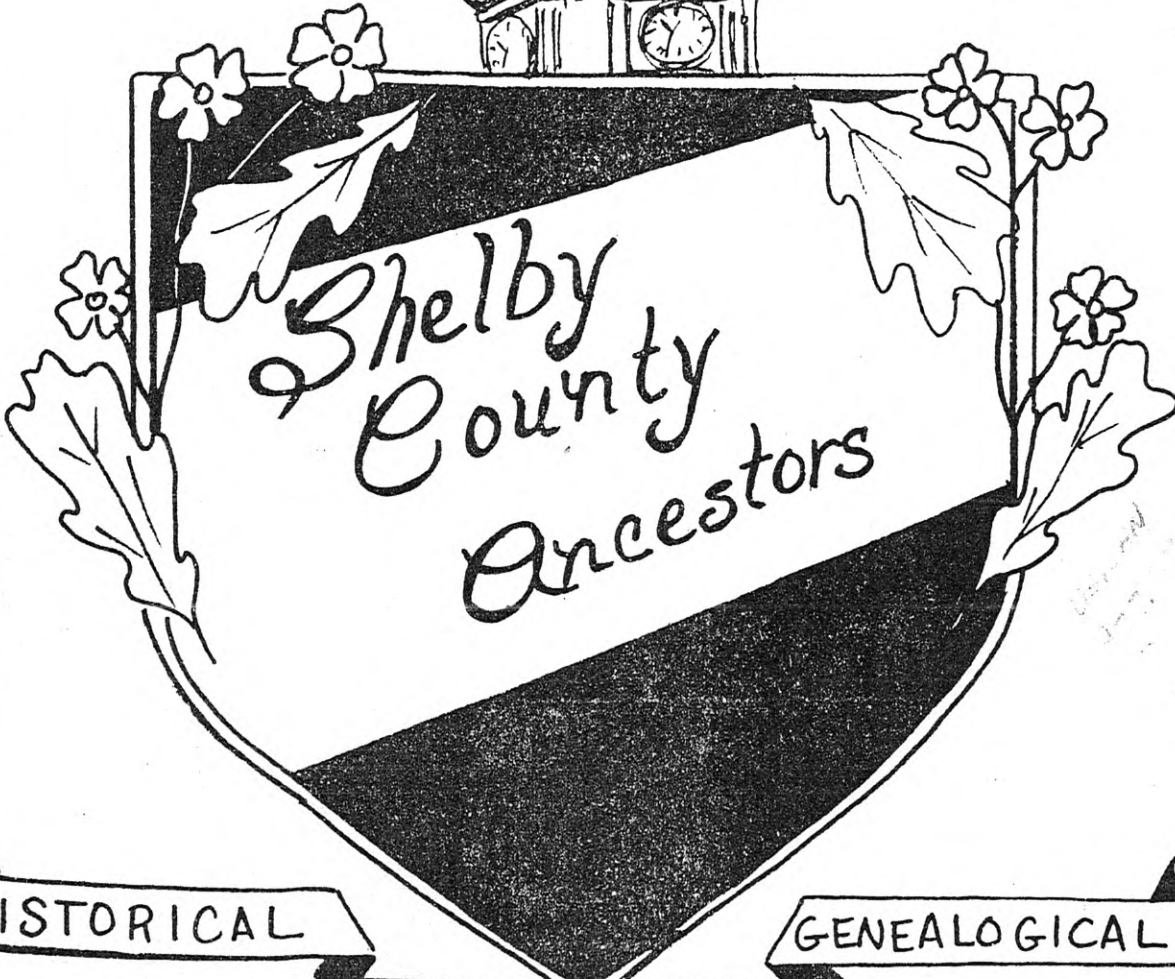
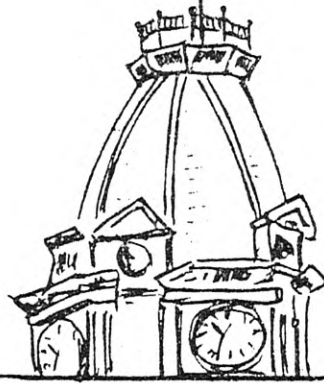


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SHELTON ALLPHIN

In 1827 Shelton Allphin was appointed County Treasurer and served until 1829 when P. Rhodes was elected. He owned land in Sec. 6 in Shelbyville Township, just north of the City of Shelbyville. He also owned the $\frac{E}{2}$ of Lot 6 and all of Lot 7 in Block 3 in the Original Town of Shelbyville. His stay in Shelby County was an unhappy experience and he sold all his property and moved to Texas with his family in 1832. From the First Circuit Court Record on page 39 we find:

The People) May 17, 1830
vs)
Shelton Allphin) Indictment for Malfeasance

By consent of the Parties and the consent of the Court this cause is continued until the next court.

Page 59

The People) October 19, 1831
vs)
Shelton Allphin) Indictment for Malfeasance

This cause at the last term was taken on advisement on demurer, the court now being sufficiently advised are of the opinion that the demurer be over ruled &c.

Page 80

The People) October 16, 1832
vs)
Shelton Allphin) On Indictment for Malfeasance

On this day came the people by their attorney and the defendant also appeared in proper person, and for Plea says he is not guilty in manner and form as are alleged in the indictment and of this puts himself upon the court and the States Attorney likewise. Thereupon came a jury, to wit, William Hall Sr., Thomas Wegar, Clinton Little, Henry Helton, Benjamin Oxier, Daniel Price, Jonathan Howard, Elias Cannady, John Perryman, James Goodwin, John Rice, Willis Whitfield who being elected tride and sworn to will and try the issue joined upon their oaths to day, "we find the defendant not guilty". It is therefore considered by the court that the defendant be discharged, and go hence without delay &c.

The People)
va) Indictment of Malfeasance
Shelton Allphin)

The States Attorney comes and says he will no further prosecute. It is considered that a noble-prose-quit be entered and the defendant discharged.

Mr. Allphin served also as a Justice of the Peace and performed several early marriages in Shelby County and also was on the first Grand Jury.

THE BEGINNINGS OF METHODISM IN SHELBYVILLE
AND SURROUNDING AREAS

By Miriam Herron

A history of the First United Methodist Church of Shelbyville could not be written without going back to its earliest antecedents in Shelby County. Religion was very important in the lives of the early settlers, and the Methodist denomination was the pioneer church in Shelby County. The first sermon on record in the area now Shelby County was by the Reverend Joseph Foulks (or Fox) then the circuit rider on the Shoal Creek circuit. Mother Sallie Turner had come from Kentucky and settled on Robinson Creek in 1825, immediately throwing her house open for preaching. One of the legends of Shelby County is concerned with Sally Turner's "jerks". The convulsive motions of head and body under stress of religious emotion -- or the repression of emotion -- were common manifestations found during early camp meetings. Those who enjoyed themselves shouting, singing, or weeping were less subject to "jerks" than those who refrained. The story is that Mother Turner refused to be a "Shouting Methodist" and held out with such strength that she got the jerks. The phenomenon made her famous in the neighborhood and skeptics sometimes came to church to witness it. Not until she too shouted could Sally break the "jerks".

As early as 1827, itinerant preachers held meetings in various homes and in the old log courthouse in Shelbyville. In that year two big camp meetings were held, one at the Barnett Bone home south of Shelbyville and one at Mother Turner's cabin. Special mention must be made of Barnett Bone, often called "the father of Methodism in Shelbyville." He settled near the river two miles south of Shelbyville in 1825. The camp meeting was held on his farm in the summer of 1828 with Samuel H. Thompson and William Deneane preaching.

Small groups of Methodists held "class meetings" in private homes or school houses. As the groups grew they formed "Societies" and churches called "Chapels" were erected, for example, Wesley Chapel still an active church east of Shelbyville. The first Methodist class was organized in the cabin of Barnett Bone. Cyrus Hall was appointed class leader. Services were held in Shelbyville proper, first at Nelson Jones' house, probably on the lot on the southwest corner of North Second and Morgan. Later meetings were held at the combined home and store of Amos Prentice (some accounts say Owen Prentice) on the south side of Main Street midway between Broadway and Morgan Streets. Some of the members of the first class were Leah Prentice, Nancy Bivins, Betsy Patterson, Thomas Pugh and Beulah Pugh.

Another early camp meeting was held near Thomas Robinson's cabin on Robinson Creek in 1828 or '29. The following incident was supposed to have happened during that August meeting. The wife of one John Howard was at the altar (a pole laid on two logs). Howard allowed it was too hot there for his wife and attempted to move her away to "Cool off". The preachers, four of them, couldn't see quite eye to eye with Howard and indicated that they were quite capable of attending to the bodily needs as well as the spiritual. Howard wasn't having any of this and began to shed his shirt. Robinson took Howard's part and soon clubs began to appear. The ministers also had their partisans, as well as skill in handling clubs. Things grew rather lively before the meeting broke up.

Peter Cartwright, one the more famous circuit riders, often preached at the old Ridge campground on the southern slope of Williamsburg Hill. Camp meetings lasting two or three weeks were held there during the summer months, and people came