

A SHORT HISTORY OF CARROLL COUNTY

ANNA V. PARKER

In the year 1838, the eighty-seventh county was formed in Kentucky. The largest part of this new county was taken from Gallatin, which had been organized into a county in 1799. In order to straighten the lines of the new county, a corner was cut from Henry and a slice taken from Trimble. The new county was named in honor of Charles Carroll of Maryland, who had been one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The town of Port William, the earliest settlement in this section, had been the county seat of Gallatin County. The name was now changed to Carrollton, and the town was made the county seat of Carroll County.¹

Carroll County is situated in a very delightful part of Kentucky. The northern boundary is formed by the beautiful Ohio River, and much of the farm land under cultivation is in the fertile valleys of the Ohio and Kentucky rivers. The hills in the background form a most interesting contrast. In the spring of the year when the wild plum, dogwood, redbud, and other flowering trees are in bloom, a drive through the country is most delightful. In the fall when the trees on the hills are a mass of color, it is equally beautiful and interesting. Many lovely views of the Ohio and Kentucky rivers can be seen when one is driving along the river roads. Perhaps the most lasting memory is the reflection of the sun on the water before it sets behind the Indiana hills.

Carroll County is also well located, in that it is midway between Louisville and Cincinnati, and nearly the same distance from Lexington as it is from Indianapolis. It has always enjoyed the advantage of river transportation on both the Ohio and the Kentucky. Now, as 1959 begins, traffic on the Ohio is still extremely active, though it will probably never again be so important to Kentuckians as it was during the days of the early settlements. Then, their very lives depended on travel by water.

In 1867 the Louisville & Nashville Railroad built a line from LaGrange to Covington known as the Short Line, which passes through the southern part of the county. Early in the 1930's, Federal Highway 42 was run through the county, lying parallel to the Ohio for several miles and giving the tourist many lovely views of the river. It has been of inestimable help to the county in a commercial way, even as it has afforded residents and visitors much pleasure.

Carrollton was settled in 1792,² some seven years before Gallatin County's organization became effective, and was the county seat of that county until Carroll County was formed. As said, it was known at first

as Port William. Following the custom of the day, the Governor of the Commonwealth appointed a group of men, citizens of the new county, to form its government: Garland Bullock, Hugh Harris, George Gullion, Richard Lindsay, Burr H. Gray, Benjamin Cox, John C. Lindsay, Wesley Dean, and James Talboth. Bullock was chosen to serve as county judge, and the other men were sworn into office to serve as justices of the peace in Carrollton and other communities of the new county. Robert Sanders of Ghent, justice of the peace in Gallatin County, administered the oaths. Richard Butler was the first county clerk, and William Winslow the first county attorney.³

Four courthouses have been built in Carroll County. The first one was of logs, built in 1800 on a street near the river known as Water Street; it disappeared many years ago. In 1810 a brick building was erected on a tract of land that had been given to the county for this purpose by Benjamin Craig, one of the earliest settlers of the region. These two buildings were put up for and in the county of Gallatin. A severe storm damaged the second building⁴ so badly that one of the first duties of the Fiscal Court was the building of a new courthouse.

As a committee to draft plans and let the contract for the new building, the court named Thomas Butler, Jacob Smith, Levi Abbetts, Philip Senior, and William Stringfellow. This building was completed within two years at a cost of \$10,600. The courthouse now in use was built in 1884; its cost was \$16,437. It is on the same lot that was given to the county by Benjamin Craig in 1810 for the second building. The tiny jail on Court Street, slightly south of the main structure, is most unique and attracts more attention than any other building in the town. It is said to be the most popular subject for photographers in Carroll County.

The first tavern was built in 1805, on First Street facing west, near the location General Charles Scott had selected some years before for his blockhouse.⁵ This tavern was known as the Point House, and it is said that George Rogers Clark was a frequent guest, stopping by when making the trip from Fort Nelson (Louisville) to the mouth of the Licking River. In 1844 a stone house, also a tavern, was constructed on this street, by the side of the Point House. Known as the Elm Tree House, it was built and operated by Michael Giltner until 1849, when he moved his family to his farm in Hunter's Bottom, a section of the county running along the Ohio River to the Trimble County line. An interesting entry in the first court record book shows the prices set for taverns in the county. The lawful rate for dinner was 37½¢; for breakfast and supper, 25¢; single feed for a horse was 12¢, lodging 12¢, whiskey 6¼¢, French brandy 12¢, cider 12¢ per pint, and beer 12¢!⁶

Across the river from Carrollton was Prestonville, named for General Preston of Revolutionary War fame.⁷ In the early days, even when Carroll was a part of Gallatin County, it was the most important settlement. Because the town was at the mouth of the Kentucky River and also on the Ohio, much of the freight sent to Central Kentucky passed through it. One of the earliest roads led to New Castle in Henry County. This was the main way of getting needed supplies in and farm products to the market. As early as 1795, Elijah Craig, Jr., placed a notice in the Cincinnati *Sentinel of the North-Western Territory* stating that he would make trips up the Kentucky River on the first day of February with sufficient number of boats to transport all goods left with him, and adding that he had a storehouse large enough to take care of all shipments waiting delivery. His charge per hundred to Frankfort was 50¢ and to Dick's River, \$1.25.⁸

The first dam on the Kentucky River was built in 1839 about two miles from its mouth.⁹ The contract was awarded to A. W. Darling and Brothers. After its completion Darling made Carrollton his home and built a large flour mill and distillery in Prestonville. He owned a general store there and was quite successful in all of his business undertakings. He is said to have shipped many barrels of flour to New Orleans by flat-boat. When he retired in 1880 he sold his distillery to a corporation called the Whiskey Trust, and, as his product had become so famous over a very large territory, he is said to have received quite a large sum of money for the name of his brand, "Old Darling." Business in Prestonville began to decline after the Kentucky Central Railroad was built in 1854. At the present time, only a skeleton of the original settlement remains.

Among the early industries in Carrollton was a distillery started by Richard Jett in 1845 or 1846. Jett had moved to Kentucky from Virginia with his family. After his death in 1881, his sons, James and his three brothers, built a much larger distillery with a capacity of 326 bushels of corn a day. They manufactured a sour-mash whiskey which was sold mainly in Cincinnati. Estimates have placed their sales at 2000 barrels a year.¹⁰

In 1863, John Glauber, a recent arrival from Germany, started the Glauber Shoe Company. He employed five workers, for at that time all shoes were made by hand. The business is now owned by his grandson, John Glauber III, and is operating in the original building. Another old business that remained in the same family for three generations was sold only recently. It is the City Meat Market, founded by Herman Seppenfelt in 1866. He was the first Carrollton merchant to deliver purchases to the homes of his customers. The first dry goods store was on the corner of Main and Fifth streets, owned by Hamilton Lathrope. His wife was

Ester Price, granddaughter of Benjamin Craig. His brother, Dr. Albert Lathrope, was the first dentist in the county, and his wife was Susan Ferguson, of White Plains, New York.

The Carrollton Woolen Mills, established by John Howe in 1870, was the largest and most important of the early industries of the county. It employed eighty men, which was very important to a town the size of Carrollton at that time. The woolen mills were built at a cost of \$78,000, and jean (or "jeans") was the only material manufactured. It was sold mainly in Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans, and Louisville.¹¹

A tailor by trade, Howe had settled in Carrollton in 1859. Several years before the woolen mills were opened, he established a private bank under the name of John Howe and Sons. Their bank occupied the handsome home later known as the Darling Home, now owned by Dr. Bregg. During the War Between the States, it was robbed by a group of men supposed to have been Southern soldiers, men separated from their company and hiding in the hills. But the plan must have been known to more than those in uniform, for some of the robbers were thought to have been local men and only a small amount of money reached the Southern army.

In 1881 the Carrollton National Bank was organized with Howe's assistance. Henry M. Winslow was elected president, and Howe vice-president of the new institution.

The Carrollton Furniture Factory, established in 1884, was a very important business in the county and played a great part in the development of both town and county. It started by giving employment to seventy highly skilled workmen, bringing in a payroll of around \$36,000 a year, considered then quite a sum of money. It also purchased some raw material in the county, and its freight bill amounted to thousands of dollars annually. For a number of years its only product was fine bedroom furniture. The company took a blue ribbon at the exposition in New Orleans around the turn of the century. When Grover Cleveland was President, the furniture in one of the White House bedrooms came from the Carrollton factory. It maintained extensive auxiliary sample rooms in Grand Rapids, where it was closely allied with the furniture business of that city. In 1947 the firm was sold to Crosley Corporation, and it is now operating under the name of Avco. For nine or ten years, only television cabinets were manufactured—one million of them during that period. Since April, 1957, the line has included such items as occasional tables, cabinets, and other wood furniture.

In 1954 the A. H. Wirz Company, manufacturers of collapsible tubes, started operations in Carrollton. To produce around 200,000 gross an-

nually, it employs some ninety men and women, residents of the county or of Carrollton.

Another important plant, that of the Metal and Thermit Corporation, was dedicated as recently as April, 1958. It is on Highway 42 about two miles east of Carrollton. Here we have a plant built at a cost of \$3,500,000, said to be one of the most modern organic chemical plants in the world, and belonging to an industry that promises to give employment to twenty-five local workers.¹²

There are many smaller businesses, each engaging a sizable group of employees. Among these are the Rich Ladder Company, the Kraft Cheese Company, the Coca-Cola Bottling Company, the Martin Nursery, and three modern motels on Highway 42 east of Carrollton. The Carrollton Canning Company employs around eighty-five persons during the canning season. The two county papers were combined around 1930 and are now published weekly as the *News-Democrat*. It is owned by the estate of the late John N. Perry; N. A. Perry, Jr., is its publisher.

Carroll is principally an agricultural county. In 1957 there were 1,689.77 acres of tobacco raised in the county and around 5,000 acres of corn.¹³ Other crops are wheat, oats, barley, sorghum, and several types of grasses for hay. Many acres of tomatoes are grown, and for the past few years a large acreage has been devoted to strawberries, which thrive in the sandy soil along the rivers. Recently several farmers have supplemented their income by adding raspberries to their small fruit crop.

In addition to tobacco, the dairy herds hold a most important place in the farmers' income. There are several herds of registered Jerseys that are nationally known, having won ribbons and trophies at exhibitions in a number of states. There are also some sheep in the county, which have been a good source of income to their owners over the years. Many more farmers are raising sheep since the important dog law was passed in 1956.

Although the season lasts only a short time, perhaps the largest industry in the county is the Carrollton Loose Leaf Tobacco Market. It has often ranked as the third largest tobacco market in the world and has never been lower than fourth. There are nine warehouses with a floor space of approximately seventeen acres. During the 1957-58 season, 20,875,754 pounds of Burley were sold on the Carrollton floor, at an average price of \$61.94 and totaling in sales \$12,930,192.58.¹⁴ It goes without saying that many men and women are given work during the marketing season. Carrollton has also a large redrying plant with some three hundred employees.

Ghent, the second largest town in the county, was settled in 1795, three years later than Carrollton. From old accounts we learn it was first known as McCool's Creek Settlement. It was not until 1814 that it was given the name of Ghent. Henry Clay in those days was a frequent visitor. It was on one of Clay's visits, after returning to the United States from his peace mission in Belgium, that he suggested the town be named for the European city he had recently left.

Many of Ghent's early settlers were Revolutionary soldiers. At the close of the war they had moved west, hunting new homes. Some of these early families entered Kentucky with the Traveling Church in 1781. Others came down the Ohio on flatboats, bringing their livestock with them. Many an early family name—Craig, Bledsoe, Ellis, Gatewood, Lindsay, Keene, McCann, Sanders, Scott, Smith—is recorded in Ghent's history. The town was laid out by Samuel Sanders before 1814 but was not incorporated until January 18, 1824. It is especially noteworthy for its wide streets and complete arrangement of alleyways throughout the town.¹⁵

There are four communities in the southern part of Carroll County. They are all on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad and until about twenty-five years ago were important shipping centers. Sanders and Eagle Station had their beginnings when the first settlers moved in, each built around a grist mill. George Washington Sanders, the son of Nathaniel Sanders, an Indian fighter, started the one at Sanders; the exact date is not known. Several names had been used before 1874, when it was decided to honor the younger Sanders by giving his name to the town.

Eagle Station took its name from the creek on which it was built, although some claim it was so called from the many giant birds that flocked there. Worthville, which is on the Kentucky River as well as on Eagle Creek, was known in its early history as "Coonskin." Not until 1868 was the present name given it, in honor of General William Worth of Mexican War fame. English, the fourth town, is in the western end of the county and was named for Captain James Whorton English, who settled nearby. He it was who gave the land for the town.

The buffalo traces were the roads the early settlers followed, and Carroll County (or that part of Kentucky that was to be Carroll) was fortunate in having traces that led in every direction. It was said that buffaloes from Indiana crossed the Ohio River¹⁶ just below the present location of Ghent, and traveled south along McCools Creek across the ridges and then down Lick Creek to the Blue Lick Springs at Sanders. After staying around the springs for a while, some would go on through Owen County to Stamping Ground in Scott County, while others would

turn in a westwardly direction to a mineral spring at Drennon, in Henry County. The Big Bone Spring in Boone County, east of Carroll, was a favorite haunt of the buffalo and all kinds of wild life. So roads ran from Carroll in all directions, a great advantage to the first settlers.

As early as 1823, plans were laid for establishing a road from Ghent to Lexington. Then in 1833 George N. Sanders wrote to Joseph LeCompt in regard to improving the road to New Liberty and re-working the road on to Lexington.¹⁷ It was not until 1872 that several private road companies were organized to lay down the main roads through the county known as turnpikes. Toll houses were built, usually a mile or so from a town, where the tollkeeper lived. Here he collected a small fee for the use of the road, usually three cents per mile for a one-horse vehicle, more for two horses or for wagons. These roads served more than one good purpose. They paid the stockholder a very acceptable interest on his investment, and they were a great help to the residents of the county. In 1898 the local government began to buy the roads and make them toll free. Part of the purchase price was paid in cash, the rest in bonds bearing 6% interest.¹⁸

By 1900, bridges had been built over Eagle Creek at Sanders, Eagle Station, and Worthville. All three were the old-type covered bridge, but in recent years they have been replaced with concrete spans. Most of the dirt roads of the early days have been made into modern roads, and bridges of sturdier construction have taken the place of the original wooden ones.

The first bridge over the Kentucky River between Carrollton and Prestonville was built in 1898. At that time a project was in the "talking stage" of extending an interurban line from Covington to Louisville, and this bridge had sufficient re-enforcement to carry the load. Like many worth-while projects, "the interurban" only reached the planning stage. The present bridge, a very beautiful and graceful span, was opened to traffic in 1952. As travel on Highway 42 has grown at a startling rate during the past ten years, this larger bridge is needed to care for it.

The first few public schools were started in Carroll County around 1838, as soon as the law was passed by the Kentucky Legislature to establish public schools in the state for a three-month term and to levy a tax of five cents per hundred to pay for the cost of them.¹⁹ There had been private schools in the county, and they continued until the War Between the States, when public and private schools alike had to close. In 1870, after another bill had passed the Legislature extending the term to five months and raising the tax to twenty cents per hundred dollars, new schools were established throughout the county. J. J. Orr was in charge

of the county schools at this time and, as was the custom, teachers were examined by a committee appointed for that purpose. Orr appointed Reverend William Hall and Thomas McElrath to examine the county teachers.

Since the public schools in Carrollton, for a long time, left something to be desired, many private classes continued to be held. In 1878 Sallie and Flo Gier were given permission to teach in the basement of the Baptist Church. At a later period, Reverend A. F. Baker, an uncle of Mrs. Rose Averitt, held classes there. On March 17, 1896, the Carroll County Court approved the establishment of a private school to be known as the Carroll County Academy, with G. B. Winslow as president and H. M. Winslow as secretary. In 1899 this school was taken over by the Carrollton City Schools.

The school system of Carrollton was reorganized in 1887, and modern graded and high schools were started. Since that date they have steadily improved and grown. The first class to graduate from the high school, in 1889, was composed of Lucy Hafford (Mrs. George Winslow), Lena Smith (Mrs. B. P. Anderson), and Mary Blessing (Mrs. Peter Told). In 1903 the Carrollton district was enlarged, and the district voted a legal graded school under a new state law with the power to collect a fifty cent ad valorem tax and a one dollar annual poll tax. In January, 1917, a bond issue in the amount of \$25,000 was voted in order to erect a much-needed school building. Proceeds from the sale of the old school property on Sixth Street, added to other money that had been saved over the years, made enough to raise a modern three-story structure. It was built on Seminary Street on the tract of land that Benjamin Craig had deeded to the city for a school in 1810—more than a century before! The building contains sixteen classrooms, two science rooms, a library, and an office for the superintendent. On the first floor off the main corridor is a beautiful auditorium, which seats seven hundred. Around 1930 an additional wing was added with more classrooms, including a new room for domestic science and a large gymnasium.

Several years after the War Between the States, the citizens of Ghent and the surrounding community realized their need for an institution of higher learning. A company was formed, the stock selling at one hundred dollars a share, and each interested citizen took as many shares as he felt he could afford, ranging from one to twenty-five. The college was built in 1868 at a cost of \$31,700. It was a square building, three stories high, with four classrooms on the first floor, the second and third floors providing living quarters for the president of the college and for boarding

students. It was well known throughout northern Kentucky and southern Indiana as Ghent College,²⁰ and at its height is said to have ranked with the college at Georgetown. Besides the regular curriculum, it had a very fine music department. Some of the well-known educators who served as president of the college were Professor Crowe, Professor Reubelt, and Dr. Barbee. The building was taken over as part of the county school system around 1890, and was used until it burned in January, 1941.

In the early thirties the high school students were moved to Carrollton High School due to the small number in attendance. A new modern school building was dedicated on the site of the college in 1945. Four years later, a consolidated school was built in Ghent for all the Negro children in the county, except those in Carrollton proper. The children are furnished free transportation to the school.

At the turn of the century, there were twenty-five rural schools.²¹ These have now been consolidated into five: Sanders, Ghent, Worthville, Locust, and English. All high school children in the county are sent to Carrollton, except the Negro students, who attend Lincoln Institute.

The early settlers in the county were churchgoing people. Many of them had left Virginia because of religious difficulties. Some of these had entered Kentucky with the Traveling Church in 1781. Before 1800 the Methodists and Baptists in the county held services together, but finally, after a day of prayer and fasting, the Baptists decided to organize their own church. Their first meetinghouse was built of logs near the mouth of McCools Creek, and a few years later another was built near the first one for \$173. This was known as the Port William Baptist Church, and Reverend Joshua Morris was its first pastor. Eight years later the name was changed to McCools Creek Church, and in a year or so, owing to a disagreement, part of the membership withdrew and built a Baptist church at the mouth of Four Mile Creek, some two miles closer to Carrollton.

In 1815 Samuel Sanders gave the Baptists a tract of land across the road from the Ghent Cemetery, where they built a brick church for \$700. The present structure was started in 1845 and, at a cost of \$1,250, was completed the following year. The money was made up among the members. The greatest amount was paid in cash, but various commodities, such as hay, sheepskins, wool, and several barrels of whiskey, constituted the remainder. The church was built at the lower end of an apple orchard which belonged to Reverend John Scott, a native of Ireland. He was pastor for many years.

The present Baptist Church in Carrollton was built in 1845. Several additions have been made over the years. Besides the Baptist churches

named, there are the Sanders, Bramelett, Eagle, Worthville, Lower White's Run, and Cove Hill; and two Negro churches, in Ghent and Carrollton.

After the Baptists and Methodists stopped having joint meetings, the Methodists continued their services in members' houses, usually the home of their pastor, Reverend Henry Ogburn, or that of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Masterson. In 1810 a frame building was erected on Sixth Street, where they worshipped until 1830; then a tract of land was given by William Winslow for the church and its cemetery at the rear. After another forty years the present church was built on the same lot. Services were held in the county courthouse while it was under construction. In 1957 an annex went up on an adjoining lot, which was given to the church for this purpose by Miss Jenn Winslow Howe.

The Ghent Methodist Church was organized about 1880. Their first house of assembly was a brick building on Main Cross Street, now occupied by the post office. Several German families of the Lutheran faith moved into the community and in 1887 or 1888, realizing that they would not be able to support a Lutheran church, united with the Methodists and helped them erect the building they now occupy. There are two other Methodist churches besides, Marvin Chapel on Upper White's Run and Dean's Chapel at Worthville.

The first Christian church in the county was built in 1830 on land given by William J. Spicer. The present one was erected in 1889 on the same tract. In 1837 the first Christian church was built in Ghent. Before that, meetings were held in the homes of members. Their first pastor was Reverend Stephen Marshall of Harrison County. A new church was erected on Union Street in 1871 and is the one now in use. Many additions and changes have been made over the years; for example, an annex was added for Sunday school and social work connected with the church. The Carrollton Christian Church was started in 1866, when a lot was bought from Robert Darling, and some work done, but the building was not completed until 1870. Prior to its completion, meetings were held in members' homes and in the county courthouse. Other Christian churches are located in Sanders, Worthville, and English.

The St. John Catholic Church, a handsome building, is located on Fifth Street. The Catholic school is on the same lot. On Highland Avenue is found the only Presbyterian church in the county, and in Hunter's Bottom is a Lutheran church. There is a First Apostolic Church on Third Street in Carrollton and a Pilgrim Church.

Carroll County has always voted Democratic. The story is told of a young lawyer who was a Republican when he moved to the county.

After a few years, he made the race for county judge and was elected. A Carrollton man overheard a Republican friend asking him one day how he happened to make the race on the Democratic ticket. The Judge answered: "I have found it does not pay to be a Republican in Carroll County." An interest in politics runs deep and strong in the county. In a local paper published August 12, 1876, the following item appeared: "Only one man was killed in Carroll County last Saturday, election day." George Washington Sanders of Sanders was quite a politician, and it is said that, owing to the huge burgoo and barbecue gatherings he sponsored, he was well known over a large part of the state. In 1856 he entertained a very large crowd, and the guest of honor was John C. Breckinridge. After the feast, the crowd gathered beneath a large elm tree for the speaking. James Tandy Ellis wrote a delightful poem describing this meeting, which he entitled "Whar John C. Spoke."

Two very interesting political meetings were held in Ghent, in the same building, a tailor shop. One of these had an important effect on the history of our nation. In November, 1843, a meeting was called by George N. Sanders for the purpose of considering the annexation of Texas. It was attended by thirteen men. As it was many years before their names were made known to the public, they were commonly referred to as the "Mystic Thirteen." Texas had recently become independent of Mexico. With her five million acres of cotton and countless herds of cattle, she was a most desirable acquisition to the United States. A resolution was offered and adopted by acclamation, recommending the annexation of Texas to the United States. It was also voted that letters containing the resolution be sent to each of the prospective candidates for the Presidency. There were several prominent candidates: Henry Clay, Martin Van Buren, James K. Polk, Lewis Cass, and W. O. Butler, a citizen of Carroll County. Polk is said to have been the only one of the prospective candidates who answered the letter. He favored the annexation of Texas and campaigned on that issue. Although he was little known out of his home state of Tennessee, his views in favor of the annexation helped to win him public favor and the White House.

The other meeting was held on November 5, 1859. George N. Sanders called a mass meeting to take measures to prepare for the conflict that he saw was gathering and to assert the principle of state rights. W. B. Lindsay was appointed chairman, and the meeting was addressed by Dr. S. S. Scott, Captain Jack Leathers, and Lewis Sanders. Resolutions asserting the principles of state rights, free trade, low taxes, and hard money were adopted and published. This became known as the "New Mississippi

Valley Movement." The main result of the meeting was to bring into closer relationship the South and the West, but the success was only a partial one.

Many of the early settlers had fought in the Indian wars and in the Revolution. When the War Between the States opened, the majority of the citizens were on the side of the South. Captain Scott, Captain Barrett, Captain Pryor, and Captain Giltner each raised a company for the Confederate Army. A few Carroll County soldiers fought in the Spanish-American War. In World Wars I and II, most able-bodied men were in some part of the service, and several young women served in World War II and in the Korean conflict.

After the Second World War, a project known as the Carroll County Memorial Recreation Center was opened a mile south of Carrollton off Federal Highway 227. It contains approximately nineteen acres of land, fifteen of them donated by Ralph Barker a few years before his death. The Center consists of a well-planned fairgrounds, a ball field, a playground for young children, tennis courts, and other features. As a living memorial to the soldiers who lost their lives in the wars, oak trees were designated by names in honor of the valiant dead. The cost of the fairgrounds and equipment was borne by the Carroll County Farm Bureau and the Carroll County Fair Association.

One great attraction in the county is the General Butler State Park, which includes the Butler mansion and several adjoining farms. At present there are 950 acres in the tract. In addition to a large lake for swimming, boating, and fishing, it offers cottages for rent, a good restaurant during the summer season, picnic grounds, and a riding stable. The state has recently leased fifty acres to the Kentucky Society for Crippled Children for a summer camp. Work is starting on the project, expected to cost a quarter of a million dollars when completed. In another part of the park, land has been donated for the building of an armory for Company A, 201 Engineers. This building is to cost \$250,000 and will be a modern one-story brick structure fully adequate to the needs of the unit.

In 1955 the Carroll County Memorial Hospital was opened. While not large, it has filled a great need. There are some thirty beds, and it is modern in every detail. During its first year, 910 patients were admitted and 210 babies were born there.

Many improvements are being planned for the city of Carrollton. Natural gas was piped into the city several years ago. Plans are now being made for a sewage disposal plant. The Bell Telephone Company, expecting to convert to a dial system, has acquired property for a new exchange building.

There are many lovely homes in the county. Owing to limited space, it will be impossible to mention more than a few of the oldest. One of the most attractive is the home of the late Perry Gaines, overlooking the Ohio River. It was built by Benjamin Craig in 1805. He was the son of the Benjamin Craig who gave the land for the Carroll County courthouse and for the Carrollton school. What is said to have been the first brick house along the river from Cincinnati to Louisville was the home of Benjamin Craig, Sr. When it was necessary to take it down some years ago, a small house was built from these same brick in the side yard of Rebel's Landing, the beautiful residence of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Grobmyer.

Among the many other interesting houses in Carrollton, two are outstanding. One was the home of General W. O. Butler of Mexican War fame. The other, the home of the late Miss Jenn Winslow Howe, was built by Montgomery Blair around 1800. At one time it was the home of the John Van Pelt family. It was bought by Miss Howe's great-grandfather, William Winslow, in 1828 and has been in the Winslow and Howe families ever since. The Butler mansion in the park is another interesting old home. The best example of an early log house is on Grass Hills, the farm now owned by Curtis Montgomery. The house was built by Lewis Sanders between 1819 and 1821. It is two stories in height, with very large rooms. It had, when built, some fourteen rooms, besides a basement under the entire house that contained the kitchen and wine cellars. The house is still in good condition.

Such are the highlights of Carroll County, its beginnings, its growth, and its pleasant prospects. Space will not permit a further discussion at this time of its story. A subject which deserves special recognition, though not explored in this paper, is that of the famous personages of Carroll County, but no history is ever complete. Their treatment must await another time.