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Mother's Day and the Mother's Day Shrine:  
A History

by
Rick Hendrickson

The birthplace of the international event of Mother's Day lies nestled in a small town of 8,000 people in north central West Virginia.  
Today, the Mother's Day Shrine sits comfortably in the midst of Grafton, West Virginia's downtown business district. The church and its grounds cover a full block, running along East Main Street, between the corners of St. John and Luyander Streets. Services are no longer held regularly, but the building is open for tourists, weddings, and the annual Mother's Day service. The beginnings of the church were much more humble than its present stature though.

Andrews Methodist Church was built in 1873, a product of the earlier Methodist movement in western Virginia, led by Freeborn Garretson and his band of circuit rider preachers. The Ohio and Clarksburg Circuits (of which Grafton was a part) were an outgrowth of the Redstone Circuit by way of Pennsylvania. This circuit was formed in 1784 and embraced the Monongahela Valley through an ever expanding boundary by 1787. John Smith, the organizer of the Greenbrier Circuit was instrumental in this expansion. Entries in his Journal state that the pioneer made journeys to both Wheeling and Buckhannon, opening the road for expansion in the new circuits.

Robert Cann and Richard Pearson were the first two preachers appointed in the Clarksburg area, the only circuit whose entire space was in present-day West Virginia. Pioneer Bishop Francis Asbury helped Taylor County Methodism when he made that area the site of one of his 34 visits to north and central western Virginia from 1776 to 1815. From the small beginnings of the circuit riders, the Methodist church grew, experiencing radical changes and divisions as the movement coursed through the 19th century. Despite all this, Andrews Methodist Church was built in relative quiet in Grafton in the 1870’s.

After taking its place among the Baptist and Catholic denominations in Grafton, the church and its congregation remained obscure until the first Mother's Day service was performed there. The fact that the first service of such a type took place at the church is certain, but the exact date is not known.

In the book, Historic Sites of West Virginia — A Pictorial Guide, Stan Cohen states that the first service occurred on May 10, 1908. Dr. Robert H. Sykes lists the same date as the first service in Philadelphia in his book Proud Heritage of West Virginia. However, other volumes concerning West Virginia history list the date as early as 1905 and as late as May 10, 1910. The 1908 figure seems to be the most accurate, and that is the date decided upon by the International Mother's Day Shrine Committee.

The rest of the story is not so garbled. After Anna Reeves died in 1905, her daughter Anna M. Jarvis decided to honor her mother for her tireless devotion to motherhood. One of eleven children, Anna Jarvis was born in Webster, on the outskirts of Grafton. After being graduated from Augusta Female Seminary, Jarvis returned to Grafton where she taught school for seven years, cared for her blind sister and her mother, and taught Sunday School at Andrews Methodist. Jarvis also became involved in the temperance and women's suffrage movements at this time.

In 1904, Anna moved to Philadelphia to take a position as a literary editor for Fidelity Mutual Life Insurance Company. Upon her mother's death one year later, Miss Jarvis campaigned and eventually persuaded Dr. Harry C. Howard, minister of Andrews Methodist, to hold a memorial Mother's Day service. Mostly a gathering of friends, the service was held on May 10, 1907. Anna donated 500 white carnations for the service as a symbol of purity and because her mother loved that type of flower.

Dr. Howard used the biblical text of John 19, verses 26 and 27, which contains the words of Christ when he looked down from the cross and saw his mother. From this small dedication to her mother and motherhood at Andrews Methodist, Miss Jarvis began a campaign to have the day recognized nationally.

In the ensuing years Anna spent two fortunes, wrote thousands of letters, and authored many books and pamphlets in her quest. With the help and backing of John Wanamaker, the city of Philadelphia held its first Mother's Day service on May 10, 1913, in Wanamaker's auditorium in his department store. The state of Pennsylvania made Mother's Day a state holiday in 1913, and Congress made the event a national holiday in 1914, proclaiming the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day in the United States. President Woodrow Wilson made the first official proclamation of the holiday on May 9, 1914, one day before the ninth anniversary of Anna Reeves' death.

As a result of its role in the formation of an event now celebrated by 46 countries around the world, Andrews Methodist Church has had many honors bestowed upon it. The General Conference of the Methodist Church named the church the official Mother's Day Shrine of the United States, the church is listed by the West Virginia Antiquities Commission and has been designated an historical site by the United States Department of the Interior.

To complete the recognition given it, Andrew's Methodist has been restored and preserved in recent years by the International Mother's Day Shrine, headquartered in Grafton. Through grants and donations over the past two decades, many improvements have been made. A new wall and sidewalk offer a front for the landscaped area around the church. Shrubs, small trees, flowers and a large pine tree adorn the lot. A small
plaza has recently been built for ceremonies and a statue honoring motherhood sits in a corner of the cement platform. The church itself has been sandblasted on the outside, and the steeple has been painted. A cleaning crew keeps the inside of the building spotless year round.

Through all of this fame and attention however, the Andrews Methodist Church sits as when she was built, in quiet splendor.

ENDNOTES

8. Ibid.

JOHN JOSEPH OWENS: NATIVE WHEELING ARTIST

1887-1931

by

(Mrs. Frank) Margaret O'Malley Bierkotte

Known for his portraits of Wheeling's most renowned personages during the period of his work in the field of art, John Joseph Owens was himself one of Wheeling's most famous people; he died at the peak of his career. During his lifetime, he painted all of the leading citizens of Wheeling and many ordinary people. With his artist's brush, John Owens made a "hall of fame" of Wheeling in the era in which he lived.

John Joseph Owens was born in Wheeling, May 15, 1887, the son of Thomas F. and Anna Owens, who were both natives of Ireland and who had come to Wheeling as early residents. The family into which Owens entered was one sprinkled with gifted and talented people; in his own family Owens was one of three artists, all of whom used their art in a professional capacity in later years. Owens and his five sisters and his one brother lived the life of a hard working, middle class family. He was educated in the local Catholic schools and graduated from Cathedral High School (now Central High School). At a very early age he developed an interest in art. After high school graduation John enrolled in Maryland Institute, Baltimore, Maryland where he completed a four year course in drawing and in painting. He studied there under such teachers as C.Y. Turner, then one of the foremost mural painters in the United States. After graduating from the Maryland Institute, Owens returned to Wheeling and became, for a brief time, a staff artist for the old Wheeling Register. However, within a short period of time he opened his own artist's studio for full time pursuit of his lifelong ambition of fine art work. He was kept extremely busy with his recognized specialty, the painting of portraits. Owens was considered by authorities of the time to be an unexcelled portrait painter. He painted portraits for individuals and institutions in Baltimore, Maryland.

At the outset of World War I, Owens joined the United States Army Medical Service and took the preliminary training in Washington, D.C. and at Johns Hopkins Hospital. He was then sent overseas to the American Hospital headquarters in Paris where, among other duties, he was engaged in the making of anatomical drawings or surgical work for government records. This work earned for him the rank of Sargeant, First Class and he was decorated while overseas. Discharged from the service after the Armistice, Mr. Owens remained in Paris for six months to study at the Academy Grand Chemier under their excellent teachers, including the then renowned sculptor, Hans Schuler. Soon after completing these studies Owens returned to Wheeling and reopened his studio in the Hawley Building. Even though his days were filled with art work, he found time to participate fully in the cultural life of Wheeling. Among other hobbies,
Owens liked to play chess and was considered an expert. He also enjoyed swimming and he liked to be able to sleep late in the mornings. Owens and his good friend, George Kossuth, the photographer, found pleasure in tramping through the beautiful Wheeling area hill sides and woodlands, relishing the beauty of the countryside, and of course, capturing much of it in photography, paintings, and sketches.

After about five years of steady work in Wheeling, Owens decided it was time to return to Europe for more study. He took numerous art commissions with him as he sailed for Europe to undertake a sketching tour through Spain, Italy, and France. He studied again for some time in Venice. This was a most productive era for him. He was granted an audience with Pope Pius XI, one of the memorable experiences of his life. He brought back to Wheeling a wealth of watercolor scenes of places he visited that have since been characterized as "gems of the medium". While on this tour Owens was favorably written up in foreign publications. Upon his return to his Wheeling studio he had earned himself an international reputation in the field of art.

Much of the disappearing scene on Wheeling's river front has been perpetuated in watercolors by Owens as well as picturesque landscapes untouched by urban growth. J. J. Owens' forte was portraits in oil, however, and in that medium he won his highest renown. Among them were General William C. Gorgas, Surgeon General of the United States Army, and General Birmingham, for whom the city of Birmingham, Alabama, was named, a portrait of Bishop P. J. Donahue, of the Catholic Diocese of Wheeling, Senator Henry D. Hatfield, W. F. Kennedy, Dr. W. S. Fulton, and Claude Stevens, all of Wheeling. Working steadily in his studio, Owens was able to create a tremendous number of original works also, in addition to his portrait commissions. For a number of years he gave exhibits at his studio. At his last private studio exhibition, Owens presented publicly his "Studio Window," "Black and Gold," "The Basque Boy," plus others, including masterly still lifes.

Although refusing prominence in the administration of the Wheeling Art Club, John Owens is credited with being the leading spirit in the founding in 1928 of Wheeling's first organization directed solely toward making good pictures freely available to the public. The first meeting of what became the Wheeling Art Club was held in his studio. He accepted the office of treasurer at the club's establishment and he handled the bulk of detail involved in the sponsorship of exhibits of traveling collections from our nation's great museums. He also figured as the dominant contributor of pictures for the Annual Shows for the works of members of the Wheeling Art Club. He lived to see the Wheeling Art Club become a beacon of help and hope for many of our local residents.

John Owens was instrumental in the success of the Art Colonies for Young People conducted in and around Oglebay Park. He acted as instructor for several years. These highly successful ventures, teaching art in natural settings, were instrumental in giving impetus to the kind of
programs which we have today in the arts at Oglebay. Throughout his years of professional activity while working in Wheeling, Owens conducted studio classes in sketching and in painting, which, together with his instruction at these four annual Art Colonies at Oglebay, formed the greatest influence which underlined the success of many new artistic talents in Wheeling.

John Joseph Owens lived his early years at 92 14th Street in Wheeling, just across from the Masonic Lodge. Sometime after his return from service in World War I he joined his two unmarried sisters at 106 Jefferson Avenue in Mount de Chantal. His studio was located in the Hawley Building in Wheeling and one of his most beautiful paintings was a view from the windows there. John's father died while John was growing up and he lost his mother while stationed in Paris during the war years.11

John J. Owens was an active and prominent Catholic gentleman. He was a member and communicant of the old St. Michael's Church (on Edgington Lane) and he was affiliated with the Holy Name Society of the church and the Carroll Council 504 in Wheeling. John was an active member of Wheeling's Little Theatre since its founding, and although never in the acting casts of the productions, was credited with much of their success for his skill as make-up artist. He was a member of Wheeling Rotary and the Blue Pencil Club.12

John Owens had five sisters, Mrs. James Whyte, who lived with her family in Edgewood, Rose and Margaret Owens, the sisters with whom he resided, and Sisters M. Presentata and M. Annunciata, members of the Saint Joseph Sisterhood in Wheeling. He had one brother, Vincent Owens13 who worked as an artist, cartoonist, and occasional poet for the Wheeling newspapers. Sister M. Annunciata was also an artist.

At the time of his death in 1931 Owens was working on an oil of the Dean of Harvard University. Later his brother, Vincent, completed the painting which was well received at Harvard. One series of paintings which deserve special mention were commissioned by George Laughlin and presented by him to the citizens of Wheeling. They were displayed in the old Wheeling Public Library. These were small sized scenes in oil of early Wheeling. These pictures are now on display at the Ohio County Public Library, and are in excellent condition. There are two other pictures painted by Owens which are also at the library: One depicts a young woman looking out of a large window and the other is a small watercolor scene which appears to have been painted overseas.

All of the presidents of the Fort Henry Club of Wheeling during Owens lifetime were painted by him. An undated newspaper clipping notes that “Joe Owens has painted portraits of a number of Wheeling's citizens, past and present, one of the best known collections of his work being the portraits in the collection which exemplify one rather unique talent which Owens possessed in high degree. Some of them are men whom Joe Owens had never seen. But he studied photographs that were given to him and he talked to people who had known the subject, and then combined what he saw in the photographs and what these people had told him, to produce a picture that was more than a likeness; it was a vivid expression of the subject's personality.” John Joseph Owens' masterpiece was generally considered to be his painting of his mother.

A Memorial Exhibit of John J. Owens work prepared by the Art Club of Wheeling opened at 1327 Market Street, Reymann Building, about two months after his death. It was thronged on opening day when over six hundred people viewed the exhibit. The show contained nearly one hundred pictures. However, this was but a fraction of his output; many of the Owens paintings were not readily available at the time of the showing. This exhibit (see the entire listing included at the end of this article) ran from October 27 through November 1, 1931.

In 1934, the Art Club of Wheeling having obtained, by subscription, one of the Owens paintings, "The Jade Necklace", had a plaque mounted on it. “In Memory of John J. Owens, founder of the Art Club of Wheeling” and they presented this work to Oglebay Institute for their Permanent Local Artists Collection.15 This painting hung, together with the other paintings by local area artists who had been invited to participate in this permanent display in the Mansion Museum at Oglebay. Today these paintings are at the Stifel Center in storage with occasional showings.

Owens died suddenly of appendicitis. He was taken to Wheeling Hospital (in North Wheeling at that time) where surgery was performed. He seemed to be recovering when things took a turn for the worse. Although every effort was made to save him, including a blood transfusion which was not common in those days, his condition worsened rapidly. He had been admitted to the hospital on Sunday and the surgery performed on Monday. The next day his condition became critical. John Owens died on Friday, August 14, 1931 at 5:20 A. M. He was 44 years old and a bachelor.16

Owens body was laid out by the Altmyer Funeral Home at his home, 106 Jefferson Avenue, Mount de Chantal. Brief services were held there Monday morning, August 17 at 9 a.m. and this was followed by services and a Requiem High Mass at St. Michael’s Catholic Church on Edgington Lane. He was buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery. The Knights of Columbus were in attendance at the services. Many articles appeared in the local newspapers after the death of John Joseph Owens. All of Wheeling was saddened by his death. Two fine eulogies illustrate the feelings of his friends and fellow citizens: George Kosuth, noted Wheeling photographer today ensnared in the Wheeling Hall of Fame, gave an address about his good friend, John Joseph Owens, at a Memorial Luncheon of the Rotary Club of Wheeling. Here is an excerpt from the eulogy: “If one could express in words the sentiment at the passing of a good friend, it would be possible to say something really worthwhile, but at a time like this the mind grows dark and the thing that stays uppermost in one's thought is that you have lost a friend.

"But it was not alone my privilege to say that he was my friend, but he
was also your friend, he was everyone's...kindly, genial, and artistic, but all of these things mean only one thing...friendship.

"But, as you know this side of him, I should speak of a side in which we were most closely associated...our daily work. It is thirty-five years since Joe Owens and I started to tramp the woods together, he with brush and pencil, and I with a camera, and all of these years of close contact we never had a disagreeable incident nor anything to mar the lovely friendship which existed. I would criticize his pictures and he would criticize mine. We were always the last court for each other before an exhibition.

"A great artist should not only know painting he should know literature, music, and drama, and life, and he was a student of all of these, because, after all, art is only an expression of life. This love of the classical did not blind him to the progress of the modern because he was just as much in sympathy with them.

"He was a peculiar mixture of the old tradition school, mingled with the modern that gave him a unique combination of talents that make a great artist. Every artist, as part of his education, knows the old masters but to believe and follow them is quite another thing. This gave him a substantial something that expressed itself in all of the marvelous painting he made.

"He particularly loved the Ohio Valley, its places and its people and his expression was equally at home painting a portrait of a president of a corporation or an old character who frequents Riverside Park. He brought all of this understanding, whether in a watercolor of the Arch of Constantine in Rome, or a blast furnace in Benwood, the Ohio River shores or the beautiful sea coast of Capri to his art.

"His life was his art and thus he expressed himself."


Another eulogy aptly summed up the meaning of his career for the people of the community: "His fame spread beyond Wheeling, but there were many opportunities to seek a wider field, but he refused, and it is to Wheeling's immeasurable gain that he did so. In Wheeling's homes hang many of his pictures (see Memorial Exhibit and the George Laughlin Wheeling library listings following this article) and there would be numbered with difficulty the students whose potential ability he molded toward fine fruition. The whole city is his debtor more certainly than if he had employed a fortune in its material improvement, for he had been powerful in spreading the doctrine that art and beauty are everyday things, a birthright of every class."

MEMORIAL EXHIBITION OF WORK
by JOHN JOSEPH OWENS (1887-1931)
The Art Club of Wheeling

The work shown in this exhibition has been loaned by those whose names appear in parenthesis.

1. Portrait: Mr. Albert Schenk, Sr. (Mr. Albert Schenk, Jr.)
2. Portrait: Dr. W. Fulton (Mrs. W. Fulton)
3. Portrait: Mr. W. F. Kennedy (Mr. Kennedy)
4. Portrait: Mrs. Charles Hancher
5. Portrait Sketch: Mr. Charles Hancher
6. Water Color: "Belle Fern Falls"
7. Water Color: "Up Wheeling Creek" (Mr. Hancher)
8. Portrait: Mr. Moses Sonneborn (The Hub, of which he was the founder.)
9. Portrait: Mr. C. R. Hubbard
10. Portrait: Mr. Lee C. Paull (Fort Henry Club)
11. Portrait: Mrs. Maddox (Mrs. J.W. Kemble)
12. Portrait: Mrs. Fred Schwertfeger
13. Portrait: Mr. Fred Schwertfeger (Mrs. W.E. Weiss)
14. Portrait: Mr. L.S. Good (Mr. Good)
15. Portrait Sketch: Mr. Charles O'Brien
16. Water Color: "Venice"
17. Water Color: "Street Scene in Sienna" (Mrs. Charles O'Brien)
18. Portrait: Mrs. John S. Naylor (Mrs. Naylor)
19. Portrait: Mrs. Lula Belle Sweeney
20. Portrait: Mrs. Gertrude Woodward Hervey
21. Portrait: Mrs. Caroline Woodward Hughes
22. Water Color: "Lake Como"
23. Water Color: "Peruggia" (Mr. and Mrs. Julian Sweeney)
24. Portrait: Mrs. Anton Reymann
25. Portrait: Mr. Anton Reymann
26. Portrait: Mr. Lawrence Reymann (Altenheim Home for Aged)
27. Portrait: Mrs. George R. Norton (Mr. Norton)
28. Portrait: Mrs. Milton
29. Water Color: "Doorway at Monument Place"
30. Water Color: "Old Sun Dial at Monument Place"
31. Water Color: "San Ginignanna" (Mr. Charles Milton)
32. Portrait: Dr. L.D. Wilson
33. Portrait: Dr. Jacob Schwinn (Ohio Valley General Hospital)
34. Portrait: Katherine Aul (Mr. and Mrs. Charles Aul)
35. Portrait: Captain Walker
36. Portrait: Mr. George Kossuth
37. Water Color: "Basque Boy"
38. Design for Christmas Card (Mr. Kossuth)
39. Portrait: Harold Horkheimer (Mr. Louis Horkheimer)
40 – Portrait: Mr. George Truschel  
41 – Water Color: “Capri, Italy”  
42 – Water Color: “Venice” (Mrs. C.H. Truschel)  
43 – Portrait: Mr. C.H. Githens (Mr. Githens)  
44 – Portrait  
45 – Water Color: “Lake Como” (Mrs. W.V. Hoge)  
46 – Water Color: “Canal in Venice”  
47 – Water Color: “Water Scene, Capri” (Dr. and Mrs. Ivan Fawcett)  
48 – Water Color: “Ruins of Temple of Castor and Pollux, Rome”  
(Mr. W.T. Nicoll)  
49 – Water Color: “Quimper, Brittany”  
50 – Water Color: “Venice”  
51 – Water Color: “Concarneau” (Mrs. George Maxwell)  
52 – Study in Oils: “Peonies” (Dr. W.S. Webb)  
53 – Water Color: “Canal of Venice”  
54 – Water Color: “Antibes, France” (Mrs. Elmer Weity)  
55 – Water Color: “Venetian Boat”  
56 – Water Color: “Concarneau”  
57 – Water Color: “Concarneau” (Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler H. Bach-
  man)  
58 – Water Color: “Amalfi” (Mrs. Da Costa Ward)  
59 – Water Color: “Mount de Chantall” (Mr. J.T. McCamie)  
60 – Water Color: “Ruins of the Empire” (Mrs. A.W. Paul)  
61 – Water Color: “St. Raphael” (Mr. and Mrs. A.S. Upson)  
62 – Portrait: The Artist’s Mother  
63 – Portrait: Mr. Claude Stephens  
64 – Study: “Girl in Green”  
65 – Study: “Girl in the Window”  
66 – Study: “Still Life”  
67 – Water Color: “Arch of Constantine”  
68 – Water Color: “Bridge of Sighs”  
69 – Water Color: “Beach at Atlantic City”  
70 – Water Color: “House Boat” (The family of the Artist)  
71 – Oil Sketch: “S” Bridge  
72 – Oil Sketch: Monument Place  
73 – Oil Sketch: City Building  
74 – Oil Sketch: Old Linsky  
75 – Oil Sketch: The Old Laughlin Place  
76 – Oil Sketch: Old Court House  
77 – Oil Sketch: Old National Exchange Bank  
78 – Oil Sketch: Simms’ Boarding House  
79 – Oil Sketch: Steenrod-Thompson Place  
80 – Oil Sketch: The Old Market House  
81 – Oil Sketch: A View of the River  
82 – Oil Sketch: The Old Top Mill (Wheeling Public Library)  
83 – Portrait Sketch: Mr. Charles J. Nager (Mr. Nager)  
84 – Water Color: “Venice”  
85 – Water Color: “The Coast of Spain”  
86 – Portrait: Mr. George Hook (Mr. and Mrs. Val, Gundling)  
87 – Water Color: Portrait Sketch  
88 – Water Color: Portrait Sketch (Mr. and Mrs. John J. O’Kane)  
89 – Water Color: “Concarneau”  
90 – Water Color: “San Raphael” (Mrs. James G. Whyte)  
91 – Water Color: “Concarneau” (Mr. and Mrs. J.J.P. O’Brien)  
92 – Water Color: “Venice” (Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Nager)  
93 – Oil Landscape Sketch (Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Tucker)  
94 – Portrait: Rt. Rev. P.J. Donahue (St. Joseph’s Convent)  

PAINTINGS COMMISSIONED BY GEORGE A. LAUGHLIN  
FROM JOHN J. OWENS AND PRESENTED TO THE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR DISPLAY TO THE CITIZENS OF WHEELING  
“TOP MILL” – Wheeling Steel & Iron Company. 1834 Wheeling’s first  
iron mill was built on the site of the “Top Mill,” owned by the Wheeling  
Steel Corporation and located on the River Road. It was formerly known  
as the Missouri Iron Works, and was burned September 3, 1871, rebuilt  
in 1872, and in 1879 the blast furnace was built. The mill is no longer  
in operation.  

COURT HOUSE & CITY HALL – Located at 16th and Chapline Sts.  
This was formerly the State Capitol Building from 1875-1885 and then  
the “Old” City-County Building.  

FRENCH’S TAVERN – This building was erected about 1829. It afterwards  
was called Simms’ Boarding House. It was located on the site of the  
present Catholic Women’s League.  

“S” BRIDGE – National Road, Triadelphia. It was on U.S. 40 at the  
intersection of Peter’s Run and the National Road. It has been replaced  
by a new bridge.  

MARKET HOUSE – Market Street from 10th to 11th Streets. On the  
present site of the Market Auditorium.  

LINSLEY INSTITUTE – Located at the Northwest Corner of Eoff and  
15th Streets. Noah Linsky came here in 1799 to practice law, and at the  
time of his death left funds to establish Linsky Institute. This building  
was the first State Capitol from 1863-1870. At the present time it is the  
Medical Arts Building.  

NORTH WHEELING FACTORIES – from the Island shore.
OHIO COUNTY COURT HOUSE, 1832-1899. The first Court House erected in Wheeling was in the middle of the present Tenth Street, between Main and Market Streets. In 1839 the Corner stone of the second Court was laid on the present site of the Court Theatre, 12th and Chapline Streets. The Court House building was razed in 1900 and the Theatre built on the site.

EARLY TAVERN — Main and 12th Street — Present site of the Windsor Hotel.

EXCHANGE BANK — Corner of Main and 12th Streets. Mr. Samuel Laughlin was a Vice-President of this bank for many years. The Peoples Savings and Loan Association now own the site.

MONUMENT PLACE — Elm Grove — This old stone mansion was built by Moses Shepherd in 1798 on the site of Old Fort Shepherd. In 1820 the mansion became known as Monument Place, for at that time Moses and Lydia Shepherd built a Monument on the grounds in honor of Henry Clay, who was a friend of the Shepherd family and who was instrumental in having the National Pike go by way of Elm Grove.

LAUGHLIN HOME — Northwest Corner of Chapline and 12th Streets. The Post Office building now occupies this site.

+----------------------------------------+

Come to the OHIO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 2100 MARKET STREET and view these paintings of Old Wheeling at your leisure.

NOTES

1. Saturday, Wheeling Intelligencer, August 15, 1931
2. Saturday, Wheeling Intelligencer, August 15, 1931
3. Saturday, Wheeling Intelligencer, August 15, 1931
4. Saturday, Wheeling Intelligencer, August 15, 1931
5. Saturday, Wheeling Intelligencer, August 15, 1931
7. From an almost one-half page article in the Wheeling Register upon John Owens return home from his trip to Europe. Tuesday, August 3, 1926.
9. Wheeling Register, Saturday, August 15, 1931
10. Wheeling Register, June 9, 1929
11. Information from Ms. Genevieve Whyte, daughter of Mrs. James Whyte of Edgewood.
12. Wheeling Intelligencer, August 15, 1931
13. Catholic Register (now Catholic Spirit) March 7, 1948
14. Wheeling Register, October 26, 1931
15. Catholic Register (now Catholic Spirit) March 7, 1948 (Several articles referring to John Owens as the founder of the Art Club of Wheeling, which was being re-activated.)
16. Wheeling Register, Saturday, August 15, 1931

May I add a very special “thank you” to Ms. Genevieve Whyte, Welty Home, Wheeling, W. Va., for all of her clippings and her help.
FLACCUS: GROCERS TO A NATION

By
Deanna and Tom Caniff

The story of the Flaccus food merchants of Wheeling, West Virginia is a success story of two companies that could have grown in the twentieth century to rival the international standing of H.J. Heinz of Pittsburgh. But success doesn't always assure survival.

Wheeling's Flaccus story really began in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1848 with the arrival of two immigrants, George C. and William Flaccus, from the Rhine district of Germany. William Flaccus chose to settle in Pittsburgh and disappears from our tale, except to note that he was the father of Charles L. Flaccus, founder of the C.L. Flaccus Glass Co. of Pittsburgh and Tarentum, Pennsylvania. This company is mentioned to acknowledge that there was a Flaccus glass company, although it never operated in Wheeling.

While still in Pittsburgh, George C. Flaccus married Amelia Blanchett, and they later moved to a farm about eight miles from Marietta, Ohio. A son was born on June 2, 1858: George Andreas Flaccus, who was to revolutionize food packaging in the Wheeling area.

In 1865 the family moved to Wheeling where George C. Flaccus established and operated a glue manufactory at Altenheim about two miles east of Wheeling on National Road. In 1877 he left this business to establish a grocery concern, listed in the Wheeling city directory as "Geo. C. Flaccus & Son...grocery" with both the store and living quarters at 2271 Market Street in Wheeling. The son in the business was George A. Flaccus, the eldest of four boys.

This first Flaccus grocery was a retail store and no doubt carried the usual line of staple foods as well as "fancy" groceries such as the relatively new lines of "canned" goods.

Commercial canning and food packing in the United States was still a growing industry in the 1870's. Home canning itself had begun only a scant sixty years previously.

The French government offered a prize of 12,000 francs in 1795 for development of a method of preserving foods for long periods of time; this was the result of difficulties in supply rations to the legions of France, then engaged in numerous campaigns.

In 1809 the prize was taken by a French chef, Nicolas Appert, who had perfected a method of preserving meats and vegetables by placing them in well-sealed containers and boiling the containers for certain lengths of time. It was to be some fifty years before Louis Pasteur's work with microbes showed exactly how this preserving method worked, but work it did. This remains the same basic method that today's home-makers use for home canning.

Ezra Daggett of New England was already commercially canning oysters, salmon, jams and sauces as early as 1820, and a Boston company was producing canned quinces, currents and cranberries. The commercial canned food business was under way. In the next sixty years home canning became commonplace, providing fruits and vegetables out of season and saving much of the home garden from spoilage for future use.

Canned goods were not, of course, always in cans. In the early years of the food packing industry most "canned" foods were actually put up in glass jars or bottles. And canned oysters and salmon weren't for the average American's everyday fare.

Many new small companies sprang up, producing peppercorn and catsups for the family table. In an era of little and generally inadequate refrigeration the flavor of slightly tainted meat needed all the help it could get. Fruit jams, jellies and butters also were manufactured, although many housewives still religiously made their own.

Selling the public on relying on store-bought canned foods was still an uphill battle. But from the hundreds of small companies competing for the new market in the late 1800's emerged the food giants of today -- Heinz, French's, and Campbell's.

In 1878, instead of Geo. C. Flaccus & Son, the Wheeling city directory announced the location of Flaccus Bros. on the site at 23rd & Market Streets. George C. Flaccus had gone into retirement (but he was back making glue in 1880), and George A. Flaccus and his three brothers had gone into the wholesale grocery business as "Flaccus Bros."

The brothers, besides George A., were William C., born in 1860; Edward C., born in 1863; and Charles C., birth date unknown.

Charles C. Flaccus was actually only listed as a salesman for Flaccus Bros. until 1888 when we find him first listed as a partner, along with George A. and Edward C. Flaccus. He remained listed as a partner until his death in 1891.

William C. Flaccus seems to have worked for the company on and off. He was listed as a partner of the firm in 1879, but in 1882 was listed as only working for the company. In 1884 William was listed as running a meat market; he was listed as a Flaccus Bros. manager in 1886, a coal dealer in 1888, and as a Flaccus Bros. foreman in '92. He apparently stayed with the company from 1892 until the company's closing in 1905, when he became a clerk with the E.C. Flaccus Co.

The Flaccus brothers worked vigorously to build up trade, making fancy groceries, vinegar and pickles their specialties. The HISTORY OF THE PANHANDLE, WEST VIRGINIA, 1879, notes that they were "special agents for F.&J. Hinds' (Heinz) matchless 'Keystone' pickles, prepared in Pittsburgh."

In their first year, 1878, Flaccus Bros. manufactured over 20,000 pounds of mince meat. They also established a fruit preserving factory and during the 1879 season preserved fruits and prepared jellies and apple
butter for the wholesale trade; they were cited as being "an entirely new, but highly promising, feature in Wheeling's manufacturing interests."

Flaccus Bros. operated from the old family grocery store at 2271 Market for about three years in a building about 22 by 125 feet with one semi-detached storeroom. In 1880 (or '81) a new building was erected on the site and served the company until 1890.

A factory for the company's canning and preserving was first established near the Flaccus homestead about two miles out of Wheeling on National Road, then known as Mt. Bellevue. Later, it was moved to the store in 1890, when Flaccus Bros. moved to 17th & Chapline Streets.

The building into which the company moved at 17th & Chapline had previously been occupied by the Smith Brewery, and the buildings were said to occupy the entire square from Chapline to Eoff Street. The new location, according to the HISTORY OF WHEELING AND OHIO COUNTY, was "well equipped with up-to-date machinery, most of it invented and made by the firm." The new structure had approximately 60,000 square feet of floor space.

"Flaccus Brothers were the first firm to engage in the manufacture of this line of goods in Wheeling and among the first west of the Allegheny Mountains, as then most manufacturers of these goods were located in eastern Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland or New Jersey." — HISTORY OF WHEELING CITY AND OHIO COUNTY. The company contracted with farmers in the Wheeling and New Philadelphia, Ohio areas to furnish most of the products they packed, but also bought from other large fruit-growing centers.

By 1902 Flaccus Bros. boasted of salesmen from Maine to California, and the company was said to be only partly able to supply the ever increasing demand for its goods. And, in addition to the Wheeling location, the company had a plant of approximately 30,000 square feet in New Philadelphia, Ohio.

But the make up of the company had changed during the years of success. Charles had died in 1891 and William was never again listed as a partner after the initial 1878 listing; then in 1897 Edward C. Flaccus dropped out of the partnership with his brother George to form his own company.

Flaccus Bros., with George A. Flaccus the sole owner, continued to prosper at the corner of 17th & Chapline until 1904 when George's health failed and he was forced to retire in 1905. The Flaccus Brothers Company was then dissolved and the entire factory and works were sold to brother Edward, who then headed his own E.C. Flaccus Company. Three years later on March 28, 1908, at age 49, George A. Flaccus died of Bright's disease.

But even now, some 78 years later, the Flaccus Bros. Company lives on in the beautiful, skillfully designed containers that define the company's success, for George Flaccus apparently learned early that to compete with the home canning and processing so prevalent in the late 1800's it was necessary not only to produce a superior product, but also to make it look attractive to the thrifty housewife.

In an era when rural and urban life were much closer than they are today, the Flaccus Brothers Company chose a familiar steers head as the company trade mark. This trade mark served as a sure means of identification to many of the period who could neither read nor write.

It's not known exactly how early the fancy steer's head trade mark was used, although we can definitely date it at least as early as 1889. The trade mark filed with the U.S. Patent office in 1892 claimed that the distinctive steer's head had been used on Flaccus Bros. labels since 1880.

The steer's head was embossed into many of the glass containers used by the company, as well as appearing on the labels. It is this fancy embossing, accompanied by leaf and floral design, and different colors of glass that have made these containers collectible and sought-after items of today.

During a period when most commercial glass containers were made in green (aqua) glass, Flaccus Brothers followed the lead of H.J. Heinz in using clear glass for their bottles and jars, thus enabling the buyer to see the purity and composition of the contents.

But the Flaccus marketing technique involved more than just clear glass. The company also had containers made in amber, emerald green and milk glass, adding a rainbow of color to the displays on store shelves.

And all of this — the clear glass, the colored glass and the fancy embossing — added to the company's cost. But apparently the results were worth the expense.

Other containers were designed specially for use by the company. George A. Flaccus himself held the design patent for the figurine Uncle Sam catsup bottle in clear glass and for the "Shipping Vessel" (gunboat) mustard container covered-dish in both clear and milk glass. Other containers used by the company included a pottery handled-mug, packed with mustard for saloon use, and three- and five-gallon water coolers which were most likely used for bulk pickle containers.

The use of the covered-dish gunboats and the Uncle Sam bottles were the result of the wave of patriotism brought on by the war with Spain in 1898. American businesses responded to the sinking of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor and the following declaration of war by flooding the market with commemorative pieces in the form of cups, plates, ribbons and all sorts of paraphernalia, honoring Admiral Dewey, President McKinley, the Maine, and other heroes of the brief conflict.

The gunboats of the Flaccus Bros. fleet represented four actual vessels of the war: the "Olympia" was, of course, the flagship of Admiral Dewey at Manila Bay; the "Oregon" was famed for a record-setting run from San Francisco to Key West, Florida to join the fleet; and the "Wheeling" was the namesake of the company's home city. There is a fourth boat which has no name at all on its bow. All of these were made in both
clear and milk glass versions and served as mustard containers.

THE E.C. FLACCUS COMPANY

Ever since the death of Charles Flaccus in 1891, George A. and Edward C. Flaccus had been the joint owners of the Flaccus Brothers Company. Then, for some reason, in 1897 Edward C. Flaccus decided to leave the company and to form his own competing company in partnership with George Elliott, who had been a Flaccus Brothers bookkeeper.

The Flaccus & Elliott Company located at 1312 Water Street in Wheeling was from the first in direct competition with the Flaccus Bros. Co., now run by George Flaccus alone. On May 18, 1897, a trade mark of a stag's head was filed by the new Flaccus & Elliott Co., strikingly similar to the already successful steer's head of Flaccus Brothers. The company's products were listed as catsup, vinegar, preserves, jellies, table sauces, pickles, chow-chow, pepperaise, olives and extracts. Edward C. Flaccus was listed in the city directory as company president, with George Elliott as secretary.

George Elliott only stayed in the business for about a year, and on July 8, 1899, Edward Flaccus filed for the stag's head trade mark under the company name of the E.C. Flaccus Co.

Edward C. Flaccus had apparently learned the business well. He was competing locally not only with Flaccus Bros. but also with the McMechen's Company and Exley Watkins & Company for the wholesale trade. And if he had any qualms about imitating the style established by Flaccus Bros., it certainly didn't show.

The first known jars of the E.C. Flaccus Co. were embossed with a leaf & floral design, accompanied by a stag's head and the words "Trade Mark E.C. Flaccus," an almost identical jar to that used by Flaccus Brothers. And like Flaccus Brothers, the E.C. Flaccus Company jar was made in clear, amber, emerald green, and milk glass.

After Edward bought out the Flaccus Brothers business upon George's retirement in 1905, the old steer's head trade mark became the property of the E.C. Flaccus Company. Edward Flaccus filed this trade mark in his company's name in 1907, probably to forestall its use by any other company. The E.C. Flaccus Company's products had now grown to include mushrooms, stuffed melon, pepper mangoes, and beans with tomato sauce. Like the Flaccus Brothers Company, the first and most popular products of the E.C. Flaccus Company were prepared mustard and catsup.

The purchase of brother George's company left the E.C. Flaccus Company with three factories; one at New Philadelphia, Ohio; one at Barnesville, Ohio; and the main plant at 1312-14 Water Street in Wheeling.

The company continued to prosper and in 1912 was still operating the Wheeling plant, as well as "one in Ohio, and also extensive orchards and gardening land in the eastern part of the state and down the river." The plant in Ohio must have been at New Philadelphia; the Barnesville plant had been closed earlier following local dissatisfaction with the price being paid to farmers for tomatoes.

Then on June 21, 1914, Edward C. Flaccus was riding in a Mitchell touring car with two friends when the car went out of control and over an 80 foot embankment. E.C. Flaccus was the most seriously injured of the trio but was expected to recover, until complications set in and he died of peritonitis four days later.

Like Flaccus Brothers, the E.C. Flaccus Company had never been incorporated, and the death of Edward Flaccus brought on the gradual demise of the company as well. City directories thru the 1919-20 issue continued to list the E.C. Flaccus Company with Mrs. Mary C. Flaccus listed as executrix of the estate. But by 1921 the company was no longer listed, and the 1312 Water Street location was occupied by the Dick Bros., Garage; a sad end for so picturesque a company.

During its lifetime the E.C. Flaccus Company equalled the flamboyance of the original Flaccus Brothers Company. Aside from the colored stag's head jars, the E.C. Flaccus Company also utilized its own milk glass gunboat covered-dish, a stag-top covered-dish in clear and milk glass, a setter (dog) covered-dish in clear and milk glass, a pottery E.C. Flaccus water cooler, and an approximately 5" round E.C. Flaccus Stag's Head tin tip tray.

FLACCUS FOOD PRODUCTS CO.

Articles of incorporation were filed in 1922 for a Flaccus Food Products Co., located back at the 1312 Water Street location. Stockholders in the new concern were Will N. Cruse, Bertha E. Cruse, H.O. Etz, Douglas Vass, and J.W. Cummins, all of Wheeling. The articles of incorporation, however, are the only evidence of the company's existence. It was never listed in any city directory and further information on the fate of this last of the Flaccus food companies seems nonexistent.

The era of Wheeling's fancy grocers is now long gone, and gone with it are hundreds of small grocery companies that once braved the competition to bid for the national prominence which was gained by only a few.

There are several reasons why the Wheeling Flaccus companies fell by the wayside, but their packaging and marketing know-how seem to have been almost faultless. Had there been someone qualified to take over the reins from George A. and Edward C. Flaccus their companies might well have equalled or dwarfed today's H.J. Heinz Co.
A DOCUMENT:  
MOSES SHEPHERD WILL

In the name of God amen, I Moses Shepherd of Ohio County in the State of Virginia, do make and constitute this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to Say —
1st I will and direct that all my just debts be paid.
2d. I give and bequeath to my wife my lands lying above big Wheeling Creek and adjoining the same and little Wheeling being divided from the estate on which I now live by both the said Creeks together with the improvements thereon including the Grist and Saw mills the Tavern house now occupied by Mrs. Gooding to have and to hold the same with the appurtenances to her and her heirs and assigns forever.
3d. All the household and Kitchen furniture remaining in my possession at the time of my decease I devise and bequeath to my said wife and her assigns.
4th My negro man Jack and his wife Susan and their family children or other descendants I give to my said wife and her assigns.
5th All my other lands except my home plantation including those I claim in a Suit with persons of the name of Larue and those I claim in a Suit with a person of the name of Kincheloe if recovered I devise to my Executrix to be sold and the proceeds thereof together with the proceeds of such part of my personal estate as she may think proper to sell, after payment of just debts, to be by her vested in Bank stock.
6th And whereas I have sold some tracts of land which I have not conveyed, and on some of which the whole and on some part of the purchase money is due. I do therefore hereby authorize and empower my Executrix to execute all such contracts to all intents and purposes as I could do if in life and if any such lands should fail back to my estate for want of payment by or without Suit; I do devise and direct that they be sold and the proceeds, after payment of just debts be vested as aforesaid.
7th I do devise and bequeath my home estate whereon I now live, to my said wife for and during her natural life the same being my estate lying between the forks of Wheeling Creek.
8th After payment of just debts when the proceeds of the sales aforesaid and of the sale of such personal estate as my Executrix may dispose of shall be vested as above and also the proceeds of the sale of all my slaves, except those above mentioned, which I hereby direct to be made and vested as aforesaid, I give and bequeath the same to my said wife together with the use dividends or profits of all the monies aforesaid sold be vested to hold the same so to be vested to her and her assigns.
9th After the decease of my said wife my will is that my said home plantation or estate be sold and the proceeds of such sale to be equally divided between the children of my sisters Elizabeth Lee Ruth Mills and Sarah Springer so that if any of them be dead the issue of such deceased are to take the part of his her or their parcel. Hereby revoking all others I do make ordain publish and declare this to be my only last will and testament and I do appoint my said wife Lydia Shepherd to be the whole and sole Executrix thereof, and do declare that she shall not by the Court, be held to give Security, Witness my hand and seal this first day of January 1830 Signed Sealed published and declared in presence of us: Archd. Woods, John Good, John Carter, Thos Thornburgh. Moses Shepherd Seal

Virginia Set,
At a Circuit Superior Court of law and Chancery held for Ohio County on the 15th day of May 1832. A writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Moses Shepherd deceased was produced in Court by Lydia Shepherd the Executrix named in the Said will in order to be proved, Whereupon on hearing as well the said Lydia Shepherd by her Attorney as John Mills and Ruth his wife, by their Counsel, who appear to contest the probate of said will, by consent of parties it is ordered that the same be continued until Thursday the 4th day of this Term.

And Thursday the 17th day of May 1832 A writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Moses Shepherd deceased bearing date the first day of January 1830 was this day again produced in Court by Lydia Shepherd the Executrix therein named in order to be proved, Whereupon the consent of the evidence offered, being heard, and not having time to complete the examination of the witnesses, time is taken until tomorrow to complete the same, until which time this project is Continued.

And on Friday the 18th day of May 1832 A writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Moses Shepherd deceased bearing date the first day of January in the year 1830 was this day again produced in Court by Lydia Shepherd the Executrix in the said will named in order to be proved, the examinations of witnesses, in this case was again resumed and closed, which examinations were reduced to writing and ordered to be recorded as follows: "Archibald Woods sworn, and testified that he subscribed the said will as a witness in the presence the request of the Testator, that the said Testator Moses signed the said will in his presence, and acknowledged the same as his will, and that he subscribed his name as aforesaid, as a witness, in the presence of one of the other witnesses, John Good, as he believes. The said testator had sent for the witness to write his will, which witness did, according to his instruction, from a previous will, which had been drawn up by Phillip Doddridge, with, as the witness believes, one alteration, which alteration related to a devise to one of his Sisters heirs, the said testator saying, that by the first will he had given the home plantation to the heirs of two of his sisters, only, and having reflected on the subject, he would give the third sister, or her heirs a portion of it also. The will was executed, at the time it was written, on the day it bears date, 1st January 1830. The said Testators mind was good, at the time he executed the will, as it was at any time after he had suffered a paralysis, the paralysis had occurred in August preceding, the witness
thinks, and affected his right side, and his speech, after the paralysis he walked about, but his walking was injured, he spoke with considerable difficulty, at times, sometimes with greater difficulty than others, but the witness always understood him. The witness does not think there was much difference in the state of his mind, if any, after and before his paralysis, he varied considerably as to the facility with which he spoke, sometimes speaking with less, and sometimes with greater difficulty, but at all times he seemed to be about equally rational, and at the time of making his will as aforesaid, he was, as the witness thought and believes, of a mind capable of making a sound and rational disposition of his property, and the disposition was such as he had before expressed to witness, about the time that Mr. Doddridge drew his will. When the latter gentleman drew his will he was offended with his third sister and omitted her, and afterwards called on me to write it as aforesaid, with a view of embracing her, in the devise to the other sisters. Before his paralysis his mind was generally sufficiently sound and rational to make a judicious and reasonable disposition of his property, the witness says, generally, because he was sometimes subject to intoxication. And after the paralysis the witness saw but little difference, perhaps, at times, his mind was a little affected, though the witness supposes so, rather from the physical difficulty of his speech at times, and pain that he was in, than from any actual weakness of understanding, that he ever perceived."

Cross examined

Will was executed at Testator's house in a room adjoining his bed room he was in the room when the will was executed, and at the table where it was executed, he signed his name, and witness subscribed, at the same table, and at the same time, and there was nothing to hinder his observing what passed. Both Mr. Shepherd and Mrs. Shepherd had requested me to write the will. The bequest to his sisters, or their children of the home place, was to be after Mrs. Shepherd's death. Mrs. Shepherd did all the business of the Testator. When the testator went to the house to draw the will, Mr. Shepherd directed Mrs. Shepherd to go and get the will, written by Mr. Doddridge, for the witness, in order that he might write the will as aforesaid. The witness is not positive, as to his recollection of the terms of the devise, to the sisters or their heirs. The will was written however, according to the instruction, and the devise was to be as appears in the Will.

Question by Defts. Was the will read by, or read to Mr. Shepherd? I am not positive, whether I read it to him, or not. I am inclined to think he did not read it himself. I am pretty certain, I read a part of the will, relating to some description of boundary to him, where it varied from the copy of Mr. Doddridge, which witness had supposed imperfect in that respect. Witness was intimately acquainted with the testator for the last thirty years, and have seen him often, since the will was made, but never heard him say anything about it. That since the will was made, the testator had sold some land, and witness surveyed them for him, and drew his deeds, and drew his deeds generally. The will drawn by Mr. Doddridge is shown to the witness, and produced in Court. It is in the handwriting of Mr. Doddridge, and the signature is the testators, he thinks, and the witness's name as Subscribing witness is in his own handwriting.

John Good, sworn & deposed, that he subscribed the will first above named, of the 1st January 1830, as a Subscribing witness, that he subscribed it at the request, and the presence of the Testator, and that the Testator signed his name in the presence of the witness, and acknowledged it as his last will. Witness had some doubt of the sanity of the Testator. Mrs. Shepherd had sent for me to be a witness to the will, when I went I was asked into the room where Col. Shepherd was, with Mr. Woods, the witness who has just deposed, and Mrs. Shepherd, after I had taken my seat, the will was presented to me. I looked over it, and having had doubts before, of his sanity, I put very plain questions to him, I held the will in my hand, and asked the Testator if he knew what instrument of writing it was, his answer was that it was his will. I then asked him if he knew of the disposition he had made of his estate, by the will, if he knew what it contained, he said he did, that it was a copy of an original will drawn many years before by Mr. Doddridge, with some alteration as well as I recollect, concerning the Springer family, that he had left them out in the former, they having offended him but that he had thought proper to embrace them in the present, After putting so many questions in as plain a way as possible to remove all doubts on my mind as to his capacity to make a will, those doubts having arisen in my mind from an expression of Mrs. Shepherd previous to that time, that he was incapable of doing any business, and that she had her hands full, and everything involved upon her, and further, from my visiting of him frequently, and having observed his affliction to be very great, his health being very sore, as he complained, and his speech very difficult, being sometimes unable to understand him, the witness being himself, however, hard of hearing, at times the witness had understood him, From these causes it was that witness was desirous to know the state of his mind, and his capacity to make a will from these causes as well as from what follows, his complaint was very variable. I was often called on to take his acknowledgment of deeds. I was once called on particularly I remember to take one to a Lot in Town, I think, to Mr. Wilson, I declined it on the ground of Mr. Shepherd being so ill, and thought to be incapable of business, having but just before, or recently before seen him, Mrs. Shepherd frequently sent for me to take acknowledgments of deeds, which I took, but never, without talking to him, and being perfectly satisfied that he knew well what he was doing, and was capable of making his deeds properly, in executing the deeds, the name of Mr. Shepherd was generally written by Mrs. Shepherd, in one instance, I insisted upon his writing his own name, he wrote with his left hand, and whenever Mrs. Shepherd signed for him, I insisted upon his making the mark. From the nature of his complaint, I thought his system so disordered found such difficulty myself to understand him, that I thought
it proper never to do business for him, without being satisfied of his capacity, but from enquiries, I made at the time of the making the will, and had been in the habit of making, as before mentioned, when taking the acknowledgment of deeds, I was perfectly satisfied of his capacity to make the will, and would not have witnessed it, as before stated, without I had been so satisfied. I was satisfied that he had full powers of mind to make a disposition of his estate by will. The witness read the will out, at the request of Mrs. Shepherd, in the presence of Archibald Woods, the Testator and Mrs. Shepherd, and in their hearing, before he witnessed it, after the inquiries before mentioned, and reading the will as aforesaid, and I was satisfied as before mentioned, we went into another room, when the will was executed. The witness says he is in the habit of, when taking acknowledgments to wills, to ask the Testator, do you acknowledge that to be your hand writing and seal, and acknowledge it as your last will, for the purposes therein contained, and this question was either asked by Mr. Woods or himself, at the time the will in question was executed. The witness subscribed as aforesaid, in the presence of Col. Archd. Woods, I do not remember whether it was before, or after the will, that I was called on to take the acknowledgment of the deed, for the Lot in Town. The Testators right arm was affected by his paralysis, and if he ever signed his name, with his right hand, the witness does not recollect it.

Cross examined. "Have you ever heard Mrs. Shepherd say, who had the will since it was made? Ans. "I have heard say, she had it, that she had both the wills, and that she had put them away, where nobody could get them Mrs. Shepherd was in the habit of doing the business of her husband, who was physically incapable of attending to it, from his health, but in all contracts &c it was always done in his presence. And witness never knew Col. Shepherd to make bargains or contracts himself, after his paralysis, never saw Col. Shepherd off of his farm, after his paralysis, he walked about the yard, and in the road sometimes.

John Carter, Sworn & deposes, That he subscribed the will first before mentioned of the first of January 1830, in the presence, and at the request of the Testator and in the presence of the two other subscribing witnesses, who have been examined, Witness did not see the Testator sign the will and objected to witnessing it, on that account, but, the Testator thereupon said he acknowledged the signature to be his handwriting, which acknowledgment he made in the presence of myself, and the other two witnesses, who have been examined, the will being at the time signed, the witness then subscribed it, the Testator also said, that it was his last will and testament, and that he wanted me to subscribe it, as a witness. The witness says the testator was in his proper reason, and capable of making a will. The witness has been in the employment of the testator, as a Miller, and boarding in his house, from the 10th of December 1827, to the time of his death.

Question by Defts. Is the estate of Shepherd indebted to you? Answer. The estate is indebted to me, for some few months wages, it owes me from the 20th of August last, to the last of April, at fifteen dollars per month, for wages, but some part of this has been paid, how much, witness does not recollect.

Testimony offered by the Defendants. Thomas Thornburg, sworn and deposes.

Question by Defts. How long have you known Col. Shepherd? Answer. Since my infancy, say thirty years.

Question. Had your intercourse been frequent and familiar with him, and especially since his paralysis? Answer. It has.

Question. Has he been in the habit of consulting you, or of unburthening his mind, when he had anything in particular upon it? Answer. In some instances he has.

Question. Did he ever express his wish to you to destroy his will, and desire any search to be made for it, and generally, all that took place between you, concerning it?

Answer. About a year after he made the will, in February or March 1831 a servant told me, Mr. Shepherd wished to see me, witness went to his house, and the old Gentleman seemed to be irritated, and asked me to go into a back room, which he called, witness thinks, the blue room. Said he expected his will was there, and he wanted to get it to destroy it. He went to the bureau, and pulled out a drawer, put in his hand, and pulled out some bunches of papers, and looked at the head of them. I observed to him I thought it not worth his while to look there as I did not suppose his will was there, he had asked me to look for it, before he went to the drawer which witness had declined, he tried then to open another drawer, which was locked or fastened, and could not be opened, he wished me to bring him some weapon to break it open with, I observed to him, that it would be a pity to break it open, and not to mind it, and endeavoured to persuade him into a good humour, and observed to him, that he could easily make another will, if he wanted any alteration in it. I succeeded in getting him pacified, and got him back into his sitting room again. I do not recollect any further conversation at that time.

Question. At any other time, did you ever hear him express himself dissatisfied with the will, and wish to destroy it? Answer. I do not recollect that I ever did.

Question. Did you ever have any conversation with Mr. Shepherd, as to the motives or reasons, which influenced him, in making his will? Answer. I think not. He conversed with me about his will, either shortly before, or after the occasion before spoken of, he then told me why he had made his will as he did, after considering some time, he told me why he willed his property, or one part of it particularly, to Mrs. Shepherd, I mean the homestead property, as he called it, where they lived, this property, where they lived, he said his sisters claimed it, or wished to have it, at his death, under some right they set up, but he said he thought, taking into consideration the improvements he had put on it, Mrs. Shepherd ought to have it for her life, and that they ought to let her have it,
and live in peace, as she was getting old, and in the course of nature, they
would have it soon.
Question. Do you recollect any other reason assigned by him, for disposing
of his property as he did? Answer. None further.
Question. Have you ever heard Mrs. Shepherd say anything of the capacity
of Mr. Shepherd, since the making of the will?
Answer. I have frequently heard her say, that he was now not capable of
attending to his business, and that she had to attend to the whole of it,
that the whole devolved on her.
John Buchanan, sworn, and deposes—
Question by Defendants. Since the making of the will, have you heard
Mrs. Shepherd say anything about Mr. Shepherd's capacity?
Answer. I have not time after he had his paralysis, having an account to
be settled with him, or some business to adjust with him, I went to settle
with him and saw him, I asked him, if he knew me, and he did, after
some little time, I opened to him the business of our settlement, when she
asked me not to mention it, that he was not capable of doing any business, that it hurt him, and that Col. Woods was appointed
to see to his affairs. I told her I would not. At another time I had a similar
conversation with her, in which she made about the same observations, or
expressions. I observed that talking seemed to give Col. Shepherd great
pain.
Question. Did she say anything about his mind, at that time? Not that
I remember, only that he was not capable of selling.
Question by Plaintiffs. What was your settlement about?
Answer. In relation to a small tract of land which witness had bought of
Col. Shepherds Father, and which had been lost.
William Templeton, being sworn, deposes.
Question, by Defendants. What conversation did you ever have with Col.
Shepherd about his will, or about his family?
Answer. I was with him at his house, in the Spring of 1831, about sugar
making, he said something about his will, and seemed to be out of hu-
mour, or petulant, and said something about his usage, and if witness
understood him right, he was dissatisfied about the manner he made his
will.
Question. Did he say anything about destroying his will?
Answer. I don’t think he did, he seemed dissatisfied with the manner he
had made it, and about a number of things.
Question. What did he say about his usage?
Answer. When I went, Mr. Shepherd was at the Sugar Camp and the Ser-
vants in the Kitchen Mr. Shepherd complained that he was there by him-
self, and might die with fits of coughing or strangling, that he was not
properly attended to. — at that time he expressed some fear of his life.
Question. Did he express any desire to be removed? Answer. Not at that
time. Quest. Did he at any other time? Answer. On another occasion he
was quite out of humour or angry. Said something about his not being
safe, and that somebody ought to be brought to take care of him —
Question. Had you ever any conversation with him about his will — or
what made him make it as he did? — I think not.
Question. Did he say what or whom he was afraid of? Answer. He said
they all wanted him away, — Witness’s wife is a daughter of one of the sisters of the Testator. The said sister is still alive —
Josias Thompson sworn by Defts. Question. How long have you known
Col. Shepherd? Answer. I have known him about 27 years but not intimate
all that time. I have known him intimately about 16 years. I reside in
about two miles of him. — Question. Can you form an opinion of his mind
since his sickness?
Answer. Since his sickness I have not seen him very often. I have con-
versed with him several times and did not conceive his mind, if any, much
impaired — Question. What have you heard Mrs. Shepherd say since the
writing of the will about the capacity of Mr. Shepherd? Answer. I have
heard her say nothing since that time. —
Hugh Stewart, sworn by Defts. — Question by Defendants. What have you
heard Col. Shepherd say about his will at any time? — Answer. I never
heard him say anything about it. I have been in his employment about 18
months before his death, —
Archibald Woods again Cross examined by defendants. —
The Estate is worth according to my estimate as follows, —
HM’s land property is all worth probably $28,000.
His bank stocks (over his debt in bank) $13,400.
His negroes & Stock on the farm probably $2,500.
The debts he owes (except in the bank, and the debts due to his Estate,
I do not know the amount of either. — The Stock in bank amounts to
$38,300, with dividends on of it about $1700. But the Estate owes the
bank $24,700 and the stock is pledged for that debt. I have estimated
the balance due the estate from the bank of $13,400 as in the statement
mentioned."
The Testator, died without Children, the last of April, 1832.”
And the Court having considered the said evidence and the arguments
of Counsel, is of opinion, that the said will is fully proven, as a will of
Lands and personality, according to the acts in such case made. Therefore
it is considered, that the said writing of the first day of January in the
year 1830, be recorded, as the last will and testament, of the said Moses
Shepherd, deceased. And thereupon, on the motion of Lydia Shepherd,
the Executrix named in the said will who made oath thereto (she not being
required to give security) entered into and acknowledged her bond in the
penalty of Forty thousand Dollars, conditioned as the Law directs, Certif-
icate is granted her in obtaining a probate of the Said will in due form. —
Ordered, that, Col. Archibald Woods, Maj. John Good & Isaac Davis
do appraise the Estate (after being duly qualified) of the Said Testator,
and make report thereof, on the first day of the next Term of this Court.
Virginia, Ohio County to wit:

I William Chapline Clerk of the Circuit Superior Court of Law &
Chancery for the County aforesaid do hereby certify that the foregoing
is a true copy of the will of Moses Shepherd dece'd, and of the Testimony
taken in open Court, on the probate of Said will, and that the same was
ordered to be recorded on the 18th day of May A.D. 1832.

Test Wm. Chapline Clk

BOOK REVIEW

Predicting the Behavior of the Educational System. Thomas F.

Bernard A. Harawa
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Contrary to popular opinion, this book clearly asserts that there
exists a United States System of Education, and that the purpose of the
book is to identify, explore, and analyze the most fundamental philoso-
phical principles which underlie the system.

Professor Green begins by identifying and analyzing the selected
basic elements of the system, namely the schools, the medium of
exchange, and the principle of sequence. The educational institutions —
the schools, colleges, and universities — of the United States are linked to
one another by the “medium of exchange” which is commonly exempli-
fied by paper credentials such as certificates, transcripts, and diplomas.
That medium of exchange also exposes yet another characteristic of the
system — mobility from one level to the next — movement from kinder-
garten through doctorate. That mobility reveals yet another element of
the system — sequence.

After laying this groundwork, Thomas spends a lengthy expose
and analysis of other elements — size and distribution of results. Like the
entire system itself, the foregoing elements are deductions. Several chap-
ters are devoted to “The System in Motion,” which deals with derived
elements of control, distribution and growth, and to “Hierarchical Prin-
ciples” and “Hierarchies of Status.” The areas of benefits are dealt with in
terms of public and private allocation of resources to education in the
system.

After setting the system in motion, Green deals with the question
of policy. According to him, policy evolves from the discovery of the
dynamics of the system. “Educational policy is policy for the educational
system” (underlining is mine), (p. 168).

A look at the research reveals an interesting slant. The author con-
tends that policy is “an exercise of practical rationality.”

Though this inquiry emanates from an interest in educational
policy, it is also rooted in a persistent concern with the nature
of practical reason and practical argument. Human beings
are rational creatures, even when, on other grounds, their
behavior is construed as psychological. In like manner, I con-
strue the educational system as a rational system. That is to
say, I construe it to be guided by rational arguments. (XV-XVI)

The overall presentation of the self-evident elements of the self-evident
educational system is well done and clear. The statistics in chapter
six could stand some reviewing. Figures 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3, in particular
need to be reviewed.
Another area of concern is the area of the derived educational system itself. Green has done a good job in drawing the reader's attention to the self-evident truth of the system's existence as he says:

It is possible to move from Bangor, Maine, to San Diego, California, Florida to Seattle, Washington, leave the schools in one locality, enter those in another, and find approximately the same procedures, the same curriculum, and even strikingly similar facilities. . . . How does such uniformity arise in the absence of any basic policy requiring it? Clearly, there is a system of some kind. Furthermore, it is in many respects a rational system. . . .

Green, however, does not go far enough. The so-called "national system" or orderly structure derives its character from man's natural penchant for order, neatness, and meaning from which policy evolves. It is this fundamental characteristic of man that, over time, leads him to develop a system because man is systematic and the system is man. It is because of this that education, as one aspect of the systematic man, has evolved not as a national but as a universal educational system which, taken on the national level, has national characteristics. However, the "exchange medium" allows students graduating from an Asian, African, European, Japanese secondary school etc. to be admitted to a college in the United States and vice versa. Outside of that, Green and his assistants have successfully captured and succinctly analyzed how universally, educational systems emerge, grow, work and how they are governed.

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DEANNA AND TOM CANIFF are residents of Steubenville, Ohio, and are both collectors and dealers in collectible fruit jars and product jars. Tom is a life-long resident of Steubenville, where he serves as captain of the City Fire Department. Deanna is originally from Pittsburgh, Pa. They are members of the Jefferson County Antique Bottle Club, the Ohio Bottle Club, the Midwest Antique Fruit Jar and Bottle Club, and the Federation of Historic Bottle Clubs. They have contributed articles to Antique Bottle World, Old Bottle Magazine, Goldenseal, and other publications.

BERNARD A. HARAWA received a Diploma in Education from Strinmillis College, Belfast, Ireland, a Bachelor in Education from the University of Dayton, and a Master in Education from the University of Dayton. He received his Ed.D. from Columbia University. He was a Superintendent of Education, Malawi, Africa for one year.