

David Fayette Todd (1809-1878)

By Jerry Long, Owensboro, Ky., 1987

Dr. David Fayette Todd came to Daviess County, Ky. to make his home in 1850. He was born and raised in Fayette County, Ky. The second of eight children of Dr. John Todd and Nancy Todd, he was born- 15 November 1809. His grandparents were Robert & Ann (Todd) Todd and Levi & Jane Logan (Briggs) Todd. Robert (1754-1814) and Levi Todd (1756-1807) were sons of David & Hannah (Owen) Todd, and Ann Todd was the daughter of Rev. John Todd. David (1723-1785) and Rev. John were sons of Robert Todd (1697-1775), who had immigrated to this country from Ireland in 1737.

One of the oldest and most celebrated families of Kentucky the Todds have produced numerous military heroes and statesmen. David F. Todd was a first cousin to Mary Todd, the wife of President Abraham Lincoln, His mother, Nancy Todd and Mrs. Lincoln's father, Robert Smith Todd, were children of Levi & Jane (Briggs) Todd. Much has been written about the illustrious history of the Todd family. A chapter on the Todd family was published in the book, Historic Families of Kentucky, by Thomas Marshall Green (1889, pp.208-220). David F. Todd is referred to on page 213 of said book.

Dr. John Todd, the father of David F., was born 15 October 1783 in what is now Fayette County, Ky. In his native county he married Nancy Todd on 18 April 1807. They continued to make their home in Fayette County for a number of years. John Todd and his family were listed in the 1810, 1820 & 1830 censuses of Fayette County. Shortly after 1830 they moved to Danville, in Mercer County, Ky., here they were listed in the 1840 census. On 28 July 1846 John Todd's wife, Nancy, died at the age of 61. Six weeks later their daughter, Ann Maria, also died. Of their eight children she was the sixth to die in childhood or early adulthood: Ann Maria died at the age of 7 in 1815, Jane Briggs at 6 in 1818, Robert Levi at 19 in 1833, Margretta Briggs at 10 in 1835, William North at 26 in 1841 and Ann Maria II at 25 in 1846. Dr. John Todd's only surviving children, David Fayette and Thomas Jefferson Todd, both followed in their father's footsteps and entered the medical profession.

About 1846-48 Dr. John Todd went to live in Louisville, Ky., where he and his son, Thomas J, were living at the time of the 1850 census. In the latter half of 1850 or early 1851 he and his son, Thomas, joined David F. Todd in Daviess County, Ky., who had moved there a few months before. At the age of 76 Dr. John Todd died on 29 April 1860. On his monument in Owensboro, Ky.'s Elmwood Cemetery it is recorded that he "died in Owensboro".

Dr. John. Todd had written a will but a copy of it is no longer on record in Daviess County, since the county's first two will books (A & B, wills of 1815-1867) were lost or destroyed. Several of the early wills were rerecorded in Book A-B, but Dr. John Todd's will was not one of these. Though no copy is on record there is a suit in the records of the Daviess County Circuit Court in which John Todd's will and its specifications were at issue.

On 3 July 1861 Thomas J. Todd, son of Dr. John, brought suit against the John Todd heirs, challenging his father's will and charging that he was incompetent at the time he wrote it (Daviess County Circuit Court suit #320). Like many other families at the time the Todds were divided over the slavery issue. In the family of Mary Todd Lincoln, her husband was the chief defender of the Union, while at the same time three of her brothers shed their blood and gave the ultimate sacrifice, their lives, in the Confederate cause. Dr. John Todd like many of the other Todds had been a large slave owner. The 1840 census shows him as having 21 slaves. Several years before his death, Dr. John Todd, expressed to several of his friends his desire that his slaves were to be freed and his Negro women and their children were to be sent, to Liberia. He became a sponsor of the American Colonization Society, which sought the freeing of the slaves and their transfer to the free republic of Liberia in Africa. In the late 1840's when Dr. John Todd first drafted his will he included his decision and desire for the emancipation of his slaves in it. His son, Thomas J. Todd, upon hearing of his decision strongly disagreed and had several confrontations with his father about it. To no avail he failed to change his father's mind and John Todd's intentions remained the same. His other son, David F. Todd, was willing to abide by his father's will. When Dr. John Todd died, Thomas, still disagreeing, brought suit against the other heirs, trying to stop the probating of the will and the enacting of its decrees. The suit was never carried to a final judgment in the Daviess Circuit Court, the slavery question having been rendered moot by the national events of the next few months - the great Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863.

Dr. Thomas Jefferson Todd was born 21 November 1818 in Fayette County, Ky. Soon after arriving in Daviess County from Louisville, Ky. in about 1851 he bought a 287 acre farm on the banks of the Ohio River, The farm located in the Oakford Precinct was about eight miles west of Owensboro, a short distance northeast of where Stanley is today. He owned this farm until 1859.

During the Civil War Thomas J. Todd served in Co. E, 10th Ky. Calvary of the Confederate Army (The Partisan Rangers). After the war he practiced medicine in the Curdsville Precinct in Daviess County, Ky. He did not marry until the age of 56, when he married Mrs. Tabitha Smith Calhoun in Daviess County on 14 April 1875. To their union no children were born. The widow of John G. Calhoun and the daughter of Moses F. Smith & Frances Allen, she was born 20 April 1834 and died 25 January 1882. She was buried in a family cemetery on the Schadler form about a mile east of Curdsville, Ky. Dr. Thomas J. Todd died on 15 April 1877 at Curdsville. His body was brought to Owensboro and interred in the Elmwood Cemetery by the side of his father.

Owensboro Examiner, Friday, 20 April 1877, p5: "The remains of Dr. Thomas J. Todd were brought from Curdsville last Monday for interment in Elmwood Cemetery."

Dr. David Fayette Todd studied medicine in Danville, Ky., where he graduated. He practiced medicine at Rodney, Mississippi for several years. By 1849 he had returned to his native Fayette County, Ky. On August 29th of that year in Fayette County he was united in marriage to Miss Jane Herndon Hicks, The daughter of Beverly Alsop Hicks and Mary Colston Herndon, she was born on 3 June 1829 in Fayette County, Ky. Jane Hicks Todd and her family were named in an article entitled "A Genealogy of the Herndon: Family" by John W. Herndon published in 1902 in the Virginia Magazine, of History and Biography (Vol. IX, pp.318-322). Jane Hicks Todd was a descendant of the old Virginia families of Hicks, Alsop, Herndon, Digges, Waller, Brock, Colston, Travers, Hampton and Hammond. Her fourth great-grandfather, William Herndon, a resident of New Kent County, Va., in 1677 married Catherine Digges, a daughter of Edward Digges, who in 1655 had been Governor of Virginia.

Within the next eight months after their wedding in August of 1849 David F. and Jane Hicks Todd left Fayette County and journeyed to their new home in Daviess County, Ky. By 1 April 1850 they were residing in Daviess County, on that day he paid Jedediah Johnson of Louisville, Ky. \$1950 for one-half interest in a 300 acre farm in Daviess County known as the "Cornland" tract. Later the same year on November 21 at an auction David F. Todd purchased the other one-half interest for \$3750 from the heirs of John N. Johnson, the deceased brother of Jedediah Johnson,

In the summer of 1850 when the Daviess County census was enumerated David F. & Jane H. Todd were residing at Cornland, as indicated by their neighbors on the census record. They were listed immediately after William Bell, who at the time was the owner of the farm known as "Haphazard", which bordered Cornland on the east. The homes on these two plantations were two of the most celebrated residences in the early history of Daviess County.

Haphazard, the former home of Robert Triplett, an early Daviess County entrepreneur, was built by Triplett about 1822. Located on the eastern edge of Owensboro, Haphazard is on the Pleasant Valley Road, a short distance off Highway 60. One of the oldest homes in Daviess County it is on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1844 Robert Triplett sold Haphazard to William Bell.

The Cornland tract extended west of Haphazard and the Pleasant Valley Road down to about where the Wendell Ford Expressway intersects with Highway 60. The original Cornland mansion no longer exists and its original site is not known for certain. It was, however on the northern part of the tract, affording a beautiful view of the Ohio River. At the time of the Daviess County Sesquicentennial in 1965 a Kentucky Historical marker commemorating Cornland was erected at the southeast corner of the intersection of Highway 60 and the Wendell Ford Expressway. The marker bears the following inscriptions:

CORNLAND - site of home, prior to 1809, of Colonel Joseph Hamilton Daveiss killed at Tippecanoe, 1811. As US Dist. Atty. for Ky., he prosecuted Aaron Burr for treason in 1806. This county, others in Ind., Ill., Mo., named for this able, zealous patriot. George M. Bibb, twice US Senator, Secy. US Treas., 1884-5 (ed. Note - should be 1844-5), and Philip Triplett, Congressman, 1839-1843, later owned Cornland. 1965

Col. Joseph Hamilton Daveiss, lawyer, statesman and military hero, was born 4 March 1774 in Bedford County, Va, to the union of Joseph Daveiss and Jean Hamilton. In 1801 he pleaded and won the celebrated case of Wilson vs. Mason before the U.S. Supreme Court, he was the first Kentucky lawyer to plead a case before the highest court of this land. The case involved titles to lands in what was then Ohio County, Ky. As a result of the court's decision Col. Daveiss won ownership of a 5000 acre tract along the Ohio River, about a mile east of the settlement at Yellow Banks, which later became Owensboro, Ky.

In 1803 Joseph H. Daveiss married Anne Marshall, sister of John Marshall, who at the time was the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. About 1804 or 1805 he moved to his Ohio River tract near Yellow Banks. On it he built a two story brick dwelling facing the Ohio River and he named the plantation "Cornland". In 1809 he defended the noted Yellow Banks (Owensboro) pioneer, Bill Smothers, in a trial in which Smothers was accused of murder. On 13 April 1809 a verdict of not guilty was returned and within two or three days after the trial Joe Daveiss left Cornland in charge of his brother, John Daveiss, and went to live in Lexington, Ky. He was appointed U.S. district attorney by President Jefferson, and conducted the prosecution of Aaron Burr for treason in the memorial trial at Richmond, Va. in 1810.

Col. Joseph Hamilton Daveiss was killed at the Battle of Tippecanoe on 7 November 1811 abruptly ending a brilliant and promising legal career at the age of 37. On 15 January 1815 a new county, which included his former home at Cornland, was formed from Ohio County, Ky. and was named Daviess County, in honor of its celebrated former citizen.

On 20 June 1828 at an auction 300 acres, the northern section of Joseph H. Daveiss's Cornland tract, which included the Cornland mansion, was sold to John L. May and Mary Eppes. The sale had been ordered to pay a claim against the Daveiss estate, won by the grantors in the Daviess County Circuit Court suit of "John L. May & Mary Eppes vs. the Daveiss heirs & John Rowan & James Meade, executors of the Daveiss estate". John L. May and Mary Eppes, wife of Daniel Eppes, were brother and sister and the only children of the late John May, who was a member of the land firm of May, Bannister & Co., that had been instrumental in the survey and settlement of extensive areas of Kentucky in the later part of the 1700's. Soon after acquiring Cornland John L. May and Mary Eppes went there to reside. By 13 May 1829 they had left Cornland and returned to their former home of Frankfort, Ky., on that date they transferred the title to Cornland to Albert T. Burnley, Phillip Triplett, Charles Scott Bibb and George M. Bibb (Daviess County deed book C, p.151).

During the later part of 1829 and in 130 George Mortimer Bibb (1776-1859) resided at Cornland. While living there in 1829 he was elected to a second term in the U.S. Senate, In 1830 he was enumerated in the census of Daviess County, Ky. He served as U.S. Senator 1811-14 and 1829-35, and in 1844-45 served as Secretary of the U.S. Treasury.

During the years of 1830-1844 Cornland was variously occupied by: other members of the Bibb family, including J.J.C. Bibb & Lucy Mary Pocahontas Bibb; Albert T. Burnley & his wife, one of the joint owners; and at other times it was leased out to tenants. Phillip Triplett, one of the other owners, was a longtime Daviess County lawyer and state legislator and senator, and he also acted as attorney for the interests of John L. May and Mary Eppes. Albert T. Burnley of New Orleans, Phillip Triplett of Daviess County, Ky. and the various heirs and devisees of Charles Scott Bibb sold Cornland (300 acres) to Jedediah Johnson, of Louisville, Ky. for \$5800 on 21 December 1844 (Daviess County deed book G, p.523). At the time of the sale Cornland was occupied by a tenant, Greensberry Griffith.

Jedediah Johnson sold one-half interest in the Cornland tract to his brother John N. Johnson, of New Orleans, on 1 February 1849. Jedediah Johnson, as agent for Sally Ward Grayson (his wife's aunt), and for himself and his wife, Mary E. Payne Johnson, all of Louisville, Ky., sold the other one-half interest in Cornland to David F. Todd on 1 April 1850 (Daviess County deed book J, p291). On November 21 of the same year Frances Johnson, guardian for Harriet D., Francis Y., Mary M., John N., Davis and Caroline F. Johnson, infant heirs of John N. Johnson, deceased (died February 1849) sold their one-half interest in Cornland to David F. Todd (Daviess County deed book K, p.312). The 1851 Daviess County tax list shows that David F. Todd's 300 acre tract on the Ohio River was valued at \$6000.

On 16 February 1857 David F. Todd and his wife, Jane Todd, sold Cornland to James Rudd of Louisville, Ky. for \$13,500, double what he had paid for it seven years before. After James Rudd died the 300 acre Cornland tract in 1868 was divided among his children. The northern 100 acres on which the Daveiss home had been located, passed to his son, James C. Rudd. James C. Rudd the History of Daviess County, Kentucky (1883, p486) states came to Daviess County in March 1857, which was only a few weeks after his father had acquired Cornland, and no doubt at that time took up residence there.

In 1859 the Cornland home built by Joseph H. Daveiss about 55 years earlier burned to the ground. James Rudd built a large two story frame house near the site of the original plantation home. For the first nine years after coming to Daviess County James C. Rudd farmed, after which he opened a real estate office in Owensboro. Later he went into the insurance business, at which he became very successful. He formed the insurance agency of J. C. Rudd & Co., which is still serving Owensboro and is its oldest business. He owned considerable real estate in Owensboro and built "The Rudd House" on St. Ann off 2nd St., which was for many years Owensboro's leading hotel. In the 1876 Atlas of Daviess County, Ky. (p16) it is stated that Cornland, the former home of Joseph H. Daveiss was then owned by James C. Rudd and the

1883 History of Daviess County, Kentucky (p75) also makes reference to the same. On a plat map of the Uppertown Precinct in the 1876 Atlas of Daviess County, Ky. (p38), J. C. Rudd is shown as owning the 100 acre tract on the river about a mile east of the city limits of Owensboro, which at the time extended to the Leitchfield Road.

As a result of a decision in the suit of George C. Littell vs. James C. Rudd et al, in the Daviess County Circuit Court the 100 acres of Cornland on the Ohio River was ordered to be sold. James C. Rudd, his wife Colgate M., William N. Rudd, his wife Mary B., Ruyard Rudd, his wife Mary Belle, and James C. Rudd, Jr. & his wife Melvina, on 5 September 1899 sold the 100 acres to the Travelers Insurance Co, of Hartford, Conn,. At the same time two lots in Owensboro, one on St. Ann St. on which the Rudd House Hotel was located, and the hotel and all of its furnishings were also sold to the same (Daviess County Commissioners deed book F, p.78). Charles B. Rudd and his wife Charlotte B. sold their interests in the same properties to the Travelers Instance Co. on 12 September 1908 (Daviess County deed book 85, p.257).

The travelers Insurance Co. transferred the same properties to Martin H. Woods, of Kansas City, Mo. on 7 October 1908 (Daviess County deed book 85, p.261). Just six weeks later on November 21 Woods and his wife Belle J. conveyed the same to W. E. Whitely of Owensboro (Daviess County deed book 85, p.342). Whitely and his wife Margaret E. sold the 100 acre Cornland tract to R. H. Ford on 23 February 1918 (Daviess' County deed book 99, p.512). The 100 acres was subsequently subdivided into three tracts of 25.6, 55.8 & 18.3 acres and resold. The later section of 18.3 acres was the northern part of the Cornland tract, that lay between the Hardinsburg Road (now Highway 60) and the Ohio River. It is not known if the original home built by Col, Joseph H. Daveiss was on this northern most tip of his Cornland tract or not. If the site was not north of the highway and was instead on the south side it would not have been very far back from the highway and possibly stood atop some of the sloops that are along the southside of the highway.

R. H. Ford and his wife Minerva E. on 23 September 1918 sold to T. F. Birkhead the 18.3 acres between the Ohio River and the Hardinsburg Road (Daviess County deed book 100, p.57) On the same day Birkhead resold six acres of the same to J. L. Brown, (Daviess County deed book 100, p.149), On 1 January 1921 Birkhead sold another, 11.644 acres of the same tract to Brown (Daviess County deed book 105, p.499). John Lester Brown (1859-1930) on 4 August 1928 recorded a plat map of "J. L. Brown's River View Addition" by which a subdivision of this section of the Cornland tract between the river and the Hardinsburg Road was laid out (Daviess County deed book 120, p.468). The subdivision contained three blocks, with streets named Brown Ct., Hubert Ct. and Stewart Ct, Hubert Ct. J. L. Brown named for his son, Hubert Manly Brown and Stewart Ct. he named for his daughter and son-in-law, Robert I, & Mabel E. Brown Stewart. During the 1930's and 40's the Brown family sold the lots in the subdivision to various property owners, who constructed homes. Until 1966 members of the Brown family lived at 2305 Hardinsburg Road, the northeast corner of the intersection of Brown Ct. and Highway 60 and across the highway from the Cornland historical marker. An article on the history of

Cornland and published in the Sesquicentennial Edition of the Owensboro Messenger & Inquirer on 5 October 1965.

During the years David F. and Jane Todd lived at Cornland four of their seven children were born to them: John H., Beverly Hicks, David Fayette Jr. and Robert Stuart Todd.

About the time David F. Dodd sold Cornland in February of 1857 he moved his family to a farm about 4 miles west of Owensboro. In the 1857 tax list of Daviess County he is shown as being taxed on 525 acres. In that year he was in the tax list for the western half of the county, whereas, in the preceding year when he was taxed on the 300 acre Cornland farm he had been in the list for the eastern section of the county. In the 1857 tax list the 525 acre tract was shown as being on the waters of the Ohio River and was valued at \$13,000. The tract was about two miles south of the banks of the Ohio River, the nearest water course. In the Buzzard's Roost section of the Lowertown Precinct, just west of Bon Harbor Hills, the farm included lands that are now part of the Ben Hawes State Park. The Roost Road, which runs through Bon Harbor Hills and on which the park is now located, was the southern boundary of the 525 acre tract. The area between the Ohio River and the Henderson Road was known as "Buzzard's Roost", so called for the peculiar birds that infested this region.

The 1857 tax list suggests that David Todd was for at least part of that year living on the Buzzard's Roost farm. However no deed was recorded conveying the land to David Todd until the following year. On 17 September 1858, 284 acres was deeded to him by Clinton McClarty, a commissioner, in behalf of Thomas H. Pointer and his children, Phillip, Jane and Mary Belle Pointer (Daviess County deed book O, p.417). As a result of a petition by Thomas H. Pointer in the Daviess County Circuit Court the land had been sold at an auction at the courthouse door on 10 May 1858 to David Todd. The property had been allotted to Margaret Pointer, the deceased wife of Thomas H. Pointer, in the division of the lands of her father, Elisha Adams. Elisha Adams had died in Daviess County in 1842 and had married Eliza Beal in Daviess County on 24 January 1822; their daughter, Margaret Ann Adams, married Thomas H. Pointer on 16 February 1841 in Daviess County. Thomas H. Pointer for many years was an insurance agent and operator of several other business interests in Owensboro, in 1868-69 he served as Owensboro's assessor. His son, Phillip A. Pointer, was a professor and principal in several of Owensboro's schools.

Three months after the transfer of the 284 acres to David F. Todd, Thomas H. Pointer sold an adjoining 243 acres to David Todd on 29 December 1858 (Daviess County deed book P. p53). The deeds for the two tracts indicate the combined tracts were of 527 acres, the 1857 through 1862 Daviess County tax books list the tract as being 525 acres.. David Todd paid \$7,100 for the first tract and another \$6,075 for the second. The total purchase price of \$13,175 was just \$325 less than what he had sold Cornland for a few months before.

At the time of the 1860 Daviess County census David F. Todd, his wife and their four sons, were living on their farm in the Buzzard's Roost neighborhood. The census listing appeared as follows:

1860 Daviess County, Ky. census, p.898. #540

Todd, David F.	50	m	Ky.
	(farmer R.E. \$20000 / P.P. \$12000)		
Jane H.	30	f	Ky.
John	8	m	Ky.
Beverly	7	m	Ky.
David F.	5	m	Ky.
Robert S.	3	m	Ky.

Listed near the Todd home in the 1860 census was Alfred Grissom (#529), who resided at Grissom's Landing on the Ohio River, a little north of where Stanley is today and about two miles northwest of the Todd home. In the census David F. Todd's occupation was listed as being that of a farmer and his real estate was shown as being valued at \$20,000 and his personal property at \$12000. These figures were well above the standards of the day and reflected the success and prosperity of his plantation farm.

With the onset of the Civil War the success of David F. Todd's farming endeavors began to wane. Like many of the larger Daviess County plantation owners he lost heavily by the war. The operation and productivity of the larger land estates were greatly dependent upon slave labor. The 1862 Daviess County tax list shows that David F. Todd owned 12 slaves. In the following year the Emancipation Proclamation was issued and the slaves were freed. Only one of David Todd's former slaves stayed on after the war. Ellen, born about 1820, lived in the Todd home, working as a cook and house servant. According to the book of remembrances entitled Granny Remembers (J. W. Burke Company, Macon, Ga., 1928) written by Ella Hicks Johnson, a niece of David & Jane Hicks Todd. Aunt Ellen had left with freedom but soon returned and stayed the rest of her life. In the household of David Todd at the time of the 1870 Daviess County census she was listed as Ellen Todd. (black, servant, age 50) and in his home in the 1880 Daviess County census she was listed as Ellen Balden (black, servant, widowed, age 60). In the 1870 and later censuses of Daviess County several black Todd families were listed, some of whom were no doubt former slaves of David F. Todd.

With the war the labor of the slaves were not only lost to the plantations but also their owners sizeable monetary investments in their utilization. During the war land values dropped drastically. On the 1861 Daviess County tax list David F. Todd's 525 acre farm was evaluated at \$15,750, the following year its assessed value dropped to \$9,400. David Todd at this time also suffered setbacks as the result of the failure of several business transactions in which he had been involved as surety.

Starting in 1864 David Todd was forced to begin to sell off his 525 acre farm. Nine years later he sold the last of the farm. In all he recovered only about half of his original purchase price. The farm during the years of 1864-1873 was sold in seven parcels, which were as follows,

- Lot 1: 50 acres to Barna McNamee 6 February 1864
(Davies County deed book S, p.213)
- Lot 2: 11 ¼ acres to Frank Curran 22 June 1864
(Daviess County deed book S, p.50)
- Lot 3: 40 acres to John Sheridan 26 October 1864
(Daviess County deed book S. p117)
- Lot 4: 2 5/8 acres to William J. Rouse 1 January 1866
(Daviess County deed book W, p.53)
- Lot 5: 9 acres to Matthew McNulty 1 March 1871
(Daviess County deed book X, p.632)
- Lot 6: 335 acres to Emma S. Simmons 25. January 1872 (not recorded
until 5 May 1874, Daviess County deed book 28, p.33)
- Lot 7: 73 5/8 acres to Robert A. Johnston
(Daviess County deed book 27, p.319)

A plat map of the Lowertown Precinct in the 1876 Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, Ky. (p47) showed the various lard owners at the time. The 525 acres formerly owned by David F. Todd adjoined the large 2000 acre tract owned by A. B. Barret (Bon Harbor Hills) on the west, and included the tracts labeled: J. Wier, Geo. Simmons, J. Staple, H. Mc., M. H., Rose Sweedman and J. R. Lancaster. The southern most boundary of the 525 acre tract was the Roost Road and the northern most boundary was the big ditch which is near what is now called the Griffith Road, which runs west from the River Road to Stanley.

In 1876 George H. & Emma Simmons, Matthew McNulty and William J. Rouse were still owners of the tracts they had purchased from David Todd. McNulty on the 1876 plat map was designated as "M. Mc.". Rouse's name was not listed on the 1876 plat map, his 2 5/8 acres was the small square at the southeastern corner of the Simmons tract, Robert A. Johnston in 1876 also still owned the 73 acres he bought from David Todd but on the 1876 plat map the 73 acres was listed as being the property of J. Wier. Wier probably resided there and possibly had leased the property but apparently did not own it since no deed was recorded conveying the tract to him and in 1884 Johnston sold the same (Daviess County deed book 41, p.484). Barna McNamee died in December of 1865, a few months after he had purchased 50 acres of the David Todd farm. Shortly afterwards Matthew & Rose Sweedman became the owners of 47 acres of the McNamee tract and Mike Holland acquired the other 3 acres (on the 1876 plat map his tract was designated by "M.H."). The lot of 11 ¼ acres David Todd sold to Frank Curran on the 1876 plat map was part of the 17 acres listed under the name of J. R. Lancaster. In 1870 Curran had sold his lot to John R. Lancaster and Archie Sutherland, the sale also included another seven acres which was on the south side of the Roost Road and which was not part of the Todd farm (Daviess County Z, p208). The 40 acres sold by David Todd to John Sheridan was in 1876

owned by Joseph & Sarah, Staples and Matthew McNulty. In 1873 Sheridan sold 37 ½ acres to Sarah Staples (Daviness County deed book 27, p.317). The other 2 ½ acres Sheridan sold to Noel C. Rouse in 1865, who assigned it to Matthew McNulty (Daviness County deed book 34, p.34). The later, 2 ½ acres adjoined Matthew McNulty's other 9 acres, of the Todd farm and was the tract of 11 ½ acres labeled "M. Mc." on the 1876 plat map, below the Staples tract.

Listed on pages 199 & 200 of the 1870 Daviness County census (Lowertown Precinct) were the residences oft Joseph & Sarah Staples, William J. & Julia M. Rouse, Michael & Catherine Holland, Matthew & Margaret McNulty, Matthew & Rosa Sweedman and John & Margaret Sheridan, the last four couples were all Irish. William J. ("Dock") Rouse operated a blacksmith shop on the 2 5/8 acres he bought from David Todd. His lot was on the north side of the Roost Road, immediately next to the southeastern corner of the present Ben Hawes State Park. In the deeds regarding the various lots of David Todd's 525 acre farm no indication is given as to where the dwelling house was located. The fact that David Todd sold lot (#4) of 2 5/8 acre lot on 1 January 1866, which was about the same time David Todd moved his family from the Roost farm, gives some indication that the Todd home may have been on this lot.

The southern part of the 335 acre tract which David F. Todd sold to George H. and Emma Simmons in 1872 is today the, eastern half of the Ben Hawes State Park. George H. Simmons was one of the patrons of the 1876 Historical Atlas Map of Daviness County, Ky. (p47). In this source it is stated that the Simmons' residence in the Lowertown Precinct was 4 ½ miles west of Owensboro, their post office was at Owensboro and he was a farmer. George H. Simmons, a native of Nelson County, Ky., came to Daviness County in 1869 and before buying the Todd property resided in Owensboro.

Benjamin W. Hawes State Park includes a golf course, nature trails, tennis courts, picnic and other recreational facilities. It is Daviness County's largest recreational facility and covers 300 scenic acres. The park's 300 acres includes the southern half of the Simmons tract, all of the Rachael Hagan tract and all but a western strip of the Daniel Murphy tract, as plotted on the 1876 plat of the Lowertown Precinct The southern boundary of the park is the Roost Road (except for a small section between two curves of the Road which uses the southern boundary of the Murphy tract). The northern boundary of the park is from the southeast corner of the Wier tract, thence with the Murphy and Hagan northern lines, down to the northeast corner of the Hagan tract, and from that point across the Simmons tract to the northwest corner of the "M. Mc." tract (Matthew McNulty's 11½ acres). The eastern line of the Simmons tract from the latter point down to the Roost Road is the eastern boundary of the park. The western line of the park is from the point at the southeast corner of the Wier tract, as shown on the 1876 plat map, down to the northwest corner of the Carrico tract,

Emma Simmons, the widow of George H. Simmons, died in Daviness County on 21 October 1909. On 5 December 1910 her two children, H. G. Simmons and Miss Emily D. Simmons, both of Brookline, Mass., a suburb of Boston, sold 322.381 of the 335 acre tract that

David F. Todd had sold to their mother in 1872 (Daviess County deed book 89, p.130). The remaining section, at the northern edge of the tract, had been sold to the Louisville, St. Louis & Texas Railway Co. on 15 August 1888 (Daviess County deed book 56, p.364). The Simmons children sold the 322 acres to W. E. Whitely and R. E. Massie for \$12,181.77. Nine years later on 1 January 1920 Whitely and Massie sold the same to E. G. Hayden for \$26,416.66 (Daviess County deed book 104, p.615). Hayden subdivided the tract of 322.381 acres and the southern 106.7 acres he sold to Fred Kurz on 1 January 1921 (Daviess County deed book 105, p.483). The Kurz heirs and devices recorded an agreement for the sale of this southern section of the Simmons tract to the city of Owensboro on 30 April 1962 (Daviess County deed book 313, p.571), The transaction was finalized and recorded on 14 December 1962, 108.9 acres of the former David F. Todd farm of 525 acres and later of the Emma Simmons farm of 335 acres, was sold to the city for \$105,280 (Daviess County deed book 314, p.537). Plans for the construction of a recreational park on this and other adjoining property was soon afterwards initiated. In July 1963 the park was named in honor of Col. Benjamin W. Hawes (1909-1988), over his objections. Hawes during his term as mayor of Owensboro (1958-1964) had been instrumental in the establishment of the park. About 1975 the city transferred the park to the state of Kentucky. The former home of the Kurz family is now the pro shop for the golf course in the park.

David F. Todd continued to live on his farm in the Lowertown Precinct until the fall of 1865, a few months following the end of the Civil War. At that time he retired from farming. In the biography, of his son, Robert S. Todd, in the History of Daviess County, Kentucky (1883, p.154) it is stated that Robert S. Todd "lived on a farm till the fall of 1865, when his parents moved to Owensboro". In the biography of another son, Beverly H. Todd, in the same book (p.496), it is stated that Beverly H. Todd "was born in Daviess County, May 24, 1853... He remained on his father's farm in Lower Town Precinct until twelve years of age, when his father moved into Owensboro, and retired from farming." During, the years David F. and Jane Todd lived on their Buzzard's Roost farm two more sons, William Butler and Charles Alexander, were born to them.

David F. Todd during the last thirteen years of his life, from the time he left the Buzzard's Roost farm in the fall of 1865 until his death in September of 1878, resided at several locations in and near the city of Owensboro. The exact locations of his residences during these years have not been determined. During this time he apparently leased various properties since no deeds were recorded by which he purchased any new property. Other than the deeds pertaining to the Cornland and Buzzard's Roost farms the only other deeds recorded in the deed books of Daviess County by David F. Todd were for a lot near the county poor farm. On 29 October 1864 for \$500, he purchased 3/4 acre from John Sheridan, who three days earlier had bought 40 acres of the Todd farm (Daviess County deed book S, p.78). The 3/4 acre was near the poor farm property, which was on the Miller's Mill Road, about five miles southeast of Owensboro, near where the Windridge Golf course is now. David F. Todd never moved to this property. He

owned it only 40 days and sold it on 8 December 1864 to Emily V. Owen for \$690 (Davies County deed book S, p.212).

One of the residences of David F. Todd and his family during the years of 1866-1878 was on the banks of the Ohio River just outside of Owensboro. This home was described by Ella Hicks Johnson, a niece of David F. and Jane Nicks Todd., in a small booklet of her remembrances entitled Granny Remembers, published in 1928. Ella Hicks was the daughter of Jane Todd's brother, Charles Beverly Hicks and his first wife, Mary D. Flint. Her parents came to Owensboro from Fayette County, Ky. shortly before 1860 and she was born on 22 September 1861 in Owensboro. About a month before her sixth birthday her mother died on 30 August 1867. Following the death of her mother she said in her book that she stayed at her aunt Jane's fully two-thirds of the time. Her dad operated a planing mill out on Panther Creek in the county and did not remarry until two years after his wife's death.

In Granny Remembers Ella Hicks Johnson described her aunt Jane Todd's home as being on the banks of the Ohio River a little beyond walking distance from town. In describing the Todd home she recalled the following:

"Aunt Jane's house sat back - far back in a big yard... The house had many large, square rooms and from the upper windows - especially the garret - there was a magnificent view of the river... There was a vast garden where all sorts of vegetables grew... Out beyond the white front fence was a wide dirt road usually dusty or muddy, then a stretch of grass plot to a steep bank. At the foot of this bank a sandy beach and the beautiful Ohio River with a green island upstream and the low green Indiana shore a mile across... The sandy bank was a sheer drop of about forty feet... On one side of the plantation ran a long narrow lane... Beyond the garden lay a big apple orchard... The only horse she (Aunt Jane) had was an old sorrel mare named Dove, which was driven to a rockaway... Many trips ambling old Dove made daily between town and home. The distance was short but rather too long to walk and so when it became time for even Charlie to go to school, Uncle David decided that it would be better for them to live in town, In addition to this the gradual caving of the river bank threatened to injure the place. Indeed, it was only a few years before the inroads of the water made it necessary to abandon the house which finally fell into the river. So the Todds moved to town and our happy-go-lucky plantation days were over."

If this description is accurate the Todd home, Mrs. Johnson speaks of would have to be west of the city limits of Owensboro. On the west side of Owensboro one can look up the Ohio River, east, and see the end of the Yellow Banks Island. The island ends at a point near the foot of Frederica St., in downtown Owensboro, four blocks west of the bridge. The Yellow Banks Island, about 2½ miles long, extends opposite the eastern half of Owensboro to a point just west of the Elmer Smith Power Plant on East 60. Nowhere east of downtown Owensboro can one look

upstream and see the end of an island and also be just outside of the town. There are steep banks along the river east of town but in this vicinity there are no sandbars below the banks. Standing on the bank of the river at Cornland, about a mile east of Owensboro, the former home of the Todd family, one is directly across from the Yellow Banks Island, the Indiana shore can only be seen upstream and downstream past the ends of the island, and at the foot of the bank is the water's edge.

If the Todd home was a little beyond walking distance from downtown Owensboro it would probably have been at least a mile's distance. The former site of the locks and dam on the river between Hanning Lane and Woodford Ave. was approximately one mile west from the courthouse and Frederica St. in Owensboro. An 1876 plat map of Owensboro, published in the Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, Ky. (p80), shows the western city limits at that time was about where Hanning Lane is now. Ella Hicks Johnson's description would thus suggest that the Todd home was in the area just west of Hanning Lane. Located in the mile west of Hanning Lane along the river in recent years were the English Park, Field Packing Co., Medley Distilling Co. and Fleischman Distilling Co. The Todd home may have been on some of these properties. This area fits all of the details in Mrs. Johnson's description - one can look upstream and see the end of the Yellow Banks Island, the Indiana shore is directly across the river and there are sandbars beneath very tall and steep banks.

By 1870 David F. Todd had apparently, moved his family from the area west of the city, Lowertown Precinct, and the home described by Ella Hicks Johnson. At the time of the 1870 census his family was enumerated in the Uppertown Precinct. Based on the residences of David F. Todd's neighbors in the 1870 census he was then living in the area between Grimes Ave. and the river, and within the mile east of the Leitchfield Road, which at the time was Owensboro's eastern boundary. David Todd's neighbors in the 1870 census - William B. Pegram, Samuel Wing, David Hamilton, Amos Hathaway, William Monarch, Sylvester Monarch and Martin V. Monarch all were residents of the area along the eastern boundary of Owensboro during the early 1870's. On the 1876 plate map Pegram, Hamilton, Hathaway and H. V. Monarch are all shown as being property owners in the area just east of Owensboro.

William B. Pegram's property was about one block east of the Leitchfield Road and extended from the river all the way to Grimes Ave. David Hamilton, who operated a tobacco factory in Owensboro, owned the property east of Pegram, from the river to about 5th St. Hamilton Ave. between 2nd and 4th Sts. was named for the property's former owner. On the 1876 plat map east of Hamilton was the property of Charles R. Tyler. Today the next street east of Hamilton Ave. is Tyler Ave. (between 2nd & 4th Sts.). On the south side of 4th St., opposite Tyler Ave., is Wing Ave., which bears the name of Samuel Wing. David F. Todd's proximity to Pegram, Wing and Hamilton in the census suggests he was living very near to where Wing Ave. is now. Amos Hathaway's property was approximately located in the area bounded by the streets of Wing Ave., Monarch Ave., Grimes Ave. and Riley Ave.

The Monarch brothers operated several distilleries and resided on the south side of 4th St., between Wing Ave. and Highland Court. They built grand homes along this stretch known as "Distiller's Row". The home built by Sylvester Monarch, one of David Todd's neighbors in 1870, still stands today. Originally called "Highlands" his home, on West Highland Court, in recent years has been called the LaVega Clements House, bearing the name of a former Owensboro lawyer, who bought the house after the Monarchs fell on hard times during Prohibition. Drawings of the suburban residences of David Hamilton and M. V. Monarch, which were located in this section, were published in the 1876 Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, Ky. (p75). Their homes were on the scale of the traditional Southern plantation homes - large elegant mansions set way back on expansive beautifully landscaped estates.

On the 1876 plat map there are several property owners who were not listed in the 1870 census listing of this neighborhood. In 1876 on the north side of East 2nd St., going east from the Leitchfield Road to the end of 2nd St. at its intersection with East 4th St., were homes owned by William B. Pegram, David Hamilton, Charles R. Tyler, Kerney, John A. Faulds, James M. Alsop and J. Thornberry. Only the first two were listed in this area in the 1870 census. David F. Todd in 1870 may have possibly lived as a tenant in one of these homes along the river and East 2nd St.

Ella Hicks Johnson relates in Granny Remembers that the Todd family had moved into Owensboro when their son, Charles, became of school age. Charles was born 31 March 1863 and would have been of school age about the fall of 1870. The Todds probably moved into Owensboro about this time or shortly before, and were in town by the time of the first public or free school in the fall of 1871. In her book the only description of the Todd home in Owensboro given by Ella Hicks Johnson is that "Aunt Jane's town house had a large back yard". She also states that the Todds after moving to town lived within a few blocks of the homes of her father, Charles B. Hicks, and of her uncle and aunt, Edward & Lucy Hicks Carter.

The town home of the Todd family which Ella Hicks Johnson referred to may have been located on Lewis Street, in the inner city north of 9th St. On page 29 of the 1876 Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, Ky. David F. Todd is listed as one of the patrons of that publication. In the entry accompanying his name it is stated that his residence was on Lewis St. in Owensboro, his occupation was that of County School Commissioner, his nativity was in Fayette County, Ky., and he came to the county in 1850. Lewis St. is located in the 2nd (or Upper) Ward of Owensboro and at the time of the 1880 census the families of Charles B. Hicks and Edward & Lucy Carter were living in this ward.

After retiring from farming David F. Todd was employed as County School Commissioner. This was a salaried position elected by the county court for a term of two years. David F. Todd held this office for eight years, from 9 November 1869 to 20 July 1878. He was first appointed to the office to fill the unexpired term of Henry Clay Elliott, who had resigned (Daviess County order book I, p.123). In the October sessions of the Daviess County Court in

1870, 1872 (order book I, p.425), 1874 (order book J, p.94) and 1876 (order book J, p.561), Dr. David F. Todd was elected to this office for the ensuing two years. On 16 October 1872 he was elected by a unanimous vote and on 15 October 1874 by a vote of 9 to 8 over James F. Hite. On Saturday 20 July 1878, in Daviess County order book K, p. 290, the following entry was recorded:

This day came David F. Todd Common School Commissioner for Daviess County and tendered in writing his resignation as said commissioner as follows: Owensboro, July 25, 1878. To the Hon. Judge of the Daviess County Court, I herewith tender my resignation as commissioner of the Common schools of Daviess County, David F. Todd, which resignation is ordered to be filed and accepted.

On 13 March 1871 the first Public School system in Owensboro was created and according to the History of Daviess County, Ky. (p.363) on 7 April 1871 Dr. David Todd was appointed census taker for the Owensboro school district.

After moving to Owensboro the Todd children attended the Upper (or 2nd) Ward School and the family worshiped at the Fourth Street Presbyterian Church. The grounds of the Upper Ward School encompassed the entire block bounded by 2nd, 3rd, Lewis and Crittenden Streets. The same block in recent years was the site of the old Sears & Roebuck building. The Fourth Street Presbyterian Church constituted in 1868 was located at the northwest corner of 4th & Crittenden Streets. Charles B. Hicks was elected and ordained an elder of the same congregation in November 1871.

Four months after his resignation as county school commissioner Dr. David F. Todd died on 7 September 1878, at the age of 68. He was buried in Elmwood Cemetery, in the southeastern edge of section D, beside his father Dr. John Todd, his brother Thomas J. Todd, his wife's parents and four of his children, who had preceded him in death. The obituary of Dr. David Todd was published in the Owensboro Messenger on 11 September 1878. Two days later a notice of his funeral was published in the Owensboro Examiner, in which it was stated that his funeral took place from the family residence on Locust St. He was survived by his wife, three sons, Beverly H., Robert S. and Charles A. Todd, and one granddaughter, David Ada Todd, all of Owensboro.

History of Daviess County, Kentucky (Inter-State Publishing Co., Chicago, 1883, p228):

DR. DAVID TODD was born and raised in Fayette County, Ky. He graduated at Danville, and practiced medicine at Rodney, Miss., some years. In 1850 he came to Daviess County and engaged in farming for many years, in which he succeeded well, but lost heavily by the war. He was for many years a faithful School Commissioner. He died Sept. 14, 1878, in Owensboro.

Owensboro Messenger, Wednesday, 11 September 1878:

The death of Dr. David Todd took place on Saturday morning last. The funeral services were held at his house, and he was buried at Elmwood on Sunday afternoon. Dr. Todd was born and raised in Fayette county, Ky. He graduated at Danville, and after devoting himself for sometime to the study of medicine, located at Rodney, Miss., and practiced his profession for some years. In 1850 he came to Daviess and engaged in farming for many years. He was rewarded with substantial success, though its fruits were lost by the war and by the vicissitudes of business, in which he was involved as surety. For many years he discharged faithfully the duties of School Commissioner. Through all the events of a long life he has been known among his fellow-men as a true Christian gentlemen, and his death is much lamented by many friends. It follows all too soon upon the loss of two sons whose lives attested the value of their father's, example, and is a sad blow to a devoted wife and true sons.

Owensboro Examiner, Friday, 13 September 1878, p5:

The funeral of Dr. David F. Todd, an old and highly respected citizen of Owensboro, took place from the family residence on Locust Street on Sunday afternoon last. Dr. Todd was very generally known to the people of Daviess County, and only known to be loved and respected.



Shortly after her husband's death in 1878 Jane Hicks Todd and her sons went to live at the Thruston home at the northeast corner of 5th & Clay Streets in Owensboro, the address was originally 405 East 5th St., but about 1890 became 505 East 5th St. The two story brick house had been built in 1868-1869 by Mrs. Harriet Jacques Thruston, the widow of Col. Algernon Sidney Thruston. The home descended to their daughters, Charles Minn and Curran Pope Thruston, who became the wives of David F. & Jane Todd's sons, David Fayette Todd, Jr. (1876)

and Robert Stuart Todd (1879), respectively. In subsequent years the home became known as the Todd house.

By the time of the 1880 census Mrs. Jane H. Todd was living at the Thruston home at 5th & Clay. Her nearest neighbors in the census listing closely corresponds to her neighbors along East 5th St. as listed in the 1886 Owensboro City Directory. The first directory of Owensboro was compiled in 1880 but the 1886 edition is the oldest now available. In 1880 living with Mrs. Jane H. Todd were: her son, Beverly H. Todd & his wife Mary Moorman Todd; her son, Robert S. Todd, his wife Curran Thruston Todd & their daughter Jean; her son, Charles, still single; her daughter-in-law, Charles Thruston Todd, the widow of David F. Todd, Jr., their daughter David Ada; and the Todd family servant, Ellen Todd Balden.

Mrs. Jane H. Todd, her three sons and their families in 1886 were all still residing together at 505 E. 5th St. Between 1886-1889 she and her son, Beverly H. Todd, moved about two blocks to a new home on Crittenden St. In the 1889-90 Owensboro Directory their residence was listed as 423 Crittenden St. During the same time period her son, Charles A. Todd, moved to 2002 Frederica St., which became the home of his family for over 55 years. Robert S. Todd, his wife and daughter, and Mrs. Charles Thruston Todd and her daughter, continued to live at the Todd-Thruston house at 5th & Clay.

In the 1891-92, 1893-94 & 1897-98 Owensboro Directories Mrs. Jane H. Todd and B. H. Todd's address was listed as 525 Crittenden St. In 1898-1899 they moved up the street to 416 Crittenden St. When the 1900 census was compiled Mrs. Jane H. Todd and her son, Beverly H. Todd, were listed as renting the house at 416 Crittenden St. Between 1900-1906 they went to live with her son, Charles A. Todd on Frederica St.

Jane Herndon Hicks Todd, widow of Dr. David Fayette Todd, died at the age of 77 on 11 October 1906. Her death occurred at the home of her son, Charles A. Todd, at 2002 Frederica St., Owensboro, Ky. She was buried beside her husband in Elmwood Cemetery. Her survivors were three sons, Beverly H., Robert S. & Charles A. Todd; a daughter-in-law, Mrs. David F. Todd, Jr.; four granddaughters, David Ada Weir, Misses Jean, Elizabeth & Mary Todd, all of Owensboro; and one brother, Charles B. Hicks of Cincinnati.

To the marriage of David F. Todd and Jane H. Hicks seven children were born, all of whom were born in Daviess County, Ky. They were:

John H.	born	3 April 1852
Beverly Hicks	born	24 May 1853
David Fayette	born	2 March 1855
Robert Stuart	born	7 December 1856
William Butler	born	7 August 1860
Charles Alexander	born	31 March 1863
Mary Anna	born	8 February 1871

John H., David F. Jr., William Butler and Mary Anna Todd all preceded their parents in death. William Butler Todd died at the age of 5 on 26 June 1866. Mary Anna Todd died at the age of 4 months on 22 June 1871. John H. Todd died at the age of 21 on 20 October 1873. Despite his youth John H. Todd at the time of his death had served four years as Deputy Clerk of the Daviess County Court. He had been appointed to the office on 30 August 1869 (Daviess County order book I, p.98), he served under county clerk Col. Thomas C. Jones. Upon his death his brother, Robert S. Todd, succeeded him in the position of Deputy County Clerk and served for the next four years. In a chronology of Owensboro events published in the History of Daviess County, Ky. (1883, p.425), the following entries were made for the month of October 1873:

October 17, R. G. Moorman died of typhoid pneumonia,
October 19, Miss Ada Thornton, and
October 20, John Todd, both died of typhoid fever;
October 28, Mrs. Thornton died of typhoid fever.

It is interesting to note that shortly afterwards these same three families became interrelated by marriage. The John Todd listed in the chronology was the son of David F. & Jane Hicks Todd. Miss Ada Thornton and Mrs. Thornton in this entry were actually misspellings – they were Mrs. Harriet Thruston and her daughter, Ada Gay Thruston, of Owensboro. A few years afterwards John H. Todd's brothers, David F. Todd, Jr. and Robert S. Todd, both married daughters of Mrs. Thruston. Beverly H. Todd, another brother of John H., the following year married a daughter of Robert C. Moorman, who was listed as another victim of typhoid in October of 1873. John H. Todd, his younger brother, William Butler, and his baby sister, Mary Anna, were all buried in the family lot of Dr. David F. Todd in Elmwood Cemetery.

David Fayette Todd, Jr. on 1 February 1873 was sworn in as Deputy Sheriff of Daviess County, he served under Sheriff William H. Perkins, whose term of office expired on 12 August 1874. David F. Todd, Jr. also served from 1875 until his death as clerk of the Owensboro Public School System (History of Daviess County, Ky., 1883, pp.365-366).

David Fayette Todd, Jr. died at the young age of 22 on 25 August 1877

Owensboro Examiner, Friday, 31 August 1877, p5:

David F. Todd, Jr., who for several years filled an honorable position in the Deposit Bank, of this city, died on Saturday afternoon last, after a short illness. Mr. Todd was a young man of excellent habits, and possessed a business capacity far above his age and experience. Mr. Todd leaves a wife to whom he had been married less than one year, and a host of relatives and friends to mourn his loss.

Only nine months before David F. Todd, Jr.'s death, he had married Miss Charles Minn Thruston. They had been married in Owensboro on 29 November 1876. Rev. John W. Pugh, pastor of the Fourth Street Presbyterian Church (1869-1877), performed their marriage. His wife,

the daughter of Algernon S. Thruston and Harriet C. Jacques, was born 8 February 1854. Three weeks after the death of David F. Todd, Jr. their only child, David Ada, was born on 15 September 1877, she was named in honor of her father and a sister of her mother. Following the death of her husband Mrs. Charles Thruston Todd continued to live at the Thruston home at 505 East 5th St., along with her sister, Curran Thruston Todd, and her family. Between 1900-1905 she moved two blocks to 306 East 5th St. On 29 April 1931 she died at her home at 306 East 5th St. David Ada Todd married twice. On 14 May 1902 she married Griffith Weir and on 27 February 1908 she married Dr. John Marvin Coffman. She died at the age of 35 on Christmas day 1912 at the Owensboro City Hospital. Her only surviving child, Jean Coffman, was born 10 February 1909 and died 22 May 1980, she married William P. Sandidge. David F. Todd, Jr., his wife Charles Minn Thruston Todd, their daughter David Ada Todd Coffman, and their granddaughter Jean Coffman Sandidge, were all buried in the Thruston family lot at Elmwood Cemetery, near the eastern end of section D.

The following biography of Beverly Hicks Todd was published in the book, History of Daviess County, Kentucky (Inter-State Publishing Co., Chicago, 1883, p.496):

Beverly H. Todd, of the firm of Harrison, Milne & Todd, undertakers, Owensboro, was born in Daviess County, May 24, 1853, and is a son of David F. and Jane H. (Hicks) Todd, natives of Kentucky. They had a family of six sons and one daughter, B.H. being their second son and child. He remained on his father's farm in Lower Town Precinct until twelve years of age, when his father moved into Owensboro, and retired from farming. He held the office of County Commissioner for a number of years. He died in 1878. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, South. His wife is still living, with her son B.H. Todd. B.H. attended school in Owensboro until sixteen years of age, when he began to clerk in the hardware business, and in 1878 formed his present partnership with Mr. Harrison in the undertaker's business. Sept. 30, 1873, he married Mary Moorman, a native of Owensboro, and a daughter of R.B. Moorman. He was a dry-goods and tobacco merchant in Owensboro. Mr. and Mrs. Todd are members of the Fourth Street Presbyterian Church, South. In politics he is a Democrat.

Beverly H. Todd attended school in Owensboro until sixteen years of age, when he began to clerk in the hardware business. In 1878 he joined in partnership with Samuel H. Harrison and formed the undertaking firm of Harrison-Todd. Harrison came to Owensboro in 1869 and started the Harrison's Livery Stable, located on 2nd St. between Lewis and Daviess and in 1875 he added an undertaking business. In the 1880 census B. H. Todd's occupation was listed as that of undertaker. In February 1882 Colin R. Milne joined the partnership of Harrison & Todd. According to the 1883 History of Daviess County, Ky. (p.496) Beverly H. Todd was at that time a member of the undertaking firm of Harrison, Milne & Todd. The Owensboro City Directories of 1891-92 and 1893-94 indicate that he was employed as an agent of the Standard Oil Co., which had an office at 120 East 3rd. In the 1897-98 Directory he was shown as being employed in the undertaking firm operated by J. R. Tennyly. The next edition of 1899-1900 has that he

was an agent for C. A. Todd & Co., an insurance firm operated by his brother, Charles A. Todd. The 1900 census and the Owensboro Directories of the next decade list Beverly H. Todd's occupation as that of insurance agent. The 1914 Directory lists him as being a manager of the C. A. Todd & Co.

On 30 September 1874 Beverly H. Todd married Mary H. Moorman, the daughter of Robert G. Moorman and Harriet Mercer Priest. Her father was an Owensboro merchant, who had dealt in dry goods, pork packing and tobacco. Born in Daviess County on 8 October 1855 Mary H. Moorman Todd died at the early age of 31 on 28 August 1887, she had no surviving children. Beverly H. Todd and his mother resided on Crittenden St. until about 1900. He later resided at the home of his brother, Charles A. Todd, on Frederica St. for several years. On 3 June 1935 Beverly Hicks Todd died at the home of his brother, Charles A. Todd, at 2002 Frederica St., Owensboro, Ky. He was 82 years old. Burial was at Elmwood Cemetery in the David F. Todd family lot.

The following biography of Robert Stuart Todd was published in the book, History of Daviess County, Kentucky (Inter-State Publishing Co., Chicago, 1883, p.154):

Robert S. Todd, born Dec. 7, 1856, in Daviess County, is a son of David F. and Jane H. Todd. He lived on a farm till the fall of 1865, when his parents moved to Owensboro. During the fall of 1873 he taught a district school for a short time, and in the winter of the same year entered the county clerk's office as deputy; continued in this office till December, 1877, when he was appointed Master Commissioner and Receiver for Daviess County Circuit Court; continued till September, 1880, when he resigned and procured license to practice law, at the September term of 1880, of Daviess Circuit Court. He began the study of law in 1875, while he was in the clerk's office. On the 15th day of March, 1881, he formed a partnership with Geo. W. Jolly, and is now engaged in the practice of his profession. He was married April 8, 1879, to Curram P. Thrustum [sic, should Thruston], daughter of Colonel A.S. Thrustum [sic] (deceased), a Colonel in the Texan war. They have one daughter, Jeane D., born Jan. 26, 1880.

Another biography of Robert Stuart Todd (1856-1914) was published in the book, The Lawyers and Lawmakers of Kentucky (H. Levin, ed., The Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago, Ill., 1897, pp337-339).

Robert S. Todd was named after Rev. Robert Stuart (1772-1856), a great-uncle who had married his grandmother's sister, Hannah Todd. During the fall of 1873 Robert S. Todd, at the young age of 16, taught a district school for a short time. On 25 October 1873 he succeeded his late brother, John H. Todd, in the office of Daviess County Deputy Clerk (Daviess County order book I, p.535). One year in this office was served under clerk, Thomas C. Jones, and another three under clerk, Martin S. Mattingly. He continued in this office until December 1877 when he

was appointed Master Commissioner and Receiver for the Daviess County Circuit Court by the Hon. James Stuart, Circuit Judge of Daviess County. When the 1880 Daviess County census was enumerated Robert S. Todd's occupation was given as that of Master Commissioner. During his tenure in this office he continued his study of the law, which he had begun in 1875, while he was in the clerk's office.

In September 1880 Robert S. Todd resigned his position as Master Commissioner of the Daviess County Circuit Court. At the September term of the 1880 Daviess County Circuit Court he was granted a license to practice law. His career as a lawyer spanned 32 years and established him as one of the ablest and most successful members of the Owensboro Bar. Six months after his licensing on 15 March 1881 he entered into a partnership with George W. Jolly, who had been admitted to the bar in 1867.

Robert S. Todd served two years as a member of the Owensboro School Board and was elected to two terms as county attorney. During 1892-1896 he occupied the later office. Shortly after leaving this office he joined partnership with Reuben A. Miller and formed the well-known law firm of "Miller & Todd". The following was said of the firm in the "Industrial Souvenir Edition" of the Owensboro Messenger, in the Spring of 1900:

The firm of Miller & Todd is one of the strongest as well as the most conservative before the bar. Their attitude upon all questions of professional ethics is regarded as a criterion. Their practice is one of the most desirable in the county.

Reuben A. Miller was a lifelong Republican and Robert S. Todd was a Democrat. Robert S. Todd continued in Miller & Todd until 1913 when the firm was dissolved and he retired to private life. Reuben A. Miller's wife was the foster daughter of General Simon Bolivar Buckner, the hero of Fort Donelson, and the recipient of Gen. Grant's unconditional surrender message. Gen. Buckner from 1887-1891 served as Governor of Kentucky. At the age of 58 Mr. Miller died in 1915. William Foster Hayes in his book Sixty Years of Owensboro, 1883-1943 (Messenger Job Printing Co., Owensboro, Ky., 1943, p.15) said the following about Reuben A. Miller:

His sense of humor persisted to the last. In his final illness he was or was thought to be unconscious at times. On one of those last days he was visited by Mr. Robert S. Todd, a leading lawyer and his former partner. Not knowing whether or not Mr. Miller was "at himself", Mr. Todd stepped up to the bed and asked, "Do you know me, Reuben?" Back came the answer, "Yes, Bob, I know you - do you know me?"

Robert S. Todd on 8 April 1879 married Curran Pope Thruston. They were married by Rev. H. C. Settle, the pastor of the Methodist-Episcopal Church of Owensboro, located then on North Main. Curran P. Thruston was born 15 January 1852 to the union of Algernon S. Thruston & Harriet C. Jacques. At the time of her marriage she was living at the Thruston home at the northeast corner of 5th & Clay Streets. After their marriage they made their home here. Robert S. Todd lived the remainder of his life at 505 East 5th St. and died there on 20 August 1914 at the

age of 57. One year later Mrs. Robert S. Todd sold their home of 35 years at 5th & Clay to the Catholic Church. From 1915 until 1924 the building served as the St. Joseph's School. In 1924 the former Todd home was razed for the construction of a new school.

Following the death of her husband Mrs. Curran Todd went to live with her daughter, Mrs. Singleton Sweeney, in Roanoke, Virginia. At Roanoke she died at the age of 75 on 4 May 1927. Mrs. Todd had been a member of Settle Memorial Methodist Church while living in Owensboro and for many years served as secretary of the Women's Christian Association of Owensboro.

To the marriage of Robert Stuart Todd and Curran Pope Thruston three children were born, two infant daughters died at birth and Jean Todd was born on 26 January 1880. Jean Todd married Singleton Y. Sweeney on 12 June 1912 in Owensboro. Jean Todd Sweeney died 17 June 1968, her husband Singleton Sweeney was born 7 September 1879 and died 5 February 1924. They raised two children. Robert Todd Sweeney and Nettie Singleton Sweeney, who is the wife of Allan Rhodes. Robert S. Todd, his wife, their two infant daughters, their daughter Jean Todd Sweeney and her husband Singleton Sweeney, were all buried in the Thruston family plot in Owensboro's Elmwood Cemetery, near the eastern end of section D.

Charles Alexander Todd, the son of David F. & Jane Hicks Todd, was a leading Owensboro businessman. He was successively engaged in the distillery, insurance and tobacco business. At the age of 17 the 1880 Daviess County census shows him as being employed as a clerk in a distillery. In 1880 he was living with his mother and brothers at the Todd-Thruston house at 5th & Clay Sts. In the 1883 History of Daviess County, Ky. (p.344) under the heading of the Daviess County Distillery Company it was stated that this company was then owned by W. S. Harris and John Callaghan, and that "both these gentlemen reside in Louisville, and their business here is superintended by C. A. Todd, General Agent". This distillery was located about a mile west of town, on the river, in the vicinity of where the Medley and Fleischman Distilleries were in recent years located. In the 1886 Owensboro City Directory Charles A. Todd is listed as a bookkeeper for Harris & Callaghan, distillers; his residence was given as 405 East 5th St. (about 1890 this address became 505 East 5th St.). The 1889-90 Owensboro Directory lists his occupation as bookkeeper, with an office at 701 West 5th St. and residence at the west side of Frederica St. The 1891-92 Owensboro Directory shows him as being a secretary of the Glenmore Distilling Co., with offices at 214 Frederica. The Kentucky Gazetteer and Business Directory of 1895-96 lists C. A. Todd as a secretary of the Eagle Distilling Co. At this time Richard Monarch was the president of Eagle Distilling Co., as well as of the Daviess County Distilling Co. and of the Glenmore Distilling Co.

Charles A. Todd left the distillery business about 1897 and turned to the selling of insurance. In about 1899 he established the insurance company of C. A. Todd & Co., which located its office at 124 ½ West 3rd St., on the 2nd floor. In later years he made his living as a tobacconist.

In Owensboro on 16 November 1886 Charles A. Todd married Mary Lucy Ford. She was known by the name of Lula. A native of Shelby County, Ky. she was born 4 October 1864 to Younger L. Ford and Mary Eliza White. Her father for many years operated a drugstore on the corner of 5th & Lewis Sts. in Owensboro, and in 1871-72 served as a city councilman of Owensboro. Shortly after their marriage Charles & Lula Todd made their home at 2002 Frederica St., at the southwest corner of Frederica St. and Ford Ave. This house would be their home for the remainder of their lives and members of their family lived here for over 60 years. Charles A. Todd was a member of the Fourth Street Presbyterian Church, where he served as an elder.

Charles A. Todd at the age of 74 died at his home at 2002 Frederica St., Owensboro, Ky. on 3 March 1938, he was the last surviving member of the family of Dr. David F. Todd & Jane H. Hicks. His wife, Lula Ford Todd, died on 12 August 1946. To them three children were born, Elizabeth, Mary Jewett and Lucy Jane. Lucy Jane Todd was born in 1891 and died in 1892. Mary Jewett Todd was born in 1890, she never married, and died at the Owensboro Daviess County Hospital on 31 August 1962. Elizabeth Todd was born in 1888, she never married, and continued to reside in her parents home at 2002 Frederica St. until about 1946. After this she and her sister, Mary, lived together at 1404 Walnut St., after her sister's death she continued to live at the same address for many years. At the age of 94 she died on 1 January 1983 in Paducah, Ky. Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Todd and their three daughters were buried in their family lot at Elmwood Cemetery, near the eastern end of section D. Their home of many years at 2002 Frederica St. was torn down about 1963 and is today the site of a parking lot for Owensboro High School.

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A transcribed copy of the David Fayette Todd & Jane Herndon Hicks family bible contributed Michael J. Edgeworth, of Owensboro, Ky., was published in the periodical, The Kentucky Genealogist, Vol. 18, #4, October-December 1976, pp155-157. And an outline of the family of Dr. John Todd 1783-1860, by Michael J. Edgeworth, of Owensboro, Ky., was published in The Kentucky Genealogist, Vol. 20, #4, October-December 1978, pp157-158.

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Ella Hicks Johnson was the author of the small booklet, Granny Remembers, c,1928, in which she gave recollections of her childhood in Owensboro, Ky. The daughter of Charles Beverly Hicks and Mary D. Flynt, she was born 22 September 1861 in Owensboro, Ky. In Granny Remembers besides her parents she makes references to the following relatives, generally using only their first names Uncle & aunt David F. & Jane Hicks Todd and their boys, John, Bev, Dave, Rob & Charles; Cousin Edward ("Ned") Erwin, the orphan of Edmund C. & Evalina Augusta Hicks Erwin; uncle & aunt Edward C. & Lucy Isabel Hicks Carter and their sons, Jimmy & Bev; stepmother. Annie Mathis Nicks; and former slaves, Ellen Todd Balden & Alexander Flint, who resided with the Todd family; all of these lived in Owensboro in the period after the Civil War. On 30 August 1867 when she was six years old her mother died, she has a monument in the Todd family lot in Owensboro's Elmwood Cemetery, Her father, his second wife and their children, shortly before 1900 removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, Ella Hicks married

James Moreland Johnson (1857-1934) in Owensboro on 31 May 1883, She later resided in Louisville, Ky. and Nashville, Tenn. In the later place she died on 14 May 1950, at the age of 88. She was buried in Owensboro, Ky. at Elmwood Cemetery, in the northwest end of section D, beside her husband in the Johnson-Moreland family lot. The following obituary was published in the Owensboro Messenger on Tuesday, 16 May 1950:

Mrs. Ella Hicks Johnson, widow of James Moreland Johnson, died at 12, noon, Sunday at the Nashville hospital, Nashville, Tenn., after a lingering, illness. She was born in Owensboro. Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Carter Wilson, Nashville; two sisters Mrs. Evelyn Hicks, and Mrs. Eula Horton, Cincinnati, Ohio, and two grandsons, Lindsey and James Wilson, Nashville Mrs. S. Y. Sweeney, Owensboro, is a cousin. The body will arrive in Owensboro at 2:40 p.m. today and be taken to the Elmwood cemetery where services will be conducted at 3 p.m. The Christian Science society will have charge of the services.