

Plans and Estimates made
for Sewerage, Drainage and Le-
vee Systems.
Municipal Improvements, Bridges,
Paving, Pumping Plants, Etc.
Line and Topographical Surveys.
Reports and Investigations.
Drafting and Blueprinting.
Specializing in Drainage and Flood
control.

J. W. DAPPERT & SONS

CONSULTING ENGINEERS
SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

BOYD H. DAPPERT
County Surveyor

ANSELMO F. DAPPERT
Municipal Engineer

JOHN V. DAPPERT
Electric Engineer
Springfield, Ill.

TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS

MERLIN L. DAPPERT
Drainage Engineer

J. W. DAPPERT, C. E.
Forty years experience in
Engineering, License Structural
Engineer.
Member American Water Works
Association, American Association
of Engineers.
Member Illinois Society of Engi-
neers and American Society of
Engineers.

January 21st, 1941.

A HISTORY OF OLD MOUND SCHOOL IN JOHNSON TOWNSHIP, CHRISTIAN COUNTY, ILL. (1864-1878.) By Jas. W. Dappert, C.E. Taylorville, Ill.

My first acquaintance with Old Mound School dates back to the autumn of 1864. I had seen the school-house first in August of that year, at a time when there was held a Great Camp-meeting near by, when the noted Peter Cartwright was to preach there on a certain Sunday, and it was definitely known that the little school-house, about 30 by 34 feet in outer dimensions, would not hold one-tenth of the great congregation which would come to hear that noted Evangelist; and so, under the direction and leadership of Uncle Elijah Chesterman, a clearing off of brush was made in a grove a hundred yards to north-west of the school-house, some trees cut down, the logs laid in rows to form seat-supports, other logs split to form the seats, laid cross-wise, and a crude pulpit formed of logs, and even a crude "Mourner's Bench" made where repentant sinners could kneel and ask forgiveness of their sins. Enough trees were left standing to form a copious shade, and for night services, grease lamps and flares lighted up the grounds. People came from Pana, Rosemond, Mt. Auburn, Tapusah, Pawnee and other places miles away to hear the noted Evangelist preach about Heaven, Perdition, the Civil War and kindred subjects, but most about "Hell-fire" and destruction of sinners by burning flames "which burneth forever, yet consumeth not" - a picture of which Cartwright could portray in such lurid manner that many of us could feel the glow of burning embers approaching us. He was a powerful exhorter, greatly renowned over much of Central Illinois, and known from Maine to Missouri as a Wonderful Revivalist.

My folks had come out from Ohio on July 1st, 1864, and we were camped in covered wagons near the Uncle Elijah's 2-room log house which then stood at the exact spot where the rear end of Mound Church now stands, and so, were so close to the Camp-meeting site that we could attend the services every day and evening, the latter services starting at "Early Candle-lighting" as announced from the crude pulpit by the preachers in charge of the Camp-meeting. Of the local talent, preachers and exhorters who took part in the Great Revival, I recall Rev. Atkinson, Jacob Resler, Rev. Nicodemus, Rev. Linxwilder among the Notables, and there were several others whom I did not know; anyhow, I was but 5½ years old at the time; but many of the incidents of my young life stand out more vividly than much more important events of my more mature days.

Now as to Mound School, I had not yet even been inside the building. It stood, then, about at the identical spot where Oliver Chesterman's present residence now stands. It had its entrance door to east, two windows to south, two to north, none to east or west, and was about 34 by 20 feet in outside dimensions. On the rear wall, a huge black-board made of planks of poplar, painted very black, was nailed, and a Teacher's desk was fastened to the floor at center west end of the building, about two feet in front of the black-board. All the desks and seats were "Home-made" - out of poplar boards, the very front seats having no desks in front of them; and that is where I was designated to sit when I first started going to Mound School. The seats were all of the same dimensions and of the same pattern, and having been made high enough to accommodate the larger pupils, the seats were so high that my feet would not quite reach the floor, and it was so for the other smaller pupils, too; and naturally we would tire very quickly, and become restless, when our "Long-bearded" teacher would punish us for "Wriggling" about and disturbing the "Good Order" of the school by making us stand up in the corner of the room, sometimes with a paper-fabricated "Dunce-Cap" on our heads; all of which was a welcome relief to us, being able to once more get our feet upon the floor. Each desk had a shelf underneath for the receptacle of books and slates, and many of the desk-tops had initials of pupil's names cut deeply therein. Besides the desks described, there were long benches, also "Home-made", strung around the outer walls and along the aisles to accommodate the more than 80 pupils which some days, were in attendance at the school. A large, long wood-burning stove occupied the exact center of the room; and on cold days the pupils nearest the stove would get much too hot while those on the outside benches would nearly freeze. The fuel for heating the building was cut in the near-by timber, the teacher being required to cut and carry the wood necessary for fuel, with what help he could muster from the larger boys.

A part of the west wall of the room was used for hanging up a series of charts and maps, some of which portrayed lessons in elementary reading and spelling; and another series of charts contained maps of the various states and of the countries of the world. Also, there was a small sort of table or stand upon which there was a globe representing the earth; and this globe was an object of very great interest to my young mind, for it stood upon an axle inclined $23\frac{1}{2}$ degrees from the vertical, while I wondered why they had not set it either vertical or truly horizontal; and the globe would readily turn upon its axis, thus showing the various continents and countries of the earth. I had not yet learned the reason for it turning upon an inclined axis, truly representing the divergence of the Ecliptic from the axis of true rotation of our earth; and so, I thought perhaps the makers of the globe had made a mistake in its construction. But the most wonderful thing about this globe was the bar of Lode-stone reaching from pole to pole, which would attract and hold a knife-blade, needle or other iron or steel object; and which, by rubbing it with a knife-blade would impart the same characteristics to our knives; but our teacher did not explain the principles of magnetism to us, and so it remained a "Big Secret" to my mind for several years to come.

By early November, 1864, the regular Winter Term of school began at the Mound School, and I attended every school-day, my older sister Mary Ann being my Guardian and constant guide. We then lived in the west part of the Pullen Home, my father having then recently purchased the farm adjoining the Chesterman place to east, and the school-house was now $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away, following the public roads; but by cutting diagonally across fields, the distance was somewhat shorter.

I do not recall who was the teacher that Winter term, but he was a be-whiskered man of austere countenance and a very good disciplinarian, quite handy at using the "switches" which were obtained in plentiful quantity from the near-brush and timber. I do recall that Mary Brown taught several days or portions of days, when the teacher had other important business to look after. Miss Brown was then a young lady of about 18 years, oldest daughter of Peter Brown, who lived about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to south of the school; and the thing I remember most distinctly, was that she gave me lessons in the very front part of Sanders' First Reader and some very easy spelling lessons which I had long before learned, and so I did not need to do any studying at all, and thus had much time for getting into mischief. I do not recall so many incidents of that school-term. There were more than 100 pupils enrolled; but during all the good days when weather was fine, the older boys were kept at home to aid in farm-work; and during rain or very cold weather, the younger pupils were kept at home because of bad weather, while the older boys then came to school; and by this means, the usual attendance was from 60 to 75 pupils daily. As for myself, I attended every day, good or bad. Many of the older girls were kept at home especially upon Monday forenoon, that being "Wash-day" for most of the early settlers. The School District at this time, comprised an area of about 4 miles north and south by 3 miles east and west, largely in and along the South Fork Creek where most of the land was then in timber, and was quite thickly settled, some of the families occupying but from 10 to 40 acres of land; and log-houses were plentifully sprinkled through all the timber area, with winding, un-improved road-ways leading from one house to the other; that is to say, the country especially the timber areas, was much more thickly settled than now, and the families had more children each than now, as "Birth Control" had not yet come into vogue. I recall that there was an Ellinger family that sent 6 or 7 pupils to school; and my father's family then had 5 of us in attendance, while the Voss family had 5 pupils, Chestermans 4, the Rape family 5, Large family 6, and several other families sent from 4 to 3 pupils to this school. The Pattersons sent 6 pupils, and there were several families of Wickers, Durbins, Logstons, Browns, Cowgills, Johnsons, Watkins, Wilsons and others, sending from 1 to 4 or 5 pupils each, at this early time. I recall that my own particular "Chum" of that early day was Frank Brown a boy of about my own age; but he passed away a year or so later, to my great sorrow, he being the only son of Peter Brown, and a very likable sort of boy.

My next "Chum" of that early period was George Voss who attended school during the Summer term of 1865. Miss Kate Cowgill taught the Summer term of three months, she being the older daughter of Uncle Johnny Cowgill, who lived $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to south of Mound School. She was a very good teacher, kept good order-not too strict, and had little trouble with the elder pupils. During that Summer term, I attended school every day, as did my sister Mary and brother Henry, and my sister Amanda, most every day; also, there were some new and younger pupils in attendance this term, especially Jane and Susan Large, Ella Patterson, Jim and Billy Patterson and three of their older sisters came part time, Martha

Mary and Lizzie Patterson, or 6 Pattersons in all, that term of school. Several incidents of that school-term stand out clearly in my memory, as follows:- We boys would climb to the top of a tall hickory tree of small size, bend it over until its top would touch the ground; and then, the girls would sit down upon the top of the bent over tree and by jumping up and down, use it as a "teeter"; such sport giving quite a thrill to them; and so, one day, after the school-bell had been rung for "Books" by the teacher, Lizzie Patterson was so greatly enjoying the "teeter" that she refused to leave it and kept right on "teetering" for a quarter-hour or more, and thus was given a "Black-mark" upon her Conduct Card for the month, which she greatly resented.

Another incident I recall quite vividly, about this time:- I got to whispering with my seat-mate, was scolded by the teacher, but not having enough work to do to keep me busy, I soon was whispering again; and as proper punishment, the teacher placed me between two of the larger girls, Mary Patterson and Ellen Large, as I recall; but soon, I began placing one arm around each of those girls waists, thus shocking the whole school into a regular delirium of amusement, whereupon the teacher boxed my ears and made me stand in the corner of the room, but omitted the Bunce-cap" which he sometimes made the fractious pupils wear. He did not punish me for not having my lessons, as I found the work too easy, the real trouble being that I did not have sufficient study-work to keep me busy, and naturally, I had to occupy myself in other ways to "kill time!" The school was really too large for the one single room and one single teacher, and the time too short each day for more than one recitation for each class; and the progress for the brighter pupils was limited to the ability of the very dullest pupil in the class; and so, the more progressive pupils were held back in their studies by the capacity of the more backward pupils, a method which still exists to some extent in our public schools. I do not mean to boast, but I did learn my book-lessons rather easily in those younger days; and I still believe that there should have been two classes, one for the slower "dullards" and one for those who could learn better. As it was, the progress of the brighter pupils was greatly retarded by the capacity of the "slower" pupils to absorb the required knowledge; but in a small, over-crowded, one-room school like this, there was no chance for the niceties of Grades and Distinctions.

I can recall hundreds of incidents and happenings of my school-days at the Old Mound School, but I cannot always synchronize the events as to time and sequence of occurrence, such as to give precise dates.

(2.) KATE COWGILL was my second teacher at Mound School. She taught the summer term of 3 months April-June, 1865. I think I attended every day of that term. She was not very highly educated, but had attended Mound School herself, before, even had been a pupil the previous Winter term, had secured a proper Teacher's Certificate, and got along all right with her work in school, to the satisfaction of all concerned. We had but few of the older pupils at school that summer term, as they were needed at home for farm-work; but some of the older girls did attend a part or most of the term; and so, there was ample room for the 45 or 50 pupils who were usually present each day. I recall most particularly, Frank Brown and I were very particular "Chums" that term, it being his first attendance at school. His folks, Peter Brown and family lived a half-mile south and about 40 rods east of the school; also, his older sisters, Mary and Lizzie attended this term. Bill Chesterman, my brother Henry and Sister Amanda were also pupils there, and my older sister Mary attended part-time. We walked the short $\frac{1}{2}$ mile across fields, south-west from my home, took luncheons for dinner, and sometimes loitered along the way to play "Tag" and such like with other pupils, as we parted ways. I recall that the Rape Boys and Laura Morgan came on the same route for a part of the way to and from school, and at parting, a game of "Tag" was always a parting epoch in our day's activities; and sometimes the game led to blows and bitter invectives.

We had a treat of candy on the closing day of that term, and Miss Cowgill ended her career as a teacher by marrying a Mr. Hopper, soon after which, they moved out West, to Kansas or Nebraska, and I lost all trace of this teacher. She had a sister who attended that term of school and also several later terms she being Caroline Cowgill, generally called "Callie," who afterwards, about 1870 married Francis Schneeberger, lived at the Old Cowgill home, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west of the actual rise in the land called "The Mound" and who departed this life in the Spring season of 1877.

(3.) BEN LEEPER of near Owaneco taught our Winter term of 1865-1866 at Mound School. But Owaneco town had not yet been established for four years yet to come. He had served 3 years in the Union Army during the War of the Rebellion, and told us pupils many daring exploits of his army life, claiming to have fired the very last shot of that war at the Siege of Richmond. He was not a very highly educated teacher, but knew ample to teach any of us pupils, and was rather exceptionally well versed in Arithmetic, which I now took up as one of my principal studies at this term. My father had bought me a Ray's First Arithmetic and my brother Henry a second Arithmetic of the same series; and in a week or two weeks, the teacher made an exchange, giving me the second Arithmetic and relegating my brother to the First Part; and I was in a class with Rufus Voss and several older pupils, now nearly grown-ups. This Second Arithmetic was all to be worked out mentally, no slates or pencils allowed, and it contained some quite intricate problems in Analysis, Mensuration, Fractions and Interest, and yet I was able to go right along with those older boys in the work. That sounds like I am "Bragging" on myself; but some of those older boys had not had a fair chance to learn, as they were kept at home for farm work upon all good days, and did not really attend school more than half-time at most, there being then, no Compulsory Education Law.

This term of school was especially crowded, as there were a number of young men who had served in the Union Army during the two or three previous years, and thus, had been deprived of the opportunity of half-way completing even a common school education; and now, by some legal action, these ex-soldiers were allowed to attend school, even if past 21 years of age. Among those whom I know were ex-soldiers were George Large; and among the older boys were the three Whitlows, Frank, James and Nathaniel, Charles Cheney, William Large, two Watkins boys, both very tall and slender, Charles and James Chesterman; and of the grown-up girls there were Mary and Lizzie Brown, daughters of Peter Brown, also Amy Brown, daughter of Manuel Brown, also Alicia and Jane Warren, Rachael and Ellen Large, then almost full grown, Laura Morgan, Caroline Cowgill, Mary Ann and George Dappert, Florence and Frank Wheatley, Anna Chesterman, two Wilson boys whose names I do not recall, Maria Pullen and even John Pittenger and a brother older than him; and of the Voss Family there were Rebecca and Ann besides the younger boys, Thomas and George Voss. There was also a younger brother of Ben Leeper and a sister who attended this term or portions of the same, their names I do not recall; and there may have been others whom I have forgotten. Of the younger pupils I recall Billy Ives, Sis Klinefelter, John Klinefelter, the younger members of the Klinefelter family coming later by several years, after the school-house had been moved to farther south. Anyhow, later in this Paper, I am going to take up each Family in alphabetical order and then give the names of all the pupils whom I recall who attended any part of the time that I did at Mound School.

(4.) JANE WARREN taught the summer term of Mound School in 1866. She had been a pupil there for several years previously, but had advanced sufficiently to secure a Teacher's Certificate; and she made a very capable teacher, too. She was not too strong on Discipline, and with her in charge, the pupils had a rather easy and enjoyable time. The school-house still stood where first erected about ten years before, right at the edge of a big timber, and among other sports, teetering upon bent down hickory saplings was still in vogue; but we played at various games of BALL, two-cornered Cat, 3-cornered cat, 4-cornered cat, Town-ball, Tripoli, Ring, Ante-over, this latter by throwing the ball over the school-house and if caught by the opposing team, the two teams ran around the building, tagging all who were caught, when those tagged would then join upon the other side, and that team which tagged most of the other opposing team were called the victors in the game. Sometimes a window pane would be broken in the melee, and the parents of those who broke the window would have to pay for the damage.

On the last day of that School-term, Miss Warren took the entire school on a little "Hike" of a half-mile down to the Gravel-Ford upon the South-fork, following a winding, wooded road-way, marching two by two; and I recall that I marched with Frank Brown, my very Best and closest Friend, son of Peter Brown and at the end of the trip, upon the banks of the creek, we ate our lunches, previously prepared especially for the occasion; and we sang some songs, and had some words from our teacher, and she treated the pupils with some candy raspberries, just a small quantity, for I recall that Ella Patterson actually counted her quota of berries and announced that there were EIGHT of them. I ate mine before it occurred to me to count them.

This Picnic rendezvous with Frank Brown as my marching partner and best school-friend, was destined to be my last contact with him, for he passed away soon afterwards, greatly bereaved friends and relatives sadly realizing his departure; and especially I missed him greatly at the beginning of the next term of school.

I could go on and give the names of the pupils, or most of them, who attended this Summer term of school; but with a few omissions and a few additions, they would be about the same as those of the preceding term. Many of the older boys were kept at home to help with farm-work, and a few new-comers of the younger children were in attendance, while a few families migrated to other parts, especially some of the Durbins and one family of Ellingers. Also, a few of the older girls quit school, some of them to get married, and others due to becoming past "school-age". Rebecca Jane Voss had attended this school up until about this time, she being the oldest child of Thomas Voss who lived a mile to south of the school; but she now quit attendance and a year or two later, married a Mr. Guthrie and lived a number of years up about Mt. Auburn. Her sister Ann and brothers Rufus, Thomas and George continued to attend Mound School for several years later; and George Voss now became my most intimate and confidential school mate and friend. We were not in any of the same classes, he being a year or two younger than me; but he was a likable sort of boy, could make a "Double Fist" and by blowing into the same, produce a horn-like and somewhat musical sound; also, he was a very fast runner, quite athletic and very well versed in folklore and in habits of birds and animals, and I took to him readily as a Good sor

(5.) Jack J. Grosier was our next teacher, starting the winter term of 1866-1867, and, in fact, he taught each winter term of this school until about March, 1869, three winter terms and one or two summer terms. He was a rather lean, slender built man of about 45 or 50 years, somewhat anemic in appearance, had reddish graying hair, wore a small mustache and a medium-length chin-beard, and he was also an Old Bachelor, about 5 feet 9 inches tall and weighed about 140 pounds. I got real well acquainted with this teacher, and will admit that he gave me several rather severe whippings, once at least when the other fellow deserved it much more than I did. He was a very strict disciplinarian, kept very good order, and as to learning and education, was considered as being quite highly educated for his time. By now, there had been considerable changes in the clientele of Mound School, some of the farms changing hands, many of the older pupils getting past school age, some of them getting married and new-comers arriving as lands changed hands. To south of our place, the two Wilson families had sold their farms, and about the early spring of 1866, the families of Dr. Phillips, one of Perry Reeves and another of DePews had moved into their places; also, the Watkin family had moved away, and there were other changes in land-ownership that took away some of the pupils of previous years and brought in new ones. The Reeves family had two sons, Amazon, about my own age and Perry, their father, was deemed a quite wealthy man. He also had a son Homer and a younger daughter whose name I cannot recall, both of whom attended this school during the next few years. Also, Dr. Phillips had come over from Virginia City, Illinois and purchased a part of the Wilson lands, and he had a quite large and noisy family, six or seven of whom now attended Mound School. This Doctor Phillips was a truly highly educated man and a good physician; but he was also portly, phlegmatic and not very aggressive in his practice of Medicine. He had come to this locality as a result of having been contacted by some of the leading citizens of the Mound locality who told him about the death but recently before this time of the eminent Dr. McCoy who had lived many years 1½ miles south of Mound School, and was considered as being a most successful sort of physician; but by this time, the prairie portion of the country was rapidly being settled, and with the influx of people, had also come new doctors, Dorman in the south-west part of the school District, Dr. McShea at Old Owanesco and others at Pana and Taylorville; and so, Dr. Phillips practice did not meet up to expectations; but he supervised his 80 acre farm for several years and managed to get along fairly well. Dr. Phillips had 3 daughters and 5 sons of school age, starting with the oldest, they were:- Ann, Lyman, Mary, Kate, Julian, Louis, about my age, then William and Frank, all of whom attended Mound School during the time that Mr. Grosier taught here; and in later years, there were also James, Theodore, Edward and possibly one other, for it was a quite large family of Phillips, for a fact. By this time, also, a new family had purchased the McCoy farm, a man named Hague, and he had married a widow by name Meacham, and they had a quite large array of especially girls, the children of a former marriage of Mrs. Hague whose names were Meacham, their names being a son Albert and the girls of school age being Clara, Vesta, Julia and Florence.

CONTINUATION OF TEACHING TERMS OF Jack J. Crosier, - 1866- 1869.

Julia Ann and Frank Stoneman had come from Ohio recently and were living at the Old 'Manuel Brown place and attended this term and several later terms of Mound School; also, the Burchfield family had moved into the District and there were James, Lizzie and Belle Burchfield as new pupils, Price and Violet Burchfield coming to school a few years later. William and Mary Laymon were also among the newer pupils, they living about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles easterly by south from the school-house; and others who had become of school age by this time were Emma Brown, John Nail, Will and Flora Bowman; and of the Rape family, Frank, Jacob and James were pupils, the three older members of the Rape family having quit about this time were Patsy, Ellen and Ann Rape; also by now my sisters Amanda and Lucy had started to school, but my older Sister Mary and brother George had become past school-age by this time, as had also the three older Chestermans, Charles, James and Anna. Also, by 1868 or thereabouts, there were one or two additional pupils from the Large and Patterson families, especially Emma Large, George and Thomas Patterson and Ella Patterson, possibly one other younger Patterson girl; but by this time, many of the older pupils had quit school attendance, except to come to the Spelling Schools and other like gatherings; but James and Nathaniel Whitlaw and William Large attended portions of the Winter terms of school, altho' long since past 21 years of age; but as their earlier schooling had been somewhat neglected, they now tried to "make up" a part of it; and I recall that much later, William Large attended part of one winter term after he had been married several years; and he brought a small table and chair and devoted a month or more in reviewing the whole contents of Ray's Third Arithmetic; and this must have been some four or five years later, as I know that Wm. J. Denton was then teaching Mound School.

Of the Shuman family, Columbus, Lizzie and James attended the school a part of the time, they living then more than two miles to south of the school. As the Mound School District comprised two or three sections of land in the north part of Greenwood Township, and extended 3 miles north into Johnson Township, and extended three miles east and west, it took in a quite large scope of land and as the timbered area was much more thickly populated than the prairie sections, in that early day, the school population of this District was more than 150 pupils; but the school-house, 20 by 34 feet in dimensions, with a big wood burning stove at its center, could not possibly hold more than 100 to 120 people at one time; and already there was a movement on foot to decrease the size of the district and re-organize the School System of the County; and this did come about a few years later, when Andy Johnson, Center and Sassafras Schools were established; but Old Mound School was one of the earliest schools if not the very first school in Johnson Township.

REMOVAL OF MOUND SCHOOL BUILDING.

During the first term of J. J. Crosier as our teacher, Mound School was moved from its old location, the spot where Ol Chesterman now lives, taken one mile south and one-fourth mile east, and was set down right in the middle of a pond. The School District had always been too large, the distances too great for the younger pupils to walk to school; and now came a movement, sponsored mostly by the Whitlaws, Pattersons and others living in the south-east part of the District, to remove the school to a more central part of the District, as pretended, by them; anyhow, a petition was circulated and signed by a majority of adult men within the District, calling for the exclusion from the District of all the territory lying to north and west of South Fork creek; and this petition was granted by the County Court or other Legal authority, after an election had been held and the proposition voted upon; and with the northern area cut off the District, the true center of the same must be a mile or so to south of the old location was; but really, a half mile would have been more exact; anyhow, the School Directors now being dominated by those who wanted the school-house moved, proceeded to make the change; and now, George Waggoner of the Prairie Fork neighborhood, now near Morrisonville, came over to our school house, placed jacks under it, raised it up about 3 feet, placed wooden wheels, four such under each corner, hitched 16 yoke of oxen by means of a long chain, and started across country for the new location. Needless to say that our Teacher dismissed school for a few days, two, I think, and told us that when we returned to school on next Monday, we would probably find the school-house a mile or so to south of the old location. There was a large branch running to easterly, at a point about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to south, and so, to avoid crossing this big branch or ravine at its deeper place, Waggoner went straight south for one-half mile, then went diagonally, south-east about 120 rods, then turned straight

south about 120 rods farther to the place where the building was again put upon temporary log supports and soon made ready for school-work again; and for the next four or five years, the marks of those wooden wheels, where they had cut deeply into the soft earth, were visible, showing the path by which the school building had been transported to its new site. It required 3 days to transport the building and place it upon flimsy posts in the mud-pond, where it was finally located; and the front which had faced east at its old location, now faced south, and was about 20 feet to north of a narrow, muddy highway, lined with "stake and rider" rail fences, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to east of the present location of Mound School. Its removal caused much ill-feeling for years, between residents at north end of the District against those of the south end, the residents of the two extremes, often almost coming to blows when they met. My father was especially bitter toward the Whitlows and others who were responsible for the change in location of the school; for he had been a long distance from Old Buffalo School back in Ohio, before moving to Illinois; and one of the chief considerations in purchasing his Illinois farm four years before, was that the land was near a good school, and now, with the school-house moved to its new site, we children had to walk by shortest route thr'u fields, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and by wagon-road, it was two miles to our school; also, we attended church services once or twice daily each Sunday at the school-house, and now the distance required to attend church had been more than doubled. Also, the old location was upon high, dry ground, and the new location was in a very low, wet place, difficult to reach even by wagons when the weather was wet and the roads muddy; and in every respect, the change of location of the school-house bad for all of us who lived in the northerly portion of the district; and now, the Bowmans and others who lived in the north-east part of the district had to travel 3 miles or more to reach the school. In the meantime, the portion at north-west part of the District had been cut off and annexed to the Center District, that is, all the territory which lies to north and west of South Fork Creek.

I recall that in playing ball upon the school-grounds of one acre, the ball frequently landed under the building, and it was generally quite muddy and difficult to crawl under the building to retrieve the ball; and this school-site was quite un-sanitary, and there were never any coal-house or other out-buildings or other toilet conveniences for the accommodation of the pupils or teacher, the fence-corners to west along the public road being the only conveniences available. Our fuel was still wood which now had to be hauled more than a mile, and was frequently very scant; and what wood we had supplied us was usually in poles of green oak or hickory, and the teacher and larger boys would have to cut the wood in stove-lengths and keep up the fires; and it was a part of the teacher's duty to start the fire of mornings. Also the acre of muddy grounds was no fit place for play-grounds, and to make matters worse, a very low, wet place existed in the east end of the acre, a pondy place where small willows grew in profusion; and this was a convenience, especially to the teacher, as he could cut switches by the hundreds with which to chastise the recalcitrant pupils; and when a new rod or switch was required, the teacher, Jack Crosier at this time, would send the pupil down to the pond to get a few switches; and I recall that one day, Mr. Crosier needed a new switch with which to chastise Julian Phillips, and so, he sent Homer Reeves down to the pond to cut a switch, and as Homer did not have a pocket-knife, the teacher loaned him his own; and so, Homer started down the road to east and going a short ways, he found an Ox-goad, a pole about two inches in diameter at base and about 10 feet long, and without going to the pond for a switch, soon returned, lagging the ox-goad back with him and with difficulty he pulled it thr'u the door and caused great merriment among the pupils; but the goad was too long and too large for the practical purpose of whipping Julian, and so the teacher sent another one of the pupils back to the pond to get a proper switch, and deferred the whipping of Julian for a time, at least. Homer had been told by the teacher to get a good, big willow, and he obeyed somewhat too literally, in fact.

Jack J. Crosier completed this Winter term and two other terms, taught one or two summer terms at Mound School and closed his last term about March, 1869, soon left this part of the country, and I never heard about him further. As before stated, he was an old bachelor, about 45 years old, seemed to have a desire to find himself a wife and took every possible opportunity to ingratiate himself with the older girl-pupils; and the Phillips family had just migrated into this District about the time that Crosier began teaching the school.

and he had seemingly planned that by proper manipulation, he might be able to work into the Good Graces of one of the Phillips girls; Anna being the oldest one of the Phillips Clan, then about 30 years old, and a quite comely maiden he seemed to have her in view; and so, it came about that, as I sensed it, the teacher was quite partial and very lenient with the Phillips boys. Now Julian was the "Villian" of the "Story", then a boy of 13 to 15 years, quite large and strong for his years, and upon the play-grounds during recess and noonday missions, he absolutely dominated the play-grounds, bossed the younger boys, practically had it all his own way with all the younger boys. I took numerous beatings from him as also did all the younger boys who refused to obey his dictates; and the noon-hour to many of us, instead of being an hour of recreation became an hour of torture; and the teacher seldom punished Julian for his deeds, for he seemed to wish to retain the good will of the Phillips family. His plans for future matrimonial alliance would ever ensue; but in the end, the older Phillips girl was too smart to fall for the wiles of that Old Bachelor, and after a very few years, she married Charles Chesterman, about Christmas.

Crosier was pretty well educated, was rather strict in his discipline of pupils, kept good order and daily called the roll of pupils, and he required pupils to answer "Perfect" if they had not been tardy or had not whispered time of "Books" or broken any other rules; but if they had not obeyed the rules they simply answered "Present" when their names were called; and the RULES prescribed were not very stringent, either. At the end of the month, ten Per marks entitled the pupil to a "Reward of Merit", being a small picture-card with a scroll and the pupil's name written and engraved thereon. Ten such Rewards of Merit would bring a prize, a pocket knife usually for the boys and a comb or other like article for the girls; and while I do not recall ever having gotten a prize, yet I still have among my prized possessions, one or two of these Rewards of Merit cards.

6. LIZZIE BROWN taught the Summer term of 1869 at Mound School. She was the second daughter of Peter Brown, sister of the Mary Brown, substitute teacher mentioned before herein, lived a half-mile north and 50 rods west of Mound school as then re-located in the Frog-pond before described. She had been a pupil in the school in previous years, had attended Normal School for a time, and was well enough qualified as a teacher, so far as education was concerned; but she was a rather poor disciplinarian and allowed the pupils much latitude in their conduct. I attended most of this term as also did three of my sisters, and my work was quite light at school, the subjects taken by me being Santee 4th. Reader, Arithmetic, Geography, Spelling, Writing and U.S. History; and I was not at all crowded with my school-work. I sat with George Voss, he being my "Best Pal" and chum, about my own age, but far behind me in his studies. I recall that during "Books" or the study period, George and I played at "Hide and Seek" with a slate pencil, button or other like object; that is, he would slip the object from hand to hand, then close both fists and I would then guess by pointing to the fist which I thought contained the object; and he then would open both fists to let me see if I had guessed right or wrong, and mark up the result upon a slate; then, when and if I had guessed correctly, I would take the object and shuffle it from hand to hand and let him guess which fist contained the object; and he would then smell of both my fists and having a very acute sense of smell, would generally guess correctly. Miss Brown could not help improving the performance at times, yet as we carried on the game without much or whispering, she did not correct us for it, and that is why I thought that she was not a very good Disciplinarian.

There were several new pupils at this term of school, Maggie Brown for one, and her older sister, Emma Brown had been a pupil for two or three years preceding; and there was a boy, Burton Cory whom the Brown family had taken from a New York City Orphanage, and a John Sommers who lived at the other Brown place who were new pupils; and of the Phillips family, there were three new recruits, Will and Frank besides Louis and their sisters Mary and Kate, but Julian and Lyman did not attend the Summer term, nor Ann Phillips either. The attendance now averaged about 35 pupils with about 45 or 50 enrolled, but they scarcely ever were all present at the same time, and there was then no Compulsory School Laws in vogue. I recall that Emma Brown and I were in some of the same classes, and our homeward journey being the same for a half-mile or so we usually accompanied each other homeward. Emma was well advanced for her age in school-work, then only 8 or 9 years old, and was a likable sort of girl in all respects; and as she was a sister of the Frank Brown of earlier years, and was my very dear friend, I felt a great friendship for her.

That was the last Summer Term of school which I attended in full. In fact, I had not attended the two previous Summer terms, my help being required upon the farm; but this particular season, I had been crippled by a very bad cut upon my foot and could not aid much with the farm work; and I still carry the scar of the cut in which I had nearly severed two toes; but I really did attend a portion of the Summer term of 1874, of which I will speak presently.

(7.) WILLIAM GAMBLE taught the Winter term of 1869-'70. I attended a few days of his term, at the start, but found that while he had come quite highly recommended from somewhere "Down East"- he was, in fact, a very poor sort of teacher and was not generally liked by the school patrons; but he had taken the precaution of having a Contract in Writing at \$50.00 per month for four months term, and the School Directors could not very well get rid of him. Because of Gamble being such a poor sort of teacher, it was arranged that I should go over to the home of Wes Resler, my older sister's husband, and attend "'Tater Eye" school which Wes was teaching; and so I did that; but I had attended Mound School a few days before making the change; and about the Holidays, I also attended there a few days, too; and from what I saw of this Mr. Gamble, he was quite a good "Dresser"; wore fine clothes, sported a large gold watch and deporting himself in a manner which showed his superiority over the "Common Herd" of people in the vicinity of the Mound.

(8.) SARAH ANN RESLER taught the Summer term of 1870. She was a daughter of Jacob Resler, sister of Wes Resler, and our family had known her and the Resler family since before we came out to Illinois together in June, 1864.

Sarah was a very good and successful teacher, not very highly educated, but a girl of Good Common Sense. As I was now 11 years old and able to help somewhat with farm-work, I was not allowed to attend this term of school, only that I did go upon a few rainy days, about ten days during the three month's term. I did attend the closing day of her term, and we were treated to candy by the teacher; and she also, awarded some prizes to those who had been diligent in their studies. My sisters Amanda, Lucy and Sarah attended most of this term, and the teacher boarded at our home, too. She and my older brother, George, were reputed to have been engaged to be married, but it never came about.

I recall one incident of that summer in which Sarah Ann and my sisters figured:- Returning from school one evening, a man was coming across the field near by and was hurriedly running in a direction across fields which crossed the path upon which Sarah and the children were walking; and this big, burly man was gesticulating to get her to stop; and presently Sarah noticed that he was holding one arm with his other hand, and blood was streaming out of his arm. Sarah now took a scarf and bound the arm, led him down to our place where my mother and Sarah together, got some cobwebs and placing a torquinet above the wound, stopped the bleeding and then bound up the wound. This man was working for the Depew family, had been cutting wood upon a 20 acre tract of timber adjoining my father's farm; and one of his helpers had accidentally struck a sharp axe into the larger arm muscle of this big man; and he was about to bleed to death when he accosted Sarah, and only timely aid saved his life, for the arm was cut almost half in-two. The temporary dressing applied by my mother and Sarah served to stop the bleeding until he could secure a competent surgeon to treat it properly, which was done and he soon was healed as good as before.

JACK J. CROSIER taught the next two terms of school, starting about October, 1870 and running almost without intermission to May, 1871, but I have already treated of his career.

(9.) GEORGE DAPPERT my older brother, taught the Compton School in south Greenwood Township during the Winter term of 1870-'71. He now began teaching Mound School about October 1st., 1871-'72 running to late March, 1872. George was now about 22 years old, had attended Westfield College several terms, and had secured a First Grade Certificate by this time. He also attended several sessions of the County Teachers' Normal School. By reason of my brother's intercession, I was allowed to attend almost all this term of school; and if I do say it, George was a very good and efficient teacher. I studied diligently, and think that I progressed very well in my studies. I was then 13 years old, and went entirely thr'u Ray's Third Arithmetic that winter. I was in all the advanced classes with Robert Large, "Bub" Warren, Jane and Susan Large and others, in grammar, American History, Geography and reading and spelling.

My brother George had started his career in teaching at Center School, three years before, but had been "Whipped out" by a crowd of six boys, all of whom were older and larger than him, but were regular pupils of that school, they, or some

of them being the McGowan boys, the Linxwilders and others, about six of them in all, who joined forces to try to run George out of the school; and rather than commit murder or be murdered, George, upon my father's advice simply threw up the school. A Mr. McDonald finished the term with some litigation and near blood-shed, but he later told me that it was a tough job.

George taught the Millersville school during the Winter term of 1873-'74, and the next winter, went to Ohio where he was married and coming back to Illinois he passed away about January, 1875.

I do not know who taught the Summer terms of 1871 or 1872. I was kept at home on farm-work, and did not attend any part of either of these terms.

(10.) DAVID HAMILTON taught the Winter term of Mound School during 1873-'73. By this time, I had become large enough to make a full hand at farm-work and so, was kept at home for the first month or so of the term, and was taken out of school upon the coming of the first few days of an early Spring, so that I really attended but about 8 weeks of this term; but by a little "Home study," I was able to keep up with my class; and these conditions obtained during all the balance of my schooling at this school, for five or six years more; but I was present upon the closing days of this term, about mid-March 1873.

Mr. Hamilton had been a soldier upon the Union side during the closing period of the Civil War, had come out here from Ohio soon after that time, worked as a "Hired Man" upon various farms about Buckeye Prairie, applied himself to "Home Study" and presently was able to obtain a Teacher's Certificate, and taught a term at Myers' School, possibly taught two terms, and then came to Mound School. I think he also taught the Summer term of 1873, which I did not attend. He later taught several other schools, studied for the Ministry in the meantime, and by about 1890, had become a United Brethren preacher of considerable ability, and later was made a Presiding Elder in due time, about 1904-'05, and continued in that capacity until his demise, about 1908 or thereabouts.

Mr. Hamilton was not a Highly educated man, but was a very honest, sincere and upright sort of personage, retained the respect and love of his pupils, and was well liked by all who knew him and by his pupils, especially. I recall that at the end of his term of school here, he had not decided whether we should have a dinner and other closing exercises of a Literary character; but upon the next to the last day of the Winter term, about March 20th., 1873, he commissioned Jas. William (BUB) Warren and me at the noon-hour to go to Taylorville to purchase candy, and he handed Warren \$5.00 and told him to be sure to get sufficient candy to "go around"; and so I hastened home, saddled a horse and by previous arrangement, met Bub at the T-roads 300 feet west of Mound Church and accompanied him to Taylorville, going north a mile from there, thence west a mile to Taylorville & Nokomis road and thence north to the town; and we visited several Grocery stores to find where we could get the most candy for the money, finally found that we could get stick-candy at about 20 cents per pound, and so purchased about \$5.00 worth of the striped, "Barber-pole" varieties, some of "Hoarhound" type and two or three different kinds, and returned to our respective homes by a little after dark. The roads were very muddy and it required about two hours time to make the trip one-way; and as the roads had not yet been greatly improved, and culverts and bridges were few, we had to ford the South Fork creek a quarter-mile north of Mound Church, but at the next crossing, a mile south-west of Taylorville, there had recently been erected an Iron Bridge of the "Bow-string" type; and this was the first time I had crossed this bridge. It seemed a marvel of Engineering construction, all iron except the floor.

Next day at the noon-hour, the school-children, their parents and other patrons of the school brought baskets of food, fried chicken, cakes and the like, and we had Literary Exercises, myself delivering the Old Hard-shell Baptist Sermon, and at the noon-hour, ate the magnificent dinner, and everyone present also had a generous helping of stick-candy; and that term of school closed in a "Blaze of Glory" never to be forgotten by the participants. Among the visitors present I recall John Large who lived in the extreme eastern end of the District, his wife and one or two children were present; also, Alicia Warren, "Bub's" sister was there, also several former pupils who had gotten past school-age, also Uncle Sammy Large and wife were present with their family, Robert, Jane, Susan, Emma and Sherman, the latter about 6 or 7 years old. Also most of the Phillips folks were present, Ann, Mary, Kate, Lyman, Julian, William and Frank. Orpha Williams, niece of Mrs. David Hamilton, a pretty Blonde was also present, she having attended this term of school, living with the Teacher's family that winter. By this time, many of the former pupils of Mound School had moved to other parts, some had married some had gone west, and the personnel of the school had changed greatly from previous years.

Other pupils whom I recall at this period were as follows: From the north-part of the District, William, Flora and Edward Bowman; Frank, Jacob, James and Lee Rape; Madison, Parthina and Winfield Marshall; Henry, James, Ananda, Lucy and Sarah Dappert; William and Oliver Chesterman; Mary and Sammy Angel; John Sommers; Amazon and Homer Reeves and a sister whose name I forget; John Depew for a short time; The Phillips folks as before named; James William (Bub) Warren; Rufus, Ann, Thomas and George Voss; Vesta, Alice, Julia, Jessie and Albert Mescham; James and Lizzie Shuman; Maria and Grace Young; John and Daisy Shepherd; Mattie and Henry Lindsey; John, "Sis" and Lank Klinefelter; Jane, Robert, Susan and Sherman Large; William, Mary and Joseph Layman; Belle and Joseph Pittenger; James, Price, Belle, Lizzie and Violet Burchfield; Ida, James, William, George and Thomas Patterson; Fannie Cleary; Frank Downs; Olivia Young; John Cheney; Albert, Belle, William, Lillie and Eugene Barker; Florence, James, Carl, Maggie and Roy Tipton; Gertrude Eastham; Arthur Whitlaw; Emma, Maggie and Minnie Brown; Manuel and Emma Johnson; Roy and Otto Heminger; William and Carrie Bradley; John Nail, which if I have not mis-counted, makes 96 pupils whom I recall as having attended Mound School about this period, 1871-1873.

(11.) URIAH CLEARY taught the Mound School during the Winter term, 1873-'74. He also taught the Summer term of 1874. He was related to the Clearys who lived upon Buckeye Prairie, came from Ohio, was a lean, ascetic sort of man, apparently somewhat tubercular, had dark hair which he wore rather long, had brown eyes and was pretty highly educated, having a First Grade Teacher's Certificate. He put the pupils on their Honor to behave, wrote 4 words upon one corner of the black-board and said they comprised his RULES, the four words being: PATIENCE, PERSEVERENCE, APPLICATION & GOOD BEHAVIOR, and at the end of each school-day, called the school-roll and asked them to answer "Perfect" if they had behaved well and kept the RULES, and to answer "Present" otherwise; and he kept a record of behavior and attendance. He was considered as one of the very best teachers who ever had charge of teaching Mound School, and was paid the highest salary of \$65.00 or \$70.00 per month for the Winter term and only slightly less for the Summer term. As a result of having such a renowned teacher, pupils came in from other districts to take advantage of his superior abilities, some of whom that I recall were: Grace Young from down about Ocoee; Jennie Buckles from about Rochester, Ill., and some of the former pupils now past proper school-age, took advantage of the superior facilities offered and attended portions of this term, some of whom were James Chesterman, James Whitlaw, Ike Atkinson, also Julia Ann and Frank Stoneman were new-comers recently from Ohio and attended part or all this term; and there was an enrollment of about 80 pupils, with an average attendance of about 60 pupils this Winter term.

I was granted release from farm work sufficiently to attend the Winter term under Mr. Cleary about ten weeks, was in classes with "Bub" Warren, Robert Large, Grace Young, Jane and Susan Large and Emma Brown, those being the more advanced pupils. Mr. Cleary also taught the Summer term of 1874 which I also attended for about 8 weeks, the reason for which that I had been afflicted with Whooping Cough and was left with a severe cough and in a weakened condition and could not do much work upon the farm, even if I was kept at home.

One incident which I vividly recall, having occurred during this Summer term is that Joseph Pittenger, then a boy of about 12 or 13 years, was mis-behaving during school-hours, and the teacher quietly slipped up behind him, caught hold of his shoulder, jerked him out of the seat, twirled him about upon the floor a few times and re-seated him; and it took Joe so completely by surprise that he must have thought the house was tumbling down or the world was coming to an end, and Joe was completely "cowed" and greatly humiliated. That form of punishment or some such unusual action was the only kind practised by this teacher, and it was quite as effective as the use of switches or rods, happening only rarely to any of the pupils. He put the pupils "on their Honor" and they usually kept very good order. Mr. Cleary returned to Ohio after his last term at the Mound, and was lost to my further knowledge of him.

(12.) WILLIAM J. DENTON taught the Winter term of 1874-'75, Summer term of 1875 and the Winter term of 1875-'76; and he possibly taught the summer term of 1876, of which I cannot be certain, as I only attended this school during the Winter terms during his teaching career. Mr. Denton had first come to this locality as a United Brethren Minister, about the autumn of 1871. He had been a soldier in the Civil War, served two or three years in the Union Army, came from south-west Missouri, was about 34 years old when he arrived here, was very slender and tall, had a very long neck, and was a rather awkward looking sort of man, had a rather quaint brogue in his manner of speech due to his having been reared in the Ozark

Mountains of Missouri. He had spent some time at Westfield College, acquiring a fair education, had studied for the Ministry, and was very well read along theological lines, and was sufficiently educated to secure a Teacher's Certificate, after serving three years as the Minister at Mound Church and at Antioch Church over in south Greenwood Township; in fact, he had been most largely instrumental in building up these two congregations and certainly was responsible for the erection of these two Church buildings in 1872. He was a powerful preacher, used good language and impressed his hearers as being a quite highly educated man.

About July or August, 1872, Mr. Denton married Ellen Large, second daughter of Uncle Sammy Large who had been a pupil of Mound School almost up to the time of her marriage; and soon afterwards, they lived some years in a small cottage about a quarter mile to west of the hill or mound from which both the school and church took their names. Mr. Denton proved also to be a very good and successful school teacher, kept very good order, used the willow switches which grew profusely at the east end of the school-yard when necessary, and was well liked by most of the pupils and patrons of the school. It was during one of his terms that William Large, then a married man and about 30 years old, attended this school for about two months and "brushed up" upon his Arithmetic. Mr. Large had been kept at home to help his father with the farm-work while his elder brother, George was in the army, and so, had not progressed very far in his school-work; and so he decided to take advantage of attending the school taught by his brother-in-law and get more knowledge of Arithmetic; so he now brought a chair and small stand or table, placed them at rear of the room, and with some help from Mr. Denton at times of difficulty, proceeded to review the entire contents of Ray's Third Arithmetic. The little school-room was yet too crowded with about 45 or 50 pupils in daily attendance that he was not given desk-room in the regular seats, but furnished his own furniture for the occasion. At this time, the school enrollment was about 80 pupils with a daily average of about 50; and so, the little school-house was nearly always pretty crowded; and the big wood-burning stove at center of the room, kept those pupils nearby entirely too warm, while those next the windows were frequently rather too cold.

The use of coal as a fuel had not yet come into vogue, as the nearest coal-mine was then up about LaSalle, that one at Springfield having been opened only a few years later; so coal was too expensive as a fuel, and pole-wood was had for the cutting, but had to be hauled a mile or more; and the teacher had to cut the poles into stove-length, or otherwise he could persuade the larger boys to cut the wood and build the fires; and in those days, the teachers had to do all their own janitor-work except such part of it as they could induce the larger pupils to perform. There was a shallow well of not very good water, near by the school, dug about a year after the school-house had been moved to its new site; and previous to that, the larger boys carried our drinking water from the residence of the elder James Whitlaw, about 40 rods to east of the school.

Reverend Denton continued to teach this school for two years, winter term of 1874-'75, Summer term of 1875, and Winter term of 1875-'76, and possibly the following Summer term; then he returned to the ministry, preaching upon the local Mound Circuit for a year, and again went back to teaching school and then taught Mound School again during the Winter term of 1877-'78; but as I only attended this last term of Rev. Denton's school about six weeks, I cannot say very much about it. Denton now returned to preaching for a time and about 1880 returned to South-west Missouri where he lived ten or twelve years; and when I moved to Taylorville from Colorado in December, 1893, I found Mr. Denton living in West Taylorville and renewed Old Time Friendships with him. Also, I employed him during the summer and autumn of 1893 to do a considerable job of copying Survey Notes, Records and Plats, all of which he did in very satisfactory manner. He continued to live in Taylorville for some time further, and I met him occasionally, but as to the precise time of his death, I can say that I think it was somewhere about 1902-1905. He was a Good Sort of person, and taught Honesty and Integrity to his pupils.

(13.) DIES BUTTS taught one term of school at the Mound, the Winter term of 1876-'77. He had been a soldier in the Union army during the last two or three years of the Civil War, came from Ohio, I think, taught Buckeye School one or two terms and possibly other schools in the vicinity, but taught Mound School only one term. About 1875 or 1876 he married Lizzie Patterson, one of my former school mates, he being then a man of 30 or 35 years. I attended about 7 weeks of his term of school, John A. Cheney being my seat-mate and very good "chum" of that time.

John Cheney then lived at the home of Nathaniel Whitlaw, a half-mile or so to east by north of the school, worked of mornings for his board, and, as I recall, the N. Whitlaw residence then was in the house where the Phillips family had lived during the previous eight years; and the Phillips family had moved to Pana about this time. John and I were not in the same classes, as I had, by some Home Study, been able to keep up with my classes, now the more advanced classes of the school; and I only attended about 6 or 7 weeks of this term, my services being required for farm-work at home. Mr Butts was a very good teacher, not so highly educated as were Mr. Cleary or Mr. Denton, but sufficiently so as to secure the proper credentials for teaching. He was a very likable sort of man, pleasant and agreeable in his relations with the pupils, and sufficiently well educated to teach all the branches required in this school. Susan Large and "Bub" Warren were the two most advanced pupils this term, both of whom later taught this school at a later date, Warren the next summer, as I recall, and Susan a year or so later, but of which precise times, I cannot be certain, as the Winter term of 1877-78 was the very last time that I attended Mound School, and only about six weeks of that term. I am quite certain that Mr. Denton taught that particular term, too, for Rev. David Gobin was the Minister at Mound Church, and during the Winter Revival there one night, as John Cheney and I were sitting together in church, back toward the rear, John showed me a Sale-Bill which he had torn off a "Bill-board" somewhere out toward Rosemond, and it listed for sale two Mocking-birds, and as we were stooped over reading the sale-bill, Rev. Gobin stopped in his discourse and said: "If you boys have something more interesting back there than the 'Word of God' bring it up here where we can all see it!" and thereupon my father came back and reprimanded us severely, and later threatened me with vengeance if I ever repeated the same discourtesy.

During this term of school, our teacher stressed "SPELLING" very greatly, and we had a number of "Spelling Bees" usually one every Friday night or alternate Friday; and I studied spelling both at school and at home, using Sanders' Speller at our school, while McGuffey's Spellers were in vogue at most of the surrounding schools. I also purchased a McGuffey's Speller to enable me to study the many words not found in our Sanders Series, and I attended the Spelling Schools held at Buckeye, Sassafras, Mud, Andy Johnson, Center and sometimes Douglas District Schools. Susan Large was the very best speller in Mound School, but Emma Large, Bill Chesterman and I were a close Second. At Buckeye School a Miss Graham was the Champion speller; at Center School a Laura Carr and Lulu McGowan were the two best spellers, but I took honors several times at Dawson and Andy Johnson Schools. At the Mound School, Emma Brown, Robert Large, James Madison Marshall, Flora Brown were all very good spellers, fully as good as myself. Spelling words properly was then considered as one of the very fundamentals of an education and was stressed greatly in most all the Public Schools.

At most of the Spelling Bees which I attended, it was customary to range the pupils in a line, sometimes entirely around the room; and the teacher would then pronounce the words, selecting the most difficult, and if a pupil missed spelling it properly, it was passed to the next and next until properly spelled, and those who missed spelling it properly, were "down and out" and dropped out of the line and the one who could spell every word to the last, was the winner in the contest, which Honor I won a very few times.

I quit Public School finally and for good, about the latter part of February or early March, 1878, and know very well that Mr. Denton was then the teacher. I had and still have a high Regard for both he and Mr. Butts. They both had small opportunity for securing an education in their early lives, both enlisted in the services of their country in time of peril and stress, both spent their best portions of their lives in the army during the Civil War, and both secured some education by their energy and self-sacrifice after their discharge, and thus became leaders in society and helpful to many of us youths.

REMARKS:- Strictly speaking, the foregoing is a History of Mound School so far as I know it. There were some 8 or 10 years of existence before I came upon the scene; and there have been 83 years since I attended the school. Notably, at one time the population of the school was upwards of 100 pupils, as in 1864, and at present the enrollment is probably less than 20 pupils. Time, the Automobile, telephone, Rapid Transit, Radio and clearing of timber-land and concentration of land-ownership into fewer hands have all had some bearing in producing the changed conditions; also, the Mound School District has suffered contraction in area so that the present boundaries comprise but about one-third of its original area; and Birth Control has also operated to decrease population.

one of the Sanders' girls and presently acquiring that 120 acre farm located about 3000 feet south by west of the Callaway Bridge over South Fork Creek, - where he has lived for more than 40 years past and is one of the prominent farmers of that locality. As to the daughter, EMMA, I never knew much about her subsequent career; but she married a farmer, name un-known to me, and lives somewhere to north-west of Taylorville.

KELLY, RICHARD.

This boy lived for a year or two about 1875-'78 at one of the Whitlaw Farms with his widowed mother and attended Mound School for several terms. He was 4 or 5 years my junior and was in none of my classes at this school. He continued to live in the vicinity of the Mound until about 1880, when with his mother, he moved into Taylorville, where the widow married a shoe-maker named Jake Apple, but only lived with this second husband a very few years; for many years Richard Kelly's mother lived a short block west of the front gate of Oak Hill Cemetery here in Taylorville where Richard attended the City schools, and about 1890 he was married to a Miss White whose folks owned quite a tract of land near Velma; and in due time, Richard and his wife acquired 81 acres of that land and lived there upon it some years. Later he moved into Taylorville where I saw him at frequent intervals and several times made surveys for him upon his farm. He was a very nice and upright sort, but passed away about 1934 leaving at least one son named Mark who lives out in May Township and is a successful farmer.

KLINEFELTERS, "SIS", JOHN & "LANK".

These Pupils were the children of 'Neal Klinefelter who lived upon the Taylorville & Nokomis Road in the north part of Greenwood Township from a very early day. The family were related to the Keller and Mienenheimer families of Taylorville and vicinity. The two older children, Sis and John attended Mound School when at its first location, that is when I began its attendance in 1864; and Lank came to school later, after the school-house had been set up in the Whitlaw Pond; and as I recall, Lank did attend during good days even at the old location during the summer of 1867. Lank as we knew him, and whose real name is Peter Lancaster Klinefelter, was a rather delicate boy in his early youth, and as he was not very robust his sister, known only to me as "Sis", always looked after Lank while at school to see that he was not mis-treated. John was a year or so my senior and Lank a year or two my junior; and I cannot recall that Lank and I were in the same classes. For some reason, whether by reason of changes in boundaries of the District or the removal of the Klinefelter family to other parts, during my last years of attendance at Mound School none of the Klinefelter family attended this school; but upon going to Spelling schools at Sassafras School, they were present there.

As to the daughter "SIS" I lost all knowledge of her from about 1868. John I knew and met frequently all the time I was around the Mound vicinity; and he lived at the Mienenheimer place where I met him several times when I was making surveys there, especially in April, 1893; and one year, about 1920 or thereabouts, I sold him my crop of corn. John married the Mienenheimer daughter and lived at her mother's home about 1 1/2 mile west of Mound Church where I ate dinner with them on April 4th, 1893. He fed cattle and hogs upon a large scale for several years. John died about 1933-'34. I do not know if he left any children.

LANK KLINEFELTER lives near his Father's old home or about 1/2 mile to north and 1/2 mile east thereof where he purchased 162 acres of land a number of years ago and later acquired 80 acres more. He evidently was married to a Miss Graham about Jan. 30th, 1891 as I attended his Golden Wedding Celebration Jan. 19th, 1941. Lank is one of the leading farmers of Christian County, has a very fine farm-home and is quite progressive in every way. He also has one or two sons who are farming in the near vicinity, from one of whom I have purchased seed-beans at one time; and one of these sons was married some 15 years or so ago to a Miss Bonnell, daughter of my old-time Class-mate and best School-friend, Jane Large.

LARGES. GEORGE, RACHAEL, WILLIAM, ELLEN, ROBERT, JANE, SUSAN, EMMA and SHERMAN.

These 9 pupils who attended Mound School when I did were children of Uncle Sammy Large who lived upon his farm in Section 36 of Johnson Township, a farm of more than 200 acres. He had come to Ohio from north Ireland in a quite early day and moved to this Buckeye Prairie somewhere near about 1861. Being married twice, his four older children were those of his first wife and his later five were children of his second wife; and of the older set, George and Rachael only attended Mound School during my attendance there the first term or two.

GEORGE LARGE was already a young man in 1864, was a Union soldier during the last years of the Civil War; but he attended a portion of the school-term taught

by Ben Leeper which I think was the Winter term, 1865-'66. Anyhow, George was a full-grown man and Rachael was a well matured girl, these two, together with Ellen, William and Robert attending that term of school, or portions thereof. George Large later lived a mile north of Buckeye Church where he owned 80 acres of land. Later he moved to Taylorville about 1894 and passed away about 1898 or thereabouts. I recall that he and Ben Leeper, our teacher, recounted many incidents which they passed thr'u during their war-service.

RACHAEL Large attended for a few years during my first years at Mound School, about from 1864 to 1866 soon after which she married a Mr. Robert McAfee who also had been a Civil War veteran, and they lived many years at the edge of Badger Mound in south part of Rosemond Township, about 3 miles south-west of Rosemond; and I recall eating dinner with her on Aug. 7th. 1912 while I was making a road-survey along the Section line thr'u the McAfee farm and northward therefrom; and we then reminisced somewhat of the Olden days at Mound School.

William Large was the second son of Samuel Large, and he attended this school rather intermittently from the time that I started there, to about 1868 when he was married. In his younger days he had not progressed very far in school work, as he was sorely needed at home for farm operations while his older brother was in the army, and so, he attended a part of the Winter term of 1866-'67 especially to "Brush Up" on Arithmetic, and he brought a chair and small stand and placed it in the rear of the school-house and during about two months, attended school, his brother-in-law, Wm. J. Denton helping him when necessary with his problems. It seemed a little incongruous to us younger pupils to have a 30 year old fellow-pupil. He was then married and had one or two children, his wife being a sister of the mother of the Earhart Children who were also my school-mates at or about that time; and William Large then lived about 1/2 mile east and 1/2 mile to north of Mound School. He passed away at a rather early age about 1891-'93.

ELLEN LARGE was next youngest after William, a girl of about 10 or 12 years when I first knew her as a school-mate in 1864-'65, and she attended this school until she married Wm. J. Denton the U. S. Preacher who had been so instrumental in founding Mound Church, of whom I have before spoken as being one of the teachers at Mound School at a later date. Ellen was a rather backward girl in her school-work, but was a motherly sort of girl, looking after her younger sisters who also came to school about this time. From that time forward, her life was devoted mainly to looking after the welfare of her husband and to the rearing of a fine family of children; and the Denton family removed for a time down to south-west Missouri, but returned to Taylorville about 1891-'93, and lived in west Taylorville until her husband's death about 1908-'07, after which she lived with her children, some of whom lived hereabouts and one son, William a druggist at Beardstown. I used to meet her occasionally, but have not seen her since about 1923, and have the impression that she passed away about that time. She was a fine sort of woman.

ROBERT LARGE was the older of the second part of this Large family, was some 4 or 5 years my senior, was about 9 years old when I first met him as a fellow-pupil at the first site of Mound School; but in later years, we were in several classes together. Like myself, he was kept at home for farm-work as soon as he was large enough to perform useful work. He was a fairly good student, was always but once, very kind to me, and was considered as an exemplary pupil by his teachers. He often interceded in my behalf when Julian Phillips undertook to boss me and the younger pupils about the play-grounds; and the one exception which I recall was after a heavy snow-fall in late February, 1874, at the after-noon recess, the boys got to throwing snow-balls at each other, and presently they maneuvered to get me a little ways to rear of all the others, and about a dozen of the larger boys, led on and cheered by Robert, pitched upon me with numerous snow-balls, and presently got me down to the east end of the school-lot where there was a sort of draw where the snow had drifted deeply among the willows, and as I ran across the ditch, I got waist-deep in the slush and water, and the boys all laughed at my predicament, but I did not think it at all funny; so I quit school for that day, went home as fast as I could to get dry clothing; and next day, Robert apologized to me for his part in the escapade.

About the Fall of 1877 or possibly 1878, Robert and Susan Large quit the Mound School and began attending McKendree College, a Methodist Institution located down about East St. Louis, at a village called Lebanon, Ill. Also, about Nov. 1878, I began to attend Westfield College; and during Holiday vacation, we met several times at parties and other gatherings; and Robert especially kept praising his College as being far superior to the one which I was attending, and I hope it was so. Frank Downs, another Mound-school-mate was also attending this

McKendree College, and both he and Robert Large were studying for the Ministry as I was informed, while Susan was preparing for a career in teaching school; but if their College was so superior to Westfield I did not like to be reminded too much about its superiority. These two Larges attended McKendree College for four or five years, were said to have made very good progress in their studies and showed it in their refined manner and bearing; but I had my doubts as to the very great superiority of their Institution. Later on, as I was at home from Valparaiso University where I began attendance in August, 1880 I met the Larges, Robert, Jane and Susan at a Reception of George Large, their distant cousin who lived a mile east of my home, the time being early January, 1882; and those two superior McKendree College Students kept sort of "Rubbing it in" as to the great Superiority of their college to that which I was then attending; but I inquired as to the number in attendance at Lebanon, which they gave as about 300 or 350, and I told them that at our Institution we had an attendance of more than 2000, some students coming from each of 32 states.

The last I recall seeing Robert Large was at a Camp-meeting at a grove a mile south of Osneco; that was about early September, 1883. He had graduated from College and was going about the Camp-grounds wearing a long linen "Duster", and tucked underneath the garment and only partly exposed, he had a long, thin wisp of chin-beard of about 20 or 30 hairs which had grown to a length of one foot or more; and when I twitted him about his chin foliage, he pulled it out of hiding for me to see and admire; and I concluded that he had made some sort of a "Freak Wager".

Robert had by this time, attended College for five or six years, had attained a quite high education, but he seems never to have made much practical application of the same; for he later devoted his energies to selling various bonds and stocks, moved out to California, did not get married, and I have been informed that he presently became mildly insane and ended his career in one of the State Institutions out there; but I have never learned the precise facts.

JANE LARGE, commonly called Jennie, was about the prettiest girl in all of Mount School, attending for a time at its first location, and intermittently up to 1878 at least, and possibly longer. She was two years my senior, was in most of my classes, and not quite as far advanced as Susan who was two years younger than Jennie. I recall that at my last attendance at this school Jennie Large, Grace Young and I were the only members of one particular class, Grammar as I recall, and we had but one text-book treating the subject, so the teacher, Mr. Benton placed us three in the same seat, myself in the place of honor between the two young ladies; but I did not resent the treatment at all. I also recall that when Peter Brown passed away, Jennie and I were the two sole "Watchers" at his Wake one night, and we spent the whole night talking over the many incidents and events of our 12 years of school-life together, the event named being about April, 1877; and it seemed to me more like a pleasant visit rather than a WAKE.

I met Jennie frequently at parties and other gatherings during my brief visits at home during the next five years, and she was always the same patient, practical and comely girl I had known so long; but about 1881 or thereabouts, she married Charles Bonnell of Buckeye Prairie, lived for some time upon a farm in Rosemond Township, reared several children, two of whom I have frequently met of later years, and Jennie was still a very comely woman even to the very last time that I saw her, which was about 1898 when she called at my office in the Court-house at Taylorville to attend to a matter of business in connection with a survey which one of my assistants had made for her husband and others. She then had with her two little girls. Jennie passed away about 1900-'01, not yet a very old woman, and her life was typical of many others of her kind. She had a very amiable and sweet disposition.

SUSAN LARGE was the next in point of age of this Large family, near about my own age, and she attended Mount School as I did, from the summer of 1863 to about March, 1878. She attended the school even before the building was removed from its old site; and I recall that we boys would bend down small Hickory trees to let the girls taster upon the bent over tops, some of the boys first having to climb the tree to bend it over, which feat I performed sometimes; and my brother Henry was also adept at the climbing stunt; and sometimes the older of the girl-pupils would confiscate the trees, too, and then we would climb another and turn it over to Susan and Jane.

In her younger days, Susan had a quite freckled face and was not nearly as comely as her sister Jane, but she was very smart in books, a very good speller, and a quite intelligent girl. At noon intermissions, Susan played ball right with the older boys, and she could strike the ball a hard blow and run the bases as well as most of the boys, and in choosing up sides, Susan would usually be chosen second or third for the team, being a swift runner and good batter.

and runner than most boys of her own age. She was also, quite adept at pitching or throwing the ball.

Later, about 1878-'83, she attended McKendree College, graduating from there, as I think, and taught several terms of school, one term at the Mound, possibly longer. Later, she married William Megaw, lived for about 40 years upon their farm, one-half mile west of Buckeye Church, and I visited there and ate dinner with her and Mr. Megaw on Dec. 19th., 1918; and again, during the late summer of 1929, I was employed by her to lay out a Tile-drainage system upon her farm, and ate dinner with her several times; and we talked about the Olden Days at Mound School and events of 51 to 63 years before. Her daughters attended Taylorville High School when my daughters attended there, and was at my home visiting with my daughters, Lucy and Arlene several times.

Susan's real name was Susan Hanna Large, the former two names being shortened to Susannah by her parents, and further shortened to Susan by her school-mates. Susan was in poor health the last few times that I met her, being troubled with Heart attacks, but she was able to converse interestingly, and seemed to retain all her unusually alert faculties, as always before. She passed away in the early Spring of 1930, but I did not learn of her death until a few days after her burial, my information coming from Mr. E. E. McVicker who attended her funeral.

EMMA LARGE, the next daughter of Uncle Sammy Large, was a girl of about seven years when I first saw her at Mound School. She had been somewhat crippled, presumably from having had Infantile Paralysis when a young child, was never very strong, was short and rather small of stature, and about 3 years my junior. She attended Mound School from about 1867 to 1870 while I was a pupil there, and was very apt and quick at learning; and she was in some of my classes at various times and was a very excellent pupil; and being somewhat crippled, she was allowed to attend the school nearly "Full time." By the time she was 13 years old, she had greatly overcome her physical handicap, but was always rather under-size and also walked with a sort of "waddling" gait.

She used to go home with my sisters from school to spend the night with them, and upon such occasions we usually popped corn and made "taffy" candy and played games and had a very enjoyable evening, she going back with us to school on the next morning. In later years, she married a Mr. Cole who was proprietor or connected with the operation of a Brick and Tile factory at Owaneco; but in later years she and her husband moved to Ohio, visiting hereabouts at times; and the very last time that I recall meeting her was at the Chautauques at Vannors Park here at Taylorville about August, 1920 when I conversed with her for about 30 minutes, about "Old Times" - and she had not changed greatly in appearance, and seemed quite cheerful and happy as always she had been. I do not know any more about her later life or career. She was one of the most cheerful persons I have ever known, and had a lovely disposition, even if not blessed with great beauty.

SAMUEL SHERMAN LARGE was the youngest child of this Large Family, born about 1864 or 1865; and he attended Mound School from about 1871 to at least 1878 and later, I think, as I quit the school early that year. He was a white-haired boy of 6 or 7 years when I first knew him, had an abnormally high forehead, was very quick to learn, bright, affable and a pleasant appearing sort of boy and man.

Sherman was not in any of my classes, being 6 years my junior, but I recall he was exceptionally bright in his studies.

I did not see much of Sherman from the time that I quit Mound School until one night I attended a Republican Meeting at Mound School House about October, 1896, and he was the Chairman of the meeting. I went out there by horse & buggy with James B. Abrams who was the Principal Orator for the occasion, and Sherman, as Precinct Committee-man had charge of the Meeting and performed his duties with alacrity and grace, introducing the Speaker and me to the audience of about 75 people. Sherman was then married and living upon the Old Home farm, having acquired the farm after the death of his parents. I do not know precisely when he passed away, but it was somewhere near about 1900, and he left one son, at least, Gilbert Large who has operated a Large Automobile sales-room, garage and so forth, here at Taylorville for about 30 years past, and from all appearances, has been quite successful in his Business relations. Sherman's widow later married a Mr. Easton, a Banker and large land-owner at Owaneco; but of the other children of Sherman Large, I am not informed.

There were several other families of Larges living in and about Mound - School District, John and Joseph Large, brothers, each having a small farm either inside this district or near-by; and I do not recall that they had any children at this school; but I do recall that upon several "Last Day of School" exercises, when we had a Big Basket Dinner and Literary Exercises, these two men, their wives and families attended the exercises; and their attendance at Last day exercises, indicates that they had children at school there; but I do not recall their appearance or names. I do recall that at the various Spelling Bees and other one

tertainments, both John and Joe Large and their families were present at the Old Mound School; and as the Large Families were numerous, several different individuals having the same given names, these two were distinguished as being "Black Joe" and "Black John" Large.

THE LAWRENCE FAMILY.

There was a family of Lawrence's who lived about a Quarter-mile west of the Old site of Mound School before its first removal, whose father, Jesse had been a veteran of the Civil War and had two daughters, Lilly and Saide Lawrence, Lilly attending this school for a few years, about 1870 to '78, and the younger girl also attended the school later, after I had quit. Lilly was a girl of about 12 or 13 years when a school-mate of mine, was in the more Elementary classes, and I do not know much about their School accomplishments.

Their father owned a 20 acre farm, much of which he cleared out of the timber and the whole family were devout United Brethren Church members, visited frequently at my home and attended Mound Church regularly and the Sunday School at that church. In later years, the father purchased a small tract of land in South-west Taylorville, where the family lived, and I frequently met the two girls at Chautauqua and at other gatherings. Both of their parents had died by about 1920, and a few years later the two daughters migrated to some place in Arkansas, and I have lost all track of them. The girls both remained "Spinners" so long as I knew about them. They were both fairly good-looking girls during their school-days and later.

THE LAYMON FAMILY.

The children who attended school when I did were William, Anne and Joseph. William whom we called "Bill" was a little older than myself, was about 9 years old when he began coming to Mound School in 1887, shortly after the school-house had been moved over to the Whitlaw Pond. This boy had the imprint of a horse's hoof upon one side of his face; that is he had been kicked upon one side of his face by a horse and carried a deep scar shaped like a horse's hoof on his cheek and chin, a lasting mark of identification. Bill was a fairly good pupil, learned about as well as the average, and being the principal support of a widowed mother, he was kept out of school much of the good weather to help with farm work, the family living in the south-east part of Mound School District, and so had no great chance of becoming a noted scholar. In later years his mother married the Rev. Rosenberry, and William left his home soon afterwards and went out west somewhere, and I lost sight of him; but even so, I would know him from his "Hoof-mark" anywhere I might meet him.

ANN LAYMON was about two years younger than Bill, a girl of 7 or 8 years when she attended Mound School and she continued to attend this school as long as I did and possibly later. She was a rather quiet, bashful girl with dark eyes, dark curly hair and very neat in appearance; was fairly proficient in her studies. In later years she married a Mr. King, a farmer, and about 1912 while I was upon a survey just south of Velma, I made arrangements for dinner with a Mr. King and at dinner-time I recognized her as the Ann Laymon who had been one of my school-mates of 34 to 40 years before. She had not greatly changed in appearance and looked yet quite young and capable, now a Mrs. King. I have no knowledge of her later whereabouts.

JOSEPH LAYMON was the younger boy of that family, and he did not begin to attend Mound School until about 1875 or thereabouts; and I do not recall much as to his characteristics, only that he was a quite active and lively boy. Then, during a thunder-storm about 1876 as he was playing in the yard at his home, it was told to me that he threw up a gourd and asked the Lightning to strike it, and the Lightning actually did so and also struck him and killed him instantly. My informant was Jake Rape and Jake said that Joseph dared the Lightning to strike the gourd, and it complied with his request. I do not vouch for the truth of the statement. By this time the boy's mother was the wife of a Preacher, Rev. Rosenberry, an itinerant sort of preacher. Joe was a good, stout sort of boy and very active at play while in school.

LINDSEY FAMILY.

The Lindseys lived upon a farm belonging to G.W. Vollintine at the time of their attendance at Mound School in 1868-1872, located a half-mile east of the school. The head of the family was a quite old man with long gray hair, as I used to see him of Sundays at Church services at Mound School-house. The son, named Roy or Bill was a little younger than myself, and I do not recall much about him. The Daughter Mattie Lindsey was a flaxen-haired maiden of about 10 or 12 years, and had a very clear complexion and was rather pretty.

I know nothing of the later life of the Lindseys. The son was a year or