

Transportation. A series of short biographies of Morgan county legislators make up the last chapter.

Mr. Major was aided in his work by his wife who did the writing, or as she styled it, the "copying." Few counties are as fortunate as Morgan in having such an account of their pioneers.

R. C. BULEY.

*Ancestral History.* Compiled by I. BRASHEARS, a Retired Member of the Northwest Iowa Conference of M. E. Church. 21 pp., 1915.

THIS pamphlet contains brief sketches of two of the oldest families of the State of Indiana—the Hinmans and Brashears. Capt. Asahel Hinman was born in Connecticut in 1742 of Puritan parentage. He served in the Colonial Militia during the French and Indian War. In the Revolutionary War he was in continuous service until the close of the war. He fought with Arnold at Quebec, 1775, at Long Island, and with Washington at Valley Forge. He was a wealthy man for those times and spent most of his money for army supplies. The close of the war found him poverty stricken. The legislature of New Jersey failed to reimburse him as justice demanded. In 1790, with his wife and three children he migrated to the wilds of Kentucky to start life anew. After living more than a dozen years on land cleared and tended by himself, Captain Hinman and his family were forced to give up their hard-earned home, thanks to the poor system of private surveys and inaccurate plotting employed in Kentucky. About 1816 he moved to Warrick county, Indiana, dying there in 1825. He had five children, two sons and three daughters; the author, himself, is a grandson of Captain Hinman.

Samuel Brashears, the paternal grandfather of the author, was also prominent in early Indiana history. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1759. He became a member of one of Daniel Boone's exploring parties in the wilds of Kentucky. Some years later he settled in Bullitt county, Kentucky. He moved to Warrick county, Indiana, in 1816, settling a mile or so east of Boonville. He had six sons and a daughter. Ephraim Brashears, the father of the author of this ancestral history, was born in Bullitt county, Kentucky, November 5, 1795. He died at Boonville, 1876. He was a man of more education than the average pioneer. He was sheriff of Warrick county back in the days when the sheriff was tax

collector and went on horseback from house to house for that purpose. He married Miss Anna Harris Hinman, daughter of Capt. Asahel Hinman.

The history of the struggles with the wilderness, and the incidents narrated in the history of the Hinman and Brashears family are typical of the early Indiana pioneer life. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to the pioneer families who prepared the way for present day civilization in Indiana.

The author himself, Ira Brashears, in a long life of 82 years, has taken no small part in the pioneer work of the nation, as a farmer, soldier and minister of the Gospel.

We wonder if Capt. Richard Brashears, who was left in command of Vincennes (then Ft. Sackville) by George Rogers Clark, 1779, belonged to this family of Brashears so active in our early State History.

R. BLANK.

THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION reports progress in its work of preparing for the Centennial. Mr. Langdon, the pageant master, is studying the State history and acquainting himself with the situation. County agents are pushing the work in most of the counties. Miss Dye is editing a story page in the *Sunday Star* in order to arouse interest among and furnish material to the school teachers.

*The Home and School Visitor* for the current year is running some interesting historical articles. Benjamin S. Parker tells "The Story of an Old Highway"—a description of the National Road. Professor Bogardus of the State Normal is contributing a series of articles on the States involved in the European War. Dr. Esarey of Indiana University is furnishing a series of articles on different phases of Indiana History.

*The Missouri Historical Review* for October, 1915, contains an excellent article on the "Fathers of the State," by Floyd C. Shoemaker. It is a brief history of the men who constituted the first constitutional convention of that State. Several of these men attained some fame in Indiana before going to Missouri. Henry Dodge was born at Vincennes, October 12, 1782. John Rice Jones was attorney-general of Indiana Territory, 1805, and gave us our first code in 1807. Alexander Buckner practiced law in Indiana before he went to Missouri. He also helped organize the Masonic