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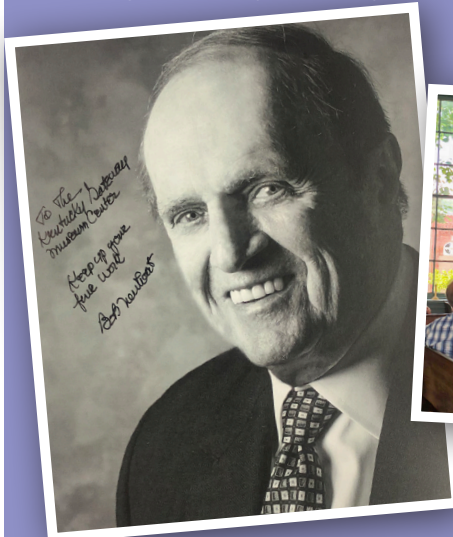
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To:



or current resident.

*May was full of excitement...*



*...see you in June!*

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FRIDAY AUGUST 30, 2019**

**FARM TO TABLE DINNER TO BENEFIT THE LIMESTONE PROJECT.**

## **KYGMC HOURS**

Sun. & Mon.  
Tues. - Sat.

CLOSED  
10am - 4pm



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KYGMCC

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and Old Pogue Experience

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KENTUCKY  
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# Messenger

VOLUME XXIV

ISSUE VI

MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY

SUMMER / JUNE 2019



## SATURDAY SEMINAR

*The Limestone Building Project & History of Bourbon Distilleries in the Buffalo Trace Area*

June 15, 2019 - 10:30am



# THE VIEW FROM SECOND AND SUTTON

Summertime has arrived in downtown Maysville. The Museum staff is excited to welcome you to the *Museum Center* and *The Old Pogue Experience* as we celebrate with your friends, family and summer guests the new *KYGMC* exhibits. Our new summer exhibits and displays that will be opening this month in the *Calvert Gallery* and *Wormald Building* are great reasons to make a Museum visit part of your summer plans.

Our signature summer exhibit for 2019 is *Mission Aerospace* by *Minotaur Mazes* and will open in the *Calvert Gallery* on June 15. This "hands-on" exhibit allows students and families to explore the history of flight, navigation and NASA's vision for the future. Students can experiment with thrust, lift control surfaces and gyroscopes. Education outreach sessions will allow participants to build rockets and paper airplanes and test them for distance and air-dexterity. Visitors to this special exhibit will not only leave with a smile and great memories but have the opportunity to make their own paper aircraft!

The *Wormald Galleries* this summer will feature the Collector's Series exhibit, *Up in the Air: The History of Flight* opening in mid-June. The *Old Pogue Experience* continues to welcome visitors on the B-Line to Maysville with the *Old Pogue* and *Maysville Bourbon Story*.

Once again this year we celebrate the summer holidays with the Museum Center being open on *Memorial Day*, *Fourth of July* and *Labor Day*. The Galleries and the *Old Pogue Experience* will be open regular hours on the holidays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Museum Center will open on Sunday June 16 for Father's Day with a special complimentary opening for our fathers and their families from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to view the exhibits in both the Gal-

leries and the *Old Pogue Experience*.

We invite you to view the *KSB Miniatures Collection's* new welcome and education area. The cases in this gallery entrance

for sale in the *Atrium's Museum Shop* and at the *Still Room Bourbon Emporium* at The *Old Pogue Experience*.

The June *Museum Seminar* sponsored by the Research Library will be held on Saturday June 15, at 10:30 a.m. The Seminar will explore the history of the *Limestone Building Project* and the *History of Bourbon Distilleries in the Buffalo Trace Area*. I will be presenting the history of the 1899 Glascock Building and the restoration of the building for the Museum's *Old Pogue Experience*. Marla Toncray, KYGMC Special Exhibits Curator will discuss the Bourbon history portion of the seminar session. The Seminar will be held on the Second Floor of the Limestone Building with a walking tour of the *Limestone Building* and the *Old Pogue Experience* following the presentation.

A special thank you to our staff, volunteers and trustees that have helped with the many special openings, events and featured events during the past few months. Attendance and special activities are currently at an all time high in the number of participants. The extra efforts of our staff, volunteers and trustees have allowed continued growth of services at our Museum Center.

From our historic displays in the *Wormald Building* to family research in the Library and new exhibits in the Museum, we are the place to visit this summer. Follow KYGMC activities on FaceBook, Twitter, Instagram and our web page at [www.kygmcc.org](http://www.kygmcc.org) to keep up with the many special opportunities and events happening during the summer months on Second and Sutton Streets in downtown Maysville. Have a great summer and visit your Museum! Thank you for being a member!

C.J. Hunter IV  
Executive Director

## COMING SUMMER 2019

TO BOOK CONTACT TANDY NASH:  
606-564-5865 OR EDUCATION@KYGMCC.ORG



### SUMMER FIELD TRIPS STARTING MID-JUNE

UP IN THE AIR: HISTORY OF FLIGHT  
MINOTAUR MAZES: MISSION AEROSPACE

#### Sessions Include:

- Rocketry
- Fueled for Flight: Space Food
- Chocolate Pilot
- Tours of BOTH exhibits



### BOOK A FIELD TRIP FOR YOUR GROUP TODAY!

area feature numerous miniatures that showcase the finest of work by many miniature artists. *The KSB Miniatures Collection* has their new displays open with the exhibit *Celebrating Summer*. Kaye Browning has released her second miniatures book and along with the first *KSB Miniatures Collection* book is available

# MARLA'S MUSINGS

By Marla Toncray

## The Explosion at the Maysville Powder Magazine

Recent postings on the popular social media page, *You May Be From Maysville* If ... have promoted this month's article about the *Maysville Powder Magazine*.

The magazine was located at the base of Old U.S. 68, in an area called *Smokey Hollow*. Today, there are townhomes located there.

The following is a recounting of the explosion, as reported by the *Maysville Express Newspaper* in Glenn Clift's book, *The History of Maysville and Mason County*.

It was August 1854 when residents of Maysville, Aberdeen, Poplar Plains, and even Hillsboro, Ohio were awakened to the sounds of breaking glass and destruction.

According to the *Express* - 800 kegs of powder burned when the explosion occurred around 2:15 in the morning. The newspaper reported the magazine "was

fired by miscreants unknown, and its contents, eight hundred kegs of blasting and rifle powder, were burned, causing a terrific explosion and great destruction of property. In the neighborhood of the magazine fired, were two other magazines containing powder, which were blown up, and a part of the powder, it is supposed, burned. There were two distinct explosions, preceded by flashes of vivid light. Not a house in the City of Maysville, East Maysville, or Aberdeen escaped injury. The houses on Fourth Street, near the scene of the explosion, had the roofs lifted off, and the walls curved so as to render them untenable. Many houses on Second and Third Streets were perforated with stones and the walls smashed. A stone weighing 43 lbs. was found in Aberdeen 1 1/3 miles from the spot. The

stones on the turnpike were lifted from their bed and the road mutilated.

No one was killed. William P. Connell was the only person seriously injured; he received sundry cuts and bruises, and two large stones were found in the bed where he had been sleeping. A negro woman was also slightly injured. The Common School house; the houses of J.W. Rand and his Seminary, of J. Bierbower, Blain, James Spalding, Dr. Seaton, together with many others were in ruins. Indeed the same may be said of all the other buildings in the city. The doors are broken from the hinges, window sashes smashed, walls curved and broken, and the whole city presents a scene of desolation, rarely, if ever witnessed. \$200,00 it is thought, will be required to put the houses in a comfortable, safe and tenable condition." The actual damage was estimated at \$50,000 and \$75,000 a few days following the explosion.

A \$1,000 reward was offered for the arrest of those responsible, and Judge Duvall called a special

term of the Circuit Court in order to conduct an investigation before a grand jury was convened. In the end, no one was ever arrested for the explosions.

Clift goes on to explain the explosion

First Presbyterian Church damage sustained from the explosion.



of powder totaled 27,000 pounds. He also notes the following "the explosions were heard at Popular Plains, 22 miles distant; on a steamboat 42 miles up the river; at Hillsboro, Ohio, 40 miles away; at Orangeburg, seven miles distant chinaware was thrown from tables and windows were broken; near Helena, 12 miles distant, negroes were tossed out of their beds; 3 1/2 miles south of Maysville windows were broken and a boy thrown from his bed; the whole body of water in the Ohio River surged toward the Ohio shore, rising suddenly and deep on that shoreline; in the Maysville Cotton Mill, 1,200 lights of glass were shattered; stones weighing 102 pounds and more were thrown entirely across the Ohio River in Aberdeen, more than a mile from the magazine. Eight churches were destroyed, damage to each amounting to from \$100 to \$1,000 each."

One of the churches to sustain damage was the First Presbyterian Church on West Third Street. A piece of debris hit the west-facing wall, leaving an indentation that is still visible today. A. M. January, who donated the land for the church and lived right across the street, must also have been shaken awake during the explosion.



First Presbyterian Church  
West Third Street

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# MINIATURES CORNER

By Kaye Browning

As most of you know, many of the items in the KSB Miniatures Collection have a backstory. I've covered several in my blog books, but one of the latest pieces in the collection tells a story of which you may not be aware. *So You Think You Can Fly*, a collaboration by Michael Yurkovic and myself depicts a fall day in 1963 when I completed my first solo flight. Those attending the Gala were so curious about it, I decided to explain it here as well.



a bit imaginative. I actually soloed at the Murfreesboro Municipal Airport in Tennessee, but the exhibit is a composite of memories from my younger years spent in Kentucky just before our move to Tennessee prior to my junior year. It was important to me to include our state in the miniature scene and Maysville was once known as the *Burley Tobacco Capitol of the World*, so I commissioned the tobacco barn and farm equipment to insert my commonwealth country upbringing into the piece. I chose Michael for the project after seeing a diorama he made depicting a downed vintage mail plane. While the images here do not show the finished scene, Michael made almost everything in the exhibit other than the wheels and tires of the plane, the harvest-



The bereted IGMA artisan also added mementos to the scene, such as the replica of my shirttail, which was cut from my shirt after soloing. I still have it, framed with other details of the day including the plane's registration number and my instructor's name. Interestingly, the original plane is still flying and is registered up North in Wisconsin.

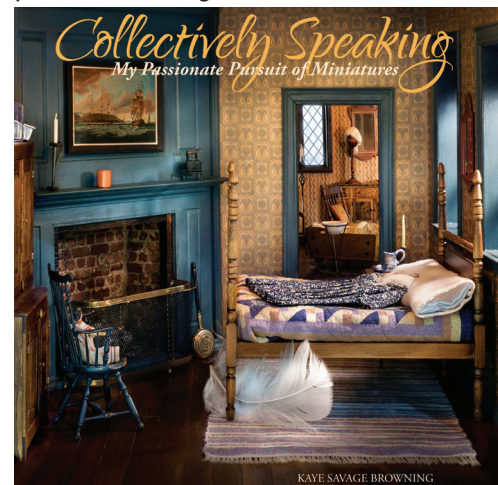
Both my dad and brother were pilots, so as a young girl in the sixties I was infatuated with the wild blue yonder myself. I was fresh out of high school and after going on just a few flights with my brother I found that I absolutely loved the freedom and peace of flying. I immediately began lessons and managed to solo in a Piper J-3 Tri-Pacer in only seven lessons—the average being ten. I had a rough landing on the first go-around, but I redid it just to prove to myself that I could do it right. And I did. I went on to fly a PA-11, a PA-12 and a PA-22, all Pipers, but the J-3 was always my favorite.



Michael Yurkovic and Lisa Hastreiter-Lamb, the Executive Director of The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures in Tucson, Arizona, at the KSB Miniatures Collection's Gala Celebration in April.

er, the birds (Beth Freeman-Kane), figures (Connie Sauv ) and the camera and drawing instruments (Jose Maria Bollo). Watercolorist Victoria Pelarenos created the 50 tobacco plants hanging in the barn, painted specifically to look like the recently cut tobacco which would have been harvested that time of year. The airplane was scratch built by Michael from wood and metal and includes both correct exterior and interior details.

So that's the story behind the bright yellow plane exhibited in the KSB Miniatures Collection. If you are interested in hearing more about the many experiences behind the miniatures, *Collectively Speaking* Volumes 1 and 2 are available in the gift shop. You can also order online at Bookbaby at the link below. Enjoy your summer everyone, I hope it brings you your own unforgettable memories.

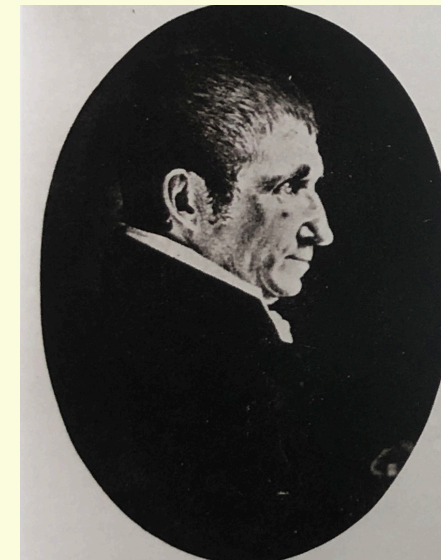


Kaye's new book is available at <https://store.bookbaby.com/book/collectively-speaking2>

# HIXSON'S HOARDINGS AND MORE...

By Tandy Nash

It was 1788, a year before George Washington would become President, Cincinnati had just been founded by Edward Mansfield, and the Ohio River had been opened to trade and travel. Limestone Landing had become "a by-word synonymous with westward expansion." Mason had already been a well-established county in Kentucky; starting out first as Fincastle County, Va. in 1771, Kentucky County in 1776, Fayette County in 1780, Bourbon County in 1785 and Mason County in 1787. Kentucky was admitted to the Union in 1792. Land was relatively cheap. "An inhabitant of one of the Atlantic states could sell his hundred acres there and acquire in Kentucky over a thousand far more fertile ones and have a substantial sum remaining." "Some probably wished to escape prosecution either for debt or crime. Taxes high in the seaboard states could be avoided by emigration. There was a desire for adventure or acquisition of riches in the newly developing territory and the climate was milder." It was the place where "all the emigrants landed who came from the Northern states by the way of Pittsburgh, and the staple for all sorts of merchandise sent from Philadelphia and Baltimore to Kentucky."



ISAAC DRAKE  
1756 - 1832  
Father of  
Dr. Daniel Drake



ELIZABETH SHOTWELL DRAKE  
1761 - 1831  
Mother of  
Dr. Daniel Drake

and the families would peep out to see if any Indians were around before unbolting the door.

Isaac Drake, a former Revolutionary War soldier, had listened to Rev. William Wood, who had a few years before migrated to Washington, in Mason County, and William Van Horne, pastor of the Baptist Church at Scotch Plains, near where Isaac lived, give glowing accounts of Kentucky. Rev. Gano of New York had visited and "his breadth of praise still further fanned the flame." So, in June of 1788, Isaac left the grist mill near Plainfield, NJ with his two brothers, Abraham and Cornelius, and his sisters with their husbands for Kentucky.

Isaac's son, Daniel, mused that May's Lick "was a colony of East Jersey people amounting in the aggregate of 52 souls. The immigrants from other states were almost entirely Virginians and Marylanders. All were country people by birth and residence—all were illiterate, but in various degrees and all were poor or moderate circumstances. A majority or at least a moiety however, were small freeholders." The Jersey people generally were without slaves, "partly from principle, and partly from the want of means. Most of the settlers from Virginia and Maryland brought slaves with them, though the number in each was small, often only one." Abraham kept a store, Shotwell and Morris kept taverns and Cornelius Drake was a farmer where... it was the place for holding Regimental militia musters, when all the boys and old men of the surrounding county... would assemble." It was also a place for political meetings and stump conflict by opposing candidates. Singing schools were held in Deacon Morris' tavern where students would sing their lessons. "On Saturday, two or three justices of the peace would come to the "Lick" and hold their separate courts... [would] compare their opinions, prejudices, feelings, manners customs and modes of life." It was in this environment, that Daniel Drake and the other children of May's Lick would have important opportunities to observe a great many people and a great many things and events that would help form what they would become as

Limestone, in 1788 consisted of "a few cabins only, though Washington, 4 miles off was something of a village of log cabins." Danger from the Indians on the other side of the river prompted the family to journey on to Washington, where they lodged in a sheep pen beside the "cabin of a kind" shelter. In July, the little colony of Drakes, Shotwells and Morris-es "purchased from Mr. May, fourteen hundred acres of land containing a salt spring about eight miles south of Washington where deer and buffalo licked the surrounding earth." Isaac Drake "sold his wagon and one of his horses to buy 38 acres of the land." Five cabins were built close together for protection from Indians

adults. There was a great deficiency of books. Bibles, hymn books, primers, spelling books, arithmetic and almanacs were imported from Philadelphia—the "only city of the seaboard which maintained any commercial intercourse with the infant settlements of the interior". The first newspaper published in the state of Kentucky, *The Kentucke Gazette*, was begun at Lexington in 1787 (the year before their families' immigration). Another, *The Mirror*, started in Washington, KY in 1797. Daniel's father didn't take it, but occasionally a number of it fell into his hands. Articles about the first constitution of Kentucky adopted 3 years after his family entered the state and the second, 8 years afterwards would surely have been in the papers as well as information about the French Revolution and war between France and England. I am sure many a discussion was heard around his uncle's store with deep emotion since France had rendered aid to the U.S. in their own revolutionary struggle. President Adam's administration had exercised a duty on distilleries and their products and a duty on paper, much like the Stamp Act they had just fought the war over, which would have caused a stir in the local taverns. "No part of the Union experienced the excitement in a higher degree than old Mason, except perhaps... Western Pennsylvania, where an actual insurrection took hand." Jefferson became president when Daniel was twelve.

Isaac and his neighbors were "not indifferent to the education of their children; but they were all new settlers, all poor and all illiterate, and hence had not the means

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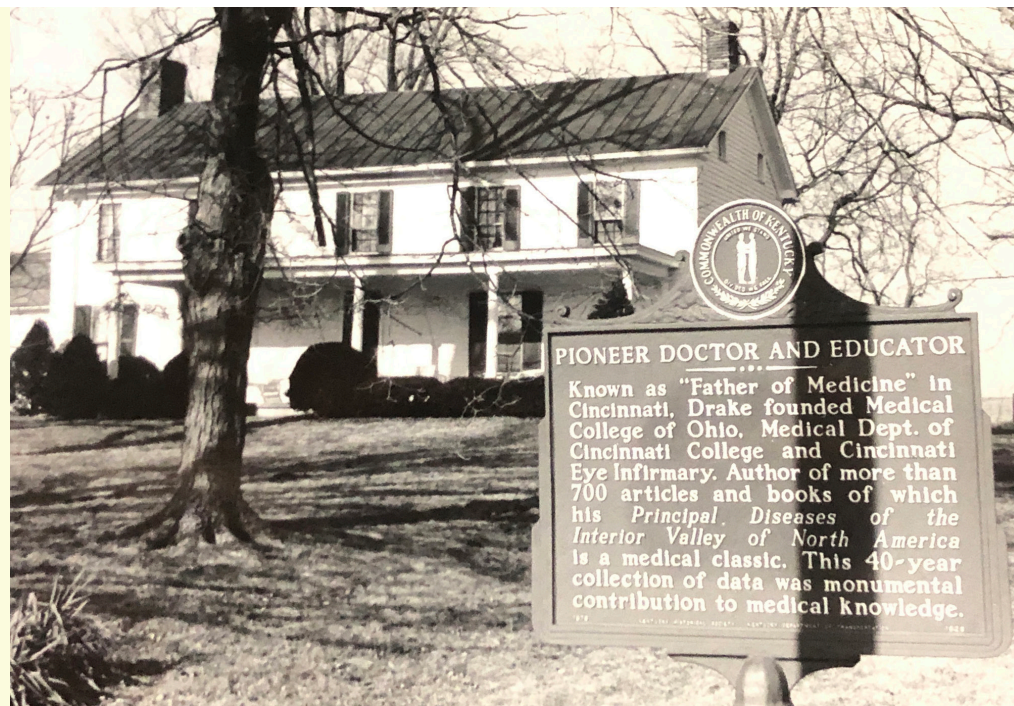
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or conception necessary to the establishment of a good school, even had it been possible to procure a competent teacher." Joint labor put together a small 1 story long schoolhouse, entirely in the woods, built on one of the wagon roads that lead into the "Lick". It had a latch and string on the door and light was admitted through oiled paper. Jacob Beaden, who had recently emigrated from Maryland, taught spelling, reading, writing and cyphering. The whole school would learn and say their lessons aloud. The spelling book was Dilworths, an old English production. The reading book was the New Testament. "Everyone brought their own meals and friends or groups sat on the benches in the winter and on old logs in the adjoining woods, at other seasons." The children would swing on grapevines, hunted nuts, haws, paws and other fruit when in season. They "climbed trees, shot bows and arrows, pitched quoits as a substitute for playing marbles, ran races, played corner ball, hop, skip and jump and Prison-base." In a letter years later, Daniel said when the scholars arrived, after the master had taken his seat, the boys were required, on entering the door, to take off their hats and make a bow-the girls to courtesy. In some schools, the same was commanded on leaving the house in the evening and inculcated on them to take off their hats and bow and courtesy to all whom they met either coming or going." From his father, Daniel learned self-denial "because indulgence, beyond certain limits, was so much out of the question as not to be thought of. He was taught to practice economy, and to think of money as a thing not to be expended on luxuries, but to be used for useful ends." He was taught the value of learning, "being denied the opportunities for acquiring more than a pittance and the value of time, by having more to do day after day than could well be accomplished. He was molded to do many things, if not absolutely at the same time in such a succession as almost to render them identical." But, better than all that, he grew up with a love and obedience to his mother and received from her an early moral training "to which in conjunction with that of his father his humble success in life, and his humble preparation for the life to come than to any other influence."



Daniel's father, Isaac, was a "gentleman by nature and a Christian from convictions, produced by a simple and unassisted study of the word of God. His poverty he regretted; his ignorance he deplored. His natural instincts were to knowledge, refinement and honorable influence in the affairs of the world... he had formed a conception of something more elevated" for his son. Isaac's brother, Abraham, was a tavern keeper, merchant and rich man of the family. Abraham's son, Dr. John Drake was 5-7 years older than Daniel and had studied medicine in Washington, KY with Dr. William Goforth about 1795. He was to establish himself in Mayslick and Daniel was to become his pupil. However, John died soon after his graduation from the University of Pennsylvania and Dr. Goforth had moved to Cincinnati. So, Isaac Drake made arrangements to take Daniel to Cincinnati to study medicine and be apprenticed to Dr. Goforth for \$400 for 4 years. At the age of 15 this plan would not only change Daniel's life but would eventually change the lives of many others.

Daniel Drake was 9, his father traded his small land holding acquired when they first came to Kentucky, for 200 acres of unbroken forest 1 mile west of May's

lick. It had to be cleared away and a new cabin erected. He was provided a small axe and his father with a larger and a mattock for grubbing. "They charged upon the beautiful blue ash and buckeye grove... The last was so soft that it soon became [his] favorite and to the readiness with which it yielded to [his] axe he may have ascribed the affection which he ever since cherished for it." (At the 45th Anniversary celebration of the founding of Cincinnati held on Dec. 26, 1833, Dr. Drake in his response to a toast extolled the virtues of the Buckeye and wove the history of the Ohio Valley into his speech. He suggested that this was a suitable emblematic tree for the state, with the result that ever since then Ohio has been termed 'The Buckeye State'.) He accompanied his dad at 11 years old to the "distant water mill of which was two miles above the Blue Licks, so noted in later years as a watering place. It was famous for its salt. Eight hundred gallons of water had to be boiled down to obtain a bushel!" His father's mode of paying for it was by taking corn or hay because the region around produced neither. He had learned that immense herds of buffalo had before the settlement of the country, frequented the spot, destroyed the shrubs and herbage around, trodden up the

Hixson's Hoardings and More...continued

ground and prepared it for being washed away by the rains until the rocks were left bare. Finally, [he] was told that around the licks, sunk in the mud, there had been found the bones of animals much larger than buffalo or any other known in the country."

Daniel had an aptitude to become interested in everything. His father would occasionally buy books for him or borrow some from Dr. Goforth. At age 11 or 12



he borrowed a book of Lord Chesterfield's Letters to his son, "inculcating politeness. It cherished high and pure an idea of the duty of good breeding...and the principle of politeness: We should cultivate a feeling of respect for what is respectable, while we manifest suavity and kindness to all." He also had the books which had belonged to his cousin, John Drake who died of typhus fever on August 7, 1800

and whose remains are in the Old Village Church yard. Had he lived, Daniel's whole course of life might have been different but, as fate would have it, Daniel would go to live in Cincinnati with Dr. Goforth and be "transmuted to a doctor by 19".

In letters to his children, Daniel would look back on the journey. On December 16, 1800, he leaves for Cincinnati. Most of the way was only 'bridle paths' and there were "no directions or fingerboards at the forks to point the true way-and not many living fingers to point the way." Between

Mayslick and Cincinnati there were no taverns and travel was slow and wearisome. His first stop was in a village of a dozen cabins and 2 or 3 frames, called Germantown where stopped to feed and dine at Dr. Donaphan's. They "put off" after dinner and reached Leather's cabin and Ferry on the banks of the Ohio opposite the mouth of Bull-skin Creek." He describes the cabin as one room which was bar, dormitory, refectory and family apartments. When they reached the other side of the river (dodging floating ice) their first stop was at Bohannons to Point Pleasant and then to John's Mill on 15 mile creek. When they came to the mouth of the Little Miami they had to travel up a mile before they could ford it to Columbia and "put up" in a cord and feather bed with his dad. At Peach Grove, his father "took leave of him and he took to Chesselder's Anatomy."

The diploma he was awarded upon graduation was the first medical diploma given west of the Allegheny Mountains. Drake also got a degree from the University of

Pennsylvania and came to Mayslick and practiced 1 year. He married Miss Harriet Sisson of Cincinnati at age 22 and when Dr. Goforth decided to move to New Orleans, he took over the practice. He moved there in 1807 and helped found Cincinnati's first circulating library, ran a drugstore with the first Soda Fountain. He became an author of medical journals and helped found the medical college which was to become the University Of Cincinnati College Of Medicine. He sponsored the artistic career of Mason Countian, Aaron Corwine (whose self-portrait is in the Miniatures Gallery at KYGMC). His first book, published in 1810 was the first published west of the Alleghenies to have a medical section. He was the first physician in the west to specialize in Ophthalmology, advocated schools for the blind and established the Cincinnati Eye Infirmary. He also established a charity fund so that the poor could be treated free of charge. "His concern for the education of the young made him the driving force behind the formation, in 1815, of the Cincinnati Lancastrian Seminary. This school used an advanced pedagogic method of having older students teach the younger ones. He advocated teaching hospitals, hospitals for the poor and marine hospitals for sailors along the Mississippi River Valley. He helped found a natural history museum which was the forerunner of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History.

For a short time he taught at Transylvania, in Lexington, KY which had the first medical college west of the Alleghenies. Drake was a member of its first accredited faculty. He also taught at the Louisville Medical Institute as a professor in clinical medicine and pathology, but returned to Cincinnati to the Medical College of Ohio. "Even when teaching at other schools, [his] heart still fondly turned to [his] first love...her image, glowing in the warm and radiant tints of earlier life, was ever in [his] view." It could be said Daniel Drake was the most prominent Cincinnati physician of his day. He was a man of unending curiosity, perseverance, ambition and foresight and improved the quality of life for mankind and advanced both the art and the science of medicine.

  
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**SPECIAL SUMMER OPENINGS**  
FATHER'S DAY – SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019 FROM 2PM TO 4PM (Complimentary for Fathers and their families)  
THE FOURTH OF JULY – THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2019 FROM 10AM TO 4PM  
BRING YOUR FAMILY TO THE MUSEUM AND ENJOY OUR TWO GREAT SUMMER EXHIBITS TOGETHER.