HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN

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THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DANVILLE, INDIANA

Mrs. Edward Winkelman, chairman of the program committee, has informed us the meeting Sunday, July 9th, will be held at the Pittsboro Methodist Church, instead of the Christian Church as originally planned. The program, in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Fleenor, will be on Hendricks County authors. Members are asked to bring books by Hendricks County authors. Please include your name and any interesting information on these books. The meeting hour is 2 p. m. and we can start on time if you are there.

From the President .....

Recently I had a very pleasant discussion with the Hendricks County Commissioners about the future use of the Hendricks County Jail. I asked that they might consider letting us use the jail, or at least a part of it, for a Hendricks County Historical Museum. They were very interested and most receptive to the idea, and I have every reason to believe that we have made another step toward our goal. On behalf of the Society, I wish to thank Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Franklin, and Mr. Himsel for their courtesy, and Mr. Al Deckard, Hendricks County Attorney for his advice.

Margaret Baker

(Mrs. C. Rawleigh Baker)

President

Juniors are Great "Diggers" .....

Youth pointed the way for their elders through a delightful, informative program at the April meeting of the Hendricks County Historical Society, held at Lizton.

We have urged our members to dig for the less obvious facts about our origin. Lorrie Leiser of the Brownsburg Junior Historical Society told of participating in a real dig for artifacts at the site of an Indian settlement fifteen miles from Clarksville, Indiana, while Mike Lynch operated the projector.

We who aren't eager to expend the muscle and produce the sweat that it took them to explore three levels from a 5 x 20 foot trench can "dig" into old books, letters, memoirs, and courthouse records.

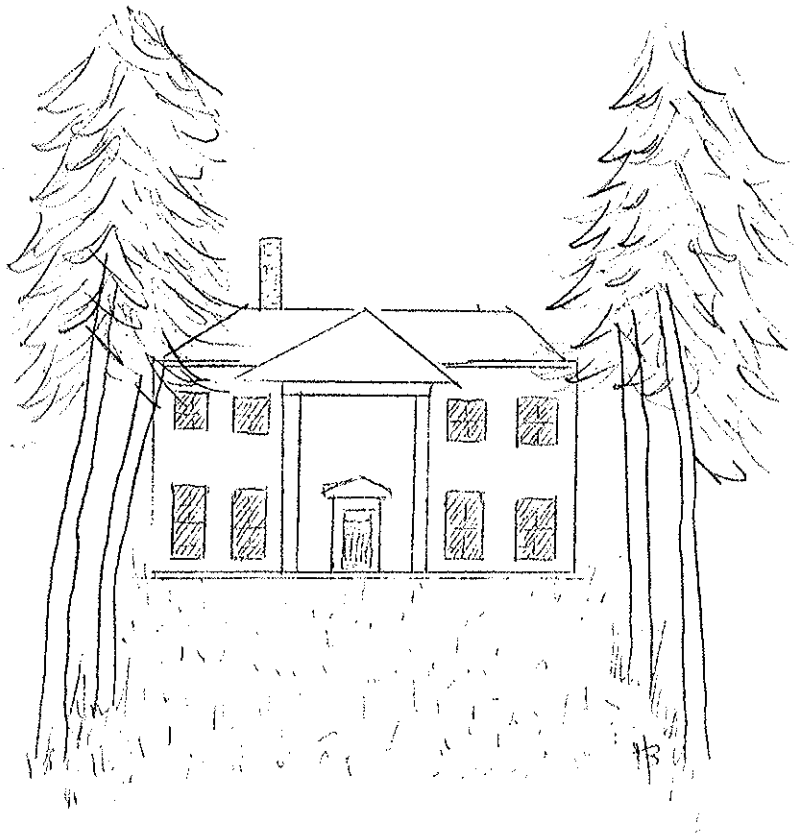
The Plainfield Junior Historical Society was represented by Lisa DeVore, who spoke on the history of Mormonism, and by Mark and Eric Ewald, who showed and discussed a model of Old Ironsides they had made. Incidentally, Lisa will be sponsored by our Society this year on a historical tour for youth.

Much credit is due the High School teachers who have opened the door for their students to the fascination of the past: Mrs. Opal Endicott of Brownsburg and Mr. Jerry Hankins of Plainfield.

Mrs. Nellie Beagley presided at the meeting. Mrs. Dessie Huddleston played a double role, giving an inspiring devotional talk and bearing the principal responsibility for refreshments.

We thank you every one!

Lois Crayton,
Editor



Sketch from Photograph
--By Hazel Baden

THE "WHITE HOUSE" OF HENDRICKS COUNTY

By

Ruth Hall

This old mansion of Hendricks County, Indiana, was located about two miles west and north of Danville on the road between State Road 36 and the North Salem road. It stood on a knoll some distance from the road and was approached through an avenue of pine trees, ten on each side. It was considered a mansion back in 1852 when Charlie Rice, a strong anti-slavery advocate, came here from Ohio and built this big two-story house.

Although Mr. Rice came to Hendricks County from Ohio, it is supposed that he lived in the South in his younger days. The house is typically Southern with porch pillars reaching to the roof of the second story and rows of stately Southern Pines lining an avenue leading to the front door.

This house was built from trees grown on the place, as most houses were in those days. It took tall, straight trees for the sills. They were hewn from logs to 12 by 14 inches and were 50 and 52 feet long. Thecorner posts were 10 by 10 inches and rested on the sills, which in turn rested on huge rocks called "nigger heads". The lath were 12 feet long and split out of oak. It is said that the lath and plaster formed such a strong platform that it would bear the weight of a man without breaking through.

Any housewife would be delighted with the woodwork of this house. It was of black walnut and there was a window seat four feet long and two feet wide made of one solid board. The stairway railing was only three inches wide, but it was cut from a wide walnut board in order to give it the proper curve at the bottom. Most of the rooms were 20 by 20 feet and there were three fireplaces and three chimneys.

At the time the house was built, the downstairs rooms were used by the white folks and the four upstairs rooms by the Negro help. The ceilings downstairs were much higher than those upstairs. The Negro men lived on one side of the second floor and the women on the other with a solid wall between.

R. S. Debra, who prepared articles on the "White House" of Hendricks County for

the Danville Republican (1933) and the Indianapolis Star (1937) quoted Will Nichols, Civil War veteran and Danville's historian of the early days, as follows:

"I was a lively kid 11 years old, when what we called the Hendricks County White House" was built. It was called that because it was so large, painted white and had porch pillars reaching clear to the second story roof, like those of the White House at Washington. One of the peculiar things that most everyone noticed from the first, was the fact that every night of the year, regardless of weather, lights were kept burning all night, in the two upstairs windows on the southeast corner of the house. These windows looked to the south, far out across the flat prairie-like country, and the lights would guide a traveler from the south for miles, where rumor has it another station on the Underground Railway was located near Hadley Station at the home of Addison Coffin.

"Although Mr. Rice was known to be bitterly opposed to slavery, he kept a number of colored folks on his farm, but they were what were known as free niggers. The people who operated the "Underground Railroad" worked in secret and only a trusted few knew the secrets of the hiding places. Even his nearest neighbors did not suspect that he had built a secret room back of the fireplace in the west room; where runaway slaves could be hidden indefinitely.

"The room where the fireplace and hidden room are located was used as a garage and tool shed in 1937. The outside of the house, east and west measures 52 feet. The inside measures 48 feet and the two outside walls do not account for the lost four feet, which have apparently vanished into thin air... Between the outside wall and the false inside wall is a space of almost four feet which extends the entire width of the room. The inside walls of this hiding place were lathed and plastered so as to make it as nearly sound-proof as possible. There are no doors or windows. The only openings of any kind are through the fireplace and an opening in the ceiling which was carefully concealed and led to the servants' quarters upstairs.

"As soon as it became known over the county that a secret room had been found in the old White House, Benton Newlin,...of Amo, called on Mr. Debra and said: "That is the house I have been wanting to find for years. My father, who was born and reared in North Carolina, came north right after the Civil War to visit his sister, Mrs. Nathan Hadley, near Hadley Station in Hendricks County. While there he became acquainted with Addison Coffin and his right-hand man, a negro named Anthony Cloud.

"One day Addison Coffin said to my father, "How would you like to see one of the stations of the Underground Railway, which was used in helping runaway slaves from the Ohio River to the Canadian border? Come with me and I will show you the finest hideout in the world. Even the bloodhounds could not trail a slave to this hiding place". So he took my father several miles in a northeasterly direction from Hadley until he was a little north and west of Danville. There they stopped at a large white house located on a hill and having an avenue of pine trees leading up to the house. The porch pillars reached clear to the roof and in a room at least 20 feet square was a fireplace. Addison Coffin entered one of the fireplaces and told my father to follow. They climbed a rope ladder inside the chimney to the height of the second floor. Here they removed some loose bricks and climbed down the outside of the chimney by means of the ladder and were inside a secret room only four feet wide by 25 feet long. No outside indication that the room was there.

"My father visited this house a number of times and entered the secret room by means of the chimney. It was on one of my visits back to North Carolina in 1902 that he first told me of the big white house with the secret room and asked me to hunt for it. The last time he asked me to hunt for it was back in 1910. I am positive that you have found the house which my father knew so well and which was used as a station on the Underground Railway."

As far as is known there were three stations of the Underground Railway in

Hendricks County: one at the home of Addison Coffin, this one at the home of Charlie Rice, and the third, a cellar under the driveway of a barn with the entrance through a trap door in the floor at the home of Job Hadley north and east of Lizton.

The last owner of the "White House" was Fletcher Pedigo. He showed me the road bed of a road running east and west not many feet from the south entrance of the "White House". He told me of building his present house, locating just at the rear of the old mansion, which he tore down as he used the lumber for his new house. He said he had bought only the windows, weatherboarding, shingles, and some of the doors; the remainder was from the old house. He used the stairs from the old house for his basement stairs. They are made from tulip poplar trees and show some wear, but are still in very good condition. The sleepers were 12 by 3 inches and the studs, also of poplar, were 5 by 3 inches. The rafters were shaped, being wider at the top. The woodwork of the house was mostly walnut. Mr. Pedigo had purchased the farm in 1945, when the house was 93 years old and in very bad repair.

From pictures of this house, one would think it was square, but Mr. Pedigo said it was L-shaped, the L being formed by the removal of approximately one-fourth of a 52 by 50 rectangle from the northwest corner.

We know from abstract that Charles sold his farm in 1854 to Charles Haynes, but we know nothing more of ownership until 1873, when James W. Thompson purchased it. His son Henry H. Thompson lived in this big house several years. Henry's son Edwin Thompson was born there in 1883, but Henry's wife died a few years later and he moved to Indianapolis.

When James W. Thompson died in 1900, his daughter Susan Hughes inherited the part of the farm with the "White House". Henry H. inherited the south part and built a new, small house, where he lived with his second wife, Hettie, and son Edwin many years. Mrs. Hughes lived in Ladoga and rented the farm, so the house had tenants most of the time. Repairs were not made when needed and the house was beyond repiar when Mr. Pedigo bought it in 1945.

We also learned from abstract that Mr. Charles Rice purchased this farm in 1851 and sold it in 1854. We wonder why anyone would build such a house and live in it only two years. We have no way of knowing whether the "hidden room" was used as part of the Underground Railway after he moved away. We only wish houses could talk.

WHY HENDRICKS?

Hendricks County was named in honor of William Hendricks, Governor of Indiana at the time an act organizing the county was approved (December 29, 1823) and also when the county was officially recognized as a separate entity (April 1, 1824).

A thumbnail biography of William Hendricks was included in a listing of the first-chosen members of the Indiana Academy, thirty-nine men and one woman (Sarah Bolton) from the period ending in 1900:

Born: November 12, 1782, at Ligonier, Pa.; died: May 16, 1850. He was congressman, governor of Indiana, was graduated from Jefferson, later Washington and Jefferson College 1810. In early manhood he moved to Madison, Ind. Madison remained his home until his death. In 1813 he was elected to Indiana legislature, 1814 re-elected and chosen speaker of the assembly. In 1816 he was elected to congress in the first election under the constitution. He was re-elected in 1818 and 1820. In 1822 he was elected governor without opposition. In 1825 he was elected to U.S. Senate and resigned the governorship to take seat there. During his nearly 20 yrs. of service in congress he followed the habit of sending an annual letter, or report to his constituents giving an account of his stewardship and setting forth the leading topics and features of the sessions just closed. He made the first revision of the laws of Indiana which he had printed on his own press.

EARLY INDUSTRY IN PITTSBORO: THE STAVE FACTORY

By
Frances Fisher

Pittsboro was laid out in 1834 by Simon T. Hadley and William Matlock. It was the first town along the new road, now highway 136, which was built in 1828 and ran from Indianapolis to Crawfordsville. It was called Pittsburg at first, then was changed later to Pittsborough in honor of Hadley's home town in North Carolina. Still later the spelling was changed to Pittsboro.

Although Hendricks County was organized in 1823 and 1824, very few settlers had come into the northern tier of townships of which Middle was one. Most of the immigrants came from Kentucky, Viriginia, Tennessee, and the Carolinas and they naturally selected homes in the southern part of the county rather than travel farther north to less promising areas. Natural drainage was poor in Middle Township and there was widespread prevalence of malaria, more popularly called "aguer" or "shakes".

The Hendricks County History of 1885 states that in no part of the county did the pioneers have a harder fight with nature or endure more hardships than in Middle. The forests were heavy and undergrowth almost impenetrable.

In a few years, however, there were many changes. The original 30 lots in Pittsboro were soon sold and other additions extended the town north and south of the original plat. There followed the establishment of three churches, several schools in the area, (some sites of which are still debatable), and the development of certain types of industry, such as tile factories, brick yards, saw mills--all closely related to the drainage of the land and the clearing of the forests.

The opening of the Big Four Railroad in 1867-69 contributed more to the growth and development of the community than any other one thing. It was a combination of good and abundant timber and railroad facilities that helped to develop a major industry which flourished for more than twenty years. The name of Daniel Feeley is a familiar one to this day, and it was owing to the extensive stave factory which he owned and operated that Pittsboro with its 600 inhabitants was proclaimed the most properous village in the county in proportion to its size.

Feeley was born November 8, 1843, in Niagara County, New York, the son of Irish immigrant parents, Martin and Mary Feeley. He lived in his native state until 1864, when he came to Indiana. He settled in Allen county, where he worked as a stave cutter for four years. He then went to Indianapolis, later moving on to Boone County, where he was associated with J. E. McKendry and Robert Bracken in the manufacture of barrel staves. After three years, Mr. Bracken bought out the other two members of the firm, becoming sole owner. It was then in 1873 that Mr. Feeley came to Pittsboro and bought the stave factory from D. C. Cope, a business already established north of the railroad on the site of both the lumber yard and the present grain elevator. During the next few years Feeley enlarged the business and built extensive sheds which a few of our older residents recall.

In the Census of Manufacturers of 1879 and 1880, it is recorded that Mr. Feeley's capital investment was $15,000. He furnished continuous employment to a regular crew of twenty or twenty-one hands, usually five of whom were children or youth. There were times when he employed as many as one hundred laborers. Skilled labor received $2.50 a day; ordinary labor received $1.25. The men worked ten hours a day, six days a week.

The census of Manufacturers for June 11, 1879, to May 31, 1880, records the following interesting statistics:

Total amount paid in Wages	$ 7,000
Half Time per day	$ 2.00

Value of Logs	$29,000
Value of Mill Supplies	$ 1,000
Value of All Materials	$30,000
Number of Circular Saws	2

There is one record of 324 carloads of staves at $225 shipped to Lockport.

The staves were made of elm and ash, of which there was an abundance in the forests around the town. It was a remunerative business and a great help to farmers who were able to pay their mortgages by the sale of timber. We who live here have always been told that the factory saved the town from the depression of 1872 and 1873 because of the demand for staves and headings and the possibility of producing them in Pittsboro.

In addition to the stave factory, Mr. Feeley owned a farm of one hundred ninety acres adjoining Pittsboro and was considered the towns wealthiest citizen. He remodeled a home on North Maple Street just south of the present Christian Church and made it into one of the largest and most imposing in town. His wife, the former Miss Rhoda Roberts Long, daughter of a prominent Montgomery County farmer, was a very retiring, quiet woman who avoided company and was always found at home. The Feeley home became the home of Dr. John French after the Feeleys left Pittsboro and later became the Christian Church parsonage. This old landmark was torn down three years ago, so nothing remains of the prosperous factory or home.

Daniel Feeley was township trustee in 1879 and 1880 and served well as he was noted for his interest in education and progress. It is said he was liberal with his means in the promotion of all enterprises of public benefit.

In the state directories of 1880, 1887,1888, 1890 and 1892, Daniel Feeley was listed as a stave manufacturer. After 1895 his name does not appear in the directory, so we know his business was closed sometime after 1892. Town records insist that he closed his business about 1888.

Inquiry about what become of Mr. Feeley afterward has brought no information. There is no record of his death in Hendricks County files. A letter has been sent to the Library of Geneological Society in Salt Lake City requesting information on Mr. Feeley. Surely a man of such ambition and character could not go down in oblivion. Somewhere there is a record of the last years of Daniel and Rhoda, and the older citizens would very much appreciate knowing the last chapter in their lives.

I am indebted to several sources for the information concerning Daniel Feeley:

The History of Pittsboro and Middle Township written in 1934 by Chester Parker and a special committee in celebration of Pittsboro Centennial.

Hendricks County Histories of 1885 and 1914.

1879 and 1880 Special Schedules of Manufacturers, No. 5 & 6.

Newspaper Clipping of 1934 regarding Pittsboro, written by Eva S. Waters.

State directories from the Indiana Historical Library.

Hendricks County Atlas, 1878.

A special thanks to Miss Carolyn Dunn of the Indiana Historical Library for her suggestions and her help in research.

WRITERS IDENTIFIED WITH HENDRICKS COUNTY, INDIANA

Compiled
by
Leonard A. and Alda Masten Fleenor

This is an attempt to record the names of all known writers who were either born in Hendricks County or who later spent an appreciable amount of time here. It is a long list because it includes all kinds of writings....literary, scientific, historical, and geneaological. There are textbooks and dissertations prepared for advanced degrees. There are memoirs and biographies, verse and prose. Some are printed, some mimeographed.

However, we are certain that is not complete. It is something to which almost every member of the Society might contribute at least one name and title that have been overlooked. We solicit, not only your additions to the list, but also your suggestions as to how we should proceed further. Should we set up guidelines as to what kinds of writings need not be included? Would the list be more useful for reference if classified? Should all titles by a given author, rather than only one or two, be included?

Much of the information herein is from Indiana Authors from 1816 to 1916, a Wabash College publication. Much of the research had been done by Mrs. Ida Mae Miller, Historical Librarian of the Plainfield Public Library.

ALBERTSON, CHARLES CARROLL, 1865-1959; Plainfield; Garrett Bible Inst.; Safe Counsel and Sweet Comfort (1891); Death and Afterwards (1907).

BAKER, MARGARET FRANKLIN, b 1908, Danville; C N C; History of the First National Bank of Danville, Indiana, 1863-1972; The Mystical Magical Moment (1970).

BARKER, PHOEBE ALICE CAYWOOD, 1868-1943; Avon, moved to Plainfield; Warp and Woof, (Early days of Hendricks County).

BARRETT, PHAIRIS WORRELL, 1860-1936; Clayton, Terre Haute Normal; Observations Upon Visiting the Public Schools of Plainfield.

BARRETT, WENDELL, b 1898, Plainfield; Joint author: Soil Survey of Porter County In 1918; Soil Survey of Lake County in 1921.

BLATCHLEY, WILLIS STANLEY, 1859-1940. b in Conn., H Co. 1860; I. U.; State Geologist 1894-1911; Gleanings From Nature (1899); Mineral Production of Illinois (1909); South America As I Saw It. (1934).

BRIDGES, RALPH WALDO, 1883-1946, Martinsville; DePauw and I. U.; Analytical Methods for the Aluminum Industry; Metallurgy of Cobalt.

BROWN, E. HOWARD, 1871-1944, b Brownstown; Earlham; Friends Minister; Co-author of Young Peoples' History of the Friends Church with his wife.

BROWN, RUTH ELIZABETH PEMBERTON, 1877-1944, b Iowa.

BURNETT, RUTH GRIFFITH, b 1902 Sullivan Co., came to Washington Twp; Butler; Carl Ben Eilson; Young Alaskan Pilot; Cecil B. DeMille, Young Dramatist; Biographical sketches; Lives in Indianapolis.

CARTER, BERTHA, b 1879 Amo; Earlham and Winona Tech. Institute; Librarian; Guide to Reading for High Schools. (Lives in Indianapolis).

CHARLTON, THOMAS JEFFERSON, 1847-1904. b Switzerland Co; Hanover; Recollections of School Days (1887?).

CLARK, JAMES L., 1855-1933. b Cartersburg; C N C, Valparaiso U; Judge Hendricks County; Information from Taylor (1895); Finding of Facts and Outlines of Conclusions of Law.

COFFIN, ADDISON, 1822-1897. b North Carolina; moved to Hendricks Co. 1848; Life and Travels of Addison Coffin (1897).

COX, ELIZA CLARK ARMSTRONG, 1850-1935. b NorthCarolina moved to Plainfield 1903; Earlham; Editor, Friends Missionary Advocate; Looking Back over the Trail.

COX, SUSANNA, 1861-1923. b Ind. Taught school. Poetry and Reflections of Susanna Cox.

CRAYTON, SHERMAN G., b 1895 at Plainfield; Prof. Education N.Y State, 1937-1965; Franklin, I. U. PhD.; World Friendship and Understanding; The Changing Elementary School; Care and Education of Handicapped Children.

CRISMORE, MARY THOMAS, The Crismore Family (1968).

DAS, RANENDRA KUMAR, b 1901, Calcutta, India; Came to U.S. 1924; lives near Danville; U. of Ill., U of Cin., Butler; Reincarnation; It Can Be Done.

DAVIDSON, SAMUEL FRANK, 1887-1971 b near Coatesville. I. U., Chicago PhD. Prof. of English, I. U.; A Reader for Writers.

DAVIS, ADELLE, b near Lizton, U S Cal. Purdue; Nutritionist; Let's Eat Right to Keep Fit; Let's Cook it Right; Let's Have Healthy Children.

DAVIS, ARTHUR HENDERSON, 1882-1960. b Canada; A.M.E. preacher, Plainfield 1906-1907; DePauw; Sunshine in the Night.

DAVIS, ERCELLA O'BRIEN, b Hancock Co., Ill. Came to Guilford Twp; I March to My Own Drum. (Now Mrs. Arthur E. Moore.)

DAVISON, FRANK ELON, 1882-1960; b Brownsburg; Teacher and minister. Butler, U of Chicago, Yale Divinity. I Would Do It Again; Let's Talk It Over; Through the Rear View Mirror.

DOBSON, JAMES A., 1833-1896; b Fayette Co., to Brownsburg 1857; Civil War 1862. First Hendricks Co. Supt. of Schools; A Historical Sketch of Company K, 79 Regiment of Indiana Volunteers.

DORSETT, MAMIE CLINE, b 1904 near Coatesville, now living near Belleville; I Remember, I Remember; Poems from the Heart.

FLEENOR, ALDA MASTEN, b 1895 near Coatesville; Co-Author, The Genealogy of Hezekiah and Elizabeth Ann Masten (1967) with

FLEENOR, LEONARD ALONZO, b 1888 near Crothersville; C N C, I. U., U. Minn; Content Cost and Management of High School Annuals (1929);

FRANKLIN, LAWRENCE WALSH, b 1902, Danville; Purdue; Inventor ; 20 patents; Employed Western Union. Made first wireless in Hendricks County; Frequency Standard for Microwave Relay Systems.

FRANKLIN, WILLIAM FLETCHER, 1869-1964; b Brownsburg; C N C, Purdue; Teacher, Farmer, Surveyor; The Franklin Family in Indiana; The Wilson Family in Indiana.

HADLEY, EVAN, b Clay Twp. Moved to Plainfield 1888; Farmer; Historical Sketch of the Settlement of Friends.

HADLEY, MILTON HERSCHEL, b 1898 at Philadelphia, Pa., moved to Morgan Co., Earlham, U. Chicago, taught at William Penn College. Let's Discuss Fifteen Friends Principles; A Revised Handbook for Elders.

HANGER, JOHN HOWARD, 1907-1965. b Jefferson Co., First pastorate, Belleville, Cherry Grove, Salem, 1926; Depauw, Garrett Sem.; Flight Log, a Collection of Poems; Today I Pray; Prayer with Rhyme and Reason.

HANGER, JOHN WARREN, b 1877, Crawford Co.; DePauw, Mars Hill; First pastorate, Belleville, Cherry Grove and Stilesville, 1901. More Truth than Poetry.

HARRIS, DELMER WILLIAM, b 1937 at Arlington, moved to Plainfield; Multiple Defenses for Winning Basketball.

HORNADAY, WILLIAM TEMPLE, 1854-1937; b near Plainfield. Iowa State, U of Pittsburg, Yale. Director N. Y. Zoological Park; Two Years in The Jungle (1885); Our Vanishing Wild Life (1913).

HOSIER, SCOTT FOYE, b 1914; The Descendants of William Hoozer of Hendricks County (1970).

HUNT, MABEL LEIGH, 1884-1971, b Coatesville, moved to Plainfield, 1892. Western Reserve; Better Known as Johnny Appleseed (Best Seller); Tomorrow will be Bright; Also many children's books.

HUNT, MAURICE OSBORN, b 1912 at Coatesville; I. U.; The Program of Indiana Boy's School (1942).

JESSUP, CHARLES LEE, 1865-1938. b Friendswood, Hendricks Co.; Earlham; How The Bible came to Us; A minister, died Brownsville, Texas.

KEENEY, ELDORA NELSON, b 1878 near Jamestown, moved to Hendricks Co. when 2. Terre Haute Normal; Random Thoughts, Miscellaneous poems.

KING, HOYT, b 1870 in Danville; I. U.; Practiced law in Chicago; Reform Movement in Chicago (1905); Citizen Cole of Chicago (1931).

LEAK, ROSCOE RYAN, 1884-1964; History of the Christian Churches of Hendricks, County Indiana (1959).

LEAKE, MARYJANE, b 1899; Vanderbilt U., I. U.; Herbie Changed His Mind; A Manual of Simple Nursing Procedures.

LIND, GEORGE DALLAS, 1847-?, b Pennsylvania; National Norm School; Taught at C N C Methods of Teaching in Country Schools. The Teacher's and Student's Library.

LITTLE, JAMES ALEXANDER, 1831-1906, b south of Cartersburg; History of the Little Family; What I Saw on the Santa Fe Trail.

MARSHALL, FRED ELMER, 1881-1971, b Albion, Mich.; Albion College. Taught at Indiana Central 1919-1929; C N C 1930-1935. Public Speaking is Fun.

MCNARY, HELEN BUIS, b 1901 Putnam Co., to Plainfield 1964; DePauw. Purdue, I. U.; Breathe Back That Day. Contributor to Poet's Corner; She is now Mrs. Helen Hammond.

MASTEN, CYRUS, 1854-1933; History and Genealogy of Mathias Masten Who Came to Hendricks County in 1833, and his Descendants to 1933.

MEEKER, EZRA, 1830-1928, b Butler Co., Ohio to Plainfield about 1844, later to Oregon in covered wagon; The Ox-Team, or the Old Oregon Trail (1852-1896); Sixty Years of Frontier Life. (1909).

MILLER, IDA MAE GOOD, b 1919, Marion Co., Ind. Central College, Columbia U., Butler U., Historical Librarian, Plainfield Public Library. Let Friends Sing; Music Editor for Quaker Life.

MOORE, ADDISON WEBSTER, 1866-1930, b Plainfield; DePauw, Cornell, U. Chicago; Pragmatism and its Critics (1910).

MOORE, MARGARET VIRGINIA STEPHENSON, b 1909 Plainfield; U. of Mich., Louisiana State; The Lawbreakers; joint author, Plainfield Friends Mark a Century, 1851-1951.

MORPHEW, ARLIE CLIFTON, b 1899, Hendricks Co.; History and Genealogy of the Morphew Family.

NEWLIN, ELI, 1808-1874. Came to Plainfield in 1834; Some Account of the Life and Religious Labor ofEli Newlin (Itinerant minister).

OLIVER, ELSIE PEARL, 1886-1969; Moved to Pittsboro 1910; My Pearls.

O'NEAL, CLAUDE EDGAR 1884-1971, b near Coatesville; B.A., M.A. PhD at I.U.; Taught at Ohio Wesleyan 1913-1954; Laboratory Manuals.

PALMER, ALDEN CLAUDE, 1887-1972, b Dubois Co., I. U. Law School. The Alden Palmer Letters, sixty essays about life and life insurance.

PENNINGTON, LEVI T., b 1875 at Amo. Friends Minister, Pres. Pacific College 1911-1941 All kinds of Weather; Rambling Recollections of Ninety Happy Years (1967).

PICKETT, SARAH EDNA STANLEY, 1890-1962; History and Genealogy of the Stanley Family.

PRITCHARD, RUTH MITCHELL, b 1907, Howard Co., came to Liberty Twp. 1910; Hendricks County Voting Records, Vol I 1826-1832 (1971).

RAGAN, JOHN SIMEON, 1849-1936, b North Salem; Medical degree from Butler; Fifty Years in the Practice of Medicine, Then and Now.

REES, RUSSELL ELLIOTT, b 1896, lives in Plainfield; Earlham, Hartford Theological Seminary; Christian Education for Friends (1963).

REID, MABEL FRANCES, 1875-1926, b Belleville; U. of Cal.; Veteran school teacher and traveller. Title of book unknown.

REID, ROBERT E., 1878-1966, b Belleville; The Reid Family.

RELANDER, CLIFFORD, 1908-1969. b near Cartersburg; Curator Washington State Historical Society; Drummers and Dreamers (1956); Strangers on the Land.

RIGDON, JONATHAN, 1858-1933, b Rigdon, Ind.; National Normal, Boston U., PhD; Founded Winona College, Pres. 1908-1916, Pres. CNC 1897-1900 and 1918-1928; Grammar of the English Sentence; Methods in Arithmetic; Outlines in Psychology.

RISHER, DANIEL WEBSTER, 1833-1897, b Armstrong Co. Pa.; Methodist pastor, Coatesville, Clayton 1873, Amo 1873-1876; The Indian and the White Man (1880); Grandfather of Mary Risher Hunt.

SCOTT, BURGESS KEESEE, b 1897 in Ky.; Pikesville and Marshall Colleges; taught at Indiana Boy's School, 1956-1966; Father and Mother America.

SMITH, CHARLES W., 1846-1921; DePauw, I. U.; Officer in the Civil War; Some Current Criticisms of Courts and Lawyers.

STEPHENSON, WENDELL HOLMES, 1899-1970. b Cartersburg; Earlham, I. U., U. Mich., PHD; A Basic History of the Old South.

THOMAS, PERCY MONROE, 1886-1957. Joint author with Margaret Moore, Plainfield Friends Mark a Century 1851-1951.

TROKE, GLADYS RUDD, b 1902, Danville. Franklin College, Butler; A Brief History and Centennial Book of the First Baotist Church, Amo, Ind.

TURNER, ANN PAULINE, b 1940 in Mo., moved to Plainfield 1951. Milligan College and I. U. Guide to Indiana Civil War Manuscripts.

WATSON, CLIFFORD M., b 1908, Vermillion Co.; Bits of Verse and Prose.

WEBB, NORVAL ELLSWORTH, b 1898 in Ill.; Earlham & Hartford Theological Seminary; Friends minister. Worship after the Manner of Friends (1963).

WHITE, RUTH INNIS TORBERT, b 1903; Missouri, Kansas State Teachers College; Snail Mail.

WISHARD, JOHN G., 1863-1940; CNC; Ind. Med. College, Wabash; Missionary in Persia 1889-1909; Twenty Years in Persia (1908); Reminiscences of a Doctor (1935).

WORRELL, JOHN, 1837-1913, b in Ky., came to Hendricks Co. 1839, lived near Clayton, Capt. Co. G 99th Infantry in Civil War; State Statistician; Revenue agent, Harrison & McKinley; A Diamond in the Rough.

OLD DOCUMENTS ... NEW INTEREST

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hadley of Coatesville have been rummaging through boxes of papers (as have I) and agonizing over what to save and what to dispose of. But where my treasures go back to the 1880's, some of theirs are dated 1831!

Recently Mr. Hadley dropped off a packet of most fascinating documents, so old that it frightens me to be in possession of them. One Indenture, dated 25 September, 1834, was between Joseph White and John Plaster for the sum of $200 "lawful money of the United States" for the purchase of "eighty acres be the same more or less." Another Indenture between Stephen Stephenson and John Bush for the consideration of fifty dollars was for "land estimated to contain forty acres be the same more or less." Both contracts were signed and sealed by S. T. Hadley, Recorder.

A lengthy hand-written agreement, dated "the 23rd day of January, 1835 between William Christie on the one part, and Jones (or Jonas) Johnson, Israel Christie, Samuel Miles and Henry Bohannon commissioners of Indianapolis Church on the other part". A detailed list of specifications follows for "the church" which William Christie agreed to build. We do not know **which** church this refers to, but we are working on it.

Perhaps the document which contains the most human interest is as follows: (Spelling and punctuation from the original.)

"On or before the first day of August 1832 I promise to pay on caull to be paid unto M. M. Whit the sum of twenty dollars provided the said white course me of a dispeptic affection which I am labouring under at this time and if the said white does not affect a permanent cure I am not to pay him any thing for his services and the above obligation is to be null and void given under my hand and seal the 4th day of July 1831.

Signed:

John Bush

Witness
D. Mausey

The right hand lower corner of the document has been cut out. This is where the Dr. M. M. Whit or White had signed the agreement, and when the agreement was fulfilled, the name was cut or torn out. This was the way they cancelled notes, indentures or other contracts. I shall always wonder whether John Bush was cured of his "affection" and paid his twenty dollars or whether "said white", within the given year, was able to come up with the magic cure, or, on the other hand, had to charge this account off as uncollectable! History leaves much to our imagination.

Margaret Baker

NEW HOURS AT PLAINFIELD LIBRARY

The Historical Room at the Plainfield Public Library is now open each Wednesday from 11:00 a. m. -- 3:00 p. m. and 7:00 p. m. to 9:00 p. m. except that Ida Mae Miller will be on vacation July 7--23.

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENSES STATEMENT

October 1, 1971--May 31, 1972

INCOMES:		
Dues		$ 352 00
Note Paper		34 90
Bulletins		19 00
Gift		1 000 00
		$ 1 405 90
EXPENSES:		
Postage	$ 130 62	
Bulletins	344 38	
Meeting Expense	5 00	
Stationery	38 63	
Junior Historical Society	60 00	
Archivist Expenses	16 41	$ 595 04
		$ 810 86
ASSETS:		
Cash, October 1, 1971	$ 756 80	
1971-72 Increase	810 86	
	$ 1 567 66	
Certificate of Deposit	1 000 00	
Cash May 31, 1972	$ 567 66	