *The Register*, Vol 84, No. 4.
- ³ National Archives and reviewed "Records of the Superintendent at Cynthiana, Kentucky, compiled March 1866- October 1866, on microfilm in Record Group 105, Records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, 1861-1879, M1904, roll 94, hereafter, Freedmen's Bureau Records, Cynthiana, Ky. The March 1866 date agrees with a letter dated July 3, 1866, from J. F. Ware to the governor of Missouri about clemency for Joseph B. Hartley, in a St. Louis prison for larceny, who "for the last four months has been connected to the Freedmen's Bureau at his place...." <http://cdm.sos.mo.gov/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=/msa&CISOSTART=51,1187&CISOSORT=descri%7Cf>.
- ⁴ Kentucky Encyclopedia, 356-357; Marion B. Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, Vol. 1, 187.
- ⁵ Bob Rankin operated the Rankin House, a 3-story brick hotel built during the Civil War which is still standing west of the railroad on the south side of Pike Street. See Harrison Heritage News Feb. 2003 (p. 3). Freedmen's Bureau Records, Cynthiana, Ky.
- ⁶ Freedmen's Bureau Records, Cynthiana, Ky.
- ⁷ Ibid.
- ⁸ Ibid.
- ⁹ Cynthiana News, March 1, 1866.
- ¹⁰ Ibid.
- ¹¹ Cynthiana News, September 27, 1866
- ¹² Richard B. Morris, ed., *Encyclopedia of American History*, 247-248.
- ¹³ Cynthiana News, September 27, 1866.
- ¹⁴ Ibid.
- ¹⁵ Lucas, *History of Blacks in Ky.* I, 140; Telephone interview with Charline Wilson, who cited an 1895 Harrison County education report by A. G. Pitts.
- ¹⁶ National Archives. RG 105, roll 94, Freedmen's Bureau records, Woodford Co., Ky.
- ¹⁷ Philip A. Naff, Harrison County, Kentucky African American Marriage Index, n.p., quoting Lucas, *A History of Blacks in Kentucky*, I, 207.
- ¹⁸ Webb, Benjamin P. Runkle, *The Register*, Vol. 84, No. 4, 355.



U. S. Colored Troops at Camp Nelson, Kentucky, 1864. The Freedmen's Bureau sent squads of African American soldiers to enforce federal regulations in Harrison County in 1866.

Source: <http://heritage.ky.gov/kas/pubsvids/VolumeThree.htm>.

Notes from the *Cynthiana News* - Dec. 1865 - Jan. 1867

Bill Penn

Advertisement for "**Grinnan's Ambrotype and Photography Gallery**: Jones Row, Cynthiana, Kentucky. Lafayette Grinnan." Adv. ran throughout 1866. December 7, 1865.

Advertisement: Apple Trees. **McKee and Shannon**. December 14, 1865.

Fire in a building across from the court house on Main Street known for years as the **Harrison Hotel** (house of Mrs. Murphy). Editor writes now is the time to organize a fire department. The city "owns a good machine." December 21, 1865.

New buildings put up last summer downtown now ready for occupation. February 1, 1866.

Advertisement: "**Cynthiana Flour and Woolen Mills** - C. B. Cook prop., successor to Cook & Wolford, manufacture of fine and coarse jeans, blankets, flannels, linsays. Flour and meal, dry goods, boots, shoes."

Advertisement: **Joseph Fennel** just opened two doors west of the Rankin Hotel. Saddle and harness, bridles, "a new establishment." February 15, 1866.

Headline: "**Freedmen's Bureau Bill** vetoed by the president" followed by an article.

Cynthiana News office moved to Pleasant Street No. 32 between Veaches Livery Stable and Dr. Beales residence. An article about a fire mentioned engine house and "machine" which was needing repairs; plus more cisterns needed.

A "dancing party" was held at the **Rankin House** put on by the young men - many young ladies present. March 15, 1866.

Street repairs: Flag stone pavements need repairing on Main, Pike, Back Street and Pleasant Street and has been needed for six months. April 5, 1866.

War Claims: "Citizens with claims against the government can call on Messrs. Curley & Billingsly of Lexington will have claims made out on proper forms. Are at the Rankin House. Citizens who had horses impressed especially by the 47th Regt. Ky Vols. should make claims."

Civil War casualties: Editor A. J. Moray claimed on June 12, 1864, Morgan lost 61 killed and mortally wounded, 60 wounded, 96 prisoners, 223 total. April 26, 1866.

Circus Advertisement: John Robinson's Great Combination Show coming to Cynthiana on May 5, 1866, featuring wild animals and five circuses.

Tinware Advertisement: Frank Box Main Street near courthouse; stores and tin ware, coffee pots, tea pots, tin buckets. May 4, 1866.

Court Day: Since the close of the war Cynthiana has become an unusually popular place for trade...on county-court days...." Horses and mules sold.

CSA Graves: "There are some fifty or sixty graves of Confederate soldiers in our cemetery." May 20th to be a clean up day and decorate Confederate graves "that fell in the different engagements that took place in Cynthiana...." May 17, 1866.

Pic Nic: Report on a pic nic and ball at Berry's Station at Col. W. W. Bradley's hotel.

The word "bamboozle" used by the editor with meaning as "to fool someone."

Advertisement: "**Berry Station High School**" H. E. Smith, principal, Dancing Academy in Council Room over the engine house, Francis X. C. Nott, teacher, Monday, Wednesday, Friday 4 - 6 p.m.

CSA Dead: "We believe there are about fifty graves but very few of them are marked. An attempt was made by one of our citizens to keep the number and names of the graves but the memorandum was stolen. We took the following names from the head boards as we found them at the cemetery: James K. Bloodworth, Gallatin, Tn. d. July 2, 1864; Jno. W. Terrell, Nelson Co., Ky.; J. C. Savage, Sparta, Tn.; A. Hurrion, unknown; R. E. Morray, Lebanon, Ky.; Wayman Scott, Sparta, Tn.; A. Kinsloe, Unknown; Thos. Rowland, Ala. d. Oct 16, 1863; Wm. Dean, N. C. d. July 11, 1864; David May, killed June 12, 1864; Lt. P. D. King, Arkansas; Geo. Pucket, Unknown; May 31, 1866."

Pic Nic - "A Pic Nic will be given next Saturday in Shawhan's thick woods near Lair's Station. Everybody is invited to attend." "**4th of July**," the young gentlemen of this section proper to have a hop at the Rankin House on...the fourth of July." June 21, 1866.

Continued from p. 7.

“Gunsmithing” on Walnut Street, Cynthiana, Ky., “undersigned is prepared to manufacture guns and pistols and do all kinds of ending, branding, working in brass, fixing door locks and keys. Shop near Cook’s Mill. J. J. Good.”

Advertisement: **Instrumental concert** on violin and piano forte at Rankin House on Saturday evening.

Advertisement: **Harrison County Male and Female Institute**, Isaac Reese, principal; Miss Annie Milton, Assistant.

Advertisement: **Music lessons** offered on piano, guitar, operatic singing, church music. August 23, 1866.

Civil War animosities: “The young men had too much bad whisky aboard last Saturday evening.... We can’t see what is to be gained by the Confederates denouncing the Federals or the Federals denouncing the Confederates. The war is over...and we should all encourage peace and goodwill to all men.” September 27, 1866.

Advertisements: “Watch repairing by **Cha’s. Rieckel** Main Street, opposite court house; watches and jewelry repaired.”

Advertisement: **E. Remington & Sons**, Manufacturers of revolvers, rifles, and carbines. September 27, 1866.

“**R. C. Wherritt** has just arrived from New York City with a large and very select stock of Dry-Goods.”

Courthouse repairs: News article said that between 1862 and 1866 put a fence around the courthouse; painted the roof and put up lightning rods. October 4, 1866.

Ordinance requiring no frame buildings on Main or Pike: Letter from Mrs. L. Bents complaining city won’t let her build because of fire threat a frame building. She pointed out city allowed a frame livery near brick buildings downtown and back buildings were used for cooking had the same problem; she pointed out they allowed Mr. Delling to move a two story frame house from Pleasant to Main; also frame buildings existed near the courthouse owned by the city.

Wm. Magee Jr. sold his residence in Cynthiana to Henry Williams. November 1, 1866.

Court appointed a committee to erect a **new jailer’s house** and repair the jail, superintendent by G. Remington [Morgan’s men burned the jail and jailer’s house June 11, 1864].

D. A. Givens is building a suburban residence on Millersburg Pike.

War Claims: The Secretary of War, per an act of Congress, appointed a board of commissioners to award payment of loyal Kentuckians for slaves that enlisted in the Federal army.

New store on Main Street described by **Cuson & co.**, dry goods merchants - 24 1/2’ x 100 1/2’ deep three stories, brick with brown stone facing; first story front is iron with large plate windows, double doors in front; brick work by F. M. Rogers. Covington; Stone work by Hill & Holt, Paris; wood work by Carpenter & Bros., Cynthiana; iron work by C. S. Rankin, Cin. O. November 1, 1866.

Grist mill: “E. D. McDaniel & Co. has established a grist and saw mill near Broadwell in this county.”

“Mr. Barnes, of Berry’s Station, has a single head of cabbage which he raised that weighs 38 pounds; who can beat this.”

Train accident: Cow killed by train mentioned in the paper. [an earlier issue of the News told about Rankin’s adopted son jumped on a train moving by Rankin’s House, and he fell and his head was crushed under the wheels.]

Stone Fences damaged: Some farmers are complaining of damage to their stone fences by rabbit hunters tearing them open to get at them. November 15, 1866.

Christmas Tree: “Quiet a pleasant treat to the many of the little folks was the Christmas tree prepared for their benefit at the Presbyterian Church in this place. The tree was very handsomely decorated and pendant from the branches were a multitude of gifts which made happy many young hearts who will we doubt not often turn to the occasion as a memorable event of their childhood.” January 3, 1867.

New Year’s Fireworks: On Tuesday night this city was lively in the fireworks line from one end to the other Chinese fire crackers were exploding. January 3, 1867.

African American murder: A article told of the shooting of Nicholas “Nick” Broadwell, raised by Judge Broadwell, a “freedman” who lived on Walnut Street who was shot by John Curry, another black man. Praising Nick, the editor wrote, “If ever was a black white man ‘Nick’ was the individual; We have often thought that if Negroes were raised to the estate of citizens that he would make a worthy one. We never...saw him out of his place. He was polite, respectful and honest, and if he had an enemy among the whites we’ve yet to hear it. When the ‘faithful’ [Confederate soldiers] returned from the South sorrowful and sad, they received a hearty welcome from their old friend ‘Nick’.”

Advertisement: Agent for **General Basil Duke’s history** of General John Hunt Morgan’s in Cynthiana is Colonel Hogg. January 3, 1867.

Source: Kentucky Historical Society, Microfilm Reel 78-0338, Cynthiana News