

# BOYLE COUNTY CONSTITUTION

BOYLE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT PUBLIC CHARITY

VOL 6 No 2

BOYLE COUNTY, KY

JANUARY 2017

Published by the BCGHS, Inc., and mailed or emailed to its members. Annual membership is payable to Carolyn Crabtree, Treasurer, BCGHS, Inc., PO Box 24, Parksville, KY 40464.

**Dues for 2017 are payable at any time now.**

**Corporate Sponsors - \$100.00; Families - \$15.00; Individuals - \$10.00; Students - \$7.00.  
For Mailed Paper Copies of the bi-monthly Newsletters add \$5.00.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS and UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**We meet at the Boyle County Public Library on the THIRD MONDAY of each month at 6:30 p.m.**

### **NEXT MEETING OF THE BCGHS, INC.**

**Monday, January 16, 2017**, Stuart Sanders, Kentucky Historical Society, unveiling KHS's program on Kentucky's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Statehood, in cooperation with the Boyle County Public Library.

### **PAST MEETINGS OF THE BCGHS, INC:**

**Monday, September 19, 2016**, John Peters, on the historic McCormick Church, and the Quinton family.

**Monday, Oct 17, 2016**, Mike Denis, on the Rural Electrification Administration in Boyle County

**Monday, Nov 21, 2016**, Genealogy Workshop – “problem ancestors”

**Monday, Dec 19, 2016**, Cindy Peck, with an update on African-American cemeteries in the area, especially the Shelby City African-American Cemetery

**MEETING CANCELLATION NOTIFICATION:** In order to let members know in a timely manner of late cancellation of meetings, it has been decided to set up a two-pronged approach.

IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES ON YOUR PHONE, **send a text message to Carolyn Crabtree at 859-516-2028** so she can set up a notification list. I will set up ALL other members on a “Telephone Tree” calling list, so you will be called in the event of a cancellation.

### **GENEALOGICAL TIPS -- How to Date Old Photos**

Curious when a photo was taken? Here's a simple guide to date your old photos...

**Daguerrotypes: 1839-1860** The first photographic process was developed by Louis-Jaques-Mandé Daguerre in 1839. The process became most popular in period from 1842-1856, but began to wane in the following years. The complicated process involved polishing a sheet of silver-plated copper, treating it with fumes, and exposing it to a camera to fix the image to the metal -- this resulted in an image that appears to be fixed on to a mirror. If you have a photo that is cased, has a mirror-like quality where the image changes based on the angle, and the back of it looks like it has some copper and silver elements, you have a daguerrotype, which means likely 1845-1860.

**Ambrotypes: 1854-1865** Ambrotypes are similar to daguerrotypes in that they were often preserved in similar cases, but the difference comes down to the process used and how it looks. While "dags" were produced on sheets of copper/silver, ambrotypes were produced on an actual mirror that was coated in a silver iodized sulfate solution. This means that the image will be much crisper and appear the same from all angles. Many of the photographers also treated the images with some hand-tinting.

**Tintypes: 1860-1875** While daguerrotypes and ambrotypes were generally expensive processes that could only be done in studio, the advent of tintypes brought photography to the masses. Tintypes are actually based on a thin iron-sheet that holds a crisp, black-and-white or chocolate-toned image. While tintypes were invented in 1855, they became widely used to document Civil War battles, encampments, and soldiers, and then later mobile studios appeared at fairs, carnivals, and with traveling photographers. The process was used through the end of the 19th century, but most of the tintypes out there date from 1865-1875. Most tintypes found today are loose or in paper sleeves vs. ambrotypes or daguerrotypes that were always cased. If you want to verify that you have a tintype, however, there is a sure-fire method: place a magnet near the back of the photo. If it sticks, you've got a tintype!

**Cartes de Visite: 1863-1877** Cartes de Visite (or CDVs) were the first types of photos that had a true negative, which meant that people could obtain multiple copies of a single photo. As such, they were often used as calling cards or promotional cards often traded among friends. The subjects are usually portraits of prominent individuals, actors or actresses, or patriotic images. If you are trying to identify your own family photos, you'll likely find few CDVs among your collection, but you never know what you'll find. CDVs are very easy to identify for two reasons: 1) The actual photo is a thin sheet of paper glued to a stiff card stock and 2) they are always a specific size (right around 2 3/8" x 4 1/4").

**Cabinet Cards: 1875-1900** Cabinet Cards gained steam in the U.S. in the mid 1870's as photographers preferred this format that allowed them to print larger sized photos and also print their studio and location on the front (and back!) of the photo. Most of the Cabinet Cards out there date from 1880-1890, but they span the years before and after. They were typically sized 6 1/2" x 4 1/4", but versions from the 1890s were often quite a bit larger.

#### DANVILLE-BOYLE COUNTY HISTORY



THIS OLD PHOTOGRAPH OF HOUSE-TOPS was made about 1900 and was probably taken from the tower of First Presbyterian Church from the corner of Fifth and Main. The large frame house at the corner of Fifth has since been moved back on Fifth and a

gasoline service station occupies the corner. The spires of Episcopal, Second Presbyterian and First Baptist Churches, and the Courthouse cupola are all visible.

**Weekly Kentucky Advocate**, 9 Jan 1885, p2: Danville A Leader In Movement to End Private Turnpikes: From the *Louisville Commercial*: With the growth of the turnpike system in various parts of the State more is heard on the subject of abolishing the toll-gates. A writer in the last Danville *ADVOCATE* attempts to show that the turnpike companies, with the aid of an accommodating Legislature, are constantly seeking to increase the tax which they levy upon travel. He claims that when a certain road in Boyle county was yielding a dividend of twelve per cent., with a surplus on hand to be divided among the stockholders, the Legislature authorized the erection of another toll-gate on the road, thereby largely increasing the collection of tolls. Of course this is an exceptional case. But the principle is the same, whether the profits of a turnpike are large or small. It is a tax upon travel for the benefit of private parties. So long as it exists travel will be impeded and people will go no more than they are compelled to. It is to the interest of every town surrounded by turnpikes to favor the abolition of the toll-gates, thereby encouraging travel and increasing the number of visitors to such towns.

**Wednesday Mercury**, 26 Oct 1842, p4: SPEED INCREASED. After the first of July, the Stage will run through from Stanford to Louisville in one day, passing through the beautiful towns of Danville and Harrodsburg and connect with the Frankfort stages at Hardinsville. The stage will leave Danville at 2 o'clock in the morning, and arrive at Louisville at 6 o'clock P.M. Every exertion will be used to give general satisfaction – having procured new Coaches, Fine Horses and careful Drivers, all of whom are temperance men. June 29, 1842.

**The Danville News**, Wednesday, 7 Nov 1900, reports on the re-election of the McKinley-Roosevelt ticket, though by smaller margins than in 1896. Also, "The following is a new schedule of rates for the East Tennessee Telephone Company. Stanford, 15c; Lancaster, 15c; Perryville, 15c; Mitchellsburg, 15c; Harrodsburg, 15c; Burgin, 15c; Bryantsville, 15c; Bondville, 20c; Curley, 20c; Junction City, 10c; Shelby City, 10; Faulconer, 10; Parksville, 10c.

Also, **The Danville News**, Wednesday, 7 Nov 1900, page 3: The proposition to add a tax on the people of Danville for an up-to-date system of sewerage was up yesterday and carried by a vote of 405 to 65, so Danville will have a much-needed sewer system.

**Kentucky Advocate**, Monday, 4 Sep 1939, p1: Over 4,000 School Children To Return To Classes Tomorrow. Today, Monday, September 4, and Labor Day, a legal holiday, is also the last holiday for over four thousand school children in Danville and Boyle County. ... Representatives of the schools at Perryville, Parksville, Forkland, Junction City, and the new East End school here and the smaller schools throughout the county were present [at a gathering of faculty of county

schools] ... E. F. Birckhead, superintendent of city schools, held a conference with his principals this morning, including Paul B Boyd, principal of the high school; Miss Jennie Rogers, principal of the Broadway graded; Mrs. Edna Toliver, principal of the Maple Avenue graded and Professor J. W. Bate, principal of the Bate colored graded and high school. ...

## **GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES Consider a Short-Term Subscription:**

Sometimes a long term relationship just does not work out. It's the same way with fee-based genealogy databases. There may be times where a short term subscription is in your best interest. These are some sites that offer month to month subscriptions and have specific databases that may be of use to some genealogists. Whether they are or not really depends the time period and locations where you have research interests.

Before you begin your subscription, (1) know which credit card you used to activate the membership; (2) know when your first month is over; (3) mark your calendar for 3-4 days before that first month is up. That's when you should decide if you are going to let the membership "auto-renew" or not. That's also when you should call and cancel. Be aware of the hours of operation for the call center for the site so that you can call when they are open; and (4) know how to save images and download them to your own digital media. Images linked to "trees" may not be viewable if your paid membership is no longer active.

## **The Legal Genealogist, 20 Dec 1916, Happy Birthday, Public Domain**

No, not that one. Today in a very real sense is the birthday of the public domain in the United States. No, not the public domain that *The Legal Genealogist* often writes about — for out-of-copyright materials. **That** public domain isn't a physical place; it's a status. No, **this** public domain **is** a physical place: the public lands of the United States.

And, realistically, it got the start it needed 233 years ago today, on 20 December 1783. That's when Virginia formally, officially and finally ceded its claims over vast amounts of western lands to the federal government.

It wasn't the first state cession of land claims. New York had ceded its claims to western lands as early as 1780-1781, and Virginia itself had passed a cession ordinance in 1781.

The problem was, Virginia had written conditions into that earlier 1781 land cession that Congress wasn't willing to accept. The biggest one was that any purchases from Indians and all royal grants in the ceded lands were void — and that brought out the land speculators in force. They lobbied Congress not to accept the deal.

As you can imagine, the Virginians were not amused. It got bad enough that Patrick Henry started arguing that Virginia should set up its own set of "small republics" to its west — and the Governor of Virginia sent a letter to the delegates in Congress: "Please to inform my Friend Charles Thomson that I will send him a Copy of the Cession of the back Country by the next Post and with it a Copy of another resolution repealing it, which may perhaps be a lesson in future not to refuse a good offer when Men are in the Humor for giving."

The dispute seriously threatened the future of the new nation. The problem was that many states didn't have any claims to any western lands, and didn't see how they could compete with the states that did. Maryland in particular felt itself greatly disadvantaged. Something had to be done.

Fortunately, cooler heads both in the federal government and in Virginia prevailed. A Congressional committee reviewed the Virginia conditions again and bought into some of them, and Virginia itself gave up some of its demands. This was to the great credit of the Virginians. As the National Archives' editorial note stresses:

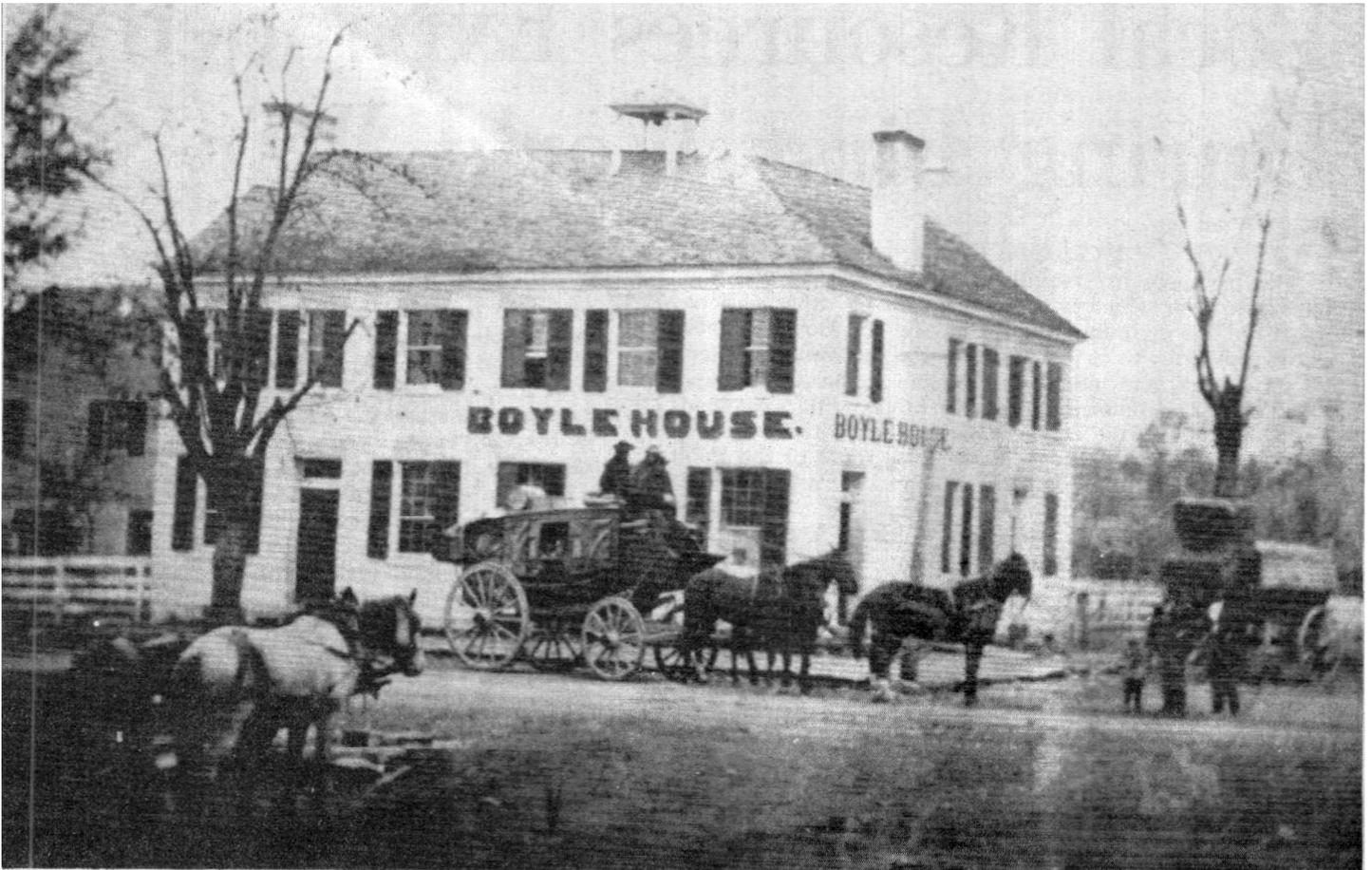
Thus, both in her own legislature and in Congress, Virginia placed the welfare of the nation above special interests in her effort to create a national domain. ... (The) Virginia Acts of cession of 1781 and 1783 stand as a monument to the strength of national feeling in the post-Revolutionary period and to the solid accomplishments of the Confederation. ... (It) is an enduring tribute to the temper of Virginia's councils that ... the national welfare was placed first. No other state, then or since, ever yielded so great a natural resource to the domain of the whole people.

And so was born, really, the public domain of the United States: the public land base and public land distribution system that opened up the west — that made possible things like the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 and the Homestead Act of 1862.

So many of our ancestors benefited from the public land system, thanks to Virginia, and its commitment to national unity.



## PHOTOS AND NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS



THE OLD BOYLE HOUSE stood on the corner of Danville and Harrodsburg Streets where Hignight Sanitary Market is located. The old stage coach out front is waiting to make its regular run. The old hotel burned in 1865 and a brick building was erected in 1869.

Visit the BCGHS Website at <http://www.bcghs.org>

**BELLEVUE CEMETERY RECORDS on CD:** After many, many months of research, editing, and foot work, Bill and Beulah Jones have completed their work on updating and correcting the records of Bellevue Cemetery in Danville. They have compiled, entered data, and researched (with Carolyn Crabtree's help) over 14,000 interments in Boyle County's largest cemetery. Although Bellevue is not the oldest cemetery, many of those who were interred in the cemetery to the west of the First Presbyterian Church, were re-interred here. The CD contains an Excel file, a PDF file, an explanatory page, and a folder of detailed maps of the Cemetery.

The CD is available from the BCGHS, PO Box 24, Parksville, KY 40464 for \$25, which includes sales tax and shipping.

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TO: