

# MUSEUM MUSES

*Telling Highland County's story for over 50 years!*

Merry  
Mercantile  
Wrapup

## BLACK HISTORY OF HIGHLAND COUNTY

*The following is an excerpt of a Black history project currently underway by Highland County Historical Society Members Kati Burwinkel, Myra Phillips and John Glaze.*

### BLACK HISTORY OF HIGHLAND COUNTY

Highland County was first settled in the New Market area around 1803. Prior to that, this area was home to various native American tribes, including the Shawnee. It wasn't long before early settlers brought along their slaves and Highland County's Black population began. The first known permanent Black resident was Thomas Trimble.

James Trimble, who was a captain in the military during the Revolution, and his wife, Jane Clark, had 12 children.

Thomas Trimble was born in 1787 in Woodford, Kentucky. His actual parentage is not proven, as the reality of slave ownership was that the owner of the slaves sometimes fathered children with female slaves. From two unions are born several children. The family says that Thomas was an emancipated slave of Captain James Trimble. The story goes that Captain James Trimble decided to free his slaves, come to Ohio and buy land to move here. In 1802 he purchased land in the Fallsville area, then returned to Kentucky. In 1804, he returned to Ohio, planted an orchard and built a cabin, then went back to Kentucky to continue his plans to move the family to Ohio. Captain Trimble, became sick and died; however, his widow completed his dream, moving the family

here. This included Tom Trimble. Her oldest son was 21-year-old Allen Trimble, who would become one of Ohio's governors. In 1808 Allen built a blacksmith shop close to the town, on the site where St. Mary's Episcopal Church now stands. Tom Trimble, who worked there as an apprentice, was the first black permanent resident of Highland County.

### SETTLEMENTS

There were a number of Black settlements in Highland County. Most of these settlements had nicknames such as Smoky Row, Black Rock, and Africa. One of the earliest settlements, still existing today, is the Gist Settlement. Once known as "Darktown", Gist was settled in the early 1800s by a group of freed slaves. The Carthagenia Baptist Church was first built there in 1810. *(continued on page 4)*

When the gift shop committee began making plans for The Merry Mercantile 2020, we had high hopes that Covid 19 would be long past us. We hoped that we would all be ready to celebrate the holidays to the fullest. It became evident that the restrictions of the pandemic were persisting and the safety of our volunteers and customers were going to be our main concerns. In the best possible holiday spirit, we modified our check out area, monitored the number of customers in the shop at all times, and required masks, and opened our doors for 3 days a week.

We were surprised and happy that we had customers visit us and shop every day the museum and The Merry Mercantile were open. No, we did not make as much money as we would during a normal season, but we are grateful for all we took in.

We sincerely thank all who shopped the Merry Mercantile. By purchasing the unique wares of our artisans, you helped the museum and supported our community's small businesses. We are grateful to the generous volunteers who worked to keep the doors open. We will continue to do our best to provide this shopping/selling opportunity for our community.

The committee has already made tentative plans for the 2021 holiday season. We will work within whatever confines are put before us!

*Gist Settlement School (foreground) and Church—unk year photo courtesy of Ohio History Connection*



*Liz Odland*

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BRUNCH! - MARCH 21

2021 TRUSTEES

Tara Beery  
Sue Boatman  
Bob Brown  
Sue Honeycutt  
Denny Kirk, Chair  
Jean McKenzie  
Leslie Ramsey  
Steve Roush  
Earl Smith  
Brenda Thompson  
John Willis  
Nancy Wisecup

Society Officers  
President: Sandy Shoemaker  
Vice President: Carolyn Michael

DIRECTOR: VICKI KNAUFF  
Historian: Jean Wallis  
Newsletter Editor: John Glaze

HCHS is a 501(c)(3)  
non-profit organization



**community rewards**

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR REWARDS CARD TO BENEFIT HCHS?

WHO AM I?

If you guessed **JOHN GLAZE** for last issue's mystery child, you were correct!

This issue,

Who is this ?

(Answer next issue.)



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Welcome New Members!**

David Mayer  
Janice Teeters  
Siobhan Smith

**Our sincere thanks to these who made monetary donations:**

Nancy Axmacher  
John & Phyllis Knechtly  
Bill & Jennifer Sims  
Larry & Carolyn Taubenheim

Donations in memory of **Lowell Chaney** received from:

Thomas & Judy Copeland  
Shirley M. Cotter  
John & Carolyn Kellis  
Bob & Judy Newby  
Robert & Catherine Pratt

Memorial contributions for **Ken Roush:**

Bill Rogers  
Sara Rogers

Memorial for **Kay Ayres:**

Richard & Paulette Donley

In Memory of **Lewis Steward**

Elsie Young Family

Donations for **Elinor Cornelius:**

Janice Vosper

In Memory of **Margaret Van Frank:**

Anonymous

In Memory of **Chrystobel Pulliam**

R. M. "Skip" Pulliam

The Historical Society extends their condolences to the families of these members who passed away recently:

**John Crouse**  
**Catherine Meade**  
**Patty Walker**

**Honoraria were made for these people:**

**Frank Hedges** by the Lowell Chaney family

**Vicki Knauff** by Bob & Dorothy Hodson

**Jean Wallis** by Jennifer West & Vicki Knauff

**Vicky & Earl Smith, Marty & Melissa Pulliam, Cathy & Joey Potter** by R. M. "Skip" Pulliam

**Thanks to these dedicated members who renewed their memberships since last quarter: (continued next page)**

Bill & Carlene Alexander  
Donna Armstrong  
Mark & Brenda Armstrong  
Linda Bellamy  
Leslie & Betty Bishop  
Brad & Tara Boatman  
Ken & Sue Boatman

Rob & Susan Bright  
Cheryl Bucholtz  
Jay & Charlotte Cooper  
Rebecca Creamer  
Dwight & Bettye Crum  
Connie Cummings  
Dr. Larry & Lana Dukes  
Richard & Paulette Donley

Judy Ellis  
Rosalind Engle  
Jim & Karen Faust  
Jean Fawley  
Deanna Flinn

Mick & Sandy Ford  
Richard & Nancy Graves  
Jon & Suzanne Hapner  
Virginia Harewood  
Don & Carolyn Hastings  
**Frank & Becky Hedges**  
**Heritage**

**Bob & Dorothy Hodson**  
**Preservationist**  
Joyce Holt  
Judy Hornsby

**Tom & Maggi Horst – Heritage**  
Amy Huebner  
Bob & Cathy Jones  
Patricia Kelch

John & Carolyn Kellis  
John & Phyllis Knechtly  
Tim & Deb Koehl  
Linda Kramer

**John & Kathy Levo – Heritage**  
Diana McKay  
Helen McDermott  
**Bernard & Mary Ann Meyers**  
**Heritage**

Steve & Rita Neago  
Galen & Lynn Neal  
(continued next page)



Tissot's Home Center

206 North Elm St.  
Hillsboro, Ohio

PPG Porter Paint  
Quality & Durability

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY BRUNCH

**GO GREEN in 2021!!!**

The Highland County Historical Society will host our annual St. Patrick's Day Brunch at Highland House 151 E Main St. Hillsboro, Oh 45133 on March 21. Come join us from 11:00 am.-1:00 pm. Menu will be sausage, biscuits & gravy, egg & bacon casserole, potatoes O'Brien, fruit salad, cup-



cake, coffee & juice. RESERVATIONS are REQUIRED. To comply with social distancing we are assigning seat times. Please call Jean Fawley at 937-763-2657 to reserve seats. Carryout available. Call 937-393-3392 day of brunch. Come and enjoy our hospitality Museum will be open for touring also.

## 2nd Annual Bazaar!

**SECOND ANNUAL BAZAAR & YARD SALE**

**Saturday May 29, 2021 from 8:00 am-3:00 pm**

We are in need of good, clean, household items, furniture, home decor, outside items, antiques and collectibles. NO CLOTHES or SHOES please. These items will be offered at inside sale to benefit the Highland House. We are also having our outside vendor spaces available again. \$20.00 per space. Crafters, antique dealers, yard sales welcome. Call Jean Fawley for details about outside spaces, 937-763-2657. Deadline for outside space will be May 22, 2021. Call Vicki at 937-393-3392 for appointment to drop off donations. Deadline for donations is May 21, 2021. You will be notified of any changes or weather forecasts.

**YOUR SUPPORT is GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!!!!!**



This Photo by Un-

*Thank You*

Dr. and Mrs. Michael Loar made a generous donation of items to the Highland County Historical Society to be sold at our yard sale on May 29, 2021. Please check on Facebook Marketplace for some items selling now. Thank you Michael and Janna Loar.



**Susan E Vaheer**  
Financial Advisor

301 N High Street Suite 101  
Hillsboro, OH 45133  
937-393-5751

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

MKT-5894I-A

## KMR BOOKKEEPING & ACCOUNTING

Professional Accounting, Bookkeeping & Tax Preparation

- E-FILE
- TAX PREPARATION

**KAREN RENO**

- BUSINESS
- INDIVIDUAL
- PAYROLL

118 Holmes Street - Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

Tel. (937) 393-2672 Fax (937) 393-5542 Cell (937) 402-1079  
kreno1079@gmail.com

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT (continued)

Dave & Cathy Parry  
Jim & Kay Payton  
Janet Pelfrey

**Beverly Rhoads - Heritage**  
**Roxanna Roberts - Heritage**

**Jim & Carol Rooney**  
**Heritage**

Steve & Helen Roush  
Harold & Judy Schmidt

**Tim & Sandy Shoemaker**  
**Heritage**

**Ann Siddons - Pioneer**

Bill & Jennifer Sims  
Earl & Vicky Smith  
J. E. & Kathleen Smith

Madonna Smith

**Sherri Smithson - Heritage**  
**Wendell & Joyce Sparks**

**Heritage**

John & Virginia Studebaker

**Larry & Carolyn Taubenheim**  
**Heritage**

Alice Teeters

David & Alice Travis  
Jeremy & Lori Tuttle

Janice Vosper

Jennifer West

Judy Wilcher

John Willis

Dale & Elissa Zornes

Barb Zumwalde &

Dave Tourtelot

Rob & Susan Bright

## VETERAN BANNER PROJECT

The Honoring Those Who've Served Banner Project has proven to be a very popular program recognizing more than 300 Highland County veterans and veteran organizations in the past three years.

Applications for 2021 are available at the Historical Society and the Veterans Service office in the Hi-Tech Center. The price remains the same as last year; \$50. for a 16x45 banner that hangs on the posts in the historic district and \$25. for a 12x18 lawn banner. Banners are made by local business, The Print Shop.

Banners are hung by city workers before Memorial Day weekend and are taken down near Veterans Day, then are returned to the buyer. Spaces are limited.

Sponsors of the project are Support Our Troops, Hillsboro Uptown Renaissance Project (HURP) and the Historical Society.

**Thank You All!**

## BLACK HISTORY (continued)

Gist Settlement of Highland County had 18 families totaling 105 people in 1840, according to Laura Richards, a Research History student. Other Gist settlements were in Adams and Brown counties as well.

The Hansborough Settlement in Liberty Township began about 1840. Like the Gist Settlement, a group of freed slaves came to Ohio for a better life. (*Much of this story was presented in the Sep/Oct/Nov 2020 issue of Museum Muses.*) The members of Hansborough built log homes, a school and Clear Creek Colored Baptist Church, which began in 1842. Hansborough students and their teacher came to Lincoln School when it opened in 1870. All that remains of Hansborough today is the remnants of the cemetery.

### CHURCHES

The Sanborn map of Hillsboro, 1893, shows a Baptist Church at the end of Railroad Street in Hillsboro. Methodist AME church stood. Youngville Black community was near the intersection of Route 50 and Fenner Road. Hightop,



*Lincoln School—1910 Class*

located near Samantha, was also a thriving community and the early home of activist, Imogene Curtis. Leesburg also had a school near Fairfield Church.

Many Black churches have been started in Highland County. Shortly after the Carthaginian Baptist Church began at Gist in 1810, the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church started in 1830

as Black Rock on property purchase for \$5.00 located on East Walnut St. This became known as The Wayman Chapel when the church constructed a new building on West Pleasant St around 1835. Greenfield's Shorter Chapel AME opened in 1843 and the Shiloh Baptist Church in 1866. Hillsboro's New Hope Baptist Church was in several locations before the current church was built in 1908. Wesleyan Methodist had been on North East Street since 1874. Elder Rita Lee was a long-time pastor and great supporter of the Lincoln School march.

enlisted 28 February 1865, for one year of service. He was sent off to serve with Company H, 3rd Regiment of the United States Colored Heavy Artillery. The 3rd Regiment had been organized from the 1st Tennessee Heavy Artillery, African Descent and served as garrison at Fort Pickering and in Defenses of Memphis, Tennessee and in District of West Tennessee.

Moses' story is only one of many. There are reported to be over 100 Black Union Army soldiers buried in Hillsboro Cemetery alone, let alone those buried in other cemeteries such as Gist, Leesburg, Fairfield Township and Greenfield.

### MILITARY SERVICE

Blacks in Highland County have always served proudly in the military back to the Civil War. Moses Trimble, son of Tom Trimble, at 28 years,

### UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

The Underground Railroad passed through Highland

# TURNER

FUNERAL HOMES AND CREMATORY

www.turnerfuneralhomes.cc Fax: (937) 393-2028

turnerfuneralhomes@yahoo.com

**TURNER & SON**  
602 N. High St.  
Hillsboro, OH 45133  
(937) 393-2124

**DAVIS-TURNER**  
201 Broadway St.  
Lynchburg, OH 45142  
(937) 364-2341

**TURNER**  
73 E. Main St.  
Leesburg, OH 45135  
(937) 780-7841

## BLACK HISTORY (continued)

County. A number of homes in the area played a big role in the safe transportation of slaves as they moved north toward freedom.

Underground Road, located in northern Highland County had homes who helped the runaway slaves on their way north. By its very nature, information about the system was extremely secretive, but through diligent searching family records and stories, much information has surfaced.

Escape trails started at the Ohio River and wended their ways north to Canada, northern Ohio or safe places in between, some being African American Settlements such as Gist.

### WOMEN CHANGING HISTORY

Highland County has a proud history of women making change through peaceful, civil disobedience. Just as Mother Thompson marched in Hillsboro for temperance, so did 19 mothers who marched for integration of Hillsboro elementary schools in 1954. This became the first northern test case following the landmark Brown vs Education decision and the Hillsboro case

made civil rights history. In 2017, all marchers were inducted into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame.

This story is told at Highland House in the LINCOLN SCHOOL EXHIBIT opened in June 2017. A documentary was also produced and a team has traveled over the State of Ohio showing the film and sharing the story.

The event is also chronicled at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, which is located at the former Lorraine Motel, the site of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's assassination.

### LINCOLN SCHOOL

Land was purchased for the all-black Lincoln School in 1869 and the school opened about one year later. A second story was added in later years. The school had 4 classrooms where grades were combined and went to the 8th grade. A bathroom, furnace, and a kitchen were added later as well. The school was set on fire July 5, 1954 during the fight for integration but reopened with two redecorated classrooms. After schools were integrated, the Lincoln building sold and was

later torn down by the new owner.

### AAARC

The African American Awareness Research Council was founded in 1994. Highland County District Library's Hillsboro manager, Laura Waln, organized this group that celebrates Black History and honors a citizen each year at their annual meeting. The founding members were Laura Waln, Elsie Steward Young, Edna Raney, Clara Goodrich, Eleanor Cumberland and Robert Lee Smith.

### SUMMARY

This book project is still in creation and will include much more information than shared here. Watch for availability!



St. Patrick's Day  
BRUNCH  
MARCH 21

## SOGS Spring Programs

The Historical Society and the Southern Ohio Genealogical Society (SOGS) are partner organizations that enhance the history of families and individuals who have contributed to the culture of Highland County.

SOGS will present these programs this spring. Chad McConnaughey, County Recorder, will offer

**Deeds Help Build Trees**  
on March 11,

**Uncovering Immigrant  
Origins Through  
Cluster Research**

will be presented by Dana Palmer on April 8 and Nancy Otman will present

**Tombstone Markings**  
on May 13.

All programs are open to the public and are held at the Highland County Business Center at 1487 North High next to Jerry Haag Motors at 7pm.

These programs were rescheduled from 2020 due to the pandemic. The programs may be presented via Zoom. Watch for announcements through social media, local newspapers and the radio.

*7 July 1841 issue of The Philanthropist*

### POLITICAL A. S. CONVENTION.

The anti-slavery men, in the Senatorial district, comprising Fayette, Highland and Adams, will hold a convention, at Hillsborough, July 22nd, to take into consideration the duty of abolitionists at the approaching election. The friends of the cause in the neighboring counties are invited to attend. Thomas Morris has promised to attend.

H. C. STEWART, Sec.

### Kirk Law Office, LLC Denny Kirk, Attorney at Law



P.O. Box 1846  
158 W. Main Street  
Hillsboro, OH 45133  
(937) 763-9866

kirklawoffice@att.net

Visit us on the web: [www.kirklawoffice.net](http://www.kirklawoffice.net)

# WINDOW REPLACEMENT

# LOOKING BACK

At its December Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved a fundraiser, as proposed by the Finance Committee. The project is to raise funds to install the 13 windows that were purchased for the east side of Highland House Museum. The windows were purchased last fall to avoid price increases in these uncertain

mailing outlining the project. Depending on how that proceeds, the board will consider the purchase and installation of windows on the front of the building. That would complete the entire window replacement project. If you did not receive a mailing, contact Highland House and we will mail one to you.



*West side replacement window. (Window sill constructed of concrete for a longer lasting solution.)*

sition will offer the opportunity to move as much of our administrative functions there, offering new display/archival space in Highland House Museum.

These are exciting times for us but they are only possible with the continued support of you, our members as well as support from our community.

*John Kellis*

Looking back in time has some unexpected memories we've shared with family and friends, some and sometimes most who are no longer here with us. I remember Saturday nights in uptown Hillsboro as being the best place to connect with friends. Stores were open till 9 pm; you had your choice of clothing stores for men, women, children, our beloved farm families plus shoe and boot stores, too. You could find tasty meats at Gabriel's, Penquite's, Kroger, Herschel Creed's & Shaffer's Supermarket. We met classmates to cruise around town & go dancing at The WigWam before our curfews ended! We even had a chance to see our teachers occasionally, some already retired but some still in the front of the classrooms trying to instill a wonderful sense of humor and understanding as well as a valuable education to enable us to succeed in life. We were so fortunate to have grown up in the 50s & 60s and I wouldn't trade my own memories for ones that will remain with me today from these past 10 years. Our world seems to have been turned upside down, but with prayers (continued on page 8)



*Examples of window conditions on the west side of Highland House before replacement.*



times. That was possible with the remaining funds raised for capital improvements over the past few years. Members and supporters should have received a

The plans are to continue renting to the law offices in the near-term while we make plans for the renovation necessary for our use in the future. The acqui-

*4 Jan 2021 closing on the house next to the museum. (l-r) John Kellis, Denny Kirk, Kristy Wilkin.*



~ Serving Southern Ohio Since 1980 ~  
 Industrial - Commercial - Residential  
 TELEPHONE, SECURITY, & NETWORK SYSTEMS



**Greystone Systems, Inc.**  
*James C. Hamilton*  
 jhamilton@greystonesystemsinc.com

Ph. (937) 466-2300  
 Cell (937) 402-0342

4416 Turkey Pike  
 Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

## Jacob Lucas' Diary *(continued from last issue)*

Some of the prisoners gave over their money and received receipts for it, and that is all that they ever did receive, for after the officers retired with quite a sum of money, then commenced a general hiding and many were the contrivances resorted to and secreting of greenbacks, for we anticipated another visit from them, and we were not disappointed either, for they came again and told us that we might have another chance to save our money by giving it to them and taking a receipt for it, so that we could get it again when we were paroled by presenting the receipt they gave us, but that if we did not give it to them voluntarily, it would be taken from us and confiscated. A few more of the prisoners gave them their money thinking perhaps they would get it back again. The Johnnies liked greenbacks too well to ever give it back. After they had got all the money they could by all means described, they tried another plan which I will now describe. We were formed in four ranks across the center of the building and compelled to strip off all our clothing, leaving it in a heap at our feet, and then march a few paces to the rear, and remain in line and witness the greedy search after greenbacks. They made a thorough job of it, turning pockets inside out, ripping seams and hems of our garments and tearing out linings—they were richly rewarded, for the boys had thought to hide their money by sewing it under the lining and in the seams and hems of their clothing, but the Rebs had found out that trick; they not only took money but watches, pocket-knives. Locketts, fingerings, photographs, pipes, and everything they could find, a

great many things that were of no value to them at all, but of such sentimental value to the boys. I had but twenty five dollars, two ten dollar bills and one five; but the untiring searchers after greenbacks did not find them—they did not take the brass buttons off from our blouses, as they did later, for if they had, my three bills would not have saved my life in after months which they did, and of which I will speak hereafter. I had taken the cap or crown off of three of the brass buttons on my blouse, and after neatly folding and pressing, I succeeded in getting a bill in each of the cups of the buttons and then replaced the caps on the buttons again. Our privations and suffering during our stay in Smith's Building were many and severe, but not to be compared with what they were in after months and in other places. Our rations were small and of very course cornbread, with occasionally what they called bean soup, but it was rather thin soup, or would have been but for the bugs, for each one of the beans or peas had a good fat one within it so occasionally we got fresh meat. These rations we received once each day, never before but always after roll call, and the time of roll call varied from seven to eleven o'clock, to suit the convenience of Ross, who would cause us to be formed in four ranks and would then count the files, and if from his count, there was a man short, our rations were stopped, sometimes for three days in succession.

The Adjutant spoken of whose name was Ross, had formerly been a Federal soldier, at the outbreak of the war had enlisted in some New York regiment, the number of the regiment I have forgotten—he was

most bitter in his hatred and abuse of Federal prisoners; he had deserted from the Federal armies and espoused the lost cause, for which he was given a commission and put in charge of Camp Libby, which included Libby Prison, Castle Thunder, Castle Lightning, Smith's Building, Pemberton's Building, and other buildings that were being used for

the incarceration of Federal Prisoners of War. As I have said, Ross was most bitter in his hatred of us, and watched and sought for opportunities to abuse, and punish us, and would do so for the most trivial offenses, and surely he delighted in and took great pleasure in punishing and giving pain to those that were in his power, who dared not resent anything, but meekly and humbly submit to everything. But human endurance has a limit, even when we



are in the hands of our most bitter enemies.

On one occasion, Adjutant Ross went beyond the limit of my endurance with his abuse of me, and without thought, or fear of consequences, I took revenge on him, but received much greater punishment than did he. I will relate the whole circumstances, but in order to do so, I must go back (a privilege all narrators have) and commence at the beginning. I

## Thank You & Welcome

Thank you to those who have served the board and are now leaving it: Alex Butler, John Kellis and Jim Rooney. We appreciate all of your time and energies given to make the Society better!

We now welcome new board members, Jean McKenzie, Carl Smith and Brenda Thompson,



**JONATHAN M. GIBBS**  
Owner / Agent

7710 Shawnee Run Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH 45243

T: (513) 561-5551

F: (513) 561-1918

M: (513) 460-9663

jonathan.g@gibbsassociates.net

[gibbsinsuranceassociates.com](http://gibbsinsuranceassociates.com)

## HIGHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

151 E Main St  
Hillsboro, OH 45133  
Phone: 937.393.3392

U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Hillsboro, OH  
45133  
Permit No. 11

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Check the date found on your mailing label. This is your membership renewal date. If it falls within the period of this newsletter, your renewal statement is enclosed. Please make any corrections or additions on the form and return it with your payment. Please consider increasing your membership to the next level.

### Our Mission Statement

“To encourage community involvement in the preservation, education and promotion of Highland County history and genealogy for the benefit of all people for present and future generations.”

## Jacob Lucas' Diary *(continued from pg 7)*

believe I have said before that roll call was had once each day, and for that purpose the Adjutant would send in advance of him, an orderly to form us in four ranks, so that he would not be detained when he came to call the roll, or rather count the files. We were not allowed to fall out of ranks of being thus formed, until the Adjutant had counted us but were required to stand in our places in ranks and await the convenience of Ross which varied from thirty minutes to two hours after we were formed by his orderly. I used to think that he waited outside in the hall and watched through the key hole to see someone get out of ranks, in order to get to punish them, for just as surely as a man stepped out of ranks after we had been so formed, just so surely would Adjutant Ross come rushing through the door into our midst, with curses on his lips, and with drawn sword, and just so surely would that man be punished. On one occasion after standing in ranks for roll call an unusual

length of time, I sat down on the floor in place, for I had been sick for several days and was quite weak and had become faint from standing so long, but no sooner had I sat down than the door opened and Adjutant Ross with drawn sword came in and toward me, and my ears were greeted with: “You God damned Yankee Son-of-a-bitch, stand up!” I did stand up but had only got squarely upon my feet when he reached me and made a pass at me with his sword, intending to strike me on the head. To save my head I threw up my left arm, receiving the blow intended for my head on my forearm. Then without waiting to consider the consequences, but acting upon the impulse of the moment, with my right hand fist clenched, I struck him full in the face, felling him to the floor, and before the guard who always accompanied him, could reach me, I had planted the heel of my number nine broad gauge shoe in his face a couple of times which only partially peeled his face for hi. I was

in the humor to peel him entirely but the time allowed me for that satisfaction was cut short by the guard seizing me and literally dragging me down the long flight of stairs and along the street some three blocks or more to Old Castle Thunder, where I was thrown into a damp dungeon cell and chained hand and foot on my back for a period of forty-eight hours, and during that forty-eight hours, I neither was allowed food nor drink. At the expiration of that time, I was dragged back to Smith's Building and dragged that time for the reason that I could not walk then, nor was I able to walk for many days and weeks after. The strain had been too great for me in my weak and starved condition. My complete prostration was accompanied with fever, and for three long weeks I lay upon (not a soft bed) but the hard bare floor of Smith's Building, unable even to turn myself. For days my comrades despaired of my life, but I did not die, else I

## LOOKING BACK

*(continued from pg 6)*

to God above we will survive and prosper again but in a world very changed from what we knew. For each of you reading this, stay safe and healthy and continue to “mask up”!

*Leslie Ludwick Ramsey*

could not give this narrative, but I am convinced that the watchful care and tender nursing I received from my best friend, W.H. Martin, together with the timely arrival of a box of edibles from our homes, saved the Rebels the trouble and expense of my funeral and interment in Richmond.

*(Continued next issue!)*