

don. by
Linda Tiedemann
Stucker

Bowmar Family

for

Joseph Collins, who was also of Revolutionary stock, and lived on a farm in Woodford, his family consisting of ten members, and he owned a farm and nine slaves. James Sullivan, Jr., and Jane Collins had a son, Theoderick N. Sullivan, who was born in 1824. Some years later he accompanied his parents to Peak's Mill, in Franklin County, where they became permanent residents.*

Jacob Harper and his wife Mary came from Germany, where they were born and reared, to Virginia where they resided for quite awhile. In 1797 they came to Kentucky and bought fifteen hundred acres of land that adjoined the estate of Robert Alexander near Midway. They had a large family of children as follows: George, Jacob, Adam, Nicholas, John, William Ist., Henry, Barbara, Elizabeth and Mary. After the death of Jacob Harper and his wife Mary, their land was allotted to their ten children, but all of them, with the exception of Adam, William and Barbara, sold their interests, married and moved to Indiana, Illinois and Missouri.

Adam married and had the following children: William, II., Jacob, Adam, John and Elizabeth. William, II., married Ann Whitley, daughter of Col. William C. Whitley and Esther Fuller, and they were the parents of Adam, Frank, Mary and Barbara Ann. Barbara Ann married Capt. Henry E. Owsley and their children were: Gertrude, Alice, Elizabeth, Annie, Henry, Mary and William. Gertrude married Thos. W. Hawkins; Alice married Al-

fred Stanhope; Elizabeth married Clinton B. Hawkins; Annie married William E. Railey; Henry married Bourne Saunders; Mary married Owen Cooper, and William married Elsie Rickets.

William Harper first married Rebecca Wallace, a lady of Scotch-Irish extract. He settled upon a part of the estate settled by his father which, at his death in 18—, was inherited by his son, J. Wallace Harper, who married, first, his cousin, Elizabeth Harper, daughter of William Harper, Jr., and Ann Whitley; second, Adeline Bailey. By the last marriage was Walter H. Harper who owns the old home. He married the widow Nellie (Rodman) Walcutt and they had an only child, Wallace Harper.

Barbara Harper, daughter of Jacob and Mary Harper, married ——— Christman, and their daughter, Christina married James McKee, of "McKee's Crossroads," on the Versailles pike. They had two children, Catherine and Dr. John R. McKee. Catherine married Col. John Withrow and they had James, William, John.

Dr. John R. McKee married Agnes Moraney and they have James, Frank, Emelius, Bettie and Agnes McKee. Agnes Moraney was a granddaughter of Col. Zach White and Agnes Steele. (See sketch of Col. William Steele.)

The Bowmar family arrived in Kentucky one hundred and forty years ago and have been in Woodford County more than one hundred and thirty years. They were Virginians of the hardy, resolute, courageous type.

In 1779 Robert Bowmar, wife, Chloe Collins (re: R. H. Collins, author of *History of Kentucky*) and F. Bowmar, emigrated to Penn. or Port, in Mercer County. Robert Bowmar in the bloody battle of and was one of the survivors.

The son, Major Henry Sr., served in three campaigns against the Indians and fought Anthony Wayne at the Tippecanoe, near Toledo, where General Wayne killed the Indians and stayed there upon Kentucky. In 1810 Major Bowmar, then two old, was Brigade Major Robert Todd's brigade, leading citizen of Wood County. The census of 1810 shows one of the largest slave counties. He was deputy twenty-two years of age then including portion and Scott; became sheriff terms in the State Senate Democratic nominee for Co. Ashland district to S. Clay in 1827, but as the overwhelming in the m defeated by Judge J. A. Bourbon County, a Whig

At the age of eighty died in 1855 full of honor the "Well done, thou faithful servant." He married Adams, of near Richwood whom Thomas F. Marsh

*See page 86 for Lewis Sullivan.

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In 1779 Robert Bowmar, with his
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tory of Kentucky) and his son, Herman
Bowmar, emigrated to Bowmar's Sta-
tion, or Fort, in Mercer County. In
1789 they removed to Woodford
County. Robert Bowmar participated
in the bloody battle of the Blue Licks
and was one of the fortunate sur-
vivors.

The son, Major Herman Bowmar,
Sr., served in three campaigns against
the Indians and fought under General
Anthony Wayne at the battle of Fallen
Timbers, near Toledo, Ohio, in 1794,
where General Wayne crushed the
Indians and stayed their incursions
upon Kentucky. In that campaign
Major Bowmar, then twenty-five years
old, was Brigade Major of General
Robert Todd's brigade. He became a
leading citizen of Woodford County.
The census of 1810 showed him to be
one of the largest slaveholders in the
county. He was deputy sheriff at
twenty-two years of age, Woodford
then including portions of Franklin
and Scott; became sheriff; served two
terms in the State Senate and was Dem-
ocratic nominee for Congress in the
Ashland district to succeed Henry
Clay in 1827, but as the Whigs were
overwhelmingly in the majority he was
defeated by Judge James Clark of
Deerhous County, a Whig.

At the age of eighty-six years he
died in 1855 full of honors, and with
the "Well done, thou good and faith-
ful servant." He married Frances
Adams, of near Richmond, Va., of
whom Thomas F. Marshall said: "She

was one of the most beautiful women
of her times."

One of Major Herman Bowmar's
brothers, James Hervey Bowmar, was
killed in the War of 1812, and another
brother, Joseph Bowmar, was a Cap-
tain in the United States regular army
for years after the War of 1812.

Of the three sons of Major Herman
Bowmar, Sr., only one remained in
Woodford, Herman Bowmar, Jr. Dr.
Joseph Hamilton Daviess Bowmar re-
moved to Louisiana, and afterwards to
Mississippi; Robert Bowmar migrated
to another part of the State. He also
had several attractive daughters,
Cynthia married Judge Daniel Mayes,
one of the greatest jurists in the South
in his day; Jane married William Barr,
father of the late Judge John Watson
Barr, of Louisville, by a previous mar-
riage; Lucy married John L. Barelay,
member of the firm of Barelay and
Tilford, Lexington bankers before the
Civil War, and Frances married Dr.
Reuben Berry of the county, who own-
ed the home where Hardin Fields now
resides.

Herman Bowmar is said to have
been the most brilliant man Woodford
ever produced. When he graduated
from Transylvania University, he car-
ried off the honors, being valedictorian
of his class, which included Richard H.
Menifee and other distinguished men.
He was an able lawyer, but the death
of his beautiful and charming wife,
who was Eleline Tunis, in his early
prime seemed to have deprived him of
ambition. He held for thirty consecu-
tive years the office of clerk of the
Woodford County Court, which he fill-
ed most admirably, but he made no

special use of his great talents save in occasional speeches and a brilliant and long remembered display of wit and humor.

As an evidence of his popularity, it is said that for twenty years he was regularly elected as a Democrat, although Woodford County was, during that time, a strong Whig county. Major Herman Bowmar, Jr., was a prominent Mason and was elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, R. A. M. He was in great demand as a speaker at important gatherings of the fraternity throughout the State, and was the orator of the day when the cornerstone of the Masonic Temple at Lexington was laid in 1842. His death occurred in 1863.

He was the father of Captain Joseph Marshall Bowmar, a brave officer in General John H. Morgan's cavalry; of Daniel M. Bowmar,* a very brilliant and notable man who was the father of the present editors of the Woodford Sun; and of Robert Bowmar, who was also a soldier in General Morgan's cavalry, commanded by Col. William C. P. Breckenridge, and was killed at the age of sixteen years.

The Bowmars who are at present residents of Woodford County are Aitchison Alexander Bowmar, and Daniel Mayes Bowmar, and their respective families, and the family of George T. Fishback, his wife being Elizabeth Bowmar, and her sister Katherine Bowmar, both daughters of Joseph M. Bowmar. A younger brother of Aitchison A., and Daniel M. Bowmar is Herman Bowmar, III., who re-

sides at St. Louis, Mo., and is general secretary of the Missouri State Sunday School Association. He was born and reared in Woodford and married his cousin, Frances Adams Bowmar, daughter of Capt. Joseph M. Bowmar, also born and reared in the county.

The present editors and publishers of the Woodford Sun, Aitchison A. and Daniel M. Bowmar, Jr., like their father, represent all that is noble and pure in the Christian gentleman, and their spirit has animated the several generations from Robert the pioneer to the present generation.

Robert Bowmar, the pioneer, located his farm on the Kentucky River, and the river line ran from Lock No. 5 to the "Narrows" and joined the farm of Col. William Steele. (Samuel Craig, who came from Scott County in 1835, purchased the farm and his son Charlie lived there until about 1890.) His son, Herman Bowmar, owned a farm on the McCracken or Glenss Creek road where Ben Gray lived for many years, and about two miles from town. Herman Bowmar, Jr., lived in Versailles in a brick cottage that I think Theodore Harris has owned for many years.

Lewis Sullivan was a native of Virginia and came to Woodford County just after the Revolution. His father, Wyatt Sullivan, was born in Ireland, came to Virginia and fought for the independence of America, as did his brother, James Sullivan, who was also born in Ireland. Lewis located his farm near Mortonsville, upon which he settled and remained during his life.

*Whose wife was Marie Elizabeth Smith. See page 246.

hand and seal this 14th day of May 1826

Test
W. D. Steele

Robert Bowditch

his
Samuel & Moor
mark

June Steele

Woodford County Set June County Court 1828

This Instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Robert Bowditch dec^d was produced in Court and proven to be the act and deed of the said Robert Bowditch by the oath of Samuel Moor and of the witnesses thereto and the hand writing of William Steele another witness thereto subscribing witnesses thereto said will proven by the oath of Anthony Whittington of said Will ordered to record whereupon Robert Bowditch, one of the Executors therein named Samuel Cant took the oath required by Law and Executed and Acknowledged bond in the sum of six thousand dollars with Woodford Carter & James Edwards his securities Conditions according to Law Certificate of Probate is granted sign & leave given the Executors hereafter to qualify

att

John McKinney Jr. clerk

divide the other two thirds equally between my sons
Herman Brouman, Benjamin Brouman, Robert
Brouman and my daughter, Polly Major Chloae
Bryant and Fanny Brinker. and then here for
ever. first charging my said son Robert with two
hundred and forty two dollars 12 1/2 Cents to be de-
ducted ^{out} of his part, it being the amount of my
account against him, for extraordinary advances
which I have made him; and first charging my
daughter Chloae Bryant one hundred and forty three
dollars my account against her, and her late hus-
band for extraordinary advances, which I have
made them, and to be deducted out of her dividend
the two last mentioned accounts to be settled out of the
first division of my Estate.

It is further my will, that at the decease of
my said wife, my Negro Woman Nanner Kelynah
& her increase if any, be sold & the proceeds of
said sale, and the other thing retained for the use of
my wife ~~and her~~ ^{whatsoever} remains of the property
first above mentioned, be given to my wife to be
equally divided between my ~~sons~~ ^{my} Legates aforesaid.

And it is further my will that any of ^{my} Executors
herein after named, ^{who qualify} or the survivor of such as qualify
and shall have authority, to convey the title of my
Land and appurtenances, upon payment for the same,
being made. And I appoint my son Herman Brouman
my son-in-law George Majors, and my son Benjamin
Brouman Executors of this my last Will and Testa-
ment. In witness whereof I hereunto set my

In the name of God Amen. I Robert Bowmans of Woodford County State of Kentucky, being aged but of sound mind and memory as touching my worldly estate do make and ordain my last will and testament, as follows, to wit, first I give and bequeath to my wife all the cloth and spun yarn of all kinds which we may have on hand at my decease and one half of my household and kitchen furniture to be chosen by herself at the appraisment prices also during her life my Negro woman Hephzibah.

And all other of my estate both real and personal it is my will shall be sold by my Executors herein after mentioned upon such terms of credit for money, as they shall deem expedient, My Executors aforesaid, is by this my will authorized to sell either at publick sale or auction or by private Bargain & Sale ^{or a majority} they shall deem, most beneficial to my Legates herein after mentioned, and upon credit or for ready money, as they shall judge prudent, may farm and Trust of Land and make a deed of conveyance for the same, to the purchaser or purchasers.

It is further my will, that my Executors retain in their hands, one third part of the the proceeds upon sale of my real & personal Estate, during the lifetime of my said wife and apply the Interest thereof or so much thereof as she shall require to her comfortable support and

built by Cockey Owings, father of Thomas Owings; Captain Crawford's residence; notes on early traces; court held at Strode's Station. A. N. 2 pp.

- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Judge Adam Beatty, Mason County, Ky. Came from Frederick County, Md.; his father had twelve sons and four daughters; his brother, Cornelius Beatty; schooling under Williamson near Winchester, Va.; the Marshall family; Col. Thomas Marshall's character and death. A. N. 1 p.
- 16CC306
- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Fielding Belt, Fleming County, Ky. Married Margaret Finley, sister of Samuel B. Finley; account of Holder's defeat; the battle ground; relics found. A. N. 1 p.
- 12CC245
- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Thomas Bennington, Brown County, Ohio. Came out in McGary's boat in 1791; Maj. Robert Stockton's son and Buchan Rhodes mentioned; Cassidy's escape from Indians; Stewart killed near Cassidy's Station; Thomas Barton mentioned; Zadock Williams killed. A. N. 1 p.
- 14CC17
- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Major Black, Montgomery County, Ky. Hunting with Maj. Samuel Downey in 1806; origin of names of Spohr's and Oppossum creeks; wolf-hunting with George Allen; Black's father, William, lived in Clark County; his uncle, Alexander Black, near Pisgah; came west in 1792; early settlers in the Cow Pasture and the Calf Pasture of Virginia; born July 8, 1775. A. N. 2 pp.
- 12CC151-52
- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Maj. Herman Bowmar. Came with his father [Robert Bowmar] to Bowman's Station through the wilderness in 1779; Stephen and Joseph Collins, Elisha, Robert, and Joshua Pruett, William Hall, James Cox, and Thomas Glass in the company; Bowman's expedition in 1779; Bowmar's uncle, Elisha Collins, General Logan, and the Kirkhams in this cam-
- 13CC170-74

paign; the Corn-crib battle; Captain Madison, Lieut. Thomas Moore, and Ensign Robert Bowmar were officers of the Cove Spring Company detached for relief of McAfee's Station; battle of Blue Licks; Col. James Trotter in Harmar's expedition; character and appearance of Gen. Charles Scott; Jac. Stucker characterized; attack on Estill's Station; notice of book, *Views of the Constitution*, by John Taylor of Caroline County, Va. A. N. 5 pp.

- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Maj. Herman Bowmar, Versailles, Ky. Came west in 1789; arrival of Capt. Dick Fox in 1791; Mrs. Searcy killed; John Smith one of a company that went to New Orleans for ammunition; Bowmar's father in Harrodsburg in 1779. A. N. 1 p.
- 11CC276
- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Samuel Boyd, Cabin Creek, Lewis County, Ky. James Bartley, from the Redstone country, built the first house on waters of Cabin Creek in March, 1795; origin of name of Cabin Creek; Samuel Rogers captured at Long Lick in 1795; Boyd's father lived near Maysville in 1794; the Ohio salt works; first wells dug by Moses Baird, Joseph Vance, and John Heath. A. N. 2 pp.
- 13CC245-46
- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Mr. and Mrs. James Brackenridge, Bourbon County, Ky. Mrs. Brackenridge and Mrs. Wilson daughters of Patrick Mahan; notes on Patrick Mahan; Bird's expedition; the Mahan family taken to Canada; Hugh H. Brackenridge a preacher in Washington's army; his marriage to Sabina Wolf; captivity of James Morrow; notes on the Shakers. A. N. 6 pp.
- 11CC28, 33-37
- n. d. [Shane, John D.] Interview with Fielding Bradford, Scott County, Ky. Came west in 1785; was in Pittsburgh in spring of 1787; his newspaper established in August, 1787; type brought down from Pittsburgh; John Scull printed first paper west of the Alleghany Mountains; Thomas Parvin's
- 13CC211

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[473]

Western Historical Society - 1925
The Collection of Kentucky Papers of the Draper Collection of Manuscripts
by Mabel Clate Clark

hand and seal this 14th day of May 1826

Test
Wm Steele

Robert Bowne ^{dec'd}

his
Samuel & Moor
witness.

June Steele

Woodford County Set June County Court 1828

This Instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Robert Bowne dec'd was produced in Court and proven to be the act and deed of the said Robert Bowne by the oath of Samuel Moor one of the witnesses thereto and the hand writing of William Steele another witness thereto. Subscribing witnesses thereto said will were proven by the oath of Southy Whittington of said Will ordered to record whereupon Robert Bowne one of the Executors therein named came into Court took the oath required by Law and Executed and acknowledged bond in the sum of six thousand dollars with Woodford Carter & James Edwards his securities Conditions according to Law Certificate of Probate is granted sign of clerk given the Executors hereafter to qualify

att

John McKimby Jr. clerk

divide the other two thirds equally between my sons
Herman Bousman, Benjamin Bousman, Robert
Bousman and my daughter Polly Major Chloe
Bryant and Fanny Brinkman. and then here for
ever. first charging my said son Robert with two
hundred and forty two Dollars 12 1/2 Cents to be de-
ducted ^{out} of his part, it being the amount of my
account against him, for extraordinary advances
which I have made him; and first charging my
daughter Chloe Bryant one hundred and forty three
Dollars my account against her, and her late hus-
band for extraordinary advances, which I have
made them, and to be deducted out of her dividend
the two last mentioned accounts to be settled out of the
first division of my Estate

It is further my will, that at ^{the} ~~my~~ decease of
my said wife, my Negro woman Woman Helyah
& her increase if any, be sold & the proceeds of
said sale, and the other thing retained for the use of
my wife ~~and~~ ^{whatsoever} ~~whatsoever~~ remain of the property
first above mentioned, be given to my wife to be
equally divided between my said daughters aforesaid

And it is further my will that any of ^{my} Executors
herein after named, or the survivor of such as qualify
and shall have authority, to convey the title of my
Land and appurtenances, upon payment for the same,
being made. And I appoint my son Herman Bousman
my son-in-law George Major, and my son Benjamin
Bousman Executors of this my last Will and Testa-
ment. In witness whereof I hereunto set my

In the name of God Amen. I Robert Bourman of Woodford County State of Kentucky, being aged but of sound mind and memory as touching my worldly estate do make and ordain my last will and testament, as follows, to wit, first I give and bequeath to my wife all the cloth and spun yarn of all kinds which we may have on hand at my decease and one half of my household and kitchen furniture to be chosen by herself at the appraisment price, also during her life my Negroe Woman Hefiah

And all other of my estate both real and personal it is my will shall be sold by my Executors hereinafter mentioned upon such terms of credit for money, as they shall deem expedient, My Executors aforesaid, is by this my will authorized to sell either at publick sale or Auction or by private Bargain & Sale or ^{or a majority} they shall deem, most beneficial to my Legatee hereinafter mentioned, and upon credit or for ready money, as they shall judge expedient, My Farm and Tract of Land and make a Deed of Conveyance for the same, to the purchaser or purchasers.

It is further my will, that my Executors retain in their hands, one third part of the the proceeds upon sale of my real & personal Estate, during the lifetime of my said wife and apply the interest thereof or 50 cents thereof as she shall require to her comfortable supports.

Lexington and Frankfort. *Mortonsville* is also a neat village, situated four miles south of Versailles, and two miles from the Kentucky river—contains a Christian church, three physicians, one female school, four stores and groceries, one bagging factory and eight mechanics' shops, with a population of 350. Named after Mr. Morton, the proprietor.

From the recollections of Major HERMAN BOWMAR, senior, a venerable pioneer of Woodford, now nearly eighty years of age, active, sprightly, and intelligent, we glean the following facts, concerning the settlement of that county, sketches of character, incidents, &c. The father of Major Bowmar removed to Kentucky in 1779, and settled at Colonel Bowman's station in Mercer, and in 1789, removed to Woodford. In 1791, Major Herman Bowmar, then twenty-two years of age, was qualified as a deputy sheriff of Woodford—the county then embracing portions of the present counties of Franklin and Scott, being divided into two sheriff's districts. His acquaintance, consequently, became extensive, and his recollections, kindly furnished for this work, show a remarkable tenacity of memory.

As late as the year 1782, there were no settlements within the bounds of the present county of Woodford. In the winter of 1782-3, Captain Elijah Craig, who commanded the fort at Bryant's station, in 1782, removed to Woodford, and settled a station about five miles from Versailles, and ten miles from Lexington—the county of Woodford then composing a part of the territory of Fayette. The close of the revolutionary war caused an immense emigration to Kentucky, and during the years 1783-4-5-6-7 and 8, the increase of population in Woodford was so great, as to give the county, at the close of the year last mentioned, as many voters as there are at present (1847) in her reduced territory. That portion of the original territory of Woodford, lying on the lower Elkhorn and the lower Mercer, on the north side of the Kentucky river, was an exposed and guarded frontier from 1783 to 1793.

On the opposite side of the river, in Mercer county, there was no man of his day who excelled Capt. James Ray, (the late Gen. James Ray,) in his activity, bravery and efficiency, as a pioneer commander and Indian fighter. But lower down, as the frontier extended, the most active and efficient was the late Capt. John Arnold, who settled a station on the waters of Little Benson creek in 1783, about seven or eight miles above the site of Frankfort. Several other stations were settled higher up than that of Arnold, his being the extreme frontier; but not having sufficient men to guard them with safety, against the apprehended incursions of the savages, they were abandoned in about a year, and the occupants returned to the older settlements, in Mercer. These settlements were re-occupied in the year 1786. Capt. John Arnold was the commandant of a company of spies for several years, and, with Samuel Hutton and others as his associates, ranged the country as far as Drennon's lick.

In 1792, Jacob Coffman, who owned and resided on the land on which Lawrenceburg, the county seat of Anderson, is now located, was killed and scalped. Maj. Bowmar was of the party raised to pursue the savages and avenge his death; but the pursuit was unsuccessful. During the same year, Capt. Todd, residing then in Woodford, but now embraced in the territory of Scott, was riding alone down the river hill where South Frankfort is situated, when he was fired at by several Indians, who waylaid his path, and killed and scalped. The men in Frankfort heard the report of the guns and the scalp halloo, but were unable to cross the river in time to render him any assistance. Todd was an estimable man, and his death was greatly lamented.

The Saturday before the first Monday in May, 1792, (the first election day under the government of Kentucky,) twenty-five Indians crossed the Lexington road about two miles above Frankfort, and fired at William Chinn, who was riding down the road. Chinn escaped unhurt, and gave the alarm. About a mile further in their progress, they took John Dimint prisoner. They then proceeded about five miles further up into Woodford, and encamped in a rocky cliff of Main Glenn's creek, eight or nine miles from Versailles. Here they remained during the night and succeeding day (Sunday). The alarm being spread through the

surrounding country, several hundred men were out during Sunday, scouring the neighborhood; twenty-five of whom lodged at Lewis Easterday's, about three miles above Frankfort, on Sunday night. The Indians, on the same night, were induced by Dimint to go to Easterday's still-house, where they were unsuccessful in obtaining whisky, but managed to steal the horses of the twenty-five whites, and by a rapid movement soon crossed Main Elkhorn. A party under Col. John Grant, and another under captains Nathaniel Sanders and Anthony Bartlett,—the former from the neighborhood of Georgetown, and the latter from the south side of Elkhorn,—having been united, got upon the trail of the Indians, and commenced a rapid pursuit. As they approached the Eagle hills, the Indians were overtaken by the whites, several shots exchanged, and one of their number killed.* The Indians abandoned their horses, and fled precipitately to the hills with their prisoner. Dimint effected his escape while the Indians were engaged in crossing the Ohio, and returned in safety to his family, bringing home the evidence of his captivity—the "buffalo tag" with which his arms had been confined.

Among the most active and reliable men in the defence of the North Elkhorn frontier, the settlement at the main forks of Elkhorn, and those at Frankfort and its immediate neighborhood, were Col. John K. Grant and Capt. Samuel Grant, with their brothers; Maj. Thomas Herndon and Jacob Tucker; the late Col. James Johnson and Capt. Luckett, as they grew up; Capt. Nathaniel Sanders, Capt. A. Bartlett, Capt. Pemberton, (the late Gen. Bennet Pemberton,) and William Hayden and sons. On the Elkhorn, below the forks, old Mr. Church and sons, Jeremiah Craig, and others, distinguished themselves by their bravery and zeal.

Woodford was principally settled by emigrants from eastern and western Virginia; but there were many families from the states of North Carolina, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and quite a respectable number from Ireland and Germany.

The Honorable GEORGE M. BIBB,† is a native of Virginia—emigrated to Kentucky when young—studied law, and soon distinguished himself at the bar for his legal acquirements, solid judgment and cogent reasoning. He rose rapidly in his profession, and it was not long before he was numbered among the ablest and soundest lawyers in the country. He became well known in a short time—was in politics a republican—acquired the esteem and confidence of his countrymen, to which his honest, consistent and undeviating advocacy of the rights of the occupying claimants contributed not a little. He was appointed by the legislature of Kentucky to defend the occupying claimant laws before the supreme court of the United States and against the State of Virginia—a trust which he discharged with great ability and in a very satisfactory manner to his countrymen.

Judge Bibb has been three times chief justice of the State of Kentucky—the second time upon the reorganization of the court of appeals at the session of 1824-5—consequently belonged to the *new court* side of the *old* and *new court* question, by which the State was so long and so fearfully agitated about that time, and of course believed in the competency of the legislature to enact what were called *relief* laws—including laws for the stay of execution, replevin laws, and laws for the valuation of property taken in execution—without which power, the legislative branch of the government would seem to be imperfect.

Judge Bibb has been twice elected to the senate of the United States—the last time when General Jackson was first elected president of the United States—to whom he gave his cordial support, both when the general was first a candidate in 1824, and when he was elected in 1828—which support was in a short time withdrawn, however. What cause of dissatisfaction he had with that illustrious patriot, is but imperfectly known to the writer of this sketch.

Upon the Judge's retirement from the Senate, he was appointed chancellor of the chancery court of the city of Louisville, in which tribunal he fully sustained his high character as an able and impartial administrator of justice. And in that office he continued until invited in 1844, by President Tyler, to take charge of the treasury department of the United States. From this he retired in 1845, upon

*The respective friends of Col. Grant and Capt. Sanders, claimed for their commander the honor of shooting this Indian.

†The sketch of Judge Bibb properly belongs to Franklin or Jefferson, but was not received until after the descriptions of those counties were stereotyped.

*History of Kentucky by Lewis Collins
Henry Clay Press-Lexington 1968*