Roy Vernon Hardin, 84

Roy Vernon Hardin, 84, of Horan Lane in Lebanon, passed away at 11:10 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28, 2007 at Spring View Hospital in Lebanon.

A native of Washington County, he was born Dec. 27, 1922 to the late Luther and Effie Sagracy Hardin. He was a member of Woodlawn Baptist Church in Lebanon and a retired farmer.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Garland Hardin and W.H. Hardin and a sister, Lucy Hardin.

Survivors include a lifelong friend, Imogene Payne of Lebanon; a son Roy Lynn Hardin of Louisville; three grandchildren, Daniel Hardin, Roy Hardin and Rebecca Hardin; three great-grandchildren; and five sisters, Helen Willard and Sarah (James Lewis), all of Springfield, Annie Myrtle Hooper and Della Rose McCarty, both of Louisville and Hattie Lee Smith of Danville.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31 at Carey & Son Funeral Home with Rev. John McDaniel, pastor of Temple Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial was in Ryder Cemetery in Lebanon.

Pallbearers were Daniel Hardin, Roger Hardin, Alton Hardin, Pete Hardin, Tim Mardis and Eddie Lewis.

PAID OBITUARY

Angela B. 'Angie' Hardin, 66

Angela B. "Angie" Hardin, 66, Lebanon, died Nov. 11, 2008, at Taylor Regional Hospital in Campbellsville.

Hardin was born Nov. 25, 1941, in Marion County.

She was preceded in death by: her parents, Chester Minor and Beuleah Elenora Salee Murphy; and a brother, Randall Murphy.

Survivors include: two sons, Steven Childers of Lawrenceburg and Timothy Dean Childers of Lebanon; one daughter, Susie Ahmedou of Louisville; a brother, Hubert Allen Murphy of Springfield; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Nov. 14 at Bosley Funeral Home, Lebanon, with burial in Ryder Cemetery. Dr. David Whitlock officiated.

Active pallbearers were Earl Sandusky Sr., Earl Sandusky Jr., Mike Luckett, Joe Nalley, Bob Carney and Larry Ford.

Honorary pallbearers were Craig Thompson and Dean and Christopher Childers.

Bosley Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

BUDDHA.

The religion of Buddha has probably more votaries than any other in the world. It is said to be embraced by some four hundred millions of human beings, or about half the population of the globe. Yet, very little has been known of it, until comparatively recently; and the public is indebted for what knowledge is possessed of this extraordinary religion, to a work published only a short time ago on the subject, by R. Spence Hardy, a learned member of the Ceylon Branch of the Asiatic Society.

There seems to be no reason to doubt that the founder of the religion was Gotama Buddha, the son of a petty prince, who lived on the borders of Nepaul, above seven centuries before Christ. The date of Gotama's birth was B. C. six hundred and twenty-four. At the age of sixteen he married; and in the warm countries of the east, sixteen is by no means considered an early age. At twenty, his wife was delivered of a son; and having beheld the mother and child, and seen the succession to the dynasty provided for, he departed, never more to return to his palace.

The circumstances which are supposed to have given rise to this course of conduct on the part of Gotama, were these: The monstrous worship of Bramah prevailed all over India at that time, Juggernaut, widow-burning, self-tortues, beastly impurities of all kinds, exercised their degrading influences upon the population, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin. Gotama was a youth of virtuous feelings, strong intelligence, and great determination. Looking around him at the mass of iniquity, which flourished under the guise of religion, he resolved by a life of self-denial, study, and teaching, to protest against it all. He might have led the life of a prince, been flattered and indulged, and spent his time in sensual enjoyments like the rest; but he felt that he had a great mission to perform, and he did it. Casting one glance at his wife and child, he gave up all the world's honors, and went into the wilderness or the forest, where, under the shadow of a botree, he meditated deeply upon life, its duties and obligation, its objects and aims, and there rose up in his heart great thoughts of a better life, higher aspirations, purer worship, and the issue,—undying happiness for the unhappy millions who were now perishing around him. He persevered in this course of ascetic discipline for six years passing through various stages of existence, as the writings of his followers since avow, until he at length reached the Budhaship, or highest possible state of being. While in the forest, tradition relates that he was attacked by a formidable host of demons, whom he determinedly resisted; until at length, "after a desperate struggle, the demons passed away, like the thunder-cloud retiring from the orb of the moon, causing it to appear in greater splendor." This encounter with the demons most probably means the desperate human struggle with worldly passions and temptations, related in the usual highly figurative style of eastern writers.

He now appeared before the world as a preacher and proselyter, announcing himself as the greatest of existences, come into the world to restore truth and destroy error.

school kept here by Mr. Barry, an excellent though private teacher. Barry removed to Ohio county, and young Hardin followed him thither, but returned to Bardstown about the year 1807, and commenced the practice of the law, in which he rapidly rose to distinction. He first became conspicuous in political life in the great struggle between the old and new court parties, which convulsed the State for several years. Mr. Hardin was one of the ablest champions of the old court, and was largely instrumental in saving the State from revolution. He was afterwards elected a representative in Congress, in which he served for a number of years with great distinction. He became the most popular and powerful man in this district, so that it was useless for any one to run against him. Indeed, though he has been before the people for office as frequently perhaps as any man in the State, he has never been defeated. The part which he took in procuring the call of the convention of 1849, and the establishment of the new constitution, is familiar to everybody. On the whole, few men have exercised so powerful an influence upon the career and destinies of this commonwealth, as Mr. Hardin. As an orator, his great *forte* was in the statement of his case. His statements were arguments. So lucid, and well arranged were his narrations of facts, that we have often thought, had his education and circumstances favored, he might have been as great an historian as Thucydides or Hume. His powers of ridicule were also very remarkable. His sarcasm was terrible and not very sparingly employed, and no doubt made him more enemies than any of his public acts. His reading was very extensive in history and literature, his memory prodigious, and his knowledge of political affairs in his own and other countries singularly accurate. He was a man of wonderful energy of character. When once enlisted in an undertaking, his iron strength of purpose never faltered for a moment, and his activity was almost preternatural. Take him all in all, he was certainly one of the greatest of that constellation of eminent men who arose with the birth of this commonwealth to illustrate the State and the nation.

Mr. F. M'Gill presented us with a [illegible] Remington's Patent, and after trying it, we recommend it to the lovers of [illegible] as the best Coffee Boiler that we know of. It will [illegible] enough to pay for [illegible] times in a year, [illegible] it dearer, for sale [illegible]

---

lust by ter
sages of o
"As the
the temper
truly wise
or contem
"The
of water,
born teak
but the g
more diffi
directs hir
"As st
rapid stre
even so is
sea of lus
These
almost a
but what
cient to i
cy of his
tempt for
ue, and
themes u
and from
the greate
The fai
tama Buc
itself quie
of fri ht
years.
the words
tion:
"Two
the faith
the Hima
ed the en
trated in
tant Nipl
Brahmar
tottering
system o
mining b
were ho
country,
astonish
of the w
dead.
giant sh
new stru
Buddhis
any circ
dhism w
of its pu
now rea
be felt i
struggle,
Brahma
its more
paul in
To mal
the vast
Burmah
verted;
wholly
Central
braced
this, the
dred and
names,
ing by
lions of
Such
gion of
mixed w
persuasio
in all re

they laid off Harrodstown (now Harrodsburg), or came a few months later, to join the settlers there, the writer has not been able to ascertain. It is a settled fact of history, however, that in 1775, when some of the settlers at Harrodsburg were frightened by news of an impending Indian attack, and fled their cabins to return to Virginia, Samuel Cartwright was there at that time and he was one of the few who remained. (General James Ray to Mann Butler, in 1833.)

The historian Collins refers to "deposiitons and other wtll authenticated statements" in his possession "or examined by" him, which show the several persons who resided or spent some time at Harrodsburg during some portion of the year 1775, after March 11th In the list he includes the name of Samuel Cartwright.

Collins, too, is authority for the statement that Samuel Cartwright built his station, on the creek which bears his family name, in 1779. He built it, of course, on land which he had located and entered for himself, sometime between 1775 and 1779. In building the station he was assisted by his son, Joseph Cartwright, and several others. This son afterwards inherited the land and the station or fort. It is probable that Philemon Waters, of whom we shall write more later, was one of those who aided the Cartwrights in building their station, for, he settled in the immediate vicinity thereof.

(To Be Continued)

(Continued From Last Week)

Chapter One

The Wickliffes and The Hardins

Officially the story of Washington County history begins in the year 1792. That was the year in which Kentucky became a State of the Union, ceasing to be a part of Virginia. Washington County, named in honor of The Father of Our Country, was created by the second act of the General Assembly, mainly through the efforts of Matthew Walton, a large landowner and a member of the Assembly from Nelson County.

But the story of Washington County, however, or at least one of the most dramatic and interesting parts thereof, began nearly twenty years prior to the year in which the county was formed. As early as 1774-1775, when Kentucky was yet a County of Virginia, there were hardy pioneers from Virginia and Pennsylvania, and a few from the Carolinas, who, bent upon exploring the country, hunting and fishing, came upon the water courses and followed them, discovered numerous salt licks and charted their locations, in what is now Washington County.

As early as June, 1770, Daniel Boone got his first glimpse of Kentucky. About him much of the early history of the State clusters. Boone, however, was not the first white man to view Kentucky or to explore her wilderness. Several others had been there before him, and James Harrod, founder of Harrodsburg, was in Kentucky with numerous settlers when Boone came in 1774 with settlers for Boonesborough.

The first explorations in the country now known as Washington County (and Marion as well, for it was originally a part of Washington) were made by men who came to Harrodsburg with James Harrod and planted corn there in 1776. This we know from old depositions yet preserved in the Clerk's Office in Springfield. Other early explorers in the county were numbered among the men who came with Boone in 1774.

Among those who first explored the wilderness of Washington County, following her Indian and buffalo trails, visiting her numerous salt licks, drinking from her innumerable springs of clear, cool water and hunting her game, was Thomas Denton. This sturdy pioneer, a native of Pennsylvania, reached Harrodsburg on September 8, 1775 (Collins), in company with Gen. James Ray, then quite a young man, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McGary, Richard Hogan and several others. With him Denton brought his family consisting of his wife and several children, including a grown son, John Denton.

Collins says that Mrs. Denton, Mrs. McGary and Mrs. Hogan "formed the first domestic circle at Harrodsburg, and were the first white women upon the waters of Salt River."

Denton's Meat Camp

Thomas Denton loved to hunt, and it was a necessary occupation then. so he became the hunter not only for his own family but for the others as well who formed the little settlement at Harrodsburg. On his hunting trips, Denton would travel for miles, be gone for weeks at a time, shooting deer, wild turkey, bear and buffalo. These he always found in goodly numbers in the vicinity of numerous salt licks southwestward from Harrodsburg in the country now known as Washington and Marion Counties. (Two of the more prominent licks, where Denton found game, were the Indian licks and the Cedar licks, both sites now in Marion County. Of these licks we shall write more in a later chapter of this narrative.)

On his hunting trips Denton was usually accompanied by his son, John. On their first excursion together they established a camp on Hardin's Creek in the vicinity of the present towns of Springfield and Lebanon. There they carried all the slain game to be skinned and dried. Denton described this camp in a deposition which he made on September 16,1797, before Charles Wickliffe (father of Governor Charles Wickliffe) and Philip Washburn, Commissioners appointed by the Washington County Court. The deposition was made on the site of the camp, and the document says it was "commonly called the meat camp."

Denton deposed that it was in 1776 that he "being in company with John Denton his son came to this place and made a hunting camp and hunted hear about three weeks." He further said that "he came hear again the insuing year and made another small hunt from the same camp," and that the camp was known "by the name of Denton's hunting camp. Sometimes called the meat camp ever since that time."

The pioneer Denton gave some clue to the naming of Hardin's Creek though he did not fix the exact date. Replying to a question asked by James McElroy (who came early to Kentucky from Virginia and was one of the ancestors of the numerous members of that family yet living in Washington County), Denton said he hunted and dried meat in 1775-1776 (while the colonists back East were fighting to throw off the tyrant's yoke), and that Hardin's Creek was known by that name then. He also said that when he established his meat camp on Hardin's Creek there was "an old buffalough trace (path) crossing the creek a few poles below said camp." (This was probably a continuation of the old buffalo trace which lead up Cartwright's Creek, and which forked just above Cartwright's Station. See sketch of Cartwright's Station for detailed account of this trace or trail.)

In a later deposition (December 4, 1797), made before John Caldwell and Richard Berry (cousin of Nancy Hanks, her guardian, and the man who signed Thomas Lincoln's marriage bond on June 10, 1806), "on an island in the Beech Fork," Denton said that he had visited that part of the country in 1780 (he probably had been there earlier). The purpose of his visit to the particular place mentioned in this deposition was to "make an improvement on the Beech Fork" for John Irvine. The entry he gave Irvine was made so as "to include an island on which he made the improvement on the Beech Fork, that is the island that is opposite Mr. James Ryans field where he now resides, and just below the said Ryans fulling mill."

The "island" mentioned in Denton's depostion was situated in the vicinity of the present hamlet of Poortown or Beechland. Ryan's fulling mill was located on the Beech Fork a short distance east from the site of the present abandoned flour and grist mill, which stands on the bank of the river at Poortown. Ruins of the old foundation and traces of the old mill race are yet discernable. This fulling mill, once a flourishing establishment, was not a great way from the house of Francis Berry (now owned by the Polins) where Nancy Hanks, mother of President Lincoln, lived for several years, and where she was married to Thomas Lincoln on June 12, 1806.

A check of the pioneers who lived for a time at Harrodsburg (Collins' History) reveals the names of several who later lived in Washington County or spent some time there. These include: Samuel Cartwright, builder of Cartwright's Station on the creek of the same name; Wm. Crow, Azariah Davis, James Sandusky, who, with his brother Jacob, built Sandusky's Station on Pleasant Run; John Severns, for whom Severns' Run was named, and others.

The Wickliffes

Among the earliest families in Washington County was that which bore the name of Wickliffe. This family was headed by Charles Wickliffe, native of Prince William County, Virginia, whose father, Elijah Wickliffe, came from England about 1748. For a short time Charles Wickliffe resided at Redstone "Old Fort" in Pennsylvania, and from there he emigrated with his family and the kinfolk of his wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Hardin, to Kentucky.

There is some difference of opinion over the date of the emigration of the Wickliffes and the Hardins from Pennsylvania to Kentucky. One writer says that Robert Wickliffe, son of Charles and Lydia Wickliffe, was born at Redstone, Penn., in 1775, while the family was removing from Virginia to Kentucky. This statement, however, or rather the infer-

ence therefrom that the family reached Kentucky in that year or thereabout, seems incorrect as our eyes rest upon an old deposition, yellowed with age, made by Philemon Waters on the 13th day of August, 1798. Waters says that it was in the fall of 1783 that Martin Hardin "gave him such direction to find . . . Charles Wickliffes land and improvement in order that he might show the same to the said Charles Wickliffe." Waters further stated that Martin Hardin gave him "such direction" in "the Monongahelia Country." That "country" was then the southwestern part of Pennsylvania and the northwestern neck of Virginia now known as West Virginia.

Members of the Hardin family, particularly Mark Hardin, Sr., and Martin Hardin, Sr., were in Kentucky as early as 1775-1776, but not to settle there. They came to preempt land and make entries for themselves and their kinfolk. The deposition made by Waters clearly indicates that Martin Hardin made an improvement, which usually consisted of chopping down a few trees and piling them up as though the erection of a cabin had been begun, and that he entered a tract of land for Charles Wickliffe, which the said Wickliffe had not seen prior to 1783 else it would not have been necessary for Waters to direct him to it and show it to him.

But Waters is more explicit in his story about the time of Charles Wickliffe's coming to Kentucky. He said that he "went with the said Wickliffe in the year 1784 (probably in the springs of the year) to hunt said improvement and by said direction (given him by Martin Hardin) found it which is now in said Wickliffes medow at 015, in the connected plat which is said by the Surveyor to be North 39 degrees West 26 poles from said Wickliffes back door of his Dweling house."

One might conclude from the testimony of Philemon Waters that Charles Wickliffe emigrated to Kentucky in 1784, but in view of the fact that there is a tradition, not only in the Wickliffe family but in the Hardin family as well, that the two families came to Kentucky together, it would seem that such a conclusion would not be correct. There is plenty of documentary evidence which shows that the Hardins, several families of them, reached Kentucky for permanent settlement in 1787. If the Wickliffes came with their Hardin kinfolk, as tradition says they did, they then arrived in 1787, to make their home on the tract of land which Martin Hardin had entered for Charles Wickliffe.

The land entered by Martin Hardin for Charles Wickliffe before 1783, and which Wickliffe in company with Philemon Waters in 1784 viewed for the first time, was situated on Sulphur Run, a small branch of Cartwright's Creek. Wickliffe built his log home on the land and the dwelling house stood about six miles Southwest of the present town of Springfield, which town of course, had not been established in 1787, when Wickliffe built his house.

Returning for a moment to the question of time of arrival of the Wickliffes and Hardins in Kentucky, we observe that in the emigrant party which arrived in the wilderness of what is now Washington County in 1787, there was the family of Benjamin Hardin. This Benjamin Hardin had married his cousin, Sarah Hardin, sister of Col. John Hardin, Mark Hardin, Sr., and Martin Hardin, Sr. Their son, Ben Hardin, who became one of Kentucky's foremost lawyers of a hundred years ago, used to say that he was four years old when he arrived on the banks of Pleasant Run in Washington County where his uncle, Colonel John Hardin, elected to make his home. We definitely know that Ben Hardin was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, in 1784. If, as he said, he was 4 years old when the emigrant party came on Pleasant Run, that could have been in 1787-1788.

But there is yet another argument which may be advanced, and that is that Charles A. Wickliffe, the youngest of the nine children of Charles and Lydia (Hardin) Wickliffe, was born June 8, 1788, in the log cabin home on Sulphur Run in what is now Washington County. The family must then have come to Kentucky either in the fall of 1787, or, in the spring of 1788.

Charles Wickliffe, Sr., was prominent in the public life of Nelson County from 1787-1788 to 1792, of which county he was then a resident. After the formation of Washington County in 1792 he was equally, if not more so, prominently identified with public affairs. He was a Justice of the Peace for Washington County, a member of the County Court and the Court of Quarterly Sessions, and at one time Sheriff of Washington County. Besides clearing and cultivating a large tract of land upon which he raised large crops of tobacco, Charles Wickliffe, Sr., owned and operated a large warehouse and numerous flatboats. This warehouse was situated near his home on Cartwright Creek and from it many boats loaded with tobacco, whiskey and other products, went forth on the long and perilous journey to the southern markets at Natchez and New Orleans. (See County and Circuit Court records of Washington County, which include numerous suits at law in which Charles Wickliffe was involved due to misunderstandings arising over shipments.)

Of the nine children of Charles and Lydia (Hardin) Wickliffe, two sons attained more than the ordinary prominence. These were Robert, the eldest, and Charles A., the youngest. Both studied law, the former under the celebrated George Nicholas, and the latter in the office of his cousin, Gen. Martin D. Hardin. While Robert shunned, as far as he could, political honors, and obtained a large and lucrative law practice, Charles A. was active nearly all his life in politics, and oft-elected to public office.

Robert Wickliffe was about 14 years of age when he came with his parents to Kentucky, and for several years he assisted his father on the farm. When he had reached the age which his father believed sufficient for him to choose and prepare for a profession, that parent sent him to George Nicholas at Lexington. From 1825 to 1832 he was a member of the State Senate, and during this time, occurred the great and bitter controversy between the Old and New Court parties in Kentucky. Robert Wickliffe distinguished himself as one of the old Court leaders and his party finally won out, but not until there had been much bitter battling with such powerful adversaries as John Rowan, Geo. M. Bibb and Wm. T. Barry. The historian Collins says that Robert Wickliffe "was a man of lofty stature, noble presence and courtly manners . . . . . His temper was frank and ardent, giving him great influence over his associates and making his friends adhere to him with constancy." In all this he must have been very much like his father, at least one gets the impression from reading the old records of Washington County, that Charles Wickliffe, Sr., was a gentleman of the first rank, able, honest and highly respected by all who knew him. A member of the Washington County Court for many years, and at the time it was graced by such pioneer cerebraties as Jesse Head, Benedict Spalding, Arthur S. Gibbins, Josiah Wilson, Benjamin Hardin and Philip Washburn, he detracted not a bit from that group and only withdrew therefrom when by reason of seniority he was in line for appointment as Sheriff of the County, to which office he was named by the Governor of the Commonwealth upon recommendation by his fellow-members of the Washington County Court.

Charles Anderson Wickliffe, youngest child of Charles and Lydia (Hardin) Wickliffe, was born on Sulphur Run, 6 miles southwest of the present site of Springfield, June 8, 1788. Collins says that his early education was limited, and that he remained at home until he was 17, when he went to grammar school in Bardstown. After spending a year under the Rev. Dr. Wilson who kept the school, Charles, Jr., spent the ensuing nine months under the instruction of Rev. Dr. James Blythe, acting president of Transylvania University. His next step was to study law in the office of his cousin, Martin D. Hardin, and when he had completed his studies there, he went to Bardstown, opened an office, and began his professional career.

The bar of Bardstown, when Charles A. Wickliffe settled there was, according to Collins, "the ablest (perhaps excepting Lexington) west of the Allegheny Mountains." It comprised such men as John Rowan, John Pope, Ben Hardin (Charles A. Wickliffe's cousin) and John Hays. Of Wickliffe's success there, Collins says "In this battle of the giants, Mr. Wickliffe, by fair and honorable exertion, forced his way to a high place in public estimation."

While practicing his profession at Bardstown, Charles A. Wickliffe frequently appeared in the courts of his native county of Washington. In 1814 he was counsel for Messrs. Beall and Brown in a land suit to determine ownership of a large tract of land on Cartwright's Creek.

The political life of Charles A. Wickliffe was both long and distinguished. He represented Nelson County in the legislature in 1812 and 1813. After spending several years in the practice of his profession he again went to the legislature in 1820 and 1821, and then in 1823 he went to Congress where he remained until 1833. He was a strong supporter of Andrew Jackson in preference to John Quincy Adams in 1825. From 1833 to 1835 he was back in the legislature of Kentucky. In 1836 he was elected lieutenant governor, upon the Whig ticket, and by the death of Gov. James Clark (1839) he became governor until September, 1840. From 1841 to 1845 he was U. S. Postmaster General, and in the latter year was sent by President Polk on a secret mission to Texas.

Charles A. Wickliffe's popularity as

a public servant began to wane with the gathering clouds of civil war, though he was elected to Congress in June, 1861. In 1863, however, when he had the moral and physical courage to make the race for Governor of Kentucky on the Democratic ticket, he ran a poor second to Thomas E. Bramlette, the Union candidate.

(To Be Continued)

(Continued From Last Week)

The Hardin Family

The next pioneer Washington County family to which we direct our attention is that which bears the name of Hardin. No other family, perhaps, in the county's history, contributed more in the way of distinguished public service than did this one.

The Hardin family in Washington County must be broken down into four groups, namely, the family of Colonel John Hardin, the family of Benjamin Hardin, the family of Mark Hardin, Sr., and the family of Martin Hardin, Sr. Of these men, the first, third and fourth were brothers; the second a cousin of the others.

From a source considered fairly authentic, we learn that the American forebear of John, Mark and Martin was Martin Hardin, who lived first in Fauquier County, Va. There Col. John Hardin was born October 1, 1753. When John was about 12 years old, and when his brothers, Mark and Martin, were mere lads, the family moved from Fauquier County to George's Creek, on the Monogahela. The family believed at the time that their home was in Virginia; but it was found, when the line was settled and run, that they were in Pennsylvania.

In their new situation, the Hardin Brothers found themselves on the frontier with Indian hostilities to engage their attention. They early learned to carry and use the rifle, and as there were no schools, hunting became their chief pursuit and chief delight. Tradition says that it was a familiar sight to see the Hardin boys "traversing the vales, or crossing the hills, or climbing the mountains, in search of game, insensible of fatigue, until they became most expert in the craft." John Hardin soon established a reputation for being a "dead shot," due to the rapidity and exactness with which he pointed his rifle. (Collins)

A narrative of many pages could be written about the life of Col. John Hardin, for, it was replete with stirring adventures and valuable public services. We must be brief here, however, hence only a few paragraphs are gotten together about him. He served as an ensign in a militia company in Dunmore's War of 1774; was with Capt. Zack Morgan in an engagement with the Indians, and was wounded while in the act of aiming his rifle at the enemy.

Soon after peace was declared (1774), Colonel Hardin turned his attention to Kentucky, as did his younger brothers, Mark and Martin. He prepared for a journey to Kentucky in 1775, to be accompanied by his brothers, but did not go, as Collins says, "probably on account of the increasing rumors of an approaching war with Great Britain." His brothers, however, as appears from certain depositions which they made in later years, did journey to Kentucky in 1775 for the purpose of exploring the country and establishing claims to lands. (See old depositions in Clerks' Offices at Springfield, Ky.)

Colonel John Hardin applied himself to the business of a soldier in the Continental Army and served until December, 1779, when he resigned. He was with General Daniel Morgan, by whom he was many time selected for enterprises of peril. (Collins) When he resigned in 1779 he returned to his home. In the following year (1780) he was in Kentucky where he located lands on treasury warrants, for himself and some of his friends. His brothers, Mark and Martin, and probably his cousin, Benjamin Hardin, were with him. About 5 years before, Mark Hardin had come upon the banks of a small stream which later became known as Pleasant Run. In the neighborhood of the mouth of this stream he (Mark Hardin) had found what he believed to be a most excellent site for an entry. The land was fertile and there were numerous springs of water in the neighborhood. He had made an improvement with the view to returning there later to claim the land for himself or some kinsman. When he accompanied his brother John to Kentucky in 1780 he showed him the lands he had selected in 1775, and that brother decided to enter his claim thereon. After spending several months in Kentucky, the party returned to their homes in Pennsylvania.

In April, 1786, according to Collins, Colonel John Hardin removed his wife and family to Kentucky and settled on his preemption on Pleasant Run, then in Nelson County but now in Washington. Scarcely had he arrived in Kentucky, ere he volunteered under Gen. George Rogers Clark for the Wabash expedition, leaving his family to complete the establishment of their home on Pleasant Run. He was back home again by 1789, for in that year a considerable party of Indians overran his farm, stole all his horses, without leaving him one for his plow. He organized a pursuing party, followed the Indians for a considerable distance, but they escaped by crossing the Ohio.

In 1789, John Hardin acquired his title of Colonel by being appointed county lientenant of Nelson County, which gave him command of the militia of the county. As the commanding officer of that organization he was not content to wait for marauding bands of Indians to come to his part of the country. He organized a troop of volunteers (Washington County records contain numerous papers which show this), and set off to cross the Ohio for the purpose of scouring the country in order to break up any bands of Indians that might be found. There were 200 mounted men in his company (Collins), and after crossing the Ohio and coming to one of the branches of the Wabash, the troop fell on a camp of about 30 Shawnees, whom they attacked and defeated, with a loss of 2 killed and 9 wounded. Two members of Colonel Hardin's company were wounded, none killed or taken by the Indians. From these Indians Colonel Hardin recovered two horses and several colts which had been stolen from his farm on Pleasant Run. The result of this expedition, says Collins, was that "no more horses were stolen from that neighborhood (Pleasant Run) during the ensuing years."

During the time that he remained at home, Colonel Hardin took an active interest in local affairs. He was intimate with General Matthew Walton, and with that gentleman worked on a plan for the division of Nelson County and the establishment of a new county to be known as Washington, in honor of his late Commander-in-Chief in the Revolution. Colonel Hardin was to be one of the first Justices of the new county, and General Walton inserted his name in the bill which he drew for the first session of the General Assembly of Kentucky. The Colonel, however, was not to qualify for that office, and for the following reason:

In the spring of 1792, (when plans were being made to make Kentucky a State, and Matthew Walton cherished the idea for the formation of a new county to be known as Washington), Colonel John Hardin was sent by General Wilkinson with overtures to the Indians in Ohio. He bade his family goodbye, set off from his home on Pleasant Run, and made his way toward the Miami villages. With him he took an interpreter, and a few other men. At an Indian camp about a day's journey from the site where Ft. Defiance was afterwards built, he encamped with the Indians during the night.

There are a number of accounts purporting to show what happened that night in the Indian camp. Taking bits here and there from them all and piecing the whole together, we find that Colonel Hardin, shrewd as he was, and thoroughly alert to the trickery of the redskins, was deceived by the pretext of aid on the morrow. The Indians proposed encamping with him, saying they would accompany him in the morning to the residence of their chief.

But "the morning" never came for Colonel Hardin. While he slept that night the Indinas murdered him, and made off with his horse and baggage. The interpreter, strange to say, was not harmed. (Marshall's History of Kentucky.)

Some old letters preserved by the Hardin family, some of which the writer saw a few years ago at a house in Washington County, near the site of Colonel Hardin's home, show that he reached Fort Washington (Cincinnati), April 27, 1792. On May 19th, he was still at that fort, and on that day he wrote to his family saying that he proposed "to set out on the ensuing Monday for the Sandusky towns, and Maj. Truman for the Miami towns, and try to form a junction at the mouth of the Miami Rier, which is called Rosadebra, where we expect to form a treaty with all the Indians we can collect at that place." The Colonel stated in his letter that he "hoped to return in two or three months, but it might be longer," as he would have "to wait the pleasure of the Indians." That he probably realized the danger of losing his life is evident from his letter when he says he "reproaches myself for having left my family, throwing myself into the hands of a cruel, savage enemy."

So Colonel John Hardin never got back to his home and to the new county of Washington which his friend Matthew Walton had got created by the second Act of the Kentucky General Assembly in his absence. Word of his death reached his family on Pleasant Run several weeks afterward and his widow and six children, three sons and three daughters, were greatly bereaved, the more so because his

body was not to be returned to them but was to rest in strange soil many miles away. The place where he was killed, however, was not to be neglected and forgotten. About the year 1840 a town was laid out there, on the State road from Piqua through Wapakonetta, and named "Hardin" in his memory. (Collins and Marshall's Histories of Kentucky.)

Martin D. Hardin

Of Colonel John Hardin's children, the eldest was Martin D., named for his uncle, Martin Hardin, born June 21, 1780, in Pennsylvania. He was but a mere lad of 7 years when the family moved to Kentucky, settling on Pleasant Run, about 3 miles east of Springfield. He was one of the most distinguished sons of Washington County, though the greater part of his adult life was spent elsewhere. Twelve years of age when his father died, he assisted his mother in operating their farm and in caring for his younger brothers and sisters. Before he was 20, he studied law with Col. George Nicholas at Lexington, and when admitted to the bar he practiced at Richmond and afterward at Frankfort. As a lawyer he was most successful, being recognized as the leader of the bar at both Richmond and Frankfort. Collins says "he was a man of marked talent and of very decided character." His public record is summarized as follows: Major in the War of 1812; Secreatry of State of Kentucky, 1812-16; United States Senator, 1816-17; died at Frankfort October 8, 1823, aged 43. Among his children was the gallant Col. John J. Hardin, of Illinois, of which State he was a member of Congress, 1843-45.

Mark Hardin, Jr.

Colonel John Hardin's second son was Mark Hardin, named for his uncle, Mark Hardin, Sr., of Washington County. He was born in 1782, and was 10 years old when his father was killed. This son grew to manhood in Washington County, but later removed to Shelbyville, in Shelby County, where he lived to be near 100 years old. He was 93 years old in January, 1875, when Collins wrote his history and included a brief sketch of his life in which t'was said "he is hale, hearty, an elegant gentleman of the old school." A devout member of the Presbyterian Church, though his father had been a Methodist, he was one of the elders, (his kinsman, Gov. Charles A. Wickliffe the other,) of the Presbyterian Church, who, as commissioners or delegates from the Presbytery of Louisville to the old school Presbyterian General Assembly, in session at St. Louis, were excluded from seats in that body because they had signed and adopted the "strangely abused and still more strangely admired Declaration and Testimony." (Collins.) From 1805 to 1814 he was register of the land office of Kentucky, and there are numerous old documents in his hand writing in the Clerks' offices in Springfield. He resigned from this office because of the small salary. His eldest daughter married the Rev. Barnabas McHenry, a Methodist preacher of Washington County, and one of their sons was John H. McHenry, of Owensboro, a distinguished member of the bar and also on the bench. Another son was Martin D. McHenry, a lawyer and member of Congress.

One time, when speaking of the homes of the Hardins and their kinfolk in Washington County, Mark Hardin said that from his boyhood home on Pleasant Run "a line West will take us to Springfield, about three miles." Continuing, he said, "From the same in a line inclining to the Southwest, about one half a mile, Martin Hardin settled; same course about three miles further, Lydia Wickliffe (wife of Charles) settled; same course, four miles further, Mark Hardin (brother of Col. John) settled. This line of ten miles, reaching diagonally between Springfield and Lebanon, was occupied by the same Hardin family for more than sixty years." Concerning his uncle, Martin Hardin, who was the youngest of seven children, Mark Hardin said he "used to say that he never knew a Hardin that was a liar, a thief, or a coward." He died in 1849, being then in the 92nd year of his age.

The Father of Ben Hardin

The second distinguished member of the Hardin quartet of pioneers in Washington County was Benjamin Hardin. This member of the family emigrated from Pennsylvania to Kentucky with his kinfolk about the year 1788 and settled on a large tract of land on Cartwright's Creek. His home stood near the present Springfield-Lebanon Road about 2 miles south of the former place. There he lived until his death, and there, with his wife and their distinguished son, Ben Hardin, he was buried. (Entrance to the house of Benjamin Hardin, as well as the one in which his granddaughter, the wife of Dr. R. A. Palmer, lived in later years, was from the old road known as the Booker Road, which forks from the old Elizabethtown Road a short way from the corner where Bob Hays now lives.)

Benjamin Hardin and Colonel John Hardin were cousins, their fathers being brothers, two of the three who emigrated from France to Canada after the massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day. Because of the climate, these three brothers removed from Canada to Virginia, where two remained, the third going later to South Carolina. Colonel John Hardin was a son of the eldest, and Benjamin a son of the second, of the two who remained in Virginia.

The father of Benjamin Hardin, like his brother, the father of Colonel John Hardin, after residing for some years in Virginia, removed to the Monongahela Country of Pennsylvania. There he resided until his death, and there his son, Benjamin Hardin, grew to manhood, and married his cousin, Sarah Hardin.

After the Revolution, when the Hardins, Wickliffes, Grundys and others of the Monongahela Country, encouraged by the glowing reports given by some of their kinfolk who had been to Kentucky, decided to remove there, Benjamin Hardin, too, packed his goods, saddled his horses, and with his wife and young son, Ben, together with sundry slaves, journeyed westward to make a new home in the wilderness.

It is interesting to note that the Hardins and the Wickliffes chose what later developed to be some of the best lands in Washington County. As we have already narrated, Colonel Hardin settled on Pleasant Run, about 3 miles east of the present site of Springfield. Benjamin Hardin settled on Cartwright's Creek about 2 or two and one-half miles south of the town. Mark and Martin Hardin settled on Hardin's Creek some twelve or fifteen miles southwest. The Wickliffes made their home on Cartwright's Creek about 6 miles southwest of Springfield. It can hardly be said that they were close enough to be neighbors as one considers that term today, yet all were within a few hours' ride of each other, and today, with the aid of an automobile, one can ride in a few minutes from the home site of Colonel Hardin, to the homes of Mark and Martin, passing the places where Benjamin and Charles Wickliffe lived enroute.

Matthew Walton Admired Him

Benjamin Hardin was a man of unusual attainments, though he did not distinguish himself in public service in a military or professional way. He devoted his entire life in Kentucky to farming, and his broad and fertile acres extending along Cartwright's Creek for several miles were his principle source of delight. He was a good scholar, could write his name with ease and flourish, something many of his neighbors could not do, and his sound business judgment was recognized and often sought by his fellow-men. Matthew Walton, than whom there was none more accomplished in his day, was a great admirer of Benjamin Hardin. When he conceived the plan for a town to be laid off on his lands, and got the Legislature in 1793 to establish it, Walton sought his friend, Benjamin Hardin, and urged him to become one of the trustees thereof. Hardin hesitated, not wishing to leave his home in the country, but Walton told him if he would consent to serve as a trustee he would deed him a lot in the town, thus qualifying him to serve. Hardin consented, and Walton kept his word. So Benjamin Hardin became a property owner and a trustee of the little town of Springfield, which then consisted of but a few log cabins clustered about the seat of justice for the County of Washington, on the road from Danville to Bardstown.

(The following certificate, in the handwriting of General Walton, will serve as proof of the statement that he gave a lot to Benjamin Hardin: I certify that in consequence of Mr. Benjamin Hardin's services as a Trustee to the Town of Springfield that I gave him the Lott No. 85 in the Plan of said Town and if the Trustees has made a Deed to Mr. Wm. Moody by his direction I am satisfied as I have no claim to it having relinquished my claim to Mr. Benjamin Hardin. Given under my hand this 9th day of June, 1803. Matthew Walton.)

It was but a short ride from Benjamin Hardin's home to the town of Springfield. He was faithful in attendance upon meetings of the Board of Trustees, as old records uncovered by the writer in the Clerks' offices a few years ago show. On court days, always important days, when the settlers from every section of the county journeyed by horseback or wagon to Springfield, Benjamin Hardin was in town. Usually he brought his son, Ben, with him, and the lad took keen interest in hearing the lawyers argue their cases in court. One day he told his father that when he grew to be a man he would be a lawyer, and his parent encouraged him in his ambition.

Our estimate of Benjamin Hardin is concurred in by Lucius P. Littel in his "Life of Ben Hardin" when he says "Benjamin Hardin was a plain,

quiet, sensible, honest man, not a little deferential to his wife. He was a typical backwoodsman, brave and hardy." From Littel, too, comes a glowing estimate of Sarah Hardin, wife of Benjamin and mother of the distinguished Ben. He says she possessed great personal beauty and a superior intellect. Even in old age, nearing ninety, she held her head erect, and her clear blue eyes were bright and glowing. As a young woman she was a superior marksman with a rifle, often killing squirrels from the tops of the tallest trees. In old age, she was yet a better shot than many of the younger generation.

Littel says that Sarah Hardin, when she was old, was a good story teller. She would relate to the children, as well as to grownups, stories of revolutionary times, that developed strong-hearted women as well as brave men; of war with the Indians; of Braddock's defeat in the French and Indian War; and of the War for American Independence. In speaking of the latter, and of the part her family played in that struggle, she would always add, "There was not one Tory among them all!" In Virginia she had known General Washington, and had frequently met him in the social circle, where she was often his partner at the whist table. (Mrs. Kate Riley.)

When the family of Benjamin Hardin settled in the wilderness of Washington County, Sarah Hardin planted seeds and raised fruit trees, and her orchard was known near and far. She was a friend to the other folk in the country, especially in times of sickness, when they resorted to her for advice. This advice and service she freely gave until a young physician came into the neighborhood, and then, when she became acquainted with him and found that he was qualified to administer the healing art, she refused further aid to the sick. When they came to her she would tell them that they had a doctor now, and that they must go to him, and pay him, too, or he would not be able to remain among them. (Lucinda B. Helm, in the Lebanon Times.)

Besides Ben Hardin, there were several other children born to Benjamin and Sarah Hardin. One of their daughters (Rosa) married James McElroy. One son (Martin) lived to middle age in Kentucky and then went to Texas where he fought in the Texas War for Independence, and spent his last days there. Another son (Warren) lived in Meade County, Kentucky, until after the Civil War.

Littel says that Benjamin Hardin died about the year 1820, and Sarah Hardin about the year 1832.

The Distinguished Ben Hardin

When Ben Hardin was old enough to begin his elementary studies, his father entered him in the school kept by an early school teacher named Ichabod Rodley. Later, he sent Ben to Bardstown to pursue a classical course under the guidance of Dr. James Priestly, one of the most celebrated teachers of his day in Kentucky. (Collins.) There he was a classmate of several boys, all distinguished like himself, in after life. (The school kept by Ichabod Rodley was probably located on the land of Benjamin Hardin. Dr. John B. Smith, a physician of Springfield, once said he was reared in the neighborhood of the Hardin home and that he went to a school kept on the land owned by Benjamin Hardin.)

Finishing his classical course, Ben Hardin went to Richmond, Ky., in 1804, to study law in the office of his kinsman, Martin D. Hardin. In 1805 he was back in Bardstown in the law office of Felix Grundy, where he completed his studies under the guidance of that great man of the bar and bench. He married in 1806, and settled in Elizabethtown, where he practiced law for about two years.

There is an interesting story which relates the reason for Ben Hardin's leaving Elizabethtown and going back to Bardstown to practice at the bar there. We give the substance of it here.

Some friends of Wm. Bray, under arrest in Hardin County on a charge of murder, employed young Ben Hardin to defend him "until the big lawyers came down from Bardstown." Hardin sensed the full meaning of that expression and his qualified employment at once. He went home, told his wife they must pack up immediately and remove to Bardstown, or he would never be called a big lawyer. Before Bray was indicted, at spring term in 1808, Mr. Hardin was a resident of Bardstown, and continued to live there until his death.

At the death of his father, Ben Hardin inherited much of his parent's estate in Washington County, including the old home on Cartwright's Creek. Though he never made his home there after beginning the practice of law, he did make frequent trips to visit his mother while she yet lived, a widow, at the old home. On one of these visits, when his mother lay dying, he promised her that at his death he would give specific instructions that he was to be buried beside her and his father. This promise he kept, delivering the instructions to his wife a few hours before he died, being careful to state that once buried beside his parents, his body was never to be removed. His instructions were faithfully carried out by his wife, and she, in the face of strong pleas by numerous friends of her husband, that they be permitted to remove his remains to the State Cemetery in Frankfort, where they might rest in company with those of many other distinguished Kentuckians, would not relent and permit the removal. A plain granite shaft, bearing the brief inscription "Ben Hardin of Bardstown," marks his grave.

Fall From Horse Fatal

In later years, after his daughter, Emily, had married Dr. Robert C. Palmer of Washington County, and settled on the old Hardin home place, Ben Hardin used to ride horseback to and from Bardstown to visit his daughter and her family. It was on one of these trips, in the summer of 1852, that he was badly crippled by a fall from his horse. He was confined for a time at his daughter's house, but later was removed to his home at Bardstown, where he died, September 24, 1852, aged 68. In the funeral procession, slowly making its way form Bardstown to the old home place in Washington County were many friends and admirers. As the cortege passed through Springfield, still others joined in the procession, until the carriages, buggies, and persons on horseback, formed a line of great length.

A few years ago the writer, while searching through some old records in the office of the Clerk of the Washington Circuit Court in Springfield, found a deposition made on May 9, 1865, by Dr. John B. Smith, then a resident of Owensboro, but formerly a physician in Springfield. Dr. Smith and Dr. Palmer were partners in the practice of medicine in Springfield, and brothers-in-law, Smith having married Palmer's sister.

In his deposition, Dr. Smith had the following to say about Ben Hardin:

"Mr. (Ben) Hardin was a lawyer by profession, and, so far as I know or believe, he stood distinguishedly high in his profession. Mr. Hardin several times talked to me about his difficulties with Mr. Helm and Mr. Riley, and more of his difficulty with Governor Owsley . . . . Ben Hardin was a peculiar man when speaking of his family. He has very often talked with me, or rather to me, about his children; tell their faults or good qualities, upon which occasions he would tell of his advancements to them and the extravagance of his son Rowan, and the amount he paid for him. He told me more of these things when he and I occupied the same room at Doctor Palmer's at night."

The public services of Ben Hardin, his success as a lawyer, and his talents, are too well known to necessitate recital here. Suffice to say that he was a son of old Washington County, whose tall and commanding person, keen and penetrating eye, and striking countenance, made him at once, wherever he went, a man of public attention. Proud indeed, should all Washingtonans be, that the soil of their county cradles the dust of his mortal remains.

(To Be Continued)

(Continued From Last Week)

First Settlements in the County

In the early settlement of the county which was called and known as Washington in the year 1792, the southern section was populated with greater rapidity than any other. The reason for this is quite obvious.

The first white men to invade the wilderness southwest of Harrodsburg were game hunters seeking meat for that settlement. They sought the buffalo, elk, deer and bear, and these were not to be found promiscuously in the forest. Their chief places of resort were the salt licks where they congregated in great numbers, their "roads" leading to such places from all directions. The hunters would strike these buffalo roads and follow them, sometimes for many miles, to come eventually to a large salt lick, and there to find the coveted wild game in profusion.

The salt licks of Washington County were in the main situated in the neighborhood of the Rolling Fork of Salt River. There were a few small licks, of which Walton's Lick, located near where the little hamlet of Polin now is, was the most prominent, in the northern section of the county. In comparison with the licks on the waters of the Rolling Fork, however, Walton's Lick and the others in the north were of little notoriety. Thus it will be readily understood why the first white persons to invade the county were drawn to the southward. They came primarily, in search of wild game, but while there, being fascinated with the country, they selected for themselves and their friends back home, choice parcels of land, with the view to future permanent settlement.

From certain old and highly informative depositions now in the office of the Clerk of the Washington Circuit Court at Springfield, Kentucky, we

Washington County Historical Series

Court Records — Traditions — Folk Lore

May 10, 1934 By Orval W. Baylor

Article 40—"MORE COUNTY HISTORY"

Town of Springfield Established

In 1793 a fifty-acre tract, the property of Matthew Walton, was laid off so as to include the Court House, as well as the lots that Walton had previously laid off and sold, to constitute the area of the proposed town of Springfield. David Caldwell, Hugh McElroy, Benjamin Hardin, Daniel Mock, and Josiah Wilson were named trustees for the purpose of "erecting a town to be called and known by the name of Springfield." The said trustees, or a majority of them, were authorized, when it seemed necessary, to lay off the remainder of the fifty acres of land into lots and sell them for the best price that could be had. Purchasers were to have twelve months credit. The money derived from the said sales was to be "for the use of the said Walton."

Within five years from the day of sale, owners or purchasers of lots in Springfield were required to "erect and build thereon a dwelling house at least 16 feet square, with a stone or brick chimney." Failure to comply with this rule meant that the trustees were permitted to take "the said lots into their possession, and sell the same for the best price that can be had, after giving two months notice of such sale, and apply the money arising therefrom to the use of the said town."

As was often the case, the trustees of the town of Springfield were not all of them residents of the town though some or all of them may have purchased lots therein. They were, however, residents of the county. Caldwell and McElroy probably lived in or quite near the new town; Hardin resided on his farm about four miles south of the town, and Mock and Wilson also lived some distance therefrom.

The Hardins of Washington

Benjamin Hardin was not only one of the first trustees of the town of Springfield but he was one of the first settlers in Washington County. He was the father of Ben Hardin, noted lawyer, of whom we shall write more later.

One of the most prominent pioneer families associated with Washington County history was that which bore the name Hardin. Three brothers, as well as a number of their cousins, emigrated to Kentucky from the Monongahela country of Pennsylvania in 1786, and settled within a circuit of ten miles from the spot where the Court House for Washington County was established in 1792.

Benjamin Hardin married his cousin, Sarah Hardin, daughter of Martin Hardin, and sister of Colonel John Hardin. They were married in Pennsylvania and when their son, Ben Hardin, was three years old they removed to Kentucky and settled a few miles south of where Springfield now is. They had, besides Ben Hardin, at least two other children, a son, Warren, and a daughter, Rosanna, who married a McElroy. Benjamin and his wife and their distinguished son, Ben Hardin, were buried on the farm in a burial plot not far from the Springfield and Lebanon Road.

On the stone which marks the grave of Ben Hardin is the inscription: "Ben Hardin of Bardstown." It was placed there in compliance with a request which he made just before he died. How Ben Hardin became a resident of Bardstown and remained there for nearly 50 years is worthy of inclusion here.

In 1806, after he had been licensed to practice law, Ben Hardin married and settled at Elizabethtown, in Hardin County. Not a great while after he had settled there a number of gentlemen entered his little office and employed him to defend a man under arrest on a charge of murder. His employers made it plain to him that he was to be dropped from the case as soon as "the big lawyers came down from Bardstown." Hardin, it is said, sensing the situation, as soon as the gentlemen had gone from his office, went to his home, told his wife that they must pack up and remove to Bardstown or he would never be considered a big lawyer. Before his client was indicted at the spring term in 1808, Ben Hardin was a resident of Bardstown, where he continued to live until his death. Elizabethtown, therefore, because all big lawyers were supposed to come from Bardstown, lost one of the really great lawyers of Kentucky.

Ben Hardin was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. He was three years old, in 1786, when his parents and others of his kinfolk emigrated to Kentucky. In later years, when speaking of the removal from Pennsylvania to Kentucky, he used to say that he first saw the country that was afterward to become Washington County when he awoke one morning at a big spring about three miles east of where Springfield now is. The emigrants had reached the spot late in the afternoon before and had camped there for the night. The site of the camp soon after became the home of his uncle, Col. John Hardin. A red brick house, old and quaint, stands there now, on the Mackville Road.

Leaving a part of their kinfolk at the big spring, the family of Benjamin Hardin continued across the country until they came to the site whereon their first home, of logs, was to be built. There, from the time he was 3 years old until he was sent to school at Bardstown, Ben Hardin spent his boyhood years. After attending grammer school in Bardstown, he went to Richmond, Ky., and entered the law office of his cousin, Martin D. Hardin. After spending some time in Richmond he returned to Bardstown and entered the office of Felix Grundy. In 1806, he was licensed to practice, whereupon he married and settled at Elizabethtown.

For about 46 years Ben Hardin was a familiar and indefatigable practitioner in the courts of Nelson, Hardin, Washington, and other counties. In the winter-time he was often seen on the old Frankfort Road as he went to or from the Court of Appeals at Frankfort.

In the mad scramble to prove that Abraham Lincoln was an illegitimate, Ben Hardin, as well as his distinguished cousin, Martin D. Hardin, was reputed to have been the sire that begat him. When I commenced collecting and compiling Lincoln data, one of the first stories which came to my attention was the one in which Abraham Lincoln was reputed to have been the son of Ben Hardin and Nancy Hanks Lincoln.

The story in brief is this: That while Nancy Hanks Lincoln was living in the little cabin on Richard Berry's land and Thomas Lincoln was in Hardin County building the cabin to which the Lincolns were afterward to move, Ben Hardin, travelling over the Frankfort Road from Springfield to Frankfort, visited Nancy with the result that a child who was subsequently born was known as Abraham Lincoln. Who first told the story I do not know. It never had any wide vogue in Washington County and the late W. B. Spears, who was born in Springfield in 1825, and knew many of the folk who had been intimate with the Lincolns during their sojourn in the county, used to say that it was "purely fictiitous" and "maliciously conceived."

During the hey-day of his career, Ben Hardin was found on one side or the other of nearly every seriously contested case in the group of eight or ten counties that surrounded his home. In his concluding argument, without a single note, he was often known to trace correctly the testimony of a dozen witnesses, repeating what each had said, and answer all of the points made by the opposing lawyers.

In 1810, 1811, 1824, and 1825, Ben Hardin represented Nelson County in the lower house of the legislature. From 1823 to 1832, he was a member of the State Senate. For ten years he represented his district in Congress. He was Secretary of State, under Gov. Owsley, from 1844 to 1847.

In the summer of 1852, while visiting with his daughter and son-in-law in Washington County, Ben Hardin was badly crippled by a fall from his horse. He was taken to his home at Bardstown where he died a few months after (September, 1852). In compliance with his wish, expressed on his death-bed, his wife caused his body to be buried beside his father and mother at the old home-place south of Springfield. Sometime after the burial at the old home, the widow was approached with the suggestion that the remains be taken up and placed in the cemetery at Frankfort. She listened to the proposal but remembering the dying request of her husband, she refused to give her consent. And so, the earthly remains of the man who awakened to get his first glimpse of Washington County at the "big spring" on the Mackville Road, and who subsqeuently rose to great heights as a lawyer, statesman and citizen, lie buried within a few minutes ride from Springfield.

BUDDHA.

...ligion of Buddha has probably ...ries than any other in the world- ...ed to be embraced by some four hun- ...ions of human beings, or about ...the population of the globe. Yet, ...little has been known of it, until ...recently, that any work ...public in ... that language is possessed ...ern tongues, is a work ...published only a short time ago on the sub- ...ject by R. Spence Hardy, a learned mem- ...ber of the Ceylon Branch of the Asiatic ...Society.

There seems to be no reason to doubt that the founder of the religion was Gotama Buddha, the son of a petty prince, who lived on the borders of Nepaul, above seven centuries before Christ. The date of Gotama's birth was B. C. six hundred and twenty-four. At the age of sixteen he married, and in the warm countries of the east, parents in the upper classes are ... ...ed ... ...ere delivered ... ... and paying homage to the mother ... ... and after the ceremonies to the ... ... provided for, he departed, never more to return to his palace.

The circumstances which are supposed to have given rise to this course of conduct on the part of Gotama, were these: The monstrous worship of Bramah prevailed all over India at that time, Juggernaut, widow-burning, self-tortures, beastly impurities of all kinds, exercised their degrading influences upon the population, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin. Gotama was a youth of virtuous feelings, strong intelligence, and great determination. Looking around him at the mass of iniquity, which flourished under the guise of religion, he resolved by a life of self-denial, study, and teaching, to protest against it all. He might have led the life of a prince, been flattered and indulged, and spent his time in sensual enjoyments like the rest; but he felt that he had a great mission to perform, and he did it. Casting one glance at his wife and child, he gave up all the world's honors, and went into the wilderness or the forest, where, under the shadow of a bo-tree, he meditated deeply upon life, its duties and obligation, its objects and aims, and there rose up in his heart great thoughts of a better life, higher aspirations, purer worship, and the issue,—undying happiness for the unhappy millions who were now perishing around him. He persevered in this course of ascetic discipline for six years passing through various stages of existence, as the writings of his followers since avow, until he at length reached the Buddhaship, or highest possible state of being. While in the forest, tradition relates that he was attacked by a formidable host of demons, whom he determinedly resisted; until at length, "after a desperate struggle, the demons passed away, like the thunder-cloud retiring from the orb of the moon, causing it to appear in greater splendor." This encounter with the demons most probably means the desperate human struggle with worldly passions and temptations, related in the bold highly figurative style of eastern writers.

He now appeared before the world as a preacher and proselyter, announcing himself as the greatest of existences, come into the world to restore truth and destroy error.