

Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

Historical Sketch of Dover

Part 2

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HISTORICAL SKETCH OF DOVER AND IT'S FOUNDERS

From historical collection of Mason County Museum,
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(Continued from vol. X, no. 1, page 9)

William Water, built the old Flim Thomas house corner Hall & Jane streets torn down in 1889.

Squire Flim Thomas was a prominent citizen.

General Alfred Soward resided in the Waters' house and one night he was shot while reading at a window, but he recovered. He was the father of the late Richard Soward of Dover.

Zadok Blades, Bartley Reeves, William Russell, Captain William Rice, old man Warnock, Andrew Willett, Adam Sroufe, the father of Amos Sroufe, and the late Squire S. L. Sroufe and grandfather of the late John A. Sroufe and Jas. K. Sroufe, were among the early residents of Dover. Also Louis Lea, John Cordrey, Robert and James Mackoy, John Dunn, David and Lewis Kilpatrick, Jas. Lyons and old man Turner, came to Dover subsequent to 1800, where they built houses and were all prominently connected with the town's early history.

Among our successful citizens of German extraction, were: W. F. Munzing, Sr., Chas. Ladenburger, L. Raser, John Schubert and George Roehm, and others now all dead.

W. B. Crupper died April 5, 1875, age 69.

Silas Johnson, the father of Mrs. S. T. Evans lived to be 92 years old.

Among the old physicians of Dover were Dr. Phillip Triplett, Dr. Thomas and many others.

Dr. Mahlon Smith, was also quite a prominent physician and had a large practice up to his death in 1878. At one time he represented Mason county in the Kentucky Legislature. He built the house now

occupied by his daughter, Mrs. J. A. Earnshaw.

Dr. F. M. Smith of Dover is his only son.

Then there were Christian Hiles, William Donovan, Henry Buskirk, John Fry, C. S. Blades, Frank Emily, Wm. Chalfant, Jas. F. Lee. (His widow Mrs. Mary J. Lee is still living at Maysville aged 88 years.) William Rice, Richard Terhune, Johnson Peck, Jack Rye, James McDonald, Abraham Veach and others.

John Patty was the most worthy colored man in Mason county, and at one time did a large coal and brick business at Dover. He built more brick houses in Dover and Mason county than any other man who ever lived. He died in 1896.

The two most noted hotels in Dover in early days, were the Helatt Tavern, on the corner of Front and Market streets, and the Lee House on the corner of Market and Hall streets.

Helatt's Tavern was kept by Ben Helatt.

It burned down in 1854, in the great fire which visited Dover that year, destroying 22 buildings.

The landlord of the Lee House (which is still standing) was Willis D. Lee. The old Lee tavern was for years the main stopping place in Dover for travelers by boat.

Mr. Lee was born in Culpepper county, Virginia, Feb. 28, 1788, and died in Dover, in the hotel, Nov. 30, 1870, aged 82 years.

He was a son of Stephen Lee and Mary Madison Lee, from the honored old Virginia stock of that name.

His parents with their son Willis, emigrated to Kentucky in 1790. He first settled in Fleming county.

Mr. Lee married Miss Sallie Andrews in 1890. He kept hotel at Maysville in 1812, and afterwards at Washington and Mayslick. In 1844 he moved to Dover and kept the Lee House until his death.