

The Quick Family In America ²

Burke's *Landed Gentry of England* (Petersburg, Va., public library) states that the Quick family came from Holland to England in the year 1445, having been forced to leave Holland during one of the religious wars. They were people of some prominence and wealth, acquired land in England, and later the head of the family was knighted as Sir John Quick. The estate is at St. Cyrus or St. Ives, Cornwall. The family crest is given in Burke. The head of the family has not always been named John; presumably the oldest son named John died and a younger son inherited the title and estates, but Burke gives Sir John Quick as the head of the family at the time his book was published. Several of the younger sons of the succeeding generations rose to prominence, one of them being ——— Quick who was appointed by the crown as governor of Tunis, Africa, and who named one of his sons Tunis Quick. Tunis Quick, whose grandfather was the head of the estate in England, being a younger son, decided to emigrate to America about 1700, and was the head of our American family.

Between the above Tunis Quick and Tunis Quick of Martinsburg, W. Va., are the names of Morgan, John, James, Samuel and Charles. Tunis Quick landed in New York, and either he or his descendants went to New Jersey and thence to Virginia. There is a monument to Samuel Quick in New Jersey, erected in memory of his having rescued the community from the Indians.

Probably the first record of the Quicks in Virginia is to be found in Stafford courthouse, Stafford county, Virginia. In the earlier days Stafford county embraced all the country west of the Potomac river and included Berkley county, Virginia, now West Virginia. The records in Stafford show the family to have been among the first families and the records in Berkley county at Martinsburg run back to the first records of the county.

The records at Martinsburg, Berkley county, show several deeds and leases made, one being a deed for 383 acres of land from Lord Fairfax. Another was a lease of land from Tunis

²By Spencer Records Quick, aged 92, 1864 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, Ind. July, 1920.

Quick to a Jacob Beller for 500 years for a certain number of peppercorns per year. A more thorough search of the records would probably divulge other valuable records. Tunis Quick II and his wife Lenah had three sons, Tunis Quick III, James Quick and Oakley Quick. Tunis Quick III married Ruth Gorrell and James Quick married Hannah Gorrell. Do not know whom Oakley Quick married, but there is now living at Frankfort, Indiana, a Miss Oakley Quick, and in Madison county, Indiana, a Mr. Oakley Quick. Tunis and James married sisters. Their father-in-law was a Gorrell, from England and his father was Sir John Gorrell. The mother of Ruth and Hannah Gorrell was a Hedges, a daughter of Sir Charles Hedges who was secretary to Queen Anne, 1702.

Sons:

1. James Quick, born Martinsburg, Va., 1770, died Bartholomew county, Ind., June 26, 1847.

First wife, Hannah Gorrell. Children: William, Tunis, Lenah and James. William died unmarried. Tunis married Susanah Records. Lenah married Fergus Moore. James married Elizabeth Goodwin.

Third wife, Susannah Pancake McConnell. Children: Samuel, Agnes, Elizabeth and Martin. Samuel married Margaret Gonse, no heirs. Agnes married Daniel Lambert; children, Thomas, Elizabeth, Samuel and Alice. Elizabeth married Reuben Hayworth, no heirs. Martin married Matilda Owens, no heirs.

2. Tunis Quick III, born Martinsburg, Va., Mar. 13, 1797; died Bartholomew county, Ind., Feb. 24, 1883. Married Susannah Records, Sept. 3, 1823; died June 5, 1884.

Susannah Records' (wife of Tunis Quick) father was Captain Spencer Records, appointed captain by the governor of Virginia in 1791. He surveyed and laid out some of the principal highways in Kentucky and was appointed captain in 1793 by the governor of Kentucky. He was born in Sussex, Delaware, lived in Pennsylvania and Kentucky and died in Indiana, aged 88, Feb. 17, 1850. His father was Capt. Josiah Records, who first drove a wagon in the Revolutionary war and was later made captain. Capt. Spencer Records' wife was Elizabeth Elrod and her father and mother were John Elrod and Mary ———, of Virginia. Sussanah Tully was the wife of Capt. Josiah Records and the mother of Capt. Spencer Records.

Children of Tunis Quick and Susannah Records: Smith William, Morgan John, Harris, Spencer Records, James Hoagland, Tunis Gorrell, Josiah Tully, Hannah Gorrell, William Harrison, Samuel Tompkins, Rachel Nelson.

(1) Smith William died in infancy.

(2) Morgan John was born September 25, 1825, and died in 1913. He married Isabel Hoskinson, who died in 1918. Celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary Sept., 1910. Children: Tunis, Hannah, Hugh Samuel, John Spencer, Belle, Ezra, Morgan Gorrell, Kate and Lizzie.

It was the request of Hannah Gorrell, the wife of James Quick, that the name of Gorrell should never go out of the Quick family. At the present time there is Tunis Gorrell Quick, of Columbus, Indiana, and Morgan Gorrell Quick, son of Morgan John Quick, a Baptist minister of Jersey City, New Jersey.

The name Tunis should never go out of the family after all these years.

(3) Harris died in infancy.

(4) Spencer Records Quick, born July 26, 1828; wife, Katherine Madora Hauser, born April 21, 1831; married April 10, 1860. Died Sept. 17, 1889.

Katharine Madora Hauser's father was Jacob Hauser of North Carolina (Salem). His parents were Abraham Hauser and Mary Magdalene Strupe, both of Salem, North Carolina. His father was Martin Hauser born in 1696, in Mumpolgard, Switzerland; died in 1761. Katharine Madora Hauser's mother was Nancy Sims of Tennessee, lived to be 96 years old, whose parents were Joshua Sims of Tennessee and Agnes Boaz, whose father was Bednigo Boaz. Joshua Sims' parents were William Sims and Mildred Russell, of Virginia.

Children of Spencer Records and Katherine Madora: Walter Jacob, Mary Katharine, Austin Tunis and Homer Spencer.

Walter Jacob Quick, born May 24, 1861. Married Anna Foster. Children: Anna Katharine, married Scott C. Bicknell, one child, Ernest P. Bicknell II. Walter's second wife, Mary A. Mitchell, children: Walter Jacob Quick II, William Mitchell Quick and Burnet Bentley Quick.

Mary Katharine Quick, born Jan. 28, 1865. Married Harry Kentley Burnet of Vincennes, Dec. 25, 1889. Harry Burnet's father and mother were Stephen Burnet and Laura Bentley of Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Austin Tunis Quick, born Sept. 24, 1863. Married Alice May Hess

Dec. 28, 1887. Children: Austin Tunis Quick II (see below), Alice May Hess is a daughter of Dr. John Henry Hess, born in Lewisburg, W. Va., Dec. 4, 18—, died in May, 1888. His father was William Henry Hess, of Lewisburg, Greenbrier Co., Va. (W. Va.). His father was Jacob Hess of Martinsburg, Berkley county, Va. (W. Va.) and witnessed deeds for Tunis Quick in 1780. Dr. John Hess' mother was Elizabeth Jamison and her mother was a Dyke. Alice May Hess' mother was Martha Donnelly, born in Lewisburg, Greenbrier county, Va. Her father and mother were Charles Donnelly and Cynthia Williams. Charles Donnelly's father and mother were James Donnelly and Rachel Blake. Cynthia Williams' father and mother were Capt. John T. Williams and Martha McMillian. James Donnelly's father and mother were Col. Andrew Donnelly and Mary Van Bibber. The Donnelly name is French and was d'Annely. See the records of King George countyhouse, Va.

Austin Tunis Quick II, born March 8, 1889. Wife, Victoria Kinnier. Married Oct. 22, 1913. Children: Austin Tunis Quick III, born Sept. 27, 1914; William Kinnier Quick, born Nov. 8, 1917.

Homer Spencer Quick, born Jan. 29, 1869, married Emma King, whose father was George King of Columbus, Ind. Children: Mary Margaret Quick, born Nov. 16, 1891. Husband, John D. Culp. Married August 23, 1917. Children: Virginia Margaret Quick, born Dec. 8, 1919; Spencer Spurgeon Quick, born April 30, 1896. Wife, Alyda Robinson. Married Sept., 1918.

(5) James Hoagland Quick, born Nov. 1, 1830; died Dec. 15, 1899; married Ellen Van Schoyck, who died Dec. 31, 1908. Children: George Washington, Evan Snead, William White, Lillian, married H. A. Hughes of Columbus.

(6) Tunis Gorrell Quick, born Jan. 30, 1833; married Elizabeth Cox, who died April 20, 1903. Children: Mary Alice, married Charles Hege. She died June 10th, 1910. Kate, died May 12, 1880.

(7) Josiah Tully Quick, born Aug. 7, 1835; died Dec. 15, 1899. Married Melissa Jones. He served in the Civil war, Co. H, 12th Ind. infantry, from 1861 to 1866. Children: Laura, Western, Edgar, Ella, Elizabeth, Frank, Oscar and Cordelia.

(8) Hannah Gorrell Quick, born Feb. 16, 1838, unmarried. She hired Judge Quick's home and has always lived there. This home has been in the family since 1819 and there has never been a deed or a mortgage on the land since it was deeded to Tunis Quick by the government. It bears the name "Heartsease."

(9) William Harrison died in infancy.

(10) Samuel Thomkins Quick, born Oct. 14, 1843; married Elizabeth Dodds, daughter of Dr. Dodds of Bloomington, Ind. Children: Louis, Mary, Ritchie and Ralph, twins, Susan and Anne twins.

(11) Rachel Nelson Quick, born Dec. 19, 1847, married Samuel D. Buttz. Children: Mabel, born at Columbus, married Willis Gorrell, whose father, William Gorrell, was a cousin of Judge Tunis Quick. Mabel's children are Paul, Glen, Ralph, Bertha and Louise.

Another branch of the family is recently mentioned in the *London Mail* in a half column article which says that Sir John Quick was born in Trevassa, near St. Ives, Cornwall, England, April 14, 1852. He is a descendant of an old established family of landed proprietors. The family went to Australia, where by hard work and much study John obtained the degree of Doctor of Law, became a member of the house of representatives, the author of several standard works among them being *The Annotated Constitution of the Australian Commonwealth*. For his work he was knighted. This Sir John Quick is the son of a younger set of the original Sir John Quick.

James Quick, desiring to see the great west, moved near Circleville, O., on the Scioto river and remained there a few years, then went down the river to the Ohio and thence to Madison, Indiana, in 1817. His son Tunis, in company with Isaac Pancake, with their guns and ammunition and knapsacks, started out to explore the country and find a good farming location. They followed Indian trails, traveling in a northwesterly direction over the route that afterwards became the Madison and Indianapolis state road. They passed through what was later known as the Hawpatch in Bartholomew county, they went as far north as Indianapolis, then returned to the Hawpatch and took a squatters right to 160 acres of land, built a cabin and commenced "a clearing" to plant in the coming spring. They then returned to Madison and in the early spring assisted James Quick and family to move to the new cabin which was destined to be their permanent home.

Quite a few families arrived this year (1819) and the people went for miles to assist each other in rolling logs to clear the ground and build their meager homes.

William Chapman built the first house in the county seat. Jacob Hauser and Joseph Lochenour, from North Carolina, and Tunis Quick, helped him with the building in 1820 or 1821. There was quite an increase in the population of the county. The land in this part of the state came into market by the government and was sold at Brookville, Indiana. James and Tunis Quick bought their 160 acres at this time. It has been owned and occupied continuously by them and

their descendants without the title going out of the family and not a mortgage, judgment or lien of any kind against it. It is a rare occurrence that a farm is owned and occupied with a clear title for one hundred years by the same family.

Tunis Quick was made justice of the peace of Flatrock township and served for several years in that capacity. Later he was elected representative to the legislature for Bartholomew and Brown counties. Later still, he served for many years as judge of the county court. Probably he settled more estates than any man in that county at the time and was known as an able jurist. He owned a good library for that early day and was widely read to the degree of being a student.

He gave the ground and was instrumental in having the township build a school house with regular school sessions. His house was the center of the community and he took an interest in the welfare of everyone. He pulled their teeth, settled their disputes, performed their marriages. He annually brought into his family a tailor and shoemaker who made and repaired the family wardrobe.

His home was always open to the teacher who must board around, not always finding comfortable quarters; the itinerant preacher who traveled through the country always found a warm welcome and a place to relieve the burden of his soul. Judge Quick would put his several boys on horseback and send them as runners through the country announcing there would be preaching at a certain time. The audience was never failing as all seemed anxious to hear the word of God. The lecturer, too, always had his interested audience with his knowledge of the outer world, on spiritualism, hypnotism, ventriloquism and other isms of the day.

The politicians knew him far and wide and called at his house frequently remaining over night. Henry Clay was one of his special friends and was in the group of enthusiasts that rode on horseback to the Tippecanoe Battle Ground in the Harrison campaign in 1840. This same year Governor Metcalf, Senator Crittenden and Henry Clay stopped at Columbus and the Whigs from the surrounding country went in to hear them speak. Metcalf and Crittenden could not satisfy the crowd, who wanted to hear Clay who was at the

hotel resting. They sent a committee after him consisting of William Herod and others, Herod being well acquainted with Clay while serving in congress. Clay made a wonderful speech, but one fellow yelled "hurrah for Jackson". Clay straightened himself up, looking a foot taller and in his drastic manner said: "You say, 'Hurrah for Jackson'. I say, 'Hurrah for my Country.'" The unlucky fellow was the cause of the audience hearing one of the most eloquent, scathing and tremendous speeches ever uttered by man. He denounced Jackson and his administration. His words were so burning, his audience so in sympathy and the excitement so intense, that it was with difficulty that the Jackson man was taken from the room by his friends. Clay spoke for half an hour, and when he finished his admirers followed him to the hotel cheering. The next morning the noted Kentuckians started for their homes traveling in their private conveyances.

William Henry Harrison was nominated for president of the United States and Tyler for vice-president. The country was wild with its "Hurrah for Harrison and Reform" and "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too".

This campaign was known as the hard cider campaign. At that time Brown and Bartholomew counties elected state senators and representatives together. The democratic candidates were Maj. Tannehill for senator and Col. T. G. Lee for representative. The Whigs were William Terrell, a Methodist minister for senator and Tunis Quick for representative. It was a hot campaign, the candidates stumped the two counties, traveling horseback. At that time the majority of the people voted at the county seat. Tunis Quick lived on the most public road leading to Columbus. He had a large apple orchard and he had made a great many barrels of cider to be given away on election day which was held on the first Monday in August.

The emblems of the hard cider campaign were buckeye log cabins, coon skin caps with a buckeye cane. The morning of the election he had several barrels of cider rolled out to the large front gate at his home, the gate post being decorated with log cabins and coon skins. The barrels were so arranged that his little boys could draw the cider in tin cups and give it to all who passed.

There were a great many barrels of cider taken to the courthouse yard at Columbus. The heads were taken out of the barrels and tin cups placed so that all could help themselves. Cider was free for all.

The Democrats in order to compete with the Whigs bought barrels of corn whisky, which was very cheap at that time, and placed it in the courthouse yard near the public well and also placed a barrel of sugar, with the head knocked out and tin cups near, so that all could help themselves and make their own "grog". Towards evening a great many were drunk. They said it was too much trouble to make and mix their own "grog", so they poured the barrel of whiskey and the barrel of sugar into the well and then "grog" was ready on a large scale and was pumped freely for all.

I was twelve years old then and it was my first time to see or know anything about an election for president. The wild yelling, singing, fisticuff and fighting, the bloody noses and faces, all made an impression on me never to be forgotten. Harrison and Tyler were elected president and vice-president, and my father to the legislature.

One of the first water mills in Bartholomew county for grinding corn into meal for the pioneer's use, was on Flat Rock river, about six miles north of Columbus near the present county bridge, leading from Columbus to Taylorsville through the Hawpatch. This mill was a hand mill that some pioneer had brought with him. It was hard work and slow work to grind by hand. This man conceived the idea of running it by water so that it might run day and night to accommodate all who might come. Before this no one was allowed to bring more than one bushel of corn at a time which they generally carried in a sack on the shoulder. When they arrived at the mill they had to await their turn and then turn the mill by hand themselves. During the waiting time they would visit, crack jokes, etc. Nathan Bass who was quite a joker and wit, said "the mill was the most industrious little thing that he ever saw, that when one grain was ground it would jump right on to another."

There was a place where the water ran very swiftly. The miller cut a small tree that was quite tall and with the help of his neighbors placed it across Flatrock. He put one end in

the fork of a tree and the other end on a post that had a crotch or fork similar to the one on the opposite side of the river. In the center of the river were paddles or wings that extended into the water so that the current of the water would roll the log and would keep it whirling over and over. On the end of the pole next to his mill he put a pulley or large wheel for a belt and from that to his mill, so the rolling of the pole by the water would run his mill day and night if necessary. With this modern improvement customers did not have to wait so long for their meal. This crude water power was the forerunner of a dam being built across the river near this point and a flour-mill, woolen factory and saw-mill located here. This became quite a little manufacturing center at one time, a village of about three hundred people but when the railroad came the factories were all moved to Columbus near the station. So the village soon became deserted.

The community changed rapidly. Many country schools of fifty to sixty pupils are entirely out of existence. The land has been bought by the wealthy men and converted into large farms. The children now attend some district center or go to town to school. The timber has been nearly all cut away, the fields are large and cultivated by machinery—they produce more to the acre now than they did fifty years ago, and it is more easily cultivated as the stumps and roots are all gone; the country is all in cultivation and produces three times as much as it did, with less labor. The land now is selling for \$200 or \$250 per acre. When I first recollect it sold from \$2 to \$10. My father bought a farm of 100 acres for \$10 per acre amounting to \$1,000. He also bought the first farm that sold for \$50 per acre, one hundred acres for \$5,000. Francis J. Crump who was the wealthiest man at that time in the county, owned more land than any one else, said to my father “My God, Judge, what do you mean by paying such a price for farm land, you nor I will never see it worth any more”. They both lived to see it sell for \$100 per acre. My father’s home place of 160 acres bought at the government sale in 1821 cost \$1.25 an acre. It is still in the Quick name. Father deeded it to my oldest sister Hannah Quick who never married and is now eighty-two years old.

At present it is worth \$250 per acre. I have lived to see the price of land go from \$5 to \$250 per acre. Then two-thirds of it was in timber, now vast fields of golden grain abound.

Formerly there was a family of ten to fifteen children on every 40 to 160 acres. It was an old saying "that the more children the richer the farmer grew", the more land he could clear and the more he could cultivate without hiring help. The size of the families was the cause of such large schools all through the country. We only had three or four months of school a year. We had no school funds. Each patron would subscribe as many pupils as he thought he could spare and would pay for that many. In addition to that he had to furnish, cut and deliver a half cord of wood to the school house for each scholar. The teacher collected his own money from the patrons. He boarded around among the families—so long for each pupil. He carried his dinner with him.

Some times we would have a summer school of a few months taught by a lady or some student who wanted to make expenses. At such times the small children would attend the school. Our school books were the elementary spelling book, that had from the A, B, C's to the grammar, Talbot's Arithmetic, the English Reader, the Testament and the Lives of Our Great Men, Washington, Marion, Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Boone, David Crockett and others. Our spelling, reading and grammar we got from the spelling book. I have known children to go to school three months with no book but the alphabet and their spelling lesson pasted on a paddle made of a shingle or piece of board. When it would become soiled so that they could not use it they would have another one pasted over it. Many of our best business men, bankers, jurists and judges only attended school six months at a time, yet they were very successful, some even becoming millionaires and many accumulating their thousands, men who could scarcely write a legible hand.

When I was a boy there were three brothers by the name of Thayer who came to our country from the east. They were called Yankees. Each bought some cheap land, Joseph on a small creek, called Tuft creek, from the fact that it ran through a low swampy country and was miry so that cattle

could only cross it in certain places. He made his living principally by hunting, trapping and making salaratus by burning a certain kind of timber and using the ashes, and selling it to the housewives to raise the bread in place of soda. He dressed or tanned deer and other skins such as otter, coon, mink or any furbearing animal. He also hunted the wild bees, cutting the trees to get the bees and honey to sell and use. He found a bee tree on the Drake farm. It was a large fine oak tree. The bees were in a large limb near the top. He went to see Mr Drake about cutting the tree. Drake said, "No, it is a fine tree, I want it to make boards when I build a barn, and I'm not able to build for a few years. If you can get the bees without cutting the tree down you are welcome to them." He went away and Drake thought no more about it. Some months afterward, while squirrel hunting in that part of his timber, Drake saw the tree ruined by being bored full of holes and wooden pins driven in from bottom to top of the tree. He had bored a hole about three feet from the ground, put a long heavy pin in it, gotten on it and bored another and so on until he reached the limb that held the bees. This he went out on, sawed the outer end off, then went back to the body of the tree, fastened a rope around the limb and tied it to a pin, then sawed the limb off and let it down with the rope. Mr. Drake said he could not say anything to Thayer, as he had told him he could have the bees if he would not cut down the tree. All he did was blame himself.

Thayer came by father's once in November. It had been raining for two or three days. He had been to the east fork of White river, trapping and hunting. He led a small donkey loaded with traps and skins. I saw him coming up the road. I told him that a coon lived in one of the top limbs of a large black walnut tree just a little way back of the barn. I told him to put his donkey in the straw shed where he would be in the dry and could eat straw. Then I showed him a black walnut tree that was about three and a half feet in diameter and forty feet to the first limb. I said, "I think the coon lives in the hole in that largest limb." After he examined the tree he said that it had been climbing up and down and showed me the scratches. A hackberry tree grew some eight

feet from the walnut and was very tall. Thayer took off his outer coat, put his little axe in his belt and climbed the hackberry. He cut off the very top and then trimmed the limbs off down to and opposite the large branch of the walnut tree. When he could push the hackberry over on the walnut, he took his belt and fastened it there. He walked over on it to the walnut and out on the limb to the hole, where he knelt and pushed his axe handle into it saying, "Cooney here?" Then he cut a larger hole in the limb, killed the coon with the axe, and threw it down, came down as he went up, put on his coat, picked up the coon and was ready to go, but as wet as water could make him. I took him to the house for something to eat, but he would not go in because his clothes smelled too badly of musk rats and skins. However, I took him to the kitchen where the maid gave him a hot cup of coffee and let him warm, for which he thanked me many times for years.

His brother, Charles Thayer, bought a small tract of land and commenced clearing it after building a cabin home and covering it with bark from dead trees. He climbed the trees and cut the top out, then as he came down he cut all the limbs off. He said that was easier than to cut the trees down and have the bodies of the tree to burn. Burning the limbs around the tree would kill the tree and it was no more in the way than the stump would be. He finally concluded that it was easier to deaden the trees by chopping around them in June when the sap was up. When dead they could easily be burnt up. He never made a success as he was too lazy to work or hunt except when compelled to. The other brother, Ira, got forty acres of land on Haw creek, built a little corn cracker mill, also a saw-mill and made a fair living. He had but little education, was a great abolitionist and would try to make abolition speeches. For a joke my father had him elected justice of the peace for Flatrock township to defeat a man by the name of Hege who boasted that he had married into the McQueen family which was a royal family and they could control the vote of the township; that no one could beat him but Judge Quick for that office. Father spent a couple of days in the township, and elected Thayer. He gave bond, took the office and a man from near Hope in

Hawcreek township was the first to have a suit in Thayer's court. His name was Calvin Bloom. When he came up for trial he saw that Thayer did not know how to try a case. Bloom got mad, called Thayer a fool and said he would give him a dollar to resign his office. Thayer took the dollar and resigned.

Joseph Thayer, the hunter and trapper, made more money and a better living than either of his brothers. He had a good farm and raised a large family. He learned how to dress fur pelts, also the deer pelt for gloves and whang leather for shoe strings and belts. I bought of him two very fine otter skins nicely dressed for my wife to have her first set of furs, and when they were made up they were very beautiful. The trapping and hunting of the fur-bearing animals was profitable in those days, and it was also necessary in order to protect the corn crops, as the raccoons, opossums and squirrels were very numerous. As many as 70 or 80 were killed in a day.

The wild turkeys were also numerous, the deer would eat the corn at any stage of its growth to maturity. The raccoons and opossums infested the corn fields by night, breaking down the stalks and eating the roasting ears, or leaving it to go to waste. There was something to destroy the corn crop from the time it was planted until it was matured and in the crib. The crow and the chipmunk would pull it up when it began to come up, to get the grain, the muskrat would cut it down at any stage where it was near the water, so that eternal vigilance was necessary on the part of the farmer. His children and their dogs were continuously on the outlook for vermin, in order to have plenty of meal for their johnny cakes, corn dodgers and to feed their hogs for meat or bacon for the coming season. They gathered their corn by pulling the ear off the stalk, hauling and piling under sheds, then husking at their leisure. They saved the husks for feed for the cows. Poorer farmers who did not have sheds would put the corn in a large pile, make a corn shucking by inviting all the neighbors to come at night and help. They would furnish them some whiskey to drink and after the corn was husked give them their suppers and a dance.

In the fall and winter the farmer and his boys would have their turn. Then the raccoons paid for their pilfering with their pelts. Snares, dead falls and steel traps were set about the corn fields and in places where they frequented such as bayous and marshes, where frogs abounded which were their natural food. In this way many coons and fur-bearing animals were caught.

When the men and boys wanted a night of sport they went coon hunting. A number would get together, some with axes, others to carry the old fashioned tin lantern, or torches made of hickory bark, which could be replenished at any old shell bark hickory tree. All the coon dogs, always including the lop-eared hounds, followed. They would start soon after dark and go along the creeks, marshes or pawpaw thickets, and when the dogs would strike a trail music would begin. Then the hunters would rush through the woods over logs through the brush or briers over the fences aiming to keep within hearing distance of the dogs. When they ran the raccoon to ground or up a tree all would make a rush crying, "They have him treed." If the tree was not too large or valuable the axes were plied at once. When the tree was about ready to fall the members of the party except an axe man and one torch man would scatter well out of the reach of the falling tree and hold the dogs until the tree fell to the ground. Then the dogs would rush in and make short work of the coon. The party would move on till the dogs struck another coon trail or treed a possum in a bush. A damp foggy night was best as the scent of the animal was more perceptible and more animals were out on the trail so that many fine coon pelts would be secured besides those of a few possums thrown in for good measure. The skins were taken off at once and the next day they were carefully cleaned and stretched and hung or tacked against the cabin to dry.

There are always some funny incidents happen with all such hunting parties. I recollect that once on a hunt we had a man with us who was slow of speech and stammered. The dogs treed a coon up a small dead elm in a corn field. He said, "It will be hard to cut and I will climb it and shake the raccoon out." He proceeded to climb, at once, with the

aid of the men boosting him until he could reach the first limb. He got up quite a ways when he caught hold of a dead limb that broke. He fell to the ground, immediately the dogs piled onto him and pulled at him as though they would tear him to pieces. He hollered, "Gi-gi-git out—I'm n-n-no rah-coon," and the wit of our crowd was a Pennsylvania Dutchman who roared out laughing. Someone said, "What's the matter, Charlie?" "Why, that fool can't say coon without putting rah to it when he is being half killed."

Our next catch was a fine, large, fat opossum which Charlie proposed to eat, building a fire to roast it. He went home, which was not far, and got some bread, as his wife had baked a brick oven full that day. One of the boys went with him and carried a torch. We soon had a fine fire and the opossum roasting near it. Presently Charlie and his torch-bearer came with large loaves of bread and two apple pies—we all gave him three cheers. We sat around the fire and told hunting experiences and jokes. When the opossum was done we had a feast not forgotten soon. All gave Charlie's wife a vote of thanks for her bread and pie and passed a resolution: "Resolved, that Mrs. Charlie Bruner was the best baker in the township." After which we adjourned for the night and plodded our weary way homeward.

The first railroad was built in this state from Madison to Indianapolis via Vernon, Columbus, Edinburg and Franklin. When it was completed as far as Columbus, there was one train a day each way. Our roads through the state were unimproved and principally through the woods without bridges across any of the water courses. My mother was very sick and my father wanted Dr. Todd from Vernon. There were no telephones, telegraph or daily mail. The quickest, best and only way was to send someone on horseback for the doctor—a distance of twenty-five miles. It was ten o'clock at night when father called me, saying, "Get up and get ready as soon as you can, you must go to Vernon for the doctor." He then called my older brother and told him to go and get Jock saddled and bring him out for me to ride, he being the best traveling horse we had. When I was ready to start, father said, "Don't spare the horse, you must get there by six in the morning. Go to Dr. Todd's home

and, tell him to make the morning train at eight a. m. I will meet him at Columbus. After you have done that take your horse to the livery barn, water and feed him, then get your breakfast. Ask the landlord for a bed and tell him to call you in four hours, then you start home and give the horse his time."

My commission filled to the letter, by ten o'clock I was on the way home. After riding some distance I heard my name called. On looking down the stream I saw a man with a bucket. I asked what he wanted. He said, "Come take dinner with me." I was tired and hungry, so quickly replied, "Alright." I rode down into the woods a short distance to a little old log cabin, with a mud and stick chimney and puncheon floor. Here my friend introduced me to his wife. He told her I had come to dinner with him. She said, "Wood Herod, you ought to be ashamed of yourself—you know that we have nothing to eat but corn meal and the mussels you have gathered." "That's all right," he said, "he will enjoy them—you get things ready while I feed his horse." He then went to his father's corn crib, not far from there, and got corn enough for the horse. His wife built the fire in the fireplace and made corn bread and baked it in a skillet. He fixed the fire to put the mussels on. We had a good dinner and I enjoyed my first mussels. As I was tired and hungry, the novelty of it also made it enjoyable. The menu was corn dodgers, mussels on the half shell and water from the creek for dessert. The furnishing of the cabin was unique and home-made. The seats were wooden stools, the table was boards laid across a couple of benches, the bedstead was holes bored in the logs, a rail put in them, the other end in a post at right angles and boards gathered from the driftwood laid on the rails and extending to the cracks between the logs. There was a straw mattress on that. With a box or two for their clothing, this constituted the furnishing of the house. Mine host was only seventeen—his wife twenty-three. They had married against his father's will, so this was the cause of their living where they were and the way they were. His father, James Herod, was well to do, owned a good farm and was sheriff of the county. The hostess had no relatives in Indiana but a sister, who was her father-in-

law's second wife, whom she called on at times. She finally picked up courage and called on her father-in-law and told him "that if he would help them some they could make a living." He asked her how and she told him that she had been to Columbus and found a house on the street near the courthouse square that they could rent furnished. If he would rent it for them, they could make a living keeping boarders and giving meals. Woody could peel potatoes, wait table, wash dishes and she could do the cooking and they could make a good living. He consented. This was the beginning of quite a good hotel, the second in Columbus. They continued in the hotel business all their lives, raised quite a family of respectable children who acquired a good common school education, some of them married very well and were good citizens.

Joseph Cox was a Pennsylvanian by birth, but at an early period left the place of his nativity and settled in North Carolina, then later in Kentucky. He was one of the first comers into the county of Bartholomew then part of a vast wilderness belonging to Delaware county. He came in 1818 when he was about fifty-three years old. He followed the Indian trail and made the first wagon road with his ox cart. He built a shack on Haw creek about three miles from where Columbus was afterwards located. He was a man of considerable worth and intelligence, active and energetic. His wife was Mary and his children as follows: Thomas, William, Gideon, Peter, John, Jacob, Jesse, Joseph, Millie, James and Elias. Thomas led a horse on which rode his mother and two of the children. William walked beside the ox-team with his father, Millie and Elias were on horseback a little to the rear while the remainder of the children were in the travel-stained, dust-covered wagon. Joseph Cox was armed with a gun and the older boys carried axes. They halted on the bank of the creek and took a survey of the place. The children peeped from the wagon and later tumbled out, two of them engaged in a wrestling match. Mary left the wagon, being solicitous about Millie and Elias. Cox said, "Well, Mary, we have traveled a long way since we left Carolina and Virginia, and we have seen all kinds of country, but I tell you, I haven't seen any country in all this time that I

like as well as this around here. I don't think that we will find a place that is any better to settle than right here. What do you think?" "Well, if you are a mind to stop here, I am willing." "I was just thinking as we were riding along here that this is the land that flows with milk and honey. The hunting and the trapping ought to be mighty good here and we can soon clear a field." "You are right, Mary, the mountains of old Virginia are pretty enough to look at, but this land along this valley is a better place to get a living." "Yes, Joseph, God will bless us here and other settlers will soon be coming along this wagon track that we have cleared out. I allow this will be a good place to bring up our children; you know we have a fair sized family, Joseph, and we want to do the best we can for them." "Yes, Mary, that's so and they are all girls but ten. We are the first here, but others will come. About our graves in this county, cities and towns will spring up and crowd the farms that we are to clear. In the generations yet to come, some may be curious to know who was the first white woman that came into this land which has upon it the smile of the Lord. Then, people will be happy to know that your name was Mary and that a woman bearing that name was their Pioneer Mother."

The following letters are printed here, not for any historical information they may contain, but for the flavor of the time.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 18th, A. D. 1841.

Most affectionate and loving companion:

I now take my pen in hand to inform you that I am in good health at present. Hoping that these few lines may find you enjoying your health much better than when I left home. I have had much uneasiness for you but through the mercies of an allwise Creator I hope to hear of your recovering your health together with your family enjoying peace and satisfaction or at least so much so as possible. I have taken boarding at Mr. Lingenfelter's the same place that I was last winter. I should have written sooner but the mail has not left here for Columbus since I came on account of bad road. The members are all in health at this time. I expect to come to see you next Saturday no providential accident occurring, when I hope I shall find you with your family enjoying the blessings of life. I wish you to spare no pains nor money for the recovery of your health and satis-

faction. The time of our meeting I hope is not far distant when we shall have the pleasure of conversing with each other.

Yours most affectionately,

TUNIS QUICK.

N. B. My sons, I would just say to you that it is the sincere wish and desire of your affectionate father that you obey your mother in all things without murmuring in the least as she has been very low. I wish you not to fret or disobey her in any manner whatever, attend on her attentively, spare no pains and you shall be rewarded. Attend to keeping good fires. Attend to feeding all stock and watering in due time. I would just say to my little daughter that I wish you to behave very pretty and mind your mother and grandmother and you shall be called the prettiest girl in town. My sons, I wish you to have in mind what is above written so that you may have the praise of all that know you.

Yours affectionately,

SUSANNAH QUICK.

TUNIS QUICK.

House of Representatives,

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 10, A. D. 1842.

My dear and affectionate companion:

I again take my pen in hand to inform you that I am well at this time and hope when these few lines come to hand they will find you with yours and mine in health. I have not received any letter from you since I was at home. I heard from you by Mr. J. F. Jones and by him sent you a letter but have not as yet received any answer. The mail had missed coming for three days but came in this morning, but nothing for me from my beloved of all. There is some sickness here, mostly bad colds. There is at this time some five or six of the members confined to their rooms. Hugh Barnes departed this life yesterday morning, age sixty-nine years. He was the sergeant at arms in our House. There was a resolution adopted that the legislatures should wear crape on the left arm ten days in honor of that venerable old man and also that the members of both houses meet at the place where the corpse lay and march in double file after the corpse to the Methodist church, where the Rev. Mr. Good preached his funeral. I went in that procession and then went to the place of interment to pay the last respects. George Boon also departed this life last night, age fifty-seven years, who has been eleven years a representative, a man much respected. It is supposed that his friends will take him home which is about one hundred miles. A Mr. Hannah is at this time not expected to live. Those men were all complaining when they came here and have possibly exposed themselves too much for their situation, sitting in a warm room and then going out without their overcoats on, which I believe to be very injurious to health. I have been very careful myself and have enjoyed as good health if not the best health I have for several winters. I am getting quite fleshy. I can't

tell you when I will be at home. I expect the House will not adjourn before the 8th of February, but I don't think that I can stay here until then without coming to see you once in the time but if business is so that I can't come you must all take the will for the deed. I should be very glad to see you all but as it is I must attend to the business of the country. In your next letter write how your father and mother are and all the children and father and mother and the neighbors. I should be glad to hear of their welfare and give my respects to those who inquire after me and tell them that I send my respects to them.

Affectionately,

SUSANNAH QUICK.

TUNIS QUICK.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 13, A. D. 1842.

My dear wife:

I now am sitting in my room and thinking about her I love and although I have nothing strange to inform you of yet if I could know that you could even be as much delighted to read my poor dry letters as I am to read those interesting communications I received from you written with your own hand, I should be tempted to write every day. My dear, I see from your letter that you have had a bad spell since I left home. Oh, if I could have been with you to have administered to your necessity it would have been a comfort to me to have the satisfaction of waiting on you, as I expect you needed my assistance. I hope when these few lines come to hand they will find you in better health than when you wrote to me. I have had my health very well since I left you. I wish you to take special care of yourself and if you need anything at all that money would bring, I wish you to have it gotten for your benefit and if you need a doctor send for him as soon as possible, but I hope you will not need one. I hope for your better health. I should be very glad to come home before we adjourn, but the business is so pressing that I don't think I can come home until we adjourn except your health gets worse than when you wrote to me and I hope the Lord will bless you in your affliction. I hope you will be as much reconciled as the nature of the case will permit. Although we be at a distance at this time I hope it will not be long until we shall have the pleasure of conversing with each other face to face and not by letter. Tell my little daughter, Hannah, that her Pop is well and wants to see her very much and Josiah, my sweet little son, you must be a very good boy and obey your mother and Pap will bring you and Hannah some candy. I think my son Gorrell will be a good boy. My son, you must obey your mother and mind your work. I don't think you will be bad. I want you to be a very smart boy so that when I come home I can have your mother tell me how good her little boy was while I was gone. Morgan, I wish you to attend to business like a man and see that the horses, cattle, sheep, calves, hogs are all attended to with food and water and attend to

all other things the best you can until I come home and don't impose upon your little brothers and above all take care of your dear mother and obey her in all her commands without murmuring and also your grandparents and you, my sons, Spencer and James, I want you to obey your mother in all she may be pleased to tell you to do. Do it without any murmuring. Mind your work but be good boys. I shall be at home before very long, say two weeks. Nancy, I want you to be very smart and good so that when I see you that I may have the pleasure of hearing that you have been a very good girl and I will buy you and Hannah each a new frock, if you will be good girls. My dear, it is now after ten o'clock and I have been up every night this week until after this time. I shall have to close this letter as I want to put it in the office very early in the morning before the mail leaves. I would be glad if you would write to me once a week anyhow and oftener if you think proper. When I have an opportunity to take your letter and read it over it appears like some faint murmuring conversation compared with that when we are in each other's embrace. My dear, I sincerely crave your happiness and your special company but as we are at this time at a distance I hope the Lord may bless us severally as we need so that before long we may meet again.

Yours with very tender affection,

SUSANNAH QUICK.

TUNIS QUICK.

N. B. Give my kindest love to your father and mother and mine, also give my best regards to Milton and Mary Nading and all who may inquire after me. With love.

Yours,

TUNIS QUICK.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 19, A. D. 1842.

Most affectionate and loving companion:

I now take my pen in hand to inform you that I am well at present, hoping that when these few lines come to hand they will find you and ours in health. I received yours of the 11th inst., which informed me that you were much better than when you wrote to me last, which I was glad to hear that you were still mending. This was a great satisfaction to me. I was at the postoffice late this evening, but no letter. I did hope to get one but I was disappointed. I call at the postoffice every day. I shall be glad to hear from you. It does me a great deal of good to read your letters, knowing the confidence you place in me and to think of conversing with each other by letter it does me much good though we be at a distance from each other. Yet when I read your loving letters it gives me a great deal of pleasure hoping that ere long we shall embrace each other again and have each other's troubles. I would fain hope that when these few lines come to you they will find you up and at least up and going about the house and your pretty little daughter Hannah by your side or fondling on your knee. What a satisfaction this is, my sweet little daughter and my companion, I hope to see you all in health the 31st day of

January, 1842. I shall start for home, I think, on Sunday, the 30th inst. I want to see you and all very much. I hope the Lord will bless you all and give you peace and health, and fortitude to you, my dear, to bear up under your affliction so that you can say, "Thy will, Oh Lord, and not mine be done," for we learn that all things work together for them that love God. My dear, I should have come before now, if I could have left my business, but it appears to me that my presence was needed every day and is still needed but I think now that I never will spend another winter in the legislature, but spend the rest of my time at or about home where I can have the pleasure of my family which is the greatest pleasure to me of any other way that I have ever tried. You wrote to me that the children all behave very well which pleases me. I hope they will continue to be good children and I believe they will and obey you, their tender mother. My sons, I want you to attend to your work like little men. Mind and do your work in good time and take care of all the creatures and don't have any grumbling but mind your work night and morning and at all other times when needed and above all mind and obey your mother and be good boys. I shall soon be at home. I wish also to write you again next week and after that I think I shall talk with you at home. You told me that Amos Crane said that Russ had one hundred dollars for you and you did not know whether to take it or not. Don't take any money from any person, that is paper money, except it be on the State Bank of Indiana. I wrote to Amos Crane concerning the money he owes us and told him that I would receive it when I came home. Noah Sims wrote to me saying that Russ had five hundred dollars for me and he, Noah, wanted to borrow it for one year. I wrote to him that he could not have it under any consideration. I don't want to loan money to any person at all. I must now close my letter with all tender affections to you and my loving and tender companion.

TUNIS QUICK.

N. B. Give my best respects to those who have inquired after me and to father and mother in particular and all the relatives.

SUSANNAH QUICK.

TUNIS QUICK.

Mr. Terrill has not been here.

¹These letters were without envelopes. All were sealed with a wafer, postage was 10c and paid by the recipient.—M. O. B.