

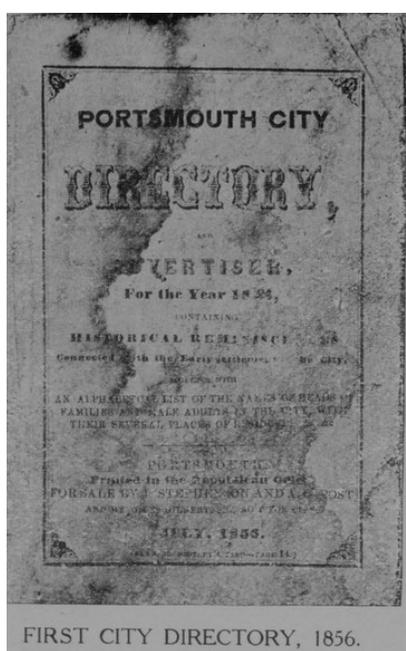
The Time Traveler

Scioto County Past and Present

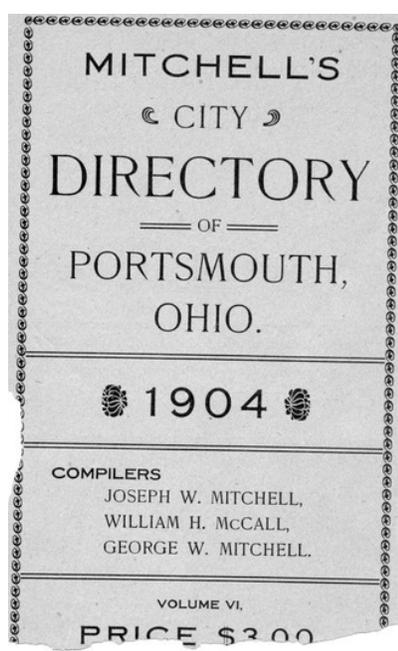


We have City Directories

Did you know that the Local History Department has Portsmouth City Directories? Want to see where businesses were located in the late 1800's? Do you have an ancestor that lived in Portsmouth and want to see where they used to live? Come take a look at the directories to find out!



FIRST CITY DIRECTORY, 1856.



Inside This Issue:

- Portsmouth City Directories.....1
- Programs.....1
- Timeless Treasure.....2
- Who am I?.....2
- Do you know this Place?.....2
- Do you know this Place Answer....2
- Selby's Arabian Horse Farm.....2,3
- LMR Diary Account.....3
- Local Mystery.....4

Programs

July 9, 2019 @ 4:30 pm:
Apollo 11 Decoupage News - tween

July 10, 2019 @ 4:30 pm:
Moon Rocks- tween

July 29, 2019 @ 6 pm:
Ohio in Space - children and adults
at Lucasville Library

August 6, 2019 @ 4:30 pm:
Seashell Necklace - tween

August 21, 2019 @ 4:30 pm
Be An Archaeologist - tween

For all tween programs, please register in the Local History Department
740-354-5304



Local Mystery: Selby Shoes Identify Headless Body

On February 1, 1896, a headless body was found near Fort Thomas, Kentucky. Since the head was what police used to identify victims, there was little chance of finding out who the person was, until it was discovered that the shoes might offer a lead. A Newport shoe dealer came forward and took one of the victim's shoes. He examined it and found that the shoe had been made by the George D. Selby Shoe Company in Portsmouth, Ohio. Contacting Selby, the man showed him the shoe and asked him if he knew anything about the shoe. Selby said he did.

In fact, the shoe belonged to a new product line he was introducing. Thus far, there had been only one order shipped to a dealer in Groomcastle, Indiana. The dealer was called and asked to check his records for anyone who had purchased the shoes. He told them that it appeared that a Pearl Bryan had purchased a pair on a certain date. Locating Miss Bryan's mother, it was discovered that she had bought a train ticket and was staying with some relatives in Indianapolis. Upon finding those relatives, police learned that Pearl was not there. This forced the detectives to backtrack. They spoke with the local train stations and learned that Pearl had not purchased a ticket to Indianapolis. She had bought one for Cincinnati. With the city being located just across from where the headless body was found, the authorities knew they were on the right track. What they would discover was a tale of love, cover ups, and ultimately, murder. After conducting some interviews with Pearl's relatives, the detectives found out that the girl recently become enamoured with Will Wood, her second cousin. The young man introduced Pearl to his comrade Scott Jackson, a medical student. The three became good friends in a short time span. They had been seen out and about in the area, and before long it was noted that Pearl was supposedly engaged to Jackson. It seemed like a happy time for the girl, but in truth the opposite was true.

In October of 1895, Pearl suddenly became melancholy. Gossip arose, and many believed the poor girl had been jilted by Jackson. That, however, was not the case. In early January of 1896, Pearl came to Will and told him that her "condition" could not be concealed any longer. Pearl was pregnant. Since she was unmarried, the pregnancy would be frowned upon by society. She feared her family would disown her and that her reputation would be ruined. Pearl sought the help of Will Wood and Scott Jackson, her good friends. Taking action, Wood saw her off to Cincinnati. Pearl had told her mother and relatives that she was going to see a friend in Indianapolis. In reality, she was going to Cincinnati to meet Scott Jackson and another medical student named Alonzo Walling to take care of her condition. Weeks later, Pearl's headless body was found on John Locke's farm, near Fort Thomas, Kentucky. Since they were the last two seen with Pearl Bryan, instantly Alonzo Walling and Scott Jackson were suspects. Police began asking Will Wood about Jackson. They found letters going back and forth between the two from around the time Pearl was supposed to be with Jackson. He wrote to Wood about her arrival and that he was going to take care of everything. The final letter Wood received, however, was what truly condemned Jackson. The police were able to intercept it on its way to Will Wood, implicating them both. Jackson told Wood to send a letter to Pearl Bryan's mother acting as Pearl to say she'd run away. Wood, Jackson, and Alonzo Walling were all arrested.

Near the area where the boys lived in Indiana, searches of the woods, creeks, and rivers were conducted. Jackson's coat was found, covered in blood. After running tests, it was discovered that the blood belonged to Pearl Bryan.

So, what went wrong? After being arrested, the two young men told the police the story.

It was a botched abortion attempt that ultimately led to Pearl's death. She had been four months pregnant. An autopsy report showed traces of cocaine in the girl's stomach, most likely to dull the pain of the operation. Cuts were made in the stomach, but Pearl began losing too much blood. Fearing that their medical careers would fail if anyone found out about the failed abortion, Jackson and Walling decided to cover up the evidence by killing Pearl. It was the severing of her head that killed her, not the attempted abortion. It was Jackson who decapitated Pearl Bryan. He would not tell police where the head was, not even after Pearl's sister went down on her hands and knees and begged him. When shown the girl's corpse, Jackson was unmoving, leading some to question his mental state in general. The head of Pearl was not found until several years later.

Will Wood was convicted of aiding and abetting a murder and abortion attempt. He was fined and did some jail time. The other two, Jackson and Walling, were found guilty of first degree murder. They were later executed for the crime.



Selby's Arabian Horse Farm Continued

There are many articles in the Portsmouth Times praising Selby's horses. They were shown at the county fair, participated in parades, won horse shows, and attracted the attention of the rest of the world. Experts traveled to view Selby's horses, proclaiming them to be some of the best Arabian horses in the entire world. There are many Portsmouth Times articles that talk about how Selby's stallions would be in parades, fairs, and win most of the show competitions they were entered into. Selby's most mentioned horses were King Genius, Mirage, and Raffles.

Raffles was a dapple grey stallion born in 1926. Roger Selby purchased the horse in 1932. The stallion won many local and national awards as well. Perhaps the horse's most notable accomplishment was carrying General John J. Pershing in his victory parade in New York City at the end of World War I. In October of 1949, Raffles was sold to Mrs. John Payne of California because Selby was seeking different business ventures and dispersing the Horse Farm.

Mirage, the pure white stallion, was bred in the Arabian desert, and at the age of two was selected by King Faisal of Iraq to be in his personal collection. The stallion traveled to France with the king. Shortly after this, the renowned English horse breeder, Lady Wentworth persuaded the king to part with the animal. As times became hard in England, Roger Selby was able to talk Lady Wentworth to part with Mirage. Upon coming to Selby's horse farm, the famous stallion won many local and state show competitions. The stallion even won numerous national events.

In November of 1939, a Times article was headed with the words "Mirage is Destroyed." The story talked about how Mirage, an award winning stallion, suffered a broken leg in a fall in its stall on the Roger Selby Farm and had to be destroyed. It is usually extremely difficult for a horse's leg to heal in any injury, and there is generally a small chance of recovery because the legs of a horse absorb too much shock when horses gallop at high speeds.

King Genius was perhaps Selby's most famous stallion. In 1933, King Genius became the World Champion Saddle Stallion. In the same year, a famous artist, Lynn Bogue Hunt of New York, traveled to Selby's farm to create paintings of several of Selby's horses; including the famous King Genius and Raffles. King Genius was so famous that many breeders sought him out to sire their own Arabian horses. Roger Selby's nephew, G. D. Selby, bought a colt that had been sired from King Genius and began entering the horse into contests in the 1940's.

In 1938, Rosemount Road was constructed, and about one mile of the roadway cut through Roger Selby's land. According to a Portsmouth Times article in 1957, this forced Selby to move his " world renowned enterprise" Arabian Horse business to a farm near Buena Vista. Perhaps you've heard of the Hundred Mile House? This was where Selby's farm remained until it presumably closed.

In 1949, Selby decided to end the Arabian Horse breeding and disperse of his famous farm in pursuit of other interests.

Louisiana Moore Ricker's Diary Entry

Below is a diary entry from an exciting event that happened in Louisiana's life on July 3, 1883

Tuesday, July 3, 1883

"Quite warm, hot in fact. We arranged for a small picnic over on the Ky Hills this evening and about 4:30, Mary, Bessie Barr, Fannie Moore, Jennie + Nettie Gharky, Maggie, Will, Carl, J. W. + I went over taking lunch with us. We rested and enjoyed the scenery until Jn came over after 6 PM then had supper and started home before dark. Just as we landed on this side two drunken roughs began a fight with J. W. + Jn. One of them spoke to me first then tried to grab Bessie by the arm which was resented by Jn of course + a fight was the result which frightened us all dreadfully and J. W. received a hard blow to the cheek which made a mark. The failure of the boats oars to attempt to keep off the roughs was the cause of much trouble. It was a bad ending to a right delightful little picnic.

Jennie went home"

Answer to last issue's
"Do you know this place?"

Wheelersburg



Timeless Treasure: H. A. Lorberg Scrapbook Page

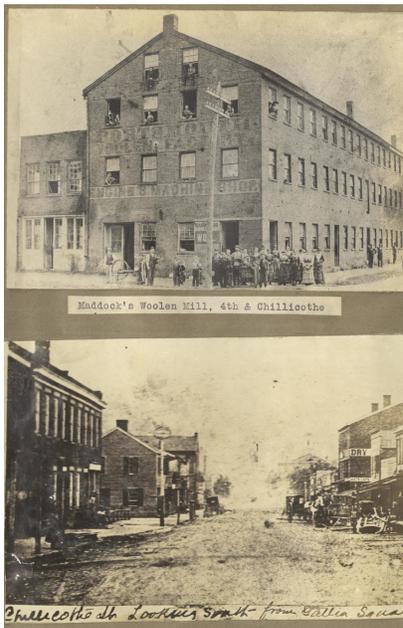
Our July/August Timeless Treasure is this scrapbook page from Volume 1 of Henry A. Lorberg's Scrapbooks. Lorberg was a local historian who created scrapbooks with many different historical items from Portsmouth and Scioto County. Pictured is Maddock's Woolen Mill, located at the corner of Fourth and Chillicothe Streets and another photo of Chillicothe Street Looking South From Gallia Square.

We have all eight volumes of Lorberg's scrapbooks on our website and are currently working to label each page for easier access.

View this and thousands more of our historical items at <https://www.yourppl.org/history/>

Have a timeless treasure of your own you'd like to share? Contribute images of your regional historic interest at

<https://www.yourppl.org/history/contribution>.



Selby's Arabian Horse Farm

In a newspaper article from the Portsmouth Times, dated May 29, 1952, Roger Selby, known as an Arabian horse expert, was meeting with the Kiwanis Club to discuss Arabian horses and their history. Selby explained that the Arabian horse family was royalty. Their origin dated back nearly 3500 years and symbolized the Arab way of life. How could Roger Selby be known as an expert on Arabian horses? He had an Arabian Horse farm in Scioto County.

Selby entered the Arabian Horse breeding business in 1928. A Times article in 1949 talks about how Selby bought two Arabian horses from England, formerly owned by the King of Arabia. After this purchase, Selby began his own breeding enterprise on his farm in Rosemount and later in Buena Vista.

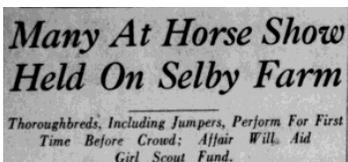
Story continued on page 3



Portsmouth Sunday Times
April 30, 1933



Portsmouth Daily Times September 17, 1949



Portsmouth Daily Times May 18, 1933



Who am I?

Clue 1: I was born in Scioto County in 1894.

Clue 2: I was the first female Mail Carrier for the county.

Clue 3: My employment date was around 1915, as I was listed in the Portsmouth Times during the great fire that almost destroyed Otway.

Clue 4: I married in 1929, after which, I was no longer listed as a mail carrier.

Clue 5: I did go on to run for Treasurer of Otway.



Hold your copy up to a mirror to view the answer!

reg'n Uille N me I

Do you know this place?

Clue 1: Originally, this place was called Harrisonville.

Clue 2: This town was named after General William Henry Harrison.

Clue 3: On May 24, 1859, this town was platted by Deputy County Surveyor, Frank C. Gibbs,

Clue 4: It had been platted in 1832 by Moses Gregory, but no record was made.

Clue 5: The first postmaster was Ephraim Rockwell.

Answer in the next issue!