The Newcomer

What's On Our Agenda . . .

The Newton County Historical Society meets every fourth Monday of each month, on the same day, the Family History Division meets at 3:00 at the Resource Center at 224 N. Third Street in Kentland and the Society general meetings are held in different locations in the County at 7:00 p.m. All members are notified of the place and time each month. Don’t Forget - Memberships Make Great Gifts!!

We’d Like Your Input! We are looking for suggestions for stories, articles and pictures for our next edition of The Newcomer. We know that there are many stories of our past ancestors and their way of life that are just waiting to be told! This newsletter is designed to do just that!! If you would like to write an article, submit a photo, contact the editor or a member of our society.

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The History of Kentland


The Town was Platted Thirty-five Years Ago.

Sketch of It’s Founders, Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Kent

As we pass along the streets of our little city today, and notice her comfortable homes, well kept lawns, tall stately shade trees, beautiful groves, the many sidewalks, the improved streets, we wonder how this picture would compare with the picture of our town thirty-five years ago this May morning. Doubtless some of our readers remember just how it looked, when they came to make their home here.

The proposition to make the village of Kent, which existed only on paper, the county seat of Newton county, was officially fixed in March, 1860. The railroad had been completed the preceding December, and the sole occupants were a few track hands. Fortunate men! Sweet freedom, for there was not a woman around to bother him.

William Service erected the first shanty, William Ross the first building and Sylvester Root opened the first boarding house, which was a much needed place, in a building which Mr. Kent had erected. So there is our picture a few buildings down on Seymour street, which passes north of the railroad. Plenty of prairie grass but no shade trees; a few men and scarcely a woman. No station here, no grain elevators, no electric lights. I am glad we are living in Kentland in 1895 and not 1860.

A county seat is not complete without a church, so in that same year, the United Brethren built their church edifice here. As we pass along the streets of our little city today, and notice her comfortable homes, we wonder how this picture would compare with the picture of our town thirty-five years ago this May morning. Doubtless some of our readers remember just how it looked, when they came to make their home here.

In this Issue . . .

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  When she was only 35 years of age!

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  Kyle Conrad gives us a glimpse of this cemetery.

- Historical Landmarks
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- Focus On Families
  The John Ade Family

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  Tis The Season for Nativities

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- McCray Scholarships
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The town, like some women, changed
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Newton County Historical Society

By Yvonne Kay

Do You Know Your County of Newton?

By Jane Miller

1. Newton County has how many townships?

2. Can you name them?

3. What township had the first motorized school busses?

4. Newton County and Kentland celebrated their Centennial year in the summer of 1960. What was the name of the historical pageant they presented?

5. How many square miles are there in Newton County? (See answers on Page Thirteen).

McCray Scholarship Winners 2001

One might think that Newton County is a little on the uninteresting side. However, if you take a closer look you don't come up empty handed. Although there aren't numerous shopping malls or skating rinks, Newton County is full of country time charm and sunny relaxation sitting on your front porch. Instead of searching for a local hangout I broke open the history books to find out what the residents of Newton County do for fun. It seems that

At the gates of the fairground location in 1893. From the Kentland Centennial Book, 1960.

The Historical Newton County Punk in Vine Fair

By South Newton Student Brandelyn NicoleTarter

Many large storms have ripped through the fair property destroying it. This is close to 75% of buildings and landscaping. Organizers never gave up; instead they rebuilt and actually ended up improving the grounds.

There are so many things to look for in our community of Newton County. This land is rich with historical aspects. For me it has been a great experience finding information on the yearly tradition of the fair. I hope that tradition continues and many more memories are made. Who knows, in a couple years the fair might change its location or name?

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC

Dues (Check One) Yearly (July 1–June 30)

$2 ___ Student ($1) ___ Individual ($3) ___ Individual Life ($5) ___ Family ($5)

$200 ___ Contributing ($500) ___ Institutional ($525) ___ Institutional Life ($100)

$100 ___ Family Life ($175) ___ Individual ($9) ___ Individual Life ($50)

$250 ___ Contributing ($100) ___ Institutional ($125) ___ Institutional Life ($50)

$_ ___ Individual ($1) ___ Individual ($2) ___ Individual Life ($10)

$_ ___ Family ($5) ___ Family Life ($175) ___ Institutional Life ($50)

$_ ___ Student ($2) ___ Individual ($1) ___ Individual Life ($10)

$_ ___ Contributing ($5) ___ Institutional ($5)

$_ ___ Individual Life ($100) ___ Institutional Life ($100)

$_ ___ Escrow money, payable to:

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Address ______________________________________________________
Name________________________________________________________
Application fee: $1.00 per person.

For membership information, call 219-474-6944.

Newton County Historical Society

Yvonne Kay, Jeanette Born, Brenda Kendall, Velma Durt, and Gerald Born are busy with a yellow marker, going through the text and highlighting the names that need to be included in the index. Sometimes it appears to be a daunting task, but having an every name index will make the book more useful for readers.

If you have not ordered a copy of the Morocco Sesquicentennial Historic Collection, this is the perfect time to do so. Prior to publication copies may be purchased for $60.00, by prepaying for the book. After publication, copies will be sold for $75.00. Indiana residents will need to add $3.00 for sales tax, and an additional $10.00 for shipping and handling, unless you make arrangements to pick up the copy at the Resource Center at Kentland. Never before has so much history about Morocco and Beaver Township been presented in this book with such an eye-catching cover.

Also as a result of the Moroccan Sesquicentennial celebration the Family History Division published an historic record of the Morocco County Genealogy. In 1961, Wayne Kay mastered a CD which included the Morocco Centennial book and a new book which includes all of the documents that the Executive Committee of the Centennial Days used in putting on the celebration fifty years ago. On the pages of the book, accessible on your personal computer, will be found images of the parade, the pageant, and the committees who worked on the project, as well as the winners of the structure, new members may be added, as volunteers are found willing to take on the responsibilities. I am very appreciative of all who have consented to help us in our work and thank all of those who have contributed so much in the past.

A minority request was submitted by Born, who said that Robbins, Chair, Marian Strosinski, Bill Phillips, Jean Phillips, Janet Burton, Laurel Allis; Public Relations: Donna Holderly, George Dye; Refreshments: Laurel Allis, Chair. 

Time passes so quickly. It seems only yesterday that we prepared the budget for last year, and here it is time for the new annual budget for 2001-2002, which was approved at our July 23, 2001 meeting. The new budget was explained by Kay Babcock, Chair, and the Finance Committee could not attend. We are trying very hard to justify our expenditures, so the committee reviewed last year's expenditures and used them as a basis for the new budget. Rent, $4,500; Utilities, $2,500; Telephone, $700; Resource Center Maintenance, $500; Office Supplies, $300; Public Relations, $1,000; Postage, $500; Insurance, $850; Capitol Purchases, $1,000; Speakers & Tapes, $150; Oral History, $250; Newton, $1,500; Miscellaneous, $1,475; Total-$15,225. LaCosse, Chair, Lydia Atkinson, Subcommittee Fair: Jim Robbins, Chair, Marian Strosinski, Bill Phillips, Jean Phillips, Janet Burton, Laurel Allis; Public Relations: Donna Holderly, Chair, Lydia Atkinson, Sub-Committee Fair: Jim Robbins; Chair, Marian Strosinski, Bill Phillips, Jean Phillips, Janet Burton, Laurel Allis; Historic Sites, Mike Haste, Chair, Larry Holderly, George Dye; Refreshments: Laurel Allis, Chair.

I am going to take this opportunity of presenting the official list of the committees for the coming year. After reviewing the by-laws and the minutes for the past several years, these are the committees that are sanctioned in the by-laws. As with any committee meetings for each division. Dues are payable yearly (July 1-June 30), check or money order payable to the Newton County Historical Society. All checks are non-refundable and are payable in U.S. funds. The Newton County Historical Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, making donations tax-deductible. Individual memberships are $6.00. Student memberships are $2.00. Family memberships are $10.00. Corporate memberships are $100.00.

McCray Scholastic Program

The McCray Scholastic Program is for students in grade four through six. It is a county-wide program that is sponsored by the Newton County Historical Society and the Newton County Elementary and Secondary Schools. The program was started in 1994 by the Newton County Historical Society. The purpose of the program is to give students an opportunity to learn about the history of Newton County. The program is open to all students in grade four through six in Newton County.

The program is divided into four parts. The first part is a written test that the students take during school hours. The second part is a written test that the students take during school hours. The third part is a written test that the students take during school hours. The fourth part is a written test that the students take during school hours.

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The History Of Kentland, 1895

Continued From Page Three

A prominent figure who is not usually stated from the pulpit, that no greater fallacy exists than an entire belief in the above statement. To make his argument of more force he referred his congregation to the downfall of Rome, and the decline of ancient Greece, the inhabitation of its cities, containing of their useful art, the high state of civilization, which as far as the cultivation of the powers of the intellect and reason are concerned, is the vast difference between the aim of the present common school system and the culture of the ancient Greeks and Romans. Furthermore, he failed to recognize the fact that the church having primarily for its aim the emancipation of the whole human race, through the teachings of the gospel, has its strongest ally in the institution known as the public school.

The early settlers of this country seemed to lay hold of this truth and use it in their practical advancement toward the high state of civilization which they aspired to reach. One branch of the church has named the public school as a Godless institution. No statement was ever made that was more unjust and untrue. The public school does not claim to have had control of the teacher of morality based upon the life of the humble Nazarene. Why cannot the church claim for its children the same freedom of the schools? All records of the early history of the schools have been lost. The memory of these people, incalculating hundreds of young minds into other professions, including of yourself, young man, thoughtless of others, and reverence for holy things, teaching them to love the pure, the good and the beautiful, until their young ones lived on something of the character she taught them to admire, and all around us we see these same children grown up to noble manhood and womanhood.

For thirty years, Mrs. Cunningham has been a profoundly interested volunteer of all the organizations in Kentland which have for their object of uplifting the spirits of the minds. In the Sunday School Church, she has worked with heart and soul for the accomplishment of their great aims. Yet this was not her efforts and she is not appreciated would but faintly express the esteem in which she is held by our citizens.

During the past year about two hundred people have been enrolled in the common school department. The present teachers of this department are Anna Pitts, Mr. and Mrs. John Cunningham, who are the former and the latter are Mrs. Cunningham's brother and sister, respectively. Abigail (Mrs. Cunningham) is employed as the first assistant teacher, much more in time of the development of her culture of the ancient Greeks and Romans. But that of solicitor, collector of lengthen the course and obtain a $456,228.00. In the same year, we raised the Salem school house, there in Jasper but now course consists of but two years work. A year, 1,520,760 bushels were produced, which was the greatest amount of grain ever produced in this county in 1894 was 1,348,480 bushels, fitted her so well for teaching, Mrs. Cunningham began in the profession at the high school of the same institution. County in 1894 was 1,348,480 bushels, numbered eleven. In the year 1863, the new department. The present teachers of this school house was built on the lot now occupied by the residence of Mr. Porter. I think Mr. and Mrs. John Cunningham were the school board's choice.

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years ago, he formed a copartnership with his son Harry, since which time his trade has greatly increased. F. R. Bergin also keeps a fine assortment of harness and all goods of that kind, and also sells buggies and carriages.

Our town can boast of no less than four restaurants, viz., those of S. E. Cunningham, which was opened in January, 1892, with Isaac Smart as president, and Geo. D. Rider as Cashier. This bank is a model of neatness and cleanliness which cannot fail to satisfy the most fastidious.

Another reliable firm is that of Arendt & Senior, dealer in boots, shoes, ready made clothing and gent's furnishing goods. The senior member of this firm is one of those genial, even tempered men and no two persons in Kentland are more agreeable. His store is a large and complete one and his annual sales reach about $25,000. Among other necessities of our town we always find at his post, ready to supply the wants of all. Mr. Senior, though a young man, in his brief residence here has also made many friends.

Among other necessities of our town we cannot fail to mention our three drug stores, owned respectively by A. E. Brown, Willard & McCain, and E. S. Steele. Each of these gentlemen keeps a full supply of everything usually found in a first class drug store.

Mr. Kirkpatrick's stock amounts to about $2,500; and Mr. Kirkpatrick's stock amounts to about $2,500 and his annual sales reach about $25,000. Our two leading grocers are Frank Ross and Willis Kirkpatrick, each of whom is always found at his post, ready to supply his numerous customers. Mr. Ross began business in 1880, carries a stock of about $1,500; and Mr. Kirkpatrick's stock amounts to about $2,500 and his annual sales reach about $25,000.

In the year 2000, Don Funk purchased the home and opened permanently there after remodeling, depicted in the photo on left center and bottom, in 1954. The restaurant closed it's doors permanently in the mid 1980's.

Recently, a beautiful pond was also opened there on the grounds. Even though the exterior of the home has changed to meet the needs of his company, residents still regard the building as the home of A. J. Kent, the estate.

After the destruction of the NuJoy Restaurant by fire in 1945, it located in the home temporarily, and finally opened permanently there after remodeling.
The Ade Family in Newton County

Introduction by Gerald Born

While collecting information for the Missouri Surnames Project, I wanted to pay special attention to the time John Ade and his wife Adaline spent in Newton County before moving to Chicago.

John Ade came originally from Lewes, England, where he was born on September 18, 1828. Lewes is an old town and the birthplace of George Ade, a playwright and storyteller.

On May 20, 1851, Squire Thomas Wells of Cheviot performed the marriage ceremony uniting John Ade and Adaline Bush. My mother was then only eighteen. From the old-fashioned glass daguerreotypes, which had to be looked at from an angle and had lids on them, we succeeded in getting some modern photographs when the golden wedding was celebrated in 1901.

Ade, Ade, Adee, Adie, Adey, Aiode, Ader, kYde, and after that we didn’t have a death in our family for nearly fifty years, until my mother passed on in 1907. It was in 1853 that my parents went down the river to Madison and by rail up to Lafayette and by wagon far out into the chills-and-fever wilderness of northwestern Indiana. Father went out to take charge of a store and furnishing station.

Focus on Families

John & Adeline Ade

Submitted by Gerald Born

My Mother and Father

By George Ade

I cannot continue to write about people I have known and loved without making some reference to the top-notchers—meaning my father and mother. I am going to bring about them, candidly and without apologies. With the intervening years pushed away, so that I can look at them in their perspective, they seem very definitely graven against the horizon as the most admirable people I ever knew.

Because I was born in a little Indiana town framed with corn-fields and showed a criminal reference for the Mid-western vernacular and the homely types blooming to much friendly guying from the boys on Rum, I had great difficulty in wringing from them the story as we got it. At any rate, he and my mother were married in a friendly hotel man. Daniel Boone country that occurred soon after about it, after he was past eighty years of age.

I observe ever so many improvements. There’s liberties with the English language. Perhaps I am prejudiced in their favor but it seems that Cincinnati was to be the future metropolis of the world, the whole trade went by rail to Philadelphia and there rode on a canal-boat to the foot of the mountains and then a train to Pittsburgh and after that floated on a flatboat down to Cincinnati. The travelled in the little suburbs of Cheviot.

The family spent a week in New York, making the move from Philadelphia to Cincinnati.

It was only twelve when he landed in America, but my mother was then only eighteen. From the old flowered gown with the white neck-knot and the three gold studs I remember. Another family name was Hazleton and some of the relatives were named Inglis.

Cheviot performed the marriage ceremony uniting John Ade and Adaline Bush. My mother was then only eighteen. From the old-fashioned glass daguerreotypes, which had to be looked at from an angle and had lids on them, we succeeded in getting some modern photographs when the golden wedding was celebrated in 1901.

I might have known that I couldn’t even get to Chicago last week and see you7r friends. That is why I Indiana, in a little fram house south of the Court House. We were elected to a county office in the 1840s and boarded a sailing vessel fashioned glass daguerreotypes, which had to be looked at from an angle and had lids on them, we succeeded in getting some modern photographs when the golden wedding was celebrated in 1901.

Ade?” in our family, four girls and three boys.

The clerk became friendly with father and on the day after his arrival the two were watching the traffic. The clerk wanted to know if this was father's first visit to New York.

The town is considerably larger. Quite a number of new buildings have been put up. As I go around I observe everywhere so many improvements. There was only one question about it, after he was past eighty years of age. I

I was the youngest boy and next to the youngest of the seven, of whom five are still living. One of the girls died before I was born and after that we didn’t have a death in our family for nearly fifty years, until my mother passed on in 1907. It was in 1853 that my parents went down the river to Madison and by rail up to Lafayette and by wagon far out into the chills-and-fever wilderness of northwestern Indiana. Father went out to take charge of a store and furnishing station.

The birthplace of George Ade, Kentland, Indiana. The home was located across the street on the southeast corner of the present courthouse square.
The History of The Riverside Cemetery

By Kyle Conrad

As researchers, historians, and genealogists, we many times request the history of the cemetery holds by being the final resting place for the pioneers of our community. However, a cemetery can have a history of its own, many times due to it being a focal point of a community. Such is the case with Riverside Cemetery.

Riverside Cemetery is located east of Brook on State Road 16. Situated in section 20, it is the only organized cemetery in Iroquois Township. We can trace the beginning of the cemetery to the years prior to 1850, when a 14-year-old daughter of pioneers who were traveling west, died and was buried along the Iroquois River. According to an account written for the 1885 Newton County History by Gladys (Hershman) Weston, the grave was marked by a boulder and fenced in by small timbers. The story of the first burial has been passed down by J. Bennet Lyons from his father, Samuel Lyons, one of the area’s first settlers. How the land was deeded to the cemetery is still uncertain. According to the case with Riverside Cemetery.

Little more recorded information exists on the cemetery from this time until 1895. Obviously, the dates on the grave markers indicate the area continued to be used as a cemetery from the 1850’s on, but who owned and maintained the ground on which the original section is located is sketchy. Several grave stones and field stones mark these early graves. On May 31, 1895, however, the Brook Cemetery Association was established for the purpose of providing a cemetery for the citizens of Brook and Iroquois Township. Elected officers included Schuyler Jones, President; Lewis Blankenbaker, Secretary; Edward Hess, Treasurer; and Charles Waling and David Hess, members. Apparently the case with Riverside Cemetery.

Continued On Page Ten

The History of Riverside Cemetery

Newton County Queries

In an attempt to locate missing persons and places in Newton County we have instituted this column on Newton County Queries. Basically these are unanswerd queries that we have received on our web site. They have been referred to members from the locale, who were not successful in finding a reply. We are now appealing to our wider readership for help. If you know of any of the persons or places involved, write to the editor or the Family History Division, or e-mail us at newton00@fli.com and one of the others will reply to the query. Thank you in advance for helping.

1. Looking for Georgia Humberd (1894-1945) - Goodland. She had a brother Roy. - Peter Farnsworth
2. Looking for record of great aunt, Lillie Belle (Swartz) Jacobs. In a nursing home near - Linda Mankowski
3. Looking for descendents of John W. Toyne married Mary J. Short in Newton County - Sandy Freeland
4. Seeking information on a Brook Restaurant owned by the Swartz or Spitzer family around 1900 - Charlene Brazilian
5. Looking for burial site of John Sorel and wife, Elizabeth Peter Robidon. He was born around 1800 and she 1810. Came from Quebec by way of Kankakee--Charlene
8. Looking for burial site of John Sorel and wife, Elizabeth Peter Robidon. He was born in 1800 and she 1810. Came from Quebec by way of Kankakee--Charlene
9. Need information on Wallabe Troup. In 1606 census had a daughter Elena - Shela Light
10. Oldest types of Blankenbeker, Porter families of Newton County. May be claimed by interested relative--Gary Clifton

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The Brook Abbey, completed in 1940, still stands today at Riverside Cemetery. Photo By Beth Basset.
I found out that he is buried at the Fairlawn Cemetery. I wish I could tell you more about Stella May Jackson-Wilkinson. This was taken somewhere around 1898-1900 in Indiana. The children in the picture are his children, Frank A. "Jack" Jackson, and my grandmother and she replied, "Well, isn't that something, the WPA put the one up for Mom and Dad (the one that sits in her backyard). She asked how much they wanted for it, which I told her, that would be kind of neat sitting in my backyard - great for tool storage, like she does with the one that sits in her backyard. She asked how much they wanted for it, which I told her, and she replied, "Well, isn't that something, the WPA put the one up for Mom and Dad (the one at her house) for $20.00. " Needless to say, we got a chuckle out of that, and proceeded down the highway, on the road again. Submitted by Beth Sutliff.

Dear Beth, Here is a photograph of my great-grandfather William A. Jackson. The story behind the photograph is that my grandfather, Frank A. "Jack" Jackson, and my grandmother, Stella May Jackson-Wilkinson, was submitted to me by member Col. Jack Williamson in a letter he sent to me in September 2001. His experience in publishing a newsletter for an Association secured considerable material by utilizing this type of column. Thank you Jack for the wonderful suggestion! Beth Basset, editor.

My occupation as a salesperson for IndianaAgriNews and Country News gives me the opportunity to travel Northern Indiana, and occasionally my mother, Lorene (Zoborosky) Bassett rides along with me so that we can catch up with each other, and enjoy the Indiana countryside. Her interest in our family history and living her entire 80 years in this county, qualifies her as an expert in my eyes about many, many things, and this "drive time" makes her a captive audience to my questions and observances, and vice versa.

Fortunately, one aspect of Country News is selling advertising space to Antique dealers and so forth. (This is a killer job, really). So, on this day with Mom, we stopped at a place that had a re-built outhouse for sale. Since I enjoy and collect primitives, this naturally caught my eye, so I glanced at the price of $180.00. On the way out (after making my sales call and leaving my information of course), I told Mom that I thought that would be kind of cool sitting in my backyard - great for tool storage, like she does with the one that sits in her backyard. She asked how much they wanted for it, which I told her, and she replied, "Well, isn't that something, the WPA put the one up for Mom and Dad (the one at her house) for $20.00. " Needless to say, we got a chuckle out of that, and proceeded down the highway, on the road again. Submitted by Beth Sutliff.

Lavanche Woodruff-West Knows her "County of Newton"

Everyone is reading Janet Miller’s “Do You Know?” The following response was received in reference to the column of crokinole from the question in our last Newcomer. Thanks LaVanche! Janet Miller.

Dear Janet,

I want you to know how very much we are enjoying reading “The Newcomer”, since my grandparents and I are Newton County residents and we visited the area all the years I was growing up.

Someone has probably told you about “crokinole”. That was the name the older folk used to call the game we call “Carom”. It had a large square board with net pockets on each corner. The round caroms were shot against each other toward the pockets for points. We shot our caroms in a marble game or pool where you use a cue ball as the “shooter”. Sincerely, LaVanche Woodruff-West, Valparaiso, IN

Where Was Water Valley?

Historical Society member, Jim Robbins, told me about Water Valley, a settlement across the Kankakee river bridge on State Road 55 in Lake County. This is where Shelby is now, and Shelby was previously located northwest of its present location.

Water Valley consisted of Ahlgrim Park, a collection of houses, perhaps a store and a dance hall. Ahlgrim Park was known for its large Fourth of July celebrations and was used for rallies, community gatherings and picnics. Jim Robbins told me that there were always at least one or two places for a social picnic when he attended Colfax School. A Water Valley road sign stood there as late as 1954. Thanks, Jim, for informing the readers of Water Valley - Janet Miller.

From The Internet E-mail . . .

From: cleslie_hall@merck.com
To: "beth@brook.flni.com"
Subject: Thanks Beth

I have only been working in genealogy for a few months but have been impressed with the contents of Rootsweb and wanted to pass on my sincere thanks to you and those who make the Newton County Web site possible. What a wonderful resource. It is, by far, the best one that I’ve encountered. It is easy to navigate and it just doesn’t provide more links but actual information that is useful and searchable. Bravo!!! Keep up the good work!

Leslie Hall Waynesboro, Virginia

Patrice Kedef

G. W. McCray

The advantages and resources of our county, we proceed to notice of the business enterprises of our own locality. The enterprise firm of Keefe Brothers commenced in 1867. Their store is stocked with a complete assortment of dry goods of every description and of the best quality; also hats, caps, shoes and ready made clothing of the latest and best styles. In addition to their immense stock of dry goods they also carry a full line of groceries. Having been in business for so long a time, this firm has established themselves in the esteem and confidence of the general public. Their and their clerks will always be found pleasant and obliging. They carry a large stock, amounting to about $25,000.00, and their annual sales aggregate nearly $100,000.00.

Patrice Keefe is the senior partner of the firm of the Keefe Brothers. He is one of those business men whose stock of energy is never exhausted. He is an enterprising business man, alive not only to his own interests but to the general welfare of the community. He is a speaker of no mean ability, often spoken of as our “silver tongued orator”. He is a champion of the Democratic party and belongs to the Catholic Church.

Another dry goods store that has lately come into prominence is that of John W. Randall. This is distinguished as the "Popular Dry Goods Store of Kentland", because it is regarded as one of the finest in the county. It was established March 14, 1893. Mr. Randall has just reason to feel proud of the success he has achieved in establishing himself in such a prominent position in connection with the dry goods trade of this locality. The store, which is large and commodious, is stocked with a large, attractive and varied assortment of the best goods, and the stock is replenished with frequent importation of the newest patterns and latest novelties in dress goods, woolens, hats, caps, ribbons, laces, notions, etc. of excellent quality and latest styles.

The careful manner in which the goods are selected speaks volumes for the good taste and high application of the advantages to be derived from an attractive and well selected stock of goods, which embraces a wide range in the varied departments of textile fabrics, and affording an opportunity for selections rarely attainable outside of the great markets of the county. Mr. Randall has jumped into prominence and attained a large trade as the just results of equitable methods and low prices, and employing help that is polite and accommodating.

S.M. Noble also carries a full line of dry goods and notions and his patrons will find him meet with fair treatment and complete stock of jewelry, watches, silverware, etc. on the east side of the street, opposite the dry goods.

Among our merchants who deserves an especial mention is Mr. Christian Rettinger. A native of Germany, he came to the United States when he was 15 years old. He learned the shoemakers trade at Columbus, Ohio, and came to Kentland in 1861, where he opened the first boot and shoe shop in town, and built the first pair of boots every manufactured in Kentland. Being competent, steady and industrious, his business prospered until he now carries a large stock of first class goods.

About six years ago, he added clothing and gent's furnishing goods, and now he has in his store a room a stock worth $10,000.00 of good, serviceable and fashionable goods. Mr. Rettinger has suffered by disastrous fires, but he has always rebuilt and continued business. G.W. McCray, who is a Hoosier by birth, and a resident of Newton County since October, 1861, has been a partner in the Discount and Deposit Bank of Kentland since 1875. He has been a farmer, stock raiser and banker, and in each has been very successful, amassing a fortune of which to be proud. He is a man of temperate habits, of marked integrity, and owes his financial success to the observance of the rules of industry, energy and close personal application of his own interests. He is a staunch Republican and member of the Presbyterian Church.

The Discount and Deposit Bank of Kentland, the first Bank of Newton county, was organized in 1870 by C. B. Cones, as President, and John Ade as cashier. In 1875, this bank was reorganized, John Ade, G. W. McCray and E. L. Urmon purchasing C. B. Cones interests. Since that time there has been no change in the management of the bank. The business done last year amount to $8,590,757.

John Ade came to America from Continued On Page Six
Pages Of The Past

The following excerpts are from The Kentland Enterprise during the Fall of 1900, transcribed by Janet Miller

Kentland

Prof. A. H. Herrington, with his family and household effects, arrived in Kentland the first of the week from Hebron, their former home, and are now residing in the house next door to Mr. and Mrs. W. T. McCray, in the building just moved from Rensselaer. He reports them all in the best of health, and the building a most pleasant place of residence. The house was moved by removing the furniture first, and then the rooms. He reports the weather very pleasant.

The Rider Grain Co. is preparing to put into its elevator at an early date a new oats clipper, much larger in capacity than the one now in use, and also a new steam engine in addition to the gasoline engine now in use.

Mr. and Mrs. James White, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Thompson, Patrick Keefe, Dr. K. L. Myers, T. B. Cunningham, Miss Alice Smart, Miss Theresa Fitzgerald, and Miss Lizzy Boyle are members of a camping party from this place spending the week on the banks of the plank- tipped creek near Monticello.

October 28th has been designated by Gov. Mount as Sunday prison reform and matters relating hereto. The prison reform committee has made inquiries of W. T. McCray, of Kentland Tuesday on court business. Mr. McCray, of course, will welcome to Kentland. Mr. Carmichael of Rensselaer. A Bert Armstrong of Rose Lawn while out hunting last Sunday had one eye shot out and the other injured. Arthur Allis, another of the crowd, received a shot through his nose and several in his arm and side, but was not seriously hurt. The shooting was accidental.

Morocco

It is claimed that Uncle Ward Anderson, of Morocco, has been a member of the F. & A. M. Lodge longer than any other man in the State of Indiana.

James McKeever of Sheldon has established a tailor shop at this place. He is located in rooms over the Citizen’s Bank.

D. M. Williams of Beaver township arrived in Kentland Monday night on his bicycle, the register on which indicated that he had traveled 1,136 miles. Mr. Williams’ left leg has been very much improved, and most of his clothing, it is reported, has been changed.

It is claimed that the town is to be much beautified by the installation of a new electric light plant, which renders efficient service. It is under the management of Mr. McKeever, and is said to be an improvement.

Mr. and Mrs. James White, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Ashby is having an addition built to their home in the vicinity of their old home.

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The History of Kentland

Continued From Page One

The town has been incorporated as a village under the act of the General Assembly, which has made the town a convenient place for trade and industry. The village is located on the western boundary of the county, and is on the line of the Grand Trunk railroad. The village has a population of about 1,000, and is one of the most thriving towns in the county.

The History of Kentland

Continued From Page Six

Our two local papers, the Newton County Enterprise and Kentland Democrat, are well known to require commendation to our readers. They are doing a fine work in the interest of the town and county.

The History of Kentland

Continued From Page One

One of the most noticeable improvements of our town is our electric light plant, which furnishes sufficient light for both streets and residences. The plant is supplied with the very best machinery and is a paying business for the operators and a satisfaction to the town.

The main street of town has been macadamized with crushed rock, in a most satisfactory manner. Today Kentland is in a better condition than it has ever been. Its population is increasing, its wealth is greater each year, and its trade is extending.

The people of Kentland are loyal to Newton county. They take pride in the growth and advancement of the whole country. There is no local jealousy of surrounding towns or sections; but with malice toward none and charity for all, our citizens are ready and willing to aid in any work which will tend to advance the welfare of the whole community.

Kentland is located in the heart of the country, and is a convenient place for trade and industry. The town has a population of about 1,200, and is on the line of the Grand Trunk railroad. The town has a fine building stock. Its growth and advancement of the whole county. There is no local jealousy of surrounding towns or sections; but with malice toward none and charity for all, our citizens are ready and willing to aid in any work which will tend to advance the welfare of the whole community.

Kentland

Public School

Mrs. S. E. Cunningham

The History of Kentland

Continued From Page One

The Newton County Historical Society and Family History Division would like to wish every one a safe and joyous holiday season!

KENTLAND, Ind., November 1, 1886.

KENT, founder of Kentland, was born in Whitestown, N. Y., in 1818. He received his education in the Free Academy at Newton, N. Y., and at the Kentland Academy. He married Anna, daughter of Henry Winning, of Newton, N. Y., in 1840.

In 1860, our town of Kentland was laid out and named in honor of him. Possessing neither physical nor mental endowment, he died quietly in his seventy-fourth year early morning until late at night, reading everything and studying the great social and political problems of his day. He had lived a large business interest, but he came to this county in 1859 where he resided until his death in 1882.

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