

THE QUARTERLY-BULLETIN OF
Ripley County, Indiana, Historical Society, Inc.

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Versailles, Indiana 47042

VOLUME XII

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NUMBER 1

WINTER MEETING AT OLEAN

The winter meeting of the Ripley County Historical Society will be at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church at Olean, January 10 at 2 o'clock. Dr. William Glover will give the program. It will include the settlement of the area now Washington Township and nearby as it relates to his ancestors.

INFORMATION FROM THE OCTOBER MEETING

Due to the change in the weather on October 11, 20 members and friends of the R.C.H.S. met in the basement of the Milan United Methodist Church rather than the Milan Community Park.

President Randy Young opened the meeting. Each person told in which township they resided. The secretary's report was read, followed by the treasurer's account of the business of the past three months.

After the business the meeting was turned over to Mr. Norris Krall, who is a volunteer in Ripley County, trying to compile a book which they hope to have ready by Christmas of 1988. He was wanting some support from the R.C.H.S.. The book will contain family histories, businesses, churches, towns, etc. This matter was considered in the directors' meeting later.

Kathryn Manship gave a very interesting program on the life of U.S. Marshall Edwin (Ed) Short. Most everyone present was unaware that Ed Short was born in New Marion in 1864 then moved with his family to Osgood. There problems developed and Ed left for the west. She stated that many of his experiences in the west involved famous men in our history such as the Dalton Brothers and Frank and Jesse James. Ed was loved by the children of the west. In 1889 he became a deputy sheriff under U.S. Marshall William Grimes. His body was returned to Osgood by train and buried at Greendale cemetery there in August 1891.

A pitch-in "picnic" supper followed the meeting.

In the directors' meeting the book was discussed further. It was decided: 1. The R.C.H.S. would help in any way they could but there would be no committies from the R.C.H.S. Any member can volunteer if he so wishes. 2. The R.C.H.S. would not be accountable or responsible for any material published in the book.

A RECENT GIFT --

A quilt was recently donated to the Ripley County Historical Society in memory of the Ladies of The Elrod Baptist Church. Mrs. Alice Whitlatch painted a picture of the Church which is the center block titled "Washington Baptist Church 1852 - 1930". It cost 10¢ to have your name embroidered on the quilt. Rev. Edwin Boldrey bought the quilt for \$125 sometime between 1930 and 1934 and now it has been donated to the Curator for display in the museum. There are 680 names on the quilt.

BEST WISHES FOR 1988

A DAY WELL SPENT

The Indiana Historical Society's sixty-ninth Annual Indiana History Conference was held November 6 - 7 at the Indianapolis Airport Holiday Inn. Mrs. Wilford Harrell and I attended Saturday. The County Historian breakfast was at 8:00. The sessions are all so interesting it is a difficult decision which to attend but went with the Family Sessions.

Morning Session: by Diane Sharp, Genealogy Div. Ind. State Library and Curt Witcher, Genealogy Div. Allen Co. Public Library.

Afternoon Session: by John J. Newman, Supreme Court of Ind. Records Management. Panel Discussion: William O. Harris, Ind. State Library.

The luncheon speaker was Judge Sarah Evans Barker, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana, Indianapolis Div., used as the topic of her talk "The United States Constitution". It was awesome.

contributed by Bea Boyd, County Historian.

GENEALOGICAL QUERIES

Please make queries as concise as practical. Typewritten copy is preferred but if handwritten make sure that it is VERY legible. The charge is 50¢ per query to society members and \$1.00 to non-members, payable in advance by check or stamps. Please send all queries to the treasurer; Mrs. Don Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

CAN YOU HELP ? Did any of these ladies marry into your family?
AURELA BECHTEL b. 1832; KATHARINA B. b. 1836; FRANCISCA B. b. 1840;
TRESIA B. b. 1853. They came with FABIEN BECHTEL b. 1812 in Baden, Germany, to Ripley Co. after Apr. 1853. If they did contact:
Mrs. Bea Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

The R.C.H.S. is always pleased to receive genealogical materials relating to Ripley Co. Ind. families. The family folder file is an ongoing project, and your contributions are most helpful.

by Mary Manship, Genealogy Record Searcher, Ripley Co. Archives Bldg.

NEW MEMBERSHIPS STARTING JANUARY 1

Membership in R.C.H.S. is by calendar year, Jan. thru Dec. We are pleased to announce that many have already paid their dues for 1988. Dues remain \$3.00 for adults; \$1.50 juniors under 18; \$100 life membership. Membership is open to anyone who is interested in history of our county and its' preservation, regardless of where they live. We have members in many states. Their membership and interest is appreciated and contributes greatly to maintaining our organization. Members receive the quarterly Bulletin. Meetings are held Jan., Apr., July, and Oct. on the second Sunday of the month.

"Chips From An Old Chopping Block" by Gayle S. Eades is now in book form. Clippings were loaned by Ruth Behlmer of Napoleon, sister of Mr. Eades, and permission to copy. Also the archives had some given by Flora Ballman. These were all compiled in book form and indexed. These are a series of articles written by Mr. Eades and published in the Versailles Republican 1969 - 70 - 71.

OTHER BOOKS FOR SALE THROUGH R.C.H.S. -----

Ripley County Interim Book; \$5 -- \$6 if mailed.
Cemetery Record Books for Adams, Brown, Johnson and Otter Creek Township. (4 books) \$7.50 each or 2 for \$13. \$9 each if mailed or 2 for \$16 if mailed.

Peoples History of Ripley County, Indiana
Revolutionary Soldiers Who Came to Ripley County (or Nearby)
3rd. and Final Instalment

Conrad Dowers enlisted from Pennsylvania in March 1778. He was discharged in November 1778. He died February 27, 1844.

Jacob Dowers enlisted from Pennsylvania in August 1780 and was discharged in February 1781. He was born in 1760 and died June 2, 1840. The Ripley County Historical Society placed Government markers for the Dowers brothers in the Weakman cemetery one mile south of Olean July 13, 1936.

John Parr enlisted from New Jersey in February 1776 and served thirteen months, then reenlisted and afterwards volunteered four times. His service ranging two months - nine months - four months respectively. He was born in 1760 and died September 7, 1852.

Isaac Way enlisted from Virginia in the spring of 1780, served one year and left the service in the spring of 1781. He was born in 1762.

Peter Vanbibber enlisted from Virginia in October 1775 and was discharged June 1777. His service being one year and eight months, reenlisted in November 1780 and was discharged in September 1781. In July he was drafted for six months and was discharged in December 1782 after serving five months. He was born in 1757.

John Ward enlisted from North Carolina in November 1777 and was discharged in April 1778. He was born in 1760 and lived for some time in Versailles.

William Lipperd enlisted from South Carolina in February 1780 and was discharged in March 1781. He reenlisted in March 1781 and was discharged in March 1782. He was born in 1760 and died May 5, 1834. He was pensioned from Ripley County and is buried in Old Washington Cemetery.

In July 1936 the Ripley County Historical Society, aided by subscriptions from descendants of the five Revolutionary soldiers buried in Old Washington cemetery, Edward Pendergast, Ninian Beall, James Grimes, Joseph McDonald and William Lipperd enclosed the cemetery with a durable wove wire fence and placed Government markers for each of the five soldiers, thus making a notable Revolutionary Shrine for Washington Township.

Jacob Mitchellor enlisted from North Carolina in August 1778 and was discharged in September 1778 and reenlisted in July 1779 and was discharged in November 1781. He was pensioned from Ripley County but later moved to Cincinnati, and then moved back to Ripley County. He died in the Fall of 1844.

John Whitteker enlisted from Virginia December 17, 1776 and served three years but received no discharge due to the neglect of his captain. He quit the service in 1779. He was born about 1760 and was pensioned from Switzerland County.

John Tucker entered the service from North Carolina in 1782 and served under John Coleman. He was pensioned in Scott County Ky. and moved to Ripley County in 1839 near New Marion. He was born in 1754 and died in 1840.

Daniel Welch (or Welsh) entered service from Connecticut and enlisted at Sandy Hill, Fort Edwards, N.Y. with Capt. Burris in June 1788 and served four years. He was born in 1763 and died in Dearborn County. He married Nancy Hancock Davis Welch November 29, 1827 and was pensioned from Dearborn County.

Jacob Wycoff entered the service from Monmouth County, New Jersey in July 1775 and served two years. He was born November 3, 1754 and died February 8, 1835. He served under Major E. Anderson and Capt. Thomas Patterson and was pensioned from Ripley County. The Ripley County Historical Society secured a Government marker and it was placed at his grave on the Ralstin Farm three miles southwest of Versailles by the wife of one of his descendants, Mrs. Minnie E. Wycoff, in the Fall of 1935.

John Burchfield entered the service from North Carolina in 1779 and served fifteen months and 24 days. He was born in Guilford County, North Carolina June 6, 1765, lived in Warren County, Ky. and afterwards moved to Rush and Franklin Counties, Ind. From Franklin County he moved to Hamilton, Ohio and then to Ripley County, Ind. and later to Jefferson County, Ind. where he died December 28, 1849. He was pensioned in Franklin Co.

John O'Neal entered the service from Virginia in June 1777 and served one year, one month and twenty days. He was born in Essex Co. Virginia in 1760 and died November 7, 1832. After the Revolution he resided in Franklin County, Ky. and from there moved to Ripley County, Ind. He was pensioned in Ripley County.

Lemuel Chapman entered the service from New York in 1777 under Colonel Swift and Captain Strong and served five months. He was born in 1759, pensioned in Vermont and moved to Ripley County, Ind. in 1837.

Ninian (Ning) Beall entered the cavalry from Maryland in April 1778 under Col. William Washington. His name appears on a record under the following heading; "A list of soldiers of the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment who have received certificates for the balance of their full pay agreeable to the Act of Assembly passed November Session 1781 which record shows that he received his recompense." July 13, 1936 the Ripley County Historical Society placed a Government marker to his grave in the Old Washington Cemetery. He was pensioned from Maryland, later moving to Cincinnati, Ohio then to Dearborn County, Ind. and later to Washington Township, Ripley County, Ind. where he died June 13, 1836. He was born in 1761 and married Christine Stull.

William Bassett entered the service from Virginia in 1776 under Colonel George Bailor and served two years and nine months. He was born in 1754 and died February 6, 1840. He married his wife Peggy in 1780. He was pensioned from Ripley County. The Ripley County Historical Society placed a Government marker at his grave on the John Linkmeyer farm about one-half mile west of the Cross Plains School house, July 13, 1936.

John Boldery entered the service from Massachusetts in April 1775 under Col. Walker. He was born in 1756 and died June 12, 1821. He moved to Ripley County, Ind. in 1820. He is buried in the Franklin cemetery about three miles north of Milan and about three miles south of Sunman, Ind.

James Delap entered the service from New Jersey in 1777 under Col. Robert Taylor and served nine months. He was born in 1755 and died

July 10, 1840 and is buried in the Green graveyard near Elrod, Ind. He was pensioned from Ripley County. The Ripley County Historical Society placed a Government marker at his grave July 13, 1936. His heir was Nathaniel Delap of Elrod, Ind.

Isaac Levi enlisted from Lexington, Virginia (now Kentucky) in 1780 and served two years. He was born in 1751 (?) and died September 21, 1850 (?). He resided in Kentucky, Ohio and then in Indiana. He was pensioned from Switzerland County, Ind. He married Mary (Polly) Tucker widow of John Tucker November 14, 1841 (?). The Ripley County Historical Society, assisted by Miss Pearl Roberts placed a Government marker at his grave on Mrs. Black's lot in the eastside of Osgood, Ind.

Thomas Johnson entered the service from Pennsylvania in 1777 under Captain Henry McKinley and served three years. He was born in 1755 and died in Dearborn County, Ind. May 6, 1823. He was pensioned from Dearborn County. In 1793 he married Sarah Foster. Sarah Johnson applied from Ripley County for a pension in 1842.

Peter Rutledge entered the service from Maryland in 1776 under Captain Joshua Miles and served six months and sixteen days. He was born in 1756 and died May 29, 1844 in Ripley County. He married in 1816 Ruth "somebody". He applied for a pension from Ripley County.

Jacob Hite (Hyatt) was born in Maryland and entered the service from Virginia in 1778 under Captain Armstrong and served eight months. He was born February 14, 1761 and died October 27, 1839. He was pensioned in Rush County, Ind.

Wilbourne Gibson entered the service from North Carolina in 1781 and served three months. He was born in 1763 and died April 4, 1843. He applied for a pension from Ripley County, Ind. in 1838.

Roswell Johnson was born August 14, 1769 in Montgomery County, Virginia. He served three months as a Drummer boy in the Continental army in 1782. He died July 17, 1837. He is buried on the old Johnson farm south of Versailles which is owned by Dick Gray. It is near the old Bethel cemetery where the Johnson family markers are.

Jonathan Pratt enlisted in March 1781. His length of service was until October 1785. He was a private and served under Captain Daniel Link, Col. Tupper and Col. Voss from Massachusetts. His residence at time of enlistment was Templeton, Mass. He applied for a pension April 22, 1818 which was allowed. His residence then was Phillips, Somerset County (now Franklin County), Maine, and his age 55. Later he moved to Ripley County, Ind. and is buried in the Prattsburg cemetery. Ripley County Historical Society placed a Government Marker at his grave July 13, 1936.

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I wish to express my thanks to all those people who helped at the museum during the past year. Those who acted as hosts and helped in various ways were greatly appreciated. Spring will be here before we know it and the school children will be touring the museum. Our regular hours will begin Memorial Day week-end each Saturday and Sunday through Labor Day week-end and other times by appointment.

Thank you all.

Mrs. Howard Lane, Museum Curator

RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Box 525
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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Officers elected to serve until after the April 1988 meeting.

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BROWN Twp. SEC. - Mrs. Alice McCoy, R. 1, Versailles, IN 47042
CENTER Twp. V. PRES. - Mrs. George Cizek, 433 S. Buckeye St, Osgood, IN 47037
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