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*The* JESS M. THOMPSON  
PIKE COUNTY  
HISTORY

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the part of the fugitives. Unfortunately a hound had been permitted to accompany the whites, and as the trail became fresh and the scent warm, she followed it with eagerness, baying loudly and giving the alarm to the Indians. The consequences of this imprudence were soon displayed. The enemy finding the pursuit keen, and perceiving that the strength of the prisoner began to fail, instantly sunk their tomahawks in her head and left her, still warm and bleeding, upon the snow.

"As the whites came up she retained strength enough to wave her hand in token of recognition, and appeared desirous of giving them some information with regard to the enemy, but her strength was too far gone. Her brother sprung from his horse and knelt by her side, endeavoring to stop the effusion of blood, but in vain. She gave him her hand, muttered some inarticulate words, and expired within two minutes after the arrival of the party. The pursuit was renewed with additional ardor, and in twenty minutes the enemy was within view. They had taken possession of a steep narrow ridge, and seemed desirous of magnifying their numbers in the eyes of the whites, as they ran rapidly from tree to tree, and maintained a steady yell in their most appalling tones. The pursuers, however, were

too experienced to be deceived by so common an artifice, and being satisfied that the number of the enemy must be inferior to their own, they dismounted, tied their horses, and flanking out in such a manner as to enclose the enemy, ascended the ridge as rapidly as was consistent with a due regard to the shelter of their persons.

"The firing quickly commenced, and now for the first time they discovered that only two Indians were opposed to them. They had voluntarily sacrificed themselves for the safety of the main body, and succeeded in delaying pursuit until their friends could reach the mountains. One of them was instantly shot dead, and the other was badly wounded, as was evident from the blood upon his blanket, as well as that which filled his tracks in the snow for a considerable distance. The pursuit was recommenced, and urged keenly until night when the trail entered a running stream and was lost. On the following morning the snow had melted, and every trace of the enemy was obliterated."

Whether Abraham Scholl participated in this pursuit cannot be stated with absolute assurance. From Mrs. Dalby's relation, it seems probable that this adventure related by McClung was that in which Scholl had taken part shortly before he fell into the hands of the Indians.

#### CHAPTER 45

### Boone and Scholl Spread Out in Kentucky and Finally Move to Missouri and Illinois

ABRAHAM SCHOLL lacked five days of eighteen, when, on foot and under a hail of bullets, he forded the Licking river in the awful rout of the whites at Blue Licks. This battle, recorded by Theodore Roosevelt as the "last battle of the Revolution," occurred under a blistering sun on August 19, 1782. When news of the terrible disaster reached the fort at Louisville, General George Rogers Clark launched a formidable expedition into the Indian country, resulting in the destruction of the principal Indian towns on the Miami and Scioto rivers. Abraham Scholl participated in this expedition with his brother Peter, the latter a lieutenant under Colonel Daniel Boone, this being the last expedition in which Colonel Boone was engaged for the protection of the Kentucky settlements.

Prior to this, the Scholl and Boone families had settled at Boone's Station; within this stockade dwelt the families of Daniel, Samuel and Edward Boone, William Hays and William Scholl. Edward Boone had been killed by the Indians in 1780 but his family remained on at Boone's Station. In the fall of 1784, Daniel Boone and his son-in-law, William Hays, and Joseph Scholl (elder brother of Abraham who, at this time, married Daniel Boone's daughter Levina) moved from Boone's Station and settled about five miles away on Marble Creek, north of the Kentucky river.

About 1786, Daniel Boone left the neighborhood of the Kentucky river and lived some time at Limestone (now Maysville, Kentucky), at the mouth of Limestone Creek, a tributary of the Ohio, in then Bourbon (now Mason) county. He was there a tavern-keeper and merchant and one of the first trustees of the town. In 1788 he moved from Limestone to the mouth of the Great Kanawha, near Point Pleasant, at the junction of the Kanawha and Ohio rivers, in what was then the northwest part of Virginia, now within the limits of Mason county, West Virginia. In the same year Boone and his wife and son Nathan went by horseback to the old Pennsylvania home in Berks county to visit kin and friends.

Authorities disagree as to the year Daniel Boone left the Great Kanawha to take up his residence in Upper Louisiana (now Missouri). Some say it was in 1796; others say 1797; still others claim it was 1799. Collins' History of Kentucky, Volume 3, Page 62, says: "Rev. Thomas S. Hinde saw him (Boone) in October, 1797, on packhorses, take up his journey to Missouri, then Upper Louisiana." Bryan and Rose, in their "Pioneer Families of Missouri," Page 44, state: "Col. Boone and family were first Americans that settled within the present limits of the State of Missouri. The French had established trading posts at several points, and had formed a village of 400 or 500 inhabitants at St. Louis, but there were no regular settlements beyond these."

(Note: The John Lewis family, from whom the early Lewises at Pleasant Hill were descended, had brought the English tongue to the banks of the Missouri in 1795, probably two years before Boone's arrival.)

In Upper Louisiana, Boone and his family settled in

the wilderness in old St. Charles county, which once embraced all of present Missouri north of the Missouri river. He built his cabin about 30 miles southwest of the southern tip of present Calhoun county, formerly Pike county, Illinois. He hunted and camped on extended trips into present Pike county, Illinois, and Callaway county, Missouri, where stands a white oak tree about a mile south of present Williamsburg, bearing the initials D. B., known and referred to for more than a century in that neighborhood as the "Daniel Boone tree." Boone's grandson, Joseph Scholl, Jr., grandfather of Jesse Proctor Crump of Kansas City (an important contributor to Scholl and Boone history), owned at one time a farm of 500 acres in this neighborhood.

William Scholl, abiding for a while at Boone's Station, obtained and moved to 100 acres of land about 12 miles from Lexington, on the Tate's Creek Pike, where he died about the turn of the century. He is known to have been alive in 1795 and dead in 1803; his eldest son, Peter, was appointed administrator of his estate.

In the year 1781 there came out to Kentucky a large number of unmarried women from the older settlements, seeking husbands among the young men of the Kentucky frontier. Among them was a young woman by the name of Nellie Humble, sometimes spelled "Umble" in old manuscripts. Abraham Scholl's name also appears as "Abram" in numerous manuscripts, and that spelling frequently appears in official Pike county records; in fact, one deed is of record at the Pike county court house that was so signed by Scholl himself.

No record has been found of Abraham Scholl's first marriage; when his marriage to Nellie Humble occurred is unknown. The first child of record of this marriage was born in 1788, this being the boy Morgan, who came to Pike county with his father in 1825. Most of the Scholl family historians say there were six children born of this first marriage and twelve of the second. Jesse Proctor Crump, in Mrs. Spraker's book, "The Boone Family," says Abraham Scholl was twice married and had ten children by each wife; E. B. Scholl in Draper Manuscripts also ascribes ten children to each family. Some claim that there were four sons born to Abraham Scholl prior to Morgan Scholl, who were either sons by Nellie Humble or by a wife preceding her. John Wilson of Baylis, a Scholl descendant, thinks from things he has heard related by his forebears that Abraham Scholl was probably three times married, Nellie Humble being his second wife and Tabitha Noe his third; of this there is no official confirmation. It is Mr. Wilson's impression that there were sons earlier than Morgan, who turned out a wild lot and whose wildness was at least in part responsible for Abraham Scholl leaving Kentucky to get away from Morgan's friends, fearing they might get him into trouble.

In 1792 (the year that Kentucky became a state), Peter, Joseph and Abraham Scholl established themselves on a 1400-acre tract that had been preempted by Daniel Boone about ten miles east of present Winchester in present Clark county, Kentucky, and about 15 miles northeast of Boonesborough. Here the three Scholls established the station of Schollsville, site of

the present railroad station of Hedges, which stands near the center of the old Boone-Scholl tract. A. K. Wilson, a Scholl descendant, who visited the place some years ago, says that over the school house door and over that of the old brick church in Hedges may still be seen the name "Schollsville." This land was settled and preempted by Daniel Boone, who afterward assigned it to William Scholl. William intended it for his three sons, Peter, Abraham and Joseph, but made no legal transfer and died without a will, and the rest of his children brought suit for an equal partitioning of this land and won. The land was divided among the heirs of William Scholl by an order of the court. Abraham, Peter and Joseph then bought out the other heirs and continued in possession of Schollsville.

A. C. Barrow, a great grandson of Abraham Scholl, in recent years has owned and lived on a portion of the old Schollsville estate. In 1920, in a letter to Adeline Cochran (Abraham Scholl's granddaughter), he wrote: "A portion of the house Peter Scholl lived in is still standing and is just across the hill from where I live."

Schollsville Station was never attacked but was threatened in 1793. Says Mr. Barrow: "The Scholls were warned and all the men nearby came into the fort to defend it. The Indians suddenly turned east and attacked Morgan's Station and captured or killed all the inmates excepting an old Negro who saw a crow light on the barn and regarded it as an evil omen and he made his way out of the fort and escaped."

It was probably a combination of circumstances that prompted Abraham Scholl to turn his back upon Kentucky, even as did Daniel Boone. For one thing, he abominated the institution of slavery. He became a Whig in politics and an admirer of young Abraham Lincoln. He condemned slavery even in his own family and quarreled with at least one of his brothers whom he upbraided for whipping his slaves. He refused to have slaves himself or to work those who were the chattels of his wife.

For years before the final move was made, we find Abraham Scholl making ready to leave Kentucky for the free land of Illinois. As early as 1816 we find him on a prospecting trip to the Illinois country. In 1819 he prepares to leave Kentucky, joining with a party of six others (three married men with their families and three unmarried men), who start that year for the Illinois country. One of these six was John Scott, who died in Griggsville township in 1855, and for whom, according to some accounts, Scott county, Illinois, was named.

James Scott, brother of John and a member of the party, in an interview in 1864, related to Judge Henderson, historian of the Sangamon country, the circumstances of the trip to Illinois, the trail that was followed, the harrowing experiences enroute. With this party, he said, was to have come one Abram Shull, who, however, for some unknown reason, did not appear at the rendezvous and the others came on without him. Scholl followed a few years later, taking, it is believed, the same route that had been agreed upon in 1819.

(Note: In the early Sangamon country records, the name of "Scholl" is invariably spelled "Schull" or "Shull," these spellings also appearing on old grave stones yet standing in isolated cemeteries in present Scott county.)

A. C. Barrow says, with respect to his great grandfather's attitude toward slavery: "Abraham Scholl would not own slaves nor have anything to do with working his wife's slaves. He and his brother Peter nearly came to blows because Peter whipped one of his slaves."

Mr. Barrow, an eminent historian of the Scholl family in Kentucky and a member of the Filson Club of Louisville, Kentucky, the leading historical society in the state, comes of a line of slave haters. His great grandfather, David Barrow, a Baptist preacher of Virginia and Kentucky, freed his slaves before he left Virginia and preached emancipation and for this he was "churched," being expelled from the North District Baptist Association. He established an association of Baptist churches who called themselves "Friends to Humanity." Prior to 1810, Mr. Barrow says, Peter Scholl gave an acre of land for a church of this persuasion in Kentucky, although Peter Scholl himself was a slave-holder.

"It is my theory," says Mr. Barrow, "that this church was built by those who loved and admired David Barrow, notwithstanding they did not agree with him on the slavery question." David Barrow is said to have been the ablest writer and speaker of his day, among the Baptists of Virginia and Kentucky. When Abraham Lincoln's father, Thomas Lincoln, started for Indiana, he had a church letter from a church that was a member of David Barrow's association—"Licking Locust Association Friends to Humanity."

David Barrow organized the first Anti-Slavery Association west of the Alleghenies. One of David Barrow's sons, Hinchea Gilliam Barrow, married Rachel, daughter of Abraham and Nellie (Humble) Scholl, June 9, 1810. David Barrow performed the wedding ceremony at the marriage of Abraham Scholl and Tabitha Noe in Kentucky December 15, 1803. Two of David Barrow's granddaughters married grandsons of Peter Scholl, brother of Abraham.

"It is quite an interesting coincidence," wrote A. C. Barrow to Abraham Scholl's granddaughter, Adeline Cochran, in 1920, "that my great grandfather, Abraham Scholl, was opposed to slavery, as was also my great grandfather, David Barrow, who organized the first movement to free the slaves and wrote a book on that subject and sent a copy to Thomas Jefferson, to which Jefferson replied, and I have a copy of that letter. My people were all Democrat politically, but when I went to school and studied history, and came to the Civil War, I became intensely opposed to the South, secession and slavery, and became a Republican, much to the dismay of my people. I had heard nothing about my ancestors' views on the subject then. You see it was born in me; I could not help it, especially since four of my ancestors fought in the Revolutionary War and one in the War of 1812."

Says Mr. Barrow: "I have since childhood been intensely interested in Abraham Lincoln. I have read the

Lincoln and Douglas debates twice. I would like very much to know any jokes told by Abe Scholl on Abe Lincoln. I would like to know if A. Lincoln ever visited Pike county and what was Abe Scholl's politics." He says further that he has long believed that Abraham Scholl was named for Abraham Lincoln (grandfather of the President), who came out to Kentucky with the Scholls in 1779.

Trouble over land titles probably was another factor contributing to Abraham Scholl's decision to abandon Kentucky. There is a record at Winchester, county seat of Clark county, Kentucky, of the litigation involving the 1400-acre tract at Schollsville, which was entered by Daniel Boone and assigned to William Scholl, father of Abraham. Abraham, Joseph and Peter Scholl, who finally controlled this tract, after buying out the heirs who sued for its equitable apportionment, probably suffered serious losses through overlapping claims. William Scholl had intended this tract for Abraham, Joseph and Peter but failed to take the necessary steps and when he died his other children claimed and obtained their shares.

Kentucky was admitted as a state in 1792, the year that Abraham, Peter and Joseph settled at Schollsville. They doubtless were victims of the same circumstances that embittered Daniel Boone against this land he had preserved for civilization. As courts of justice became established in every community, litigation increased and was carried on to a distressing extent. Many of the old pioneers, who had cleared farms in the midst of the wilderness, and were prepared to spend the remainder of their days surrounded by peace and plenty, had their lands and homes wrested from them through lack of legal titles, by greedy and avaricious speculators, and were cast adrift in their old age to again fight the battle of existence. Colonel Boone was among the victims, as perhaps was Abraham Scholl. Every foot of Boone's land was taken from him, and he was left penniless. His recorded descriptions of location and boundary were defective, and shrewd speculators had the adroitness to secure legal titles by more accurate and better defined entries.

Thus Abraham Scholl turned his back upon Kentucky, even as had Daniel Boone; the latter embittered by his treatment in the land to which he had given the best years of his life, and where, as he said, his "footsteps had been often marked with blood." Edward Boone Scholl, writing from Griggsville in 1861, said: "Daniel Boone visited Ky. on his way to the Kanawha (Kanawha) Salt Works in 1801; his son-in-law went from Clark Co. with him—Jo. Scholl. He was much incensed at the ingratitude of Ky."

Says W. H. Saunders, great grandson of Abraham Scholl: "Abraham Scholl left Kentucky because he did not like the institution of slavery and possibly also on account of others filing on his lands, owing to imperfect titles. D. Boone and Wm. Scholl settled these lands together and only roughly marked the boundaries and these were probably not recorded, so there was trouble for both of them. D. Boone finally went to Missouri in disgust at the treatment he received regarding his lands—he never returned to Kentucky, although later the state tried to make amends."

Daniel Boone, renouncing Kentucky, first settled at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, and later, some time in the period 1795-99, emigrated to the wilderness of Upper Louisiana and for the fourth time in his life threw up a log cabin and began with his faithful wife, Rebecca, to pioneer a new wilderness, this time at a spot about a two hours' drive from present Pittsfield, county seat of Pike county, Illinois. Here it was that

Colonel John Shaw, great Pike county pioneer, coming to this region in 1808, met Colonel Boone, as recorded in earlier chapters of this history, and formed that enduring friendship with the Boone family, notably with the Colonel's sons, Daniel Morgan and Nathan, his son-in-law, Flanders Callaway, and the latter's son, James Callaway, and Daniel's grandson, Boone Hays.

## CHAPTER 46

### Sister of Abraham Scholl Tells Her Early Memories; Land Pirates Were Menace

ABRAHAM SCHOLL'S SISTER, Rachel Scholl Denton (born in March, 1773), replying to questions of Lyman C. Draper, collector of the noted Draper Manuscripts, in 1844, when she was 71, related many things pertinent to events heretofore mentioned, her relation being of such importance as to merit a full exposition here. Of the coming of the Scholl family from Virginia to Kentucky (she was then six years old) she says:

"Late in '79 (1779) William Scholl and family went from Shenandoah county, Va., and reached Boonesboro on Christmas day and there ate their last bread until raised in '80. Went that spring to Louisville, then called Clarksville (George Rogers Clark had founded a fort there in 1778), to buy seed corn. That same day (25th of December, '79) Scholl's and Boone's family passed over Kentucky river about four miles. Boone killed a young buffalo cow and camped. They cooked their fine beef. Next morning there was snow on the ground; after a little erected half-fitted camps, made of boards and forked sticks. In March the snow went off (from December 25, '79 to March it never melted off) and then they erected cabins and stockades with port holes—but never was attacked; horses stolen occasionally. Soon after Boone and kinsman Scholl took up camp they were joined by three or four other families—Edward and Samuel Boone and Wm. Hays among them."

Note: This is an important contribution to the history of the famous station on Boone's Creek where lived the ancestors of the Pike county Scholls and Elledges on land preempted by Daniel Boone's son Israel who was killed at the Blue Licks. According to this account, Daniel Boone and William Scholl (Abraham Scholl's father) together founded Boone's Station in the midst of the bitterest winter of the 18th century, that of 1779-80, on the spot where they halted and camped to cook the young buffalo cow killed by Boone, on Christmas day, 1779. Daniel Boone and William Scholl, according to a statement by Rachel Denton's son, D. B. Denton, in a letter now among the Draper Manuscripts at Madison, Wisconsin, were first cousins, which statement verifies the recollection of the late Hannah Dalby of Griggsville that Abraham Scholl's grandfather and Daniel Boone's father married sisters, Jane and

Sarah Morgan. This apparently is the solution of the long undetermined relationship between the Boones and Scholls prior to the intermarriages of the two families.

Continuing her enthralling narrative, Mrs. Denton says: "That cold winter we lived on buffalo, bear, deer and turkies. All were very lean and poor from the severe winter and the sleet-covered condition of the cane, but such as it was Boone and his friends furnished a good supply.

"Boone had a considerable supply of corn but had divided even to his last pone with the newcomers."

Of the bloody year of 1782 and of the battles of Bryan's Station and the Blue Licks, Mrs. Denton says:

"An express (a fleet runner as before recounted) came from Bryan's Station. Capt. Wm. Hays (Boone's son-in-law) went with some 20 men, possibly Boone went but think not, and attempted to dash into the besieged fort; but the Indians secreted in the corn, pumpkins and wild weeds, fired upon the party—mortally wounding Charles Hunter; and Capt. Hays was shot through the neck and Samuel Stinson had his thigh broke—all of Boone's Station—Hunter died next morning when within a few hundred yards of Boone's Station.

"Blue Lick Defeat—Five of the Boone's Station men were killed and one, John Morgan, taken prisoner and was returned. Israel Boone (Daniel's son) was killed and Squire Boone, son of Samuel, had his thigh broken and his neighbor, Samuel Brannon, gave up his horse to Boone to escape and was himself killed before he reached the Licking. But Boone reached the Station with his shattered limb dangling in the cane and grape vines and sometimes thrown upon his horse's rump. Long after he recovered.

"Boone's Station settled on Israel Boone's preemption. In spring of '80 (following the hard winter) Boone had the whole station engaged in sugar making. The poor miserable buffalo would come to drink the sugar water and could hardly drive them off, they were so poor.

"In the spring of a year children would gather up rotted nettles, make warp of it and fill it with wool or more commonly buffalo hair.

"When Boone's brother Edward (ancestor of the Pike county Elledges) was killed, Boone (Daniel) escaped by killing the Indian dog and reached home (1780) in the night with heart-rending intelligence. Edward Boone left a widow and five children (one of whom, Mary, married Abraham Scholl's brother, Peter, and another of whom, Charity, married Francis Elledge and settled across the Illinois river in Scott county where both she and her husband are buried)."

"The year (1780)," continued Mrs. Denton. "was a

in Kentucky, whom they brought with them to Pike county, Illinois, in the migration of 1834; here in Pike county three more children were born. The nine children were: Hinson S., Eli, Finis Lowery, Jacob, David K., Elizabeth G., Downey C., Alexander Chapman and Mary D. Hobbs.

Solomon Hobbs died in Pike county April 16, 1869, aged 77 years, six months and two days. He is buried in Old Baptist cemetery at Perry.

Nicholas Hobbs, son of pioneer Hinson and brother of Solomon, was born April 22, 1795, in the Severns Valley in Kentucky. He and his wife Elizabeth came from Kentucky to what is now Scott county, Illinois, in 1829, settling later in Pike county at Perry where he died July 10, 1879, aged 84 years, two months and 18 days. His wife, born in Kentucky March 11, 1798, died at Perry December 21, 1887. Both are buried in the McCord cemetery at Perry.

Nicholas Hobbs and his wife Elizabeth had ten children, namely: Hinson, Patrick, Artemisia B., William F., Mahala J., Rachel, Sarah A., Veturia, Jacob and Solomon Hobbs. Jacob and Solomon died before their father.

David Hobbs, another son of pioneer Hinson, born in Kentucky and known in early Pike county as Elder David Hobbs, had a daughter, Matilda, who in Pike county, in 1851, married Bennett F. Dorsey, who was born near the celebrated Perry Mineral Springs, November 11, 1832, a son of Charles Dorsey and Eleanor Broiles. Elder Hobbs' wife was also Kentucky born, her birth having occurred October 8, 1832.

Bennett Dorsey and Matilda Hobbs had two children, Edgar Ralph, born May 9, 1859, and Asa L., born March 22, 1861. Edgar married Rachel Anna, daughter of Miles B. Chenoweth, December 31, 1877, he a son of Pike county Abraham and a grandson of Major William Chenoweth of the Revolution, who married a

daughter of Jacob Van Meter, head of one of the four families who were united in the early days of the Severns Valley for defense against the Indians. Thus, here in Pike county, the union born of the Indian threat in early Kentucky, was perpetuated in the union of descendants of two of those families, as, later, we will find it perpetuated in the unions of others of the descendants of the original four.

William Hobbs, fourth child and son of the elder Hinson, became the father of the Reverend Charles Albert and Mary Hobbs; Charles Albert being the father of Dr. Charles A. and Dr. Ralph Waller Hobbs.

Nancy Hobbs, only daughter of Kentucky Hinson and Sarah (Shipman) Hobbs, was born at Elizabethtown, Kentucky, October 20, 1812. On October 19, 1836 in Pike county she married Jacob Sneed Vertrees, pioneer of the Perry neighborhood and a son of John Vertrees, who was the grandfather of John E. and Cephas D. Vertrees, so long associated with the town of Pittsfield. John Vertrees, grandfather of John E. Vertrees, founder of the Vertrees store in Pittsfield and father of former Mayor Herbert H. Vertrees and of Miss Lillia Vertrees, proprietress of the Vertrees Book Store in Pittsfield, was one of the original four of Severns Valley history, whose thrilling stories will be recounted in succeeding chapters.

Thus, in the marriage of Nancy Hobbs and Jacob Sneed Vertrees at Perry more than a century ago, were united two more of the descendants of the original families in the Severns Valley, a daughter of Hinson Hobbs and a son of John Vertrees.

Jacob Sneed Vertrees and Nancy Hobbs had five children: Mary E., John Eaton, Cephas D., Anna E. and Emma S. Vertrees, whose stories, along with those of other Pike county descendants of the Severns Valley pioneers, will be related in succeeding chapters.

## CHAPTER 119

### Other Families of the Hobbs Children; the Adam Hofsess Family

THE SEVERNS VALLEY in Kentucky, home of the pioneer families of Hobbs, Vertrees, Haycraft and Van Meter, took its name from John Severns, an early adventurer, who, attracted by the beauty of the location, entered land and gave his name to creek and valley. Severns Valley Creek, a branch of Nolin, empties into Green River, on whose banks numerous of Pike county's earliest settlers had their origin.

In the days of early settlement, the valley was clothed for the most part with a dense forest. In the dark woods and undergrowth, hostile Indians often skulked, watching a chance to swoop upon some unsuspecting settler or his home. Homes were of the nature of block-houses, with stockades and port-holes

for resisting enemy attacks. Samuel Haycraft, brother of Nancy Haycraft who married John Vertrees and became the great grandmother of the present Pittsfield Vertreeses, thus describes (in his History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky) the defenses of those old forting days in the Severns Valley:

"About the fall of 1779 and winter of 1780, the early settlers were Captain Thomas Helm, Colonel Andrew Hynes and Samuel Haycraft (father of Nancy Haycraft Vertrees); each of these persons built forts with block houses. The forts were stockades, constructed of split timber—then deemed sufficient for defense against the Indian rifles. The sites were well selected, each on elevated ground, commanding springs of never failing and excellent water."

Haycraft's fort, in which Nancy (Haycraft) Vertrees was born in 1782, was on the hill above Cave Spring (near present Elizabethtown, Kentucky), "in which," says the historian, Samuel Haycraft, Jr., "the flesh of many a deer, buffalo and bear was preserved for use, as salt in those days was not to be had. There were no other settlements at that time between the falls of the Ohio (present Louisville) and Green river. These

forts were subject to frequent attacks by the Indians. The report of a gun at either of these forts was the signal by which the other forts were warned of the danger and summoned to the aid of the besieged fortress, which was promptly responded to. Many were the inroads made by savages upon the infant settlements at that early period."

Deeds of daring valor were performed by our pioneers of the Severns Valley, whose descendants are today so numerous in Pike county. Many of these descendants are wholly unacquainted with the exciting history of their forebears in those old forting days when Kentucky was being settled. Blood of their kinsmen was shed on many a savage field of encounter. Dan Vertrees, a son of Nancy Haycraft Vertrees and brother of Jacob Sneed Vertrees of early Perry, was killed by the Indians in Severns Valley; he a stalwart young man of daring, boldest of the bold.

The families of Hobbs, Van Meter and Vertrees occupied fortress homes similar to that of Haycraft on the Kentucky frontier. Together, these families withstood the shock of Indian warfare, a savage contest for dominion. The families were already inter-related. The elder Samuel Haycraft had married Margaret Van Meter, daughter of old Jacob and sister of Mary Van Meter, who married Major William Chenoweth, they being ancestors of the Pike county Chenoweths. The Haycraft and Vertrees families intermarried, as did the families of Haycraft and Chenoweth and those of Vertrees and Hobbs.

Hinson S. Hobbs, son of the elder Solomon Hobbs and Mary L. Young, and grandson of pioneer Hinson Hobbs of the early Severns Valley settlement, came to Pike county with his parents in 1834 and settled in the neighborhood of Perry, being then 20 years of age. Born in Kentucky in 1814, he was the eldest of the elder Solomon Hobbs' nine children.

On March 31, 1842, Hinson S. Hobbs married Mary M. Taylor, one of the thirteen children of the Pike county pioneers, Simon H. and Nancy Taylor, Kentuckians, he of Welsh descent, she of German. They were married by Caleb Browning, then a Pike county justice of the peace. Among the bride's brothers and sisters were Josiah, John L., Nicholas, Gaylen and Sutphin Taylor, and Mrs. Catherine Brim, Mrs. Vibrilla Wade, Mrs. Marilda Holmes and Mrs. Mary J. Smith.

Hinson Hobbs began farming on his own account immediately following his marriage, being very successful in that undertaking. He accumulated 600 acres of land, nearly 400 lying in Perry township. He became the father of seven children, four boys and three girls.

Following the death of Hinson S. Hobbs, his widow, Mary M. Hobbs, continued to reside at Perry; she died December 22, 1915, leaving surviving her as heirs three sons, David H., William M., and Taylor S. Hobbs, and one daughter, Ida, who had married Joshua W. Long; also her grandchildren, the children of a deceased son, James, and a deceased daughter, Loretta Hobbs. Rollo Six was executor of her will, dated April 6, 1912, and witnessed by Harvey Six and Mina Belford, and, in part, by J. L. Baldwin.

David H. Hobbs, a veteran of the Civil War, married Phoebe Spires, in Pike county, March 23, 1879. David

lived at Perry and was also a resident at one time of Fayette county, later becoming a resident of the Soldiers' Home at Quincy, Illinois, where he died March 25, 1916, leaving as his only children and heirs Abraham H. Hobbs and Mrs. Edith Hobbs Moore. He owned property in Chenoweth's Addition in Perry. George I. Kendrick, public administrator, administered his estate.

William M. Hobbs and Taylor S. Hobbs, brothers of David H., located in Fayette county, Illinois, the former at Avena, the latter at Vandalia.

James Hobbs at the age of 21 married Eunice Walker, a native of Missouri and a daughter of John W. Walker and Elizabeth S. Dewitt. They were married at Griggsville April 16, 1880, by Justice H. Lynde. James died in Shelby county, Illinois, leaving two daughters, Mary A. Specht and Lola C. Griffin of Shelbyville.

Ida Hobbs married Joshua W. Long in Pike county May 13, 1876, with Justice J. H. Dennis officiating. She later resided at Cameron, Missouri.

Loretta Hobbs married Thomas Stone. She died July 27, 1904, aged 40, leaving two daughters, Mary Stone Washburn and Lena Stone Larkin of Holden, Missouri.

Esther B. Hobbs, daughter of Hinson S. Hobbs and Mary M. Taylor, was the first of the seven children to die, her death occurring at Perry September 8, 1885, at the age of 18 years, two months and six days. She is buried in Old Baptist cemetery at Perry.

Eli Hobbs, another son of pioneer Solomon and a grandson of Kentucky Hinson, married Mrs. Lucinda Elledge in Pike county January 2, 1849, she a daughter of the elder Josias Wade, early settler in Flint township and old Indian fighter who was under General Howard with William Henry Harrison's force at Tippecanoe. Josias Wade, who died in Pike county in 1844, occupies one of the earliest graves in Bethel churchyard in Newburg township.

Lucinda Wade was the fourteenth child of Josias Wade, who was the father of seventeen children; he and his second wife, Frances Dorson, were married in Kentucky in 1809. He was father of five children by his first wife, who died in 1805 in Kentucky.

Lucinda's first husband was Joel Elledge, a son of Boone Elledge and Rebecca Beall, and a grandson of Francis Elledge and Charity Boone, she a daughter of Daniel Boone's brother, Edward (Neddie) Boone and his wife, Martha Bryan, whose lost grave in Kentucky has been discovered during the publication of this history.

Lucinda Wade and Joel Elledge were married in Pike county December 21, 1843. She was of Kentucky birth, born there August 14, 1825. They had one daughter, Rebecca Frances Elledge, born February 3, 1845. The father, Joel, died soon after this daughter's birth.

Rebecca Frances Elledge married Adam Hofsess, a son of John and Rosina Hofsess, December 27, 1866, Justice Elijah Cole performing the ceremony.

Adam Hofsess and Rebecca Frances Elledge had four children, namely, Frederick J., Lucinda R., Jonah Harvy and Mary Essie Hofsess. Three are living.

Frederick J. Hofsess, born March 22, 1868, married Martha Elizabeth White February 4, 1891, and they

reside in Oregon. They had seven children, namely:

Rebecca Frances Hofsess, born December 16, 1891, married Lester C. Autery November 16, 1921, and they have one child, Rosalle Ellen Autery, born January 15, 1928;

Lyda V. Hofsess, born August 30, 1893, married John D. Hawkins in September, 1915, and they have eight children, namely, Jacob James born August 20, 1916; Hazel May, February 21, 1918; Frederick Archie, August 10, 1919; Georgana Sue, March 30, 1921; Philip John, January 4, 1923; Francis Lester, January 8, 1925; Joe Adam, September 6, 1926; and Melvin Lee, October 28, 1928.

Lenora May Hofsess, born August 1, 1894, married Alfred J. Sweet January 2, 1924, and they have one child, James Frederick, born January 3, 1925.

Essie Hofsess, born July 1, 1896, married James Crew November 19, 1915, and they had four children, namely: Elizabeth Lee, born April 6, 1917; James John, born April 1, 1920 (deceased); Charlie H., born March 9, 1922, and Martha Louise Crew, born December 5, 1929.

Joseph Adam Hofsess, born March 29, 1899, married Hazel Ida Wheeler October 20, 1918 and they had six children, namely: Beth E., born December 10, 1919; Kenneth Lester, born November 21, 1921; Richard Oren, February 21, 1923; Joseph Leroy, February 21, 1929; Edward Allen, December 12, 1930 (deceased); and Donna May, May 1, 1933.

Lula L. Hofsess, born October 24, 1901, married Philip G. Cope October 30, 1920 and they have two children, Ralph E., born October 21, 1925, and Phyllis Ida, born June 3, 1927.

Susie Elizabeth Hofsess, born May 17, 1902, married George W. Hawkins June 16, 1926 and they had four children: Joyce Ann, born June 2, 1927; George Warren, August 28, 1928; Doris May, April 29, 1930; and Bonnie Sue, November 28, 1931, the latter deceased.

Elizabeth Lee Crew, daughter of Essie Hofsess, married Graden R. Thom February 12, 1934 and they have two children, Graden R., Jr., born September 22, 1935, and Ronald E., born September 22, 1937.

Beth Hofsess, daughter of Joseph Adam, married Fred Brakeman October 13, 1935 and they have one child, Barbara L., born October 13, 1936.

Hazel May Hawkins, daughter of Lyda V. Hofsess, married Randolph Lipscomb in June, 1936 and they have one child, Richard Lee, born April 6, 1937.

Lucinda R. Hofsess, eldest daughter of Adam Hof-

sess and Rebecca Frances Elledge, born January 10, 1870, married Robert A. Thompson March 13, 1889 and they have two children, Claude B. and Russell Adam. Claude B. Thompson, born September 14, 1891, married Olga Maude Faber September 14, 1914, and they have two children, Maude Florine, born November 15, 1916, and Claudia Aileen, born November 8, 1918. Russell Adam Thompson, born January 19, 1898, died April 11, 1917. The Robert Thompsons reside at Hume, Missouri.

Jonah Harvy Hofsess, son of Adam and Rebecca Elledge Hofsess, born February 5, 1872, on July 20, 1902 married Lydia Catharine White, who was born January 22, 1873. They had three children: Opal Irene, born May 6, 1906, married Otho Lafayette Cox November 28, 1923, in the Presbyterian church at Langlois, Oregon, where Jonah's widow and family reside; Oren Walter, born April 18, 1908, and Frederick Adam, born December 24, 1911, died April 2, 1924. Jonah Hofsess died at Langlois, Oregon, December 29, 1919.

Mary Essie Hofsess, youngest of the children of Adam and Rebecca, born May 9, 1874, married W. H. Vail January 11, 1893 and they have one child, Ruby Edith Vail, born October 7, 1896, who married L. Thomas Scott, March 31, 1915, to which union were born Wanda Mae, December 10, 1918, and Russell E., July, 1923. The family resides in the west.

All of the foregoing descendants of Rebecca Frances (Elledge) Hofsess come down in direct lineal line from the noted Boone family, through Charity Boone, who rests in a lost grave on the farm occupied by Glen Riley northeast of Griggsville. The sons and daughters of Adam Hofsess and Rebecca Frances Elledge are also nephews and nieces of Gustave Thiele of Griggsville, whose wife was Mary Hofsess, a sister of Adam. Other sons and daughters of John and Rosina Hofsess (brothers and sisters of Adam) were John, Jr., Frederick, Jonah, and Caroline, who married George W. Morrell.

Adam Hofsess died May 6, 1920; his wife, Rebecca Frances, great great granddaughter of Neddie Boone, died September 14, 1875.

Lucinda (Wade) Elledge, widow of Joel Elledge and mother of Rebecca Frances Hofsess, on January 2, 1849 married Eli Hobbs, second of the sons of the elder Solomon and a grandson of Kentucky Hinman. The story of Eli and Lucinda and their numerous family of children will be related in the ensuing chapter.