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LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, 1792-1820

The Athens of the West

BY

Mary Jane Elliott

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of the University
of Delaware in partial fulfillment of the requirements for
the degree of Master of Arts in Early American Culture.

May, 1973

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, 1792 - 1820

The Athens of the West

BY

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INTRODUCTION

Despite Kentucky's somewhat remote position on the other side of the Allegheny Mountains west of Pennsylvania and Virginia, the early inhabitants of the State successfully established a mode of life similar to that of the eastern seaboard states. Throughout the twentieth century local historians and antiquarians have been recording the cultural history of early Kentucky. Although these studies are geared primarily to architectural interpretations and examples, they have successfully shown that early Kentuckians followed the patterns and manner of living established in the East, just as one would expect.

This thesis will pass over the architectural treatises as a primary means of insight. Instead, the study will scrutinize more closely the people and the times through an examination of the material artifacts of the culture, the craftsmen who produced these artifacts, and the use of the artifacts in society. Specifically, the paper will explore the cultural climate of the area and study the use of furniture and decorative accessories in the home.

Kentucky's first permanent settlement was made at Harrodsburg,

but this outpost was quickly superceded by the establishment of the town of Lexington in the summer of 1776. Named after the already historic town in Massachusetts, Lexington was designated the seat of Fayette County at this time. Although Fayette County has been divided over the years, Lexington has always remained its largest, richest town as well as the county seat.

In geographical relation to the rest of the State, Lexington and Fayette County are situated centrally in an area of rolling, hilly terrain commonly called the Blue Grass region. It is to this area that many pioneer immigrants were attracted because of the fine quality of the soil and the abundance of waterways.

Formerly a territory of Virginia, Kentucky achieved statehood in 1792. By this time Lexington had attained its position as wealthiest, most active, and most populated city in the State--a title which was retained until the early 1820's when Louisville, on the Ohio River, moved to the forefront. It is this period of growth and industrial development that has been chosen for the study.

In considering Lexington's status as the largest trading and agricultural center in early Kentucky, certain questions arise. Did a conscious and sophisticated cultural aura exist in Lexington and Fayette

County from 1792 - 1820? Did the cultural climate reflect East Coast ideas and patterns of material acquisition? What was the place of the decorative arts, especially furniture, in the society; and what was the place of the craftsmen who produced these artifacts?

In exploring these questions concerning Lexington's culture and cabinetmaking activities from 1792 to 1820, I found certain research materials particularly helpful. Late nineteenth-century histories of the area, especially Perrin's History of Fayette County, were most beneficial. Travel accounts written by Europeans and Easterners travelling in the region of the Ohio Valley provided much information on the depth of culture in Lexington. Newspapers and family correspondence of the period gave insight into all phases of the study. In determining the types and quantity of furniture and decorative elements in use at the various social levels, Fayette County Will Books, containing inventories and estate sales, proved to be important.

The absence of a large body of documented furniture has prevented positive identification of the style and quality of work of more than a few cabinetmakers. Furthermore, an examination of resource materials in Kentucky failed to turn up any cabinetmaker's accounts or receipts. These would have provided a more complete picture of the furniture artisan's place in society. However, through the documentary

evidence presented in the research materials discussed above, it was possible to gain some insight into the cultural life and material environment of Lexington and to determine much about the degree of its communication with other areas and the influence of these regions upon Kentucky.

Early nineteenth-century travel accounts and household inventories, particularly, give credence to the idea that Lexington supported an active and cosmopolitan way of life. As a central trading area for Kentucky, the city attracted many merchants who maintained active communication lines and transportation routes to Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, and New Orleans. This statement is confirmed in the texts of the advertisements of innumerable merchants, booksellers, and other tradesmen as well as through family correspondence. Thus, the time lag in the introduction of new ideas and the use of fashionable objects was not as great as if the city depended only on travelers and settlers to acquaint them with current metropolitan developments. In addition, the rich and fertile lands of the area attracted many planters from Virginia who brought their fashionable manner of living with them to Fayette County.

Working within this cultural climate influenced by life in the East, there were at least forty cabinetmakers and chairmakers known

today who were capable of supplying the needs of Lexington society. These men formed an integral part of the community and participated actively in the city's affairs. Hopefully, the information contained in this thesis will shed more light on their contribution. One long-range goal of this study is to generate more and continued interest in the culture and furniture forms of the Blue Grass region. Future studies may uncover additional pieces of furniture and a group of records that can be attributed to the makers discussed here.

CHAPTER I

CULTURE IN LEXINGTON

Early nineteenth-century literature contains numerous observations on the "Western Lands" beyond the Allegheny Mountains. Europeans, and more often Americans from the Atlantic seaboard, found it quite interesting as well as profitable to travel through the Ohio River country and down the Mississippi, noting the condition and state of towns, turnpikes, and waterways along their route. Chroniclers recorded the number of inhabitants, the kinds of manufactories, the farming conditions, and the aesthetics of pioneer America.

Because northern Kentucky borders the Ohio River, travelers found the State easily accessible by riverboat. Consequently, there are several accounts of Lexington, Kentucky's most important city, dating from the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. One cannot always accept the exuberant descriptions of the travel writer at face value, however. Because these individuals were at times writing at the request of land entrepreneurs and upon other occasions measuring the effect of their words back East, they often wore rose-colored glasses

while making their observations. In the case of Lexington, however, the factual information and general commendation presented in these sources seem to be accurate.

Gilbert Imlay described the origins of the populace of Fayette County and the whole Blue Grass area in 1797 when he commented: "Emmigrations to this country were mostly from the back parts of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina, until 1784." Imlay suggests that during the 1780's that there was a shift upwards in the material and social calibre of men who came into the area. He states that during these years many "officers who had served in the American army during the late war, came out with their families; several families came also from England, Philadelphia, New Jersey, New York, and the New England states." He further notes that "the country soon began to be chequered after that area [the East] with genteel men, which operated upon the minds and actions of the back wood people, who constituted the first emmigrants."¹

The Kentucky Reporter boasted in 1820 that the population figures for Fayette County, exclusive of Lexington, showed 10,210 whites, 7,633 slaves, and 133 free "coloured persons." At this time Lexington's population was 5,279, an increase of some 3,500 people since Kentucky's achievement of statehood in 1792.

The appearance of both county and city, as well as the nature of the population, changed considerably during this period. Fayette County was divided and subdivided to form the nucleus of four new counties and by 1820 had assumed the appearance which it retains today. Hemp and tobacco plantations made up most of the country encircling Lexington. As one observer reported in 1815, "The farms in the neighborhood are well cultivated, and the farmers are generally rich and opulent, and many of them have coaches and carriages, made at Lexington (in the four large carriage shops), that cost one thousand dollars."²

The city of Lexington itself was the focal point of attention of early chroniclers; accounts of its physical aspects appeared as early as 1790. Then it was a mere village with less than two hundred houses—a few of brick, but most of log construction with outside chimneys.³ Less than two decades later in a letter written to a correspondent in the East in 1806, Thomas Ashe could state that the town consisted of three hundred houses arranged on streets intersecting each other at right angles. Speaking of the individual homes, he mentioned that most were made of brick "in a handsome modern manner, and many of them are furnished with some pretensions to European elegance."⁴ The New Englander Samuel Brown also wrote at length on the city's physical appearance in the following decade:

The main street, which is one mile and a quarter long, runs parallel with the creek on the north side. There are three other streets running parallel with the main street. These are intersected at short intervals by cross streets; all of which are wide and mostly paved. Main street presents to the traveller as much wealth, and more beauty than can be found in most of the Atlantic cities. It is about 80 feet wide, level, compactly built, well paved, and having footways, twelve feet wide on each side. I was surprised to see at every step, finely painted brick stores, three stories high, and well filled with costly and fanciful merchandise. Near the center of the town is the public square, lined on every side with large substantial brick houses, stores, hotels, etc. This town appears as large and populous as Cincinnati, which contained in 1816 1,000 houses and 6,000 souls.⁵

Each year the population of Lexington increased, and with this increase came the growth of educational facilities, new homes, businesses, and public establishments. A visitor to Lexington in 1810 commented on this expansion:

This little metropolis of the Western Country is nearly as large as Lancaster in Pennsylvania. It has numerous excellent institutions for the education of the youth; a public library, and a well-endowed University, under the superintendence of men of learning and piety, are in successful operation. Trade and manufactures are rapidly increasing. . . a taste for neat and even elegant buildings is fast gaining ground.⁶

Rounding out the body of evidence testifying to a high level of cultural attainment in the area is the commentary of the chronicler, Timothy Flint, who visited Lexington in 1820, and remarked,

Few towns in the Western Country, or the world, are more delightfully situated. It has an air of neatness, opulence, and repose, that renders it a pleasant town to the eye of a stranger. It is situated in the heart of the richest country in Kentucky. . . the frequency of handsome villas, and fine and ornamental rural mansions, might lead to the impression that we are near a large commercial metropolis. . . the main street is a mile and a quarter in length, eighty feet wide, handsomely paved and in the sumptuousness of the buildings, a respectable competition with the towns of the Atlantic country.⁷

Newspapers of the period offer even further evidence of the fashionable and sophisticated life in Lexington. The Kentucky Gazette advertised numerous local amusements and entertainments. Notices appeared for the several pleasure gardens of the city where citizens could enjoy formal walks, refreshments, and the shelter of pavilions for private parties.⁸ A Mr. Ollendorf and a Mr. Mason opened a Museum of Wax Figures and charged the public fifty-five cents for admittance. Among the notable likenesses exhibited were those of "Jefferson, Madison, and Lafayette."⁹ A repertory theatre existed in Lexington, although the quality of plays mentioned on a playbill shows no great cultural elevation.¹⁰ Lexingtonians also could partake of the waters at Greenville Springs, a spa near the edge of town.¹¹ To delight both young and old there were the confections of Giron and Robert, who advertised their sugar toys, cakes, and ice creams for tea parties, balls, desserts, or dinners.¹²

Clearly, there were many activities and pastimes which the citizenry, undoubtedly, could and did enjoy. Indeed, one observer reacted to the frivolity of the society in a somewhat negative manner:

The prevailing individual amusements of Lexington are drinking and gambling, at billiards and cards. Every idle hour is spent at taverns and billiard rooms. The public amusements consist of concerts and balls, which are well attended, and a company not expected to be seen on a transmontane state.¹³

Aside from these diversions, Lexington society had other recreational outlets. John J. Abercrombie of Richmond, Virginia, former leader of the St. Cecelia concerts in Charleston, South Carolina, offered to teach "Ladies and Gentlemen of Lexington on Piano-Forte, Common and Piano Guitar, and Violin."¹⁴ Hamilton Morrison announced the opening of his singing school and conducted classes every Saturday from two until six o'clock. Terms were fifty cents for each "Scholar," to be paid in advance.¹⁵

The facilities of the Lexington library as well as lecture programs by members of the Transylvania College staff were available to the public. Timothy Flint, in recalling his first visit of 1816, commented on the level of literary refinement when he said

In the circles where I visited, literature was most commonly the topic of conversation. The windowseats presented the blank covers of the new and most interesting publications. The best modern

works have been generally read. The University, which has since become so famous, was even then, taking a higher standard than the other seminaries in the Western Country. There was generally an air of ease and politeness in the social intercourse of the inhabitants of this town, which evinced the cultivation of taste and good feeling. In effect, Lexington has taken the tone of a literary place, and may be called the Athens of the West.¹⁶

When he made a return visit to Lexington in 1820, Flint expanded upon his observations:

The inhabitants are a cheerful, gay and conversable people. The professional men are more than commonly intelligent; and many distinguished men have had their origin here. . . the people are addicted to hospitality and parties; and the tone of society is fashionable and pleasant. There are large towns in the West; but none, that convey higher ideas of luxury, refinement and polish of the country.¹⁷

Other writings by travelers give this same impression of cultural and intellectual awareness. One visitor noted

The streets are often thronged with well-dressed people. The inhabitants are as polished, and I regret to add, as luxurious as those of Boston, New York, or Baltimore; and their assemblies and parties are conducted with as much ease and grace, as in the oldest towns in the union.¹⁸

The ornithologist Alexander Wilson observed, "Lexington, at present, can boast of men who do honour to science, and of females whose beauty and amiable manners would grace the first circles of

society." He continued by saying, "The present better sort of persons consist of six or eight families, who live in a handsome manner, keep livery servants, and admit no persons to their table of vulgar manners or suspicious character."¹⁹ These people were principally businessmen, whom the writer indicated were reputed to be making between \$15,000 and \$40,000 per year.

As described by Alexander Wilson, the "better sort of persons" residing in Lexington were able to obtain many of the goods they desired from the coastal cities of Philadelphia, Baltimore, or New York. In the following chapter, I shall discuss the state of transportation and communication between Lexington and the East. It is natural to expect a thriving labor force capable of meeting the demands of the populace to emerge within such a rapidly expanding city, and such was the case in Lexington. The city's tax book for 1810 shows the following factories and shops already established:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 oil mill | 3 nail factories |
| 13 rope walks | 1 mustard factory |
| 4 paper mills | 4 cabinet-shops |
| 2 tobacco factories | 6 powder mills |
| 1 sail-duck factories | 2 copper and tin shops |
| 1 brush factory | 2 printing establishments |
| 1 reed factory | 1 bindery |
| 1 umbrella factory | 7 distilleries |
| 1 white lead factory | 5 paint shops |
| 4 chair factories | 1 looking glass factory |
| 7 brick yards | 1 venetian blind factory |
| 5 hat factories | 2 foundries |

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 10 | blacksmiths shops | 3 | cotton mills |
| 7 | saddlery-shops | 5 | bagging factories |
| 10 | tailor shops | 5 | coarse linen factories |
| 15 | boot and shoe shops | 5 | wool-carding machines run |
| 3 | blue dyers | | by horsepower ²⁰ |

The goods which these local artisans and factories produced, as well as the products brought into Lexington from Europe and the East, reflected the emergent social and cultural needs of the community.

CHAPTER II

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

By using available means of communication, most Lexington residents were able to keep in touch with friends and relatives in the communities along the Atlantic Coast. Letters, accounts, and advertisements in Lexington newspapers invariably refer to events or mention acquaintances in the East. Through communications such as these, residents were able to keep abreast of the production and availability of fashionable goods. Consequently, there was a constant demand for the products of the East, a demand met by employing all the available transportation routes.

Lexington merchants naturally advertised in the newspapers of the day the various dry goods and supplies which they brought into the city. These advertisements enumerate explicitly the various items of East Coast or European manufacture in use within the Lexington culture. Several written accounts deal with the means and cost of transporting goods from coastal cities such as Philadelphia, Baltimore, and New York to Lexington.

In 1784 General James Wilkinson opened a dry goods store in Lexington. He reported that most of his goods came from Philadelphia. They were brought by wagon to Pittsburgh at the head of the Ohio River and then floated by flatboat to Limestone, now called Maysville, Kentucky. In Limestone all of the goods were transferred to pack horses, which could travel the narrow trace (made by animal herds) connecting Limestone with Lexington.¹

Gilbert Imlay in his travel journal, which was published in 1797, recorded the routes used to send goods from various Eastern areas. From the New England and Northern states the point of departure was Philadelphia. A type of covered wagon first carried the baggage and freight to Pittsburgh, a distance of about 300 miles. From here flat boats conveyed it to Maysville, and horses hauled it overland to Lexington.

Anyone coming into Lexington from Virginia or Maryland without large quantities of goods was advised to take the route through the Cumberland Gap and up into Kentucky along the Wilderness Road to Crab Orchard and finally to Lexington. However, with baggage, the recommended passage called for departure from Baltimore or Alexandria. Travelers leaving Baltimore passed Old Town on the Potomac, and continued by Cumberland Fort to another old fort on the Monongahela

River called Redstone. This was a distance of 240 miles. From Redstone they followed the general boat route down the Ohio River past Pittsburgh. Imlay felt that for a Virginian the best point of departure was Alexandria. From this point Redstone was only 220 miles distant.²

In 1802 merchandise from Philadelphia and Baltimore took thirty-five to forty days to arrive in Lexington. This included two and one half days of travel on pack horses from Limestone (Maysville) where the goods were landed from the river boats. The cost was seven to eight piastres per 100 pounds of weight.³ (One piastre equaled six shillings in 1805.)

The various packets that arrived in Lexington contained many of the fashionable personal and decorative items popular in the East. English merchandise available in Lexington came by way of Philadelphia and included jewelry, cutlery, ironmongery, and tinware. Drapery, mercery, drugs, fine earthenware, muslins, nankeens, and tea were imported from India via the East Coast. France supplied taffetas, silk stockings, brandies, and millstones.⁴

Advertisements in 1809, for example, describe the items that were available:

Fancy Goods
Ladies plain and laced English silk hose

Mens plain and laced English silk hose
A few superb cut silk velvet bonnets,
made in Paris, and received by the late
arrivals at New York
Ladies real and mock tortoise shell combs
Gilt and Mahogany Looking Glasses
Violins and violin strings and bases
Ladies spangled kid shoes.⁵

New Goods

Abner Le Grand has just received from
Philadelphia, in addition to his former
stock, A LARGE AND GENERAL ASSORTMENT
OF FANCY AND OTHER GOODS, CONSISTING OF
A large variety of Queen's China,
Glass and Plated Wares, Gilt and
Mahogany Framed Looking Glasses,
Knife Trays, Bread Baskets, and
Tea Kaddies, Brass Andirons,
Shovel and Tongs and Fire Fenders, . . .

Also from Pittsburgh, 8 by 10, 9 by 12,
10 by 12, 12 by 14 and 12 by 18 Window
Glass, Hollow Ware, Bar Iron and Castings.⁶

J. C. Wenzel, a Lexington merchant, received from London in
1817 a new assortment of pianofortes. He advertised them as

of superior tone and workmanship, which will be
sold at the New York and Philadelphia prices,
with only the additional charges of transportation.

He has also for sale, some Piano Fortes manu-
factured by the best workmen in Philadelphia, ele-
gantly polished, and of the Vienna construction.

He has on hand likewise, a large quantity of Mahogany
Veneering of the best Jamaica wood, for cabinetmakers,
and veneering Saws.⁷

A local newspaper carried the advertisement of Hughes and Fitzhugh, of Hagerstown, Maryland, who shipped nails made in their factory to Lexington.⁸ A local merchant, George Anderson, announced his return from Philadelphia in 1805. Among the merchandise he brought back was, "Cabinetmakers and Carpenters' Tools, Stock Plains; Chisels; Goughes; Augurs; Drawing Knives; Vices; Mill, Pit, Cross Cut, Veneering and Hand Saws."⁹

All of these announcements record a sizeable demand for consumer goods and an awareness of fashionable living within the city. The evidence indicates that both wood and tools for cabinetmakers were available among the goods imported from the East Coast.

Because Lexington merchants were few in number, they could fix their own prices for commodities to some extent. Yet competition was still sufficient to cause no outrageous currency inflation, except during the periods of hard money shortage. In most cases the merchandise was usually purchased in Baltimore or Philadelphia on twelve months' credit.¹⁰

Elijah Warner, a Lexington clockmaker and cabinetmaker, and in later years a Lexington merchant of considerable magnitude, died in 1828. A complete inventory of his merchandise and household

goods was recorded in the Fayette County Will Books in 1829. Apparently, Warner received large shipments of goods from Philadelphia for upon his death the United States Bank in Philadelphia showed a surplus credit to his account of \$1,051.¹¹ (See Appendix B)

Material items were not the only importations into Lexington. Prevailing ideas and trends were well represented on the shelves of the booksellers, who stocked current selections. Of the many listings in advertisements of the day, those books dealing with architecture or the manual arts are especially pertinent to this study. The booksellers' advertisements always made note of the new selections from Philadelphia or New York. In 1809 Adams Modern Travels, Adams Roman Antiquities, and Connoisseur (sic),¹² as well as four volumes of Adams Philosophy, five volumes of Domestic Encyclopedia, and Preston on Masonry were available in Lexington.¹³ During 1810 The Builder's Pocket Treasury with fifteen plates was advertised for two dollars,¹⁴ and one could purchase a copy of Biddles Architecture.¹⁵

Daniel Bradford, once editor of the Kentucky Gazette, included in his list of new books from Philadelphia in the summer of 1813: The Carpenter's Assistant, Domestic Encyclopedia, Dictionary of Merchandize, Dyer's Assistant, Dilworth's Assistant, General Instructor, and Gerard on Taste.¹⁶ The book Artists Manuel or Dictionary of

Practical Knowledge in the Application of Philosophy to the Arts and Manufactories by I. Cutbush, was available in a two-volume edition with plates. These titles indicate what Lexingtonians could turn to for inspiration in choosing either an architectural style or decorative elements for the interiors of their homes.¹⁷

So far this chapter has dealt only with the transportation of merchandise and ideas from the East to the West. But, how were these goods paid for? F. A. Michaux in his Travels to the West of the Alleghany Mountains states,

There is not a single species of colonial produce in Kentucky, except Ginseng, that will bear the expense of carriage by land from that state to Philadelphia, as twenty-five pounds weight would cost more expediting that way than one thousand pounds floated down the River.¹⁸

One way for Lexington merchants to balance accounts was to send pack horses loaded with cut silver back to Eastern settlements in lieu of bartering with produce. (Silver coins were often cut with a chisel and mallet and used in Kentucky as cut money to make change.) For example, in the spring of 1806 one Lexington merchant reported a shipment of 100 pounds of cut silver to Philadelphia.¹⁹

The other alternative open to Lexington traders was to send goods to New Orleans. In 1800 flatboats would carry freight down the

Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Natchez and New Orleans for an average of \$5.50 per hundredweight. Once in New Orleans, Kentucky goods could either be sold there or sent on to the Atlantic states. Merchandise sent on to Atlantic Coast cities was rated at 10% to 12% of the goods.²⁰

With the development of the steamboat for use on the western rivers in the early nineteenth century, trade between New Orleans and Kentucky became increasingly important. A Kentuckian remarked to a friend in the East in 1818, "The steamboats have brought New Orleans to our doors, and West India fruits are as common here now as in your (Virginia) Sea Port towns. . . ."21

In time, however, the rise of river boat trade brought with it the demise of Lexington as chief trading center in Kentucky. Its inland site at some distance from the Ohio River forced it to relinquish its position of leadership to Louisville, which by 1823 had become the largest and busiest of Kentucky's towns.

CHAPTER III

INTERIOR FURNISHINGS

The preceeding chapters of this thesis established that there was a definite cultural aura existent in Lexington and showed the accessibility of both ideas and merchandise to residents of the city from older, culturally advanced areas of the nation. It is this atmosphere which is reflected in the furnishings of Lexington's homes.

Mr. Clay Lancaster completed in 1961 a detailed architectural study of the homes and institutional buildings erected in Lexington in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The reader is referred to his Antebellum Houses of the Blue Grass for an examination of the architectural achievements of Lexington and the surrounding area.¹

Sophistication in exterior architecture appears to have been equaled by interior embellishments. In 1802 Peter Paul and his son, both "lately from London," began cutting stone in Woodford County, adjacent to Fayette County. They supplied "tombstones, gravestones, marble chimney pieces, safes to preserve papers, etc." to the Lexington community.² From Philadelphia came John Johnston in 1806 and

Robert Armstrong arrived from Charleston, South Carolina, in 1815.

Both men executed ornamental plaster and stucco work. Armstrong also offered "cornices, [and] centerpieces, plain or fancy."³ There was obviously a market for his skills in the Lexington area, as his advertisements reappear in the newspapers throughout the years of this study. The date of Robert Armstrong's arrival from South Carolina indicates that he worked there around the time the Nathaniel Russell house in the Adam style was under construction. This structure was completed by 1809 and contains magnificent stucco and plaster work.⁴

Painting, glazing and paperhanging were profitable occupations in the early nineteenth century. Lexington supported five men who were prepared to do this work. Francis Downing and Company were the first to advertise their skills. In 1805 they stated that

They are prepared to do housepainting, signpainting, papering, gilding and repairing old-looking glasses, also take shaded and cut profile likenesses with the physiognotrace. Four apprentices will be taken, if they call at an early date.⁵

The firm of Levett and Smith, which owned the Lexington Oil Floor-Cloth Factory, also painted signs and interiors and made their own paints. Their advertisement of 1810 mentions their supply of Dutch wax cloths which they also manufactured. These cloths were probably used much as a tablecloth is used today. They described

their services and product as follows:

Messrs. Levett and Smith advertise they have a mill to grind paint and prepare colours for town and country. They execute House and Sign Painting, Gilding, Glazing, Paperhanging and as usual in town and country. Dutch Wax Cloths for side boards and table covers superior to any imported, prepared by Messrs. Levett and Smith.⁶

By 1816 John Grant and Francis Downing had formed a partnership and were advertising French and American paperhangings, as well as handsome figures for chimney boards.⁷ French paperhangings and ornamental plaster work were not the only eye-catching features the local citizenry could introduce into their household interiors. Lexington families of ample means commissioned portraits from resident artists and bought paintings and prints from local merchants. A portrait painter, J. Cook, was employed in the home of William Hart in 1812,⁸ and William Brown advertised to the Lexington public in the same year his facility as a miniature painter.⁹ Two years later the Kentucky Gazette announced the arrival of a portraitist, Mr. Haskins, from Philadelphia.¹⁰ In 1813 a notice appeared in the Kentucky Gazette announcing an auction for the estate of George Beck. Offered along with the general assortment of household furnishings was a group of engravings described as "chiefly Landscapes by the best artists and from the greatest painters of the Italian, German, Dutch and French

100

schools."¹¹ Although this notice gives no indication of their value, the inventory of Nathaniel Hart, a local merchant, showed three engraved landscapes to be worth but five dollars. From the small valuation assigned to them, Hart's prints must have been old, torn or out-of-fashion.¹² A year later in 1814, another auction notice revealed that a valuable collection of paintings, drawings, engravings, rare books and a fine-toned violin were to be offered for sale. A brief sampling included:

Violin at \$100.00. . .
Views from Nature \$75.00
Highly finished emblematical figures
Harmony and Meekness at \$60.00 each. . .
Potter's Antiquities, embellished with plates, 8 volumes
\$30.00. . . .¹³

Looking glasses in marble and gilt frames, both large and small, were advertised in the Kentucky Gazette in 1805.¹⁴ Most inventories listing extensive personal possessions include one or more looking glasses. The average appraisal value is two or three dollars, although the range varies. The 1811 inventory of property belonging to the estate of Hugh Meglove lists "one mirror \$15.00"¹⁵ yet a "looking glass 25 cents" shows up in an inventory of Benjamin Welsh.¹⁶ In 1813 Nathaniel Hart's estate mentions two dressing glasses valued at six dollars along with two dressing tables valued at but two dollars. The low dollar value assigned to these glasses suggests that they were

not large ones, for Elijah Warner's 1829 inventory (in Appendix B) includes "one pair large pier glass (old, formerly Parkers), \$60."¹⁸ As previously stated in Chapter One, Lexington tax records show a looking glass factory operating in 1810. Therefore it is not surprising that looking glasses frequently appear in household inventories.

Metal workers were active in Lexington as early as 1794, when a Mr. White, coppersmith, is mentioned in the Kentucky Gazette.¹⁹ Two years later John and David Coons, coppersmiths from Berkeley County, Virginia, informed the public of the opening of their new shop.²⁰ Joseph Harveson worked in Philadelphia as a coppersmith from 1793 until 1805.²¹ In 1806 the Kentucky Gazette carried his advertisement: "Joseph Harbeson, just from Philadelphia, at the Sign of the Still, advertises for two apprentices in the copper and tin business."²² By 1813 Ichabod Woodruff opened his brass foundry and also announced his intention to do silverplating.²³ Apparently successful in his undertaking, Woodruff took on as his partner, David A. Sayre, in the silver plating business two years later.²⁴

The numerous silversmiths of Fayette County have been enumerated in Noble and Lucy Hiatt's publication, The Silversmiths of Kentucky, 1785 - 1850.²⁵ H. L. Palmer, originally from Philadelphia, advertised in the 1809 Reporter his ability to make clocks and watches

as well as jewelry. He published prices for a half-dozen tablespoons, engraved for free, for just six dollars. Teaspoons were two dollars per half-dozen.²⁶ That same year of 1809, Martin Smith, a Fayette County resident, died and his estate which was valued at thirty-two pounds, contained several references to metal products.

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Two Brass Candlesticks | Fifteen Shillings |
| Knife Box and a Parcel of | |
| Old Knives and Forks | Three Shillings |
| Copper Teakettle | Ten Shillings |
| Silver Sugar Tongs and Six | |
| Tea Spoons | One Pound, Eight Shillings |
| Pewter Dish, Basin and | |
| Eleven Pewter Plates | One Pound ²⁷ |

In 1810 H. L. Palmer (the jeweler and clock and watch maker working in Lexington in 1809), encountered competition in the form of another watchmaker, David Humpherys, who informed the public:

David Hubphreys Watch and Clock Maker, carries on the above business in the town of Lexington, two doors above the insurance bank, at the sign of the Watch. Orders in his line will be faithfully and punctually executed.
October 17, 1810²⁸

In each estate inventory examined that listed either a clock or clock and case, the timepiece is always the most expensive item evaluated. Two references in 1809 record a clock valued at \$65.00²⁹ and a clock and case for \$80.00.³⁰ In 1813 a one hundred dollar clock and case was in John Springle's estate,³¹ and Nathaniel Hart's inventory lists

an eighty dollar clock the same year.³²

There is no evidence of a pottery factory in Fayette County during the period of this study, but inventories enumerate household pottery and porcelain. Nathaniel Hart's estate of 1813 lists one set of table china at fifty dollars, one set of tea china at four dollars, and one lot of Queenswar (cream-colored earthenware) at fifteen dollars.³³ Similarly, there is no record of a glass manufactory in Lexington, but inventories such as John Springle's of 1813 list two decanters valued at two dollars and three glass tumblers, two goblets, six wine glasses, and one gilly glass valued at five dollars.³⁴ Obviously, these glass items could have been imported from the East Coast or Pittsburgh without considerable difficulty.

Textiles are mentioned several times in inventories, usually in connection with carpeting. The estate of Thomas Lewis, appraised in 1809, lists a carpet for the drawing room valued at fifteen dollars and a homemade hall carpet worth ten dollars.³⁵ Rag carpeting, generally appraised at about twenty-five cents per yard, could be found in several homes.³⁶ Window "blines" [sic] and curtains were itemized in the inventories of two middle-class residents of the city. The appraisal value for "five window blines and curtains one dollar twenty five cents,"³⁷ is low enough that one can assume these were

either made of a homespun or cheaper muslin-type of material, or very old and worn out. Elijah Warner's inventory of 1829 (in Appendix B) lists two paper window blinds valued at twenty-five cents apiece and three Venetian window blinds valued at four dollars apiece.³⁸

Musical training was obviously an integral part of home life in Lexington. The reader need only refer to such advertisements as that by John J. Abercrombie in which he offers to the citizenry in 1810 piano, guitar and violin instructions. Prior to Mr. Abercrombie's arrival, Joseph Green was making pianoforte and offering them to the public for one hundred eighty dollars each.³⁹

Joseph Green begs leave to acquaint the public that with the assistance from a gentleman from London he has commenced making patent piano fortes with additional keys, quality, touch and tone. Pianos constructed in the usual way are not calculated to resist the effects of changeable climate and he has manufactured his of solid construction, upon such secure plan as to remove doubts of their durability. Orders can be placed at the manufactory on Main Street where a specimen can be seen.⁴⁰

By 1816 both George Beib and T. L. Eveden were advertising their pianofortes.

George Geib's Wholesale and Retail Music Store
Piano Fortes are manufactured by John Geib and
Son who have upwards of five thousand in Europe
and America.
Eight Grecian legged three stringed.
Six Grecian legged two stringed square cornered.

Six Grecian legged two stringed round cornered.
Four Grecian legged two stringed plain cornered.⁴¹

Presumably the John Geib and Son mentioned in this 1814 advertisement is the same New York firm which produced the mahogany and satinwood pianoforte (1804 - 1814), in the Federal Parlor at the Winterthur Museum and the works of the pianoforte in Winterthur's Playfe Room (1818).

George Geib of Lexington is probably the middle brother of the three sons of John Geib (1744 - 1819).⁴² Eveden stated that he worked at his trade many years in London and for five years in Philadelphia. Competition from imported work led him in 1816 to appeal to the local citizenry and their "patriotic spirit of domestic manufactor," saying that London pianofortes, "besides drawing so much wealth from the country, often come to hand much injured."⁴³

To gain some insight into the extent and type of furnishings found in a Lexington home during the period between 1792 and 1820, I have selected a random sampling of articles from the inventories of individuals representing different economic groups. As one might suspect, the higher the dollar value of an estate, the greater the sophistication, variation, and accumulation of the household furnishings.

John Wesley Hunt, formerly a wealthy Alabama planter,

completed his Federal style Lexington townhouse, Hopemont, in 1814. When he died, his total estate amounted to a sizeable \$891,294.97. Out of this total, \$4,305.69 was allotted to the articles enumerated under the heading, "Residence Furniture" and included in part the following:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Two doz. chairs \$72.00 | Sofas \$64.00 |
| Pier table \$25.00 | Three rocking chairs \$24.00 |
| Center table \$20.00 | Card table \$25.00 |
| Unbrella stand \$3.00 | Forty-six yards hall carpet |
| Side board \$10.00 | \$47.00 |
| Wardrobe \$35.00 | Twelve maple chairs \$15.00 |
| Cane rocking chair \$2.50 | Doz. can chairs \$12.00 |
| | |
| East India China \$50.00 | Blue china \$25.00 |
| Celleret glasses \$6.50 | White and blue china \$3.00 |
| Busset \$50.00 | Nest of glass dishes \$15.00 |
| Spittoons \$6.00 ⁴⁴ | |

William Russell, who lived about two miles outside of Lexington, died in 1830, leaving an estate valued at \$17,524.75. Of this amount, \$2,800 was appraised as household furnishings. Along with the usual kitchen and homemaking needs, Mr. Russell had the following pieces of furniture:

Two settees \$15.00
One doz. fancy chairs (Red) \$15.00
One pr. half round tables \$10.00
One Backgammon table \$1.00
Ten fancy chairs (Yellow) \$5.00
Two high post bedsteads \$25.00 each
One sideboard \$8.00
Clock \$40.00
Desk and Bookcase \$6.00

One small table \$1.00
Two common settees \$6.00
Two small tables \$2.00⁴⁵

Finally, there is the inventory of Johathan Parrish, who died in 1828, leaving an estate of \$8,595 that included in part:

One Water Stand and can \$.75
One folding table \$1.75
One Beauró [sic] and bookcase \$8.00
One Beauró [sic] \$5.00
One set Madison tables \$15.00
Six yellow Windsor chairs \$7.50
Six green Windsor chairs \$2.50
Nine flagg bottom chairs \$2.00
One small table and sugar desk \$2.00⁴⁶

Throughout all the inventories the number of chairs and settees is more than the average twentieth-century taste dictates. In Lexington and Fayette Counties the rooms were probably as filled with seating pieces as the Federal parlors of the East Coast. Chairs and settees which were valued the highest in estate holdings were almost always described as painted, fancy furniture of simply referred to by color. Windsor chairs commanded a higher valuation than the chairs listed as "common," "setting," "split-bottom," "shucked-bottom," or "flagg-bottom" chairs. John Springle's estate in 1813 lists six fancy chairs for three dollars apiece among other items, whereas the inventory of the kitchen shows six flag chairs for just \$2.00.⁴⁷ Nathaniel Hart's inventory, recorded the same year, lists the following painted

furniture:

One dozen white and black chairs \$18.00
Two settees (white and black) \$12.00
Eighteen black and yellow chairs \$18.00
One green settee \$4.00⁴⁸

Comparison with new seating pieces being offered at the time is favorable. Four years prior to this, William Challen, a craftsman from New York, notified the Lexington community of his new business.

FANCY CHAIRS

William Challen respectfully informs the public that he has commenced the Fancy Chairs making business, next door to Messrs. Daniel and Charles Bradford's printing office where he will carry on the above business with neatness and taste;--he flatters himself that from the long experience that he has had both in London and New York, that his work will please those who may call on him. He has on hand and makes Black and Gold--White and Ditto--Brown and Ditto--Green and Ditto--Coquelico [sic] and Ditto--Bamboo, etc. Likewise Settees to match any of the above description, all of which will be made in the neatest fashion and highly varnished which can be packed to send to any part of the State without injury. He likewise makes Windsor chairs--all orders will be thankfully received and attended to with punctuality and dispatch, and his price is made reasonable.
May 8, 1809⁴⁹

Another furniture form often listed in Lexington inventories is the side board. Ebenezer Stedman in writing of his father's house

which was completed about 1818, states:

As soon as the house was finished father had the finest furniture that could be got at that time. The house was well furnished from top to bottom. I recollect one piece of furniture in particular and that was a large fine sideboard, and on the top were a number of fine decanters and glasses. There was in them and they were always kept full: brandy, whiskey, rum, wine, cordials. And there it was free for anyone to help themselves. And there was always plenty to do so, we had a great deal of company. It was at this sideboard that I first saw Henry Clay.⁵⁰

Both the wealthy planter, John Wesley Hunt, and the upper middle-class citizen, William Russell, owned side boards. Inventories show a side board in an 1809 estate valued at thirty dollars,⁵¹ one listed in 1812 is valued at twenty dollars,⁵² and another two more recorded in 1813 are valued at seventy dollars⁵³ and eight dollars,⁵⁴ respectively.

A furniture form that appears to be unique to the Kentucky-Tennessee region is the sugar chest, or sugar desk as most inventories designate it. Until the steamboat Enterprise made its maiden voyage upstream from New Orleans to Maysville and Louisville in 1815, sugar was a rather precious commodity, and cabinet makers supplied sugar desks with strong locks to store the valuable merchandise. In 1809 Benjamin Welsh's inventory lists a sugar desk for one dollar,⁵⁵ and William Boyce's inventory of 1812 lists one sugar desk valued at four dollars and fifty cents.⁵⁶ By way of comparison Thomas Lewis' estate

of the same year records a loaf of sugar for twenty-seven dollars and brown sugar for fifteen dollars.⁵⁷ This price is in line with that in Nathaniel Hart's inventory of 1813 listing one block of New Orleans sugar valued at thirty dollars.⁵⁸

Whether an inventory is listing chairs, settees, sideboards, sugar desks, backgammon tables, or any other furniture form, it is not until 1829 that the use of mahogany is mentioned in an inventory.

(Appendix B) Prior to this, whenever the type of wood is mentioned to distinguish various pieces, it is always cherry or walnut. As early as 1817 J. C. Wenzel advertised his mahogany veneers from Jamaica.⁵⁹

Although the mahogany was available, it was obviously cheaper and more convenient to use native woods such as walnut and cherry. The walnut and cherry furniture in inventories was evaluated quite modestly. For instance, in John Wesley Hunt's inventory twelve maple chairs are valued at but fifteen dollars.⁶⁰ Listed below are the other walnut and cherry pieces found in household inventories of this period.

| Date | Inventory | Item | Cost |
|------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1798 | David Leitch | Cherry Tree Desk | 6 Shillings ⁶¹ |
| 1802 | Samuel McCrosky | Walnut Table | 8 Shillings ⁶² |
| | | Cherry Table | 4 Shillings |
| 1808 | Will Parrish | Square Walnut Table | \$2.00 ⁶³ |
| | | Poplar Chest | \$1.50 |
| 1809 | Benjamin Welsh | Walnut Table | \$1.50 ⁶⁴ |
| | | Walnut Chest | \$2.00 |

| | | | |
|------|--------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1809 | John Curry | Walnut Bed Stead | 10 Shillings ⁶⁵ |
| 1811 | Hugh Meglove | Walnut Table | \$7.50 ⁶⁶ |

Within their homes, the populace of Lexington appear to have surrounded themselves with comfortable and stylish furniture, though often it was crafted of cherry or walnut. Perhaps this is one of the more significant facts in uncovering attributable Kentucky furniture.

CHAPTER IV

THE CRAFTSMAN WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The variety of craftsmen residing in Lexington in the period 1792 - 1820 was such that collectively they were able to supplement to an appreciable extent the household goods shipped from the East Coast with their own products and materials.

Lexington's first city directory was published by Joseph Charless in 1806, and it catalogs a large number of craftsmen, including quite a few cabinetmakers, chairmakers, reed makers, and house carpenters. Charless himself came to Lexington in 1803 from Philadelphia and established a printing office and bookstore on Main Street.¹ He was later the publisher of the Directory of the Town of Lexington for 1818, which again lists chair and cabinet makers, a gilder, and a pianoforte-maker.² (Appendix A contains a list of Fayette County cabinetmakers, chairmakers, and related wood-working craftsmen from 1792 - 1820.) Many of these artisans diversified. Frequently, a cabinetmaker or chairmaker advertised that he was taking on the merchandizing of a manufactured product or adding a new line of work.

Some of the crafts appear to have been quite industrialized by 1820, often employing a number of apprentices. It is, therefore, not surprising that several of these craftsmen were active and contributing members of the community.

The Kentucky Gazette of 1809 contains a statement by Edward West, a clockmaker who resided in Lexington as early as 1788, describing the ~~late~~ actions taken by the city trustees. The trustees were a fairly powerful group of men who oversaw the maintenance of the town and controlled the allocation of funds for municipal works projects. West was elected to the position of chairman of the Trustees of Lexington in 1809.³

Archibald McIlvain, a cabinetmaker, held office several times between 1803 and 1815 as a County commissioner for various works projects. Fayette County Court in 1813 appointed him one of three commissioners for the drawing of the new boundaries for the Boonesborough Road. This was a main southern artery for Virginia travelers coming to Lexington. It was the last link on the Wilderness Road from the Cumberland Gap to Lexington.⁴

Apparently, by 1816 the citizens of Lexington felt the need for a hospital. In that year the Kentucky Gazette published a list of

subscribers to the proposed Fayette Hospital. Included with the names of a number of well-known merchants and wealthy men of the community was that of the chairmaker Robert Holmes.⁵

Abraham Barton, a cabinetmaker working in Lexington as early as 1805, is mentioned in Henry Clay's correspondence of 1817 and 1819. By this time Barton was in business as a merchandizer with Craig and Company and, obviously, had made a name for himself in Lexington financial circles. Clay wrote from Washington on January 10, 1817, to John Wesley Hunt recommending Barton as a director of the Bank of the United States. Two years later on January 19, 1819, Clay again wrote and recommended Barton to the board of directors for the office of Discount and Deposit of the Bank of the United States.⁶

When Elijah Warner died in 1829, his published accounts showed that this one-time clock and cabinet maker had become quite a substantial merchant with assets of \$55,330.12.⁷ (See Appendix B) It seems obvious that some members of the trades were well thought of in the community, achieving positions of civic responsibility as well as social mobility.

While a few craftsmen abandoned their trades and became major forces in the community, many others continued in their craft and

expanded their operations as economic conditions warranted it. There are a number of advertisements in the local newspapers for apprentices to the cabinetmaking and chairmaking businesses, indicating a healthy demand for the skills of the woodworker.

Dr. Robert Peter recorded many of his recollections in the History of Fayette County. Among them are two chronicles of the apprenticeship system as practiced in the early nineteenth century. Thomas Sutton, who was orphaned when he was eight years old, began a nine-year apprenticeship at the age of thirteen, with James Marsh, a cabinetmaker. During this nine-year period, the master was to devote eighteen months to schooling. In actual practice Mr. Sutton recalled that he was only given about nine months of schooling. For two and a half years following his apprenticeship he worked for his former master as a journeyman. Finally, four years later he opened his own shop. Another apprentice remembered that at the end of his indenture period he was given several tools and a complementary reference: "one hand saw, one jack plane, one fore plane, one smoothing plane, and a recommendation as a faithful and true man."⁸

Robert Holmes, the chairmaker, received at least three apprentices. In 1803 James Carter was bound to him and in 1810 Israel Gibson was apprenticed to learn the crafts of chair and wheel making.

During 1805 the Orphan's Court named Robert Holmes as the recipient of the services of a boy to learn Holmes' trade.⁹ Porter Clay, brother of Henry Clay, was a cabinetmaker in his youth and later became a minister. He also received an apprentice, nineteen year old George Armstrong from the Court in 1804.¹⁰ Five years later in 1809 he advertised for four men to saw wood for him:

Wanted Immediately Two Pair of Sawyers [sic] for which 12 dollar per month, will be given to white men, and 10 dollar for black men, and it required, one half of the first months wages shall be paid in advance, and may have employment from one to six months.¹¹

The cabinetmaker Benjamin Parrish took on the services of an apprentice named John Brown in 1803,¹² and three turners advertised for apprentices and journeymen in 1810. Samuel Long wished to employ a man already acquainted with the wood turning business and promised liberal wages.¹³ In the following month the partners Marsh and Studman advertised for apprentices in their blacksmith and turning shop.

Marsh and Studman want eight apprentices: four to the white and blacksmith's trade, and four to the turning business. Young lads from 14 to 16 years of age will meet with great encouragement at their shop next below the Theatre on Water Street.¹⁴

There were at least three men with the surname of Megowan working and advertising in Lexington in the early nineteenth century.

Perhaps brothers or members of more than one generation, they included two cabinetmakers, James and Thomas, and one carpenter, David.

David Megowan was in partnership with a man named Ball when he advertised for a number of apprentices in the American Statesman in 1811: "Wanted Immediately Four Apprentices to the Carpenter's Trade. Megowan & Ball."¹⁵ Three years later David Megowan again advertised, but this time it was for a mulatto runaway named Jesse who at eighteen years of age had acquired some manual skill: "He has worked for some time at the carpenter's trade."¹⁶

The two cabinetmaking Megowans seem to have been successful in their craft. James Megowan opened a cabinetmaking shop in Lexington in 1812 and by 1813 he advertised for three or four journeyman cabinetmakers who were good workmen and to whom he would pay high wages in cash.¹⁷ Several years later Thomas B. Megowan took Joseph Milward and Nathaniel Shaw as apprentices into his cabinetmaking shop.¹⁸

Many Lexington cabinetmakers seem to have flourished and the prosperous state of their businesses dictated a need for extra help in the form of journeymen and apprentices. By acquiring additional hands, some with varied skills, cabinet and chairmakers could introduce

a substantial degree of versatility into their craft operations.

Joseph Putnam, a cabinetmaker, advertised in 1795 that he was manufacturing wool machine cards in addition to the usual products of his shop.¹⁹ The chairmaker Robert Holmes needed hog bristles for his brush factory in 1804. Within his establishment he also made Windsor chairs and spinning wheels.²⁰ J. H. Vos and a Mr. Gaunt publicized their fancy and Windsor chair business in 1813. They carried on the house and sign painting trade as well and also did paper hanging.²¹

Two other chairmakers advertised their willingness to repair old chairs: Daniel Spencer specialized in making new reed-bottom chairs in 1793 but also made repairs on all types of other chairs.²² In 1805 Isaac Holmes, a Windsor chair and spinning wheel maker, advertised his accepting orders or repairs from any part of the surrounding country.²³

One of the most interesting subsidiary occupations carried on by a cabinetmaker was that of Thomas Whitney. He advertised for sale in 1814 the patent rights for a cotton spinning machine.

Patent rights for a single machine 15 dollars.
The mettle [sic] parts will be furnished for six
or any large number of spindles at five dollars
per spindle.

Cotton spinners are respectfully invited to call and see this simple and expeditious mode of spinning cotton.

TO MECHANICS

Cabinetmakers, Carpenters, Turners in wood and iron, Black and Whitesmiths, Brass Founders and Filers, are wanted to make the several parts of a Spinning Machine.

The highest price will be given for two inch cherry and four inch poplar of the best quality, seasoned.²⁴

Perhaps the most profitable outside source of income for cabinetmakers and chairmakers was the occupation of undertaking. From 1797 to 1820 there were thirteen listings in the Will Books of Fayette County by known woodworking craftsmen for providing coffins and burial arrangements for the deceased members of the community.²⁵

In the introduction I noted that I found no labelled or marked pieces of furniture attributable to any cabinetmaker on the list which I have compiled. However, there are two known pieces of labelled furniture made by Lexington cabinetmakers. In 1799 the Kentucky Gazette advertised that John Goodman had for sale "a fine quantity of cabinet work, desks, tables, chairs, etc. at John Coons, or at my factory on Cross Street, opposite Colonel Hart's nail factory."²⁶ This is the same John Goodman who made a piano in 1801 in Frankfort, Kentucky, the state capital, located about thirty-five miles west of Lexington, for

Senator John M. Brown of Frankfort. Obviously, Goodman's services were in demand. He apparently divided his time between the two cities, for the label on the Brown piano clearly reads:

John Goodman
Frankfort, Kentucky
1801²⁷

The Anglo-American Art Museum at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge contains a cherry chest of drawers bearing the signature of Elijah Warner in ink inside the top drawer. This is the same Elijah Warner who practiced the cabinetmaking trade in Lexington from about 1795 - 1810 and died in 1829 as a wealthy merchant and trader.²⁸

Lastly, the papers of Henry Clay show a receipted bill from Robert Wilson, a cabinetmaker of Lexington, which is dated October 21, 1816. Unfortunately, Ashland, the restored home of Henry Clay, contains little of Clay's own furniture and nothing comparable to the following items described on the bill.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Receipted Bill from Robert Wilson | |
| Henry Clay, Esqr. | Oct. 21, 1816 |
| To Robt. Wilson | |
| To Easy Chair | \$28 |
| To 2 Corner Bason Stands | 18 |
| To Glass fraim | 12 |
| Brass Claw for ditto | 7 |
| To Screws and Plating ditto | 7 |

21 Octr. 1816 Recd payment Robert Wilson²⁹

CONCLUSION

The facts acquired from this research strongly indicate that a considerable degree of sophistication existed within the Lexington culture in the period 1792 through 1820. The desire for fashionable household goods encouraged a continuous trade with the East Coast, especially Philadelphia and thus, Lexington merchants kept the city supplied with current styles and ideas. A large community of artisans and craftsmen grew up in Lexington to meet the demands dictated by the awareness and taste of the populace. Although no new documented furniture was found, I hope this thesis will provide some impetus for future studies and a more factual basis for furniture attributions to the Fayette County region.

NOTES

NOTES TO CHAPTER I

¹Gilbert Imlay, A Topographical Description of the Western Territory of North America (London: J. Debrett, 1797), p. 168.

²J. Winston Coleman, Jr., The Filson Club History Quarterly, "Lexington As Seen By Travellers, 1810 - 35," Vol. XXIX, No. 3 (July, 1955), p. 271.

³Robert Peter, M.D., History of Fayette County, ed. by William Henry Perrin (Chicago, Illinois: O. L. Baskin, Company Historical Publications, 1882), p. 264.

⁴Thomas Ashe, Esq., Travels in America Performed in 1806 (London: Wm. Sawyer and Co., 1808), p. 192.

⁵Coleman, "Lexington As Seen By Travellers. . .", p. 272.

⁶Ibid., pp. 268 - 69.

⁷Timothy Flint, Recollections of the Last Ten Years (Boston, 1826), p. 133.

⁸Kentucky Gazette and General Advertiser (Lexington, Kentucky), July 7, 1812.

⁹Ibid., August 29, 1809.

¹⁰Ibid., April 11, 1809.

¹¹Ibid., June 6, 1809.

¹²The Reporter (Lexington, Kentucky), June 3, 1809.

¹³Ashe, Travels in America. . ., p. 192.

¹⁴Kentucky Gazette. . ., November 27, 1810.

¹⁵Ibid., May 2, 1809.

¹⁶Flint, Recollections of the Last Ten Years, p. 67.

¹⁷Ibid., p. 133.

¹⁸Coleman, "Lexington As Seen By Travellers. . .," p. 273.

¹⁹Ibid., pp. 268 - 69.

²⁰Perrin, History of Fayette County, p. 265.

NOTES TO CHAPTER II

¹Robert Peter, M.D., History of Fayette County, ed., by William Henry Perrin (Chicago, Illinois: O. L. Baskin & Company Historical Publishers, 1882), p. 262.

²Gilbert Imlay, A Topographical Description of the Western Territory of North America (London: J. Debrett, 1797), p. 170.

³Charles R. Staples, The History of Pioneer Lexington 1779 - 1806 (Lexington, Kentucky: Transylvania Press, 1939), p. 182.

⁴F. A. Michaux, Travels to the West of the Allegheny Mountains in the States of Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and Back to Charleston by the upper Carolinas; Undertaken in the year 1802 (London: D. N. Shury, 1805), p. 204.

⁵Ibid., p. 202.

⁶Kentucky Gazette and General Advertiser (Lexington, Kentucky), March 13, 1809.

⁷The Reporter (Lexington, Kentucky), March 18, 1817.

⁸Kentucky Gazette. . . , June 16, 1817.

⁹Staples, The History of Pioneer Lexington. . . , p. 136.

¹⁰Independent Gazetteer (Lexington, Kentucky), Nov. 16, 1805.

¹¹Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book I, p. 469.

¹²Kentucky Gazette. . . , March 13, 1809.

¹³Ibid., October 24, 1809. ¹⁴Ibid., February 13, 1810.

¹⁵Ibid., April 3, 1810. ¹⁶Ibid., July 27, 1813.

¹⁷Ibid., January 2, 1815. .

¹⁸Michaux, Travels to the West. . ., p. 204.

¹⁹Staples, The History of Pioneer Lexington. . ., p. 182.

²⁰Ibid., p. 165.

²¹J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Slavery Times in Kentucky (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1940), p. 24.

NOTES TO CHAPTER III

¹Clay Lancaster, Antebellum Houses of the Blue Grass (Lexington, Kentucky: University of Kentucky Press, 1861)

²Charles R. Staples, Bluegrass Houses and Their Traditions (Lexington, Kentucky: Transylvania Press, 1932), p. 178.

³Kentucky Gazette and General Adviser (Lexington, Kentucky), March 13, 1815.

⁴Beatrice St. Julien Ravenel, Architects of Charleston (2nd ed.: Columbia, South Carolina: The R. L. Bryan Company, 1964), pp. 151 - 54.

⁵Staples, Bluegrass Houses and Their Traditions, p. 221.

⁶Kentucky Gazette. . ., November 13, 1810.

⁷Ibid., December 30, 1816.

⁸Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book B, pp. 497 - 98.

⁹Staples, Bluegrass Houses and Their Traditions, p. 228.

¹⁰Kentucky Gazette. . ., June 6, 1814.

¹¹Ibid., March 30, 1813.

¹²Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book B, pp. 497 - 98.

¹³Kentucky Gazette. . ., July 27, 1814.

¹⁴Staples, Bluegrass Houses and Their Traditions, p. 220.

¹⁵Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book B, p. 243.

¹⁶Ibid., p. 125. ¹⁷Ibid., pp. 497 - 98.

¹⁸Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book I, p. 414.

¹⁹Kentucky Gazette. . ., March 4, 1794.

²⁰Ibid., March 26, 1796.

²¹Henry F. duPont Winterthur Museum, Joseph Downs Manuscript Library, The Philadelphia Directory for 1793, p. 59.

²²Kentucky Gazette. . ., January 6, 1806.

²³Ibid., June 8, 1813. ²⁴Ibid., August 28, 1815.

²⁵Noble Hiatt and Lucy Hiatt, The Silversmiths of Kentucky; Together with Some Watchmakers and Jewelers, 1785 - 1850 (Louisville, Kentucky: Standard Printing Company, 1954)

²⁶The Reporter (Lexington, Kentucky), October 14, 1809.

²⁷Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book B, May 8, 1809.

²⁸Kentucky Gazette. . ., October 13, 1810.

²⁹Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book B. pp. 21 - 22.

³⁰Ibid., pp. 95.- 97. ³¹Ibid., 472. ³²Ibid., pp. 497 - 98.

³³Ibid.

³⁴Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book B, p. 472.

³⁵Ibid., p. 95 - 97. ³⁶Ibid., pp. 204, 243.

³⁷Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book I, p. 228.

³⁸Ibid., p. 415.

³⁹Kentucky Gazette. . ., December 26, 1805.

⁴⁰Staples, Bluegrass Houses and Their Traditions, p. 226.

⁴¹Kentucky Gazette. . ., July 4, 1814.

⁴²Mrs. L. Delmar Swan, "Notes On--And In--Pianofortes," Winterthur Newsletter, XVII (October, 1971), pp. 4 - 5.

⁴³Kentucky Gazette. . . , December 2, 1816.

⁴⁴Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book S., p. 361.

⁴⁵Ibid., Will Book I, pp. 73 - 78. ⁴⁶Ibid., pp. 58, 59.

⁴⁷Ibid., Will Book B, p. 472. ⁴⁸Ibid., pp. 497 - 98.

⁴⁹Kentucky Gazette. . . , May 9, 1809.

⁵⁰Jacqueline P. Bull and Frances L. S. Dugan, eds., Bluegrass Craftsman: Being the Reminiscences of Ebenezer Hiram Stedman, Paper-maker 1808 - 1885 (Lexington, Kentucky: University of Kentucky Press, 1959), p. 14.

⁵¹Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book B, pp. 21, 22.

⁵²Ibid., p. 366. ⁵³Ibid., pp. 497 - 98. ⁵⁴Ibid., p. 472.

⁵⁵Ibid., p. 125. ⁵⁶Ibid., p. 445. ⁵⁷Ibid., pp. 95 - 97.

⁵⁸Ibid., pp. 497 - 98.

⁵⁹The Reporter, March 18, 1809.

⁶⁰Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book S, p. 361.

⁶¹Kentucky Historical Society (Frankfort, Kentucky), Inventory and Appraisal of the Estate of David Leitch (November 8, 1794) MSS Collection No. 533, 1 folder.

⁶²Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book A, p. 263.

⁶³Ibid., Will Book B., p. 93. ⁶⁴Ibid., p. 125.

⁶⁵Ibid., p. 107. ⁶⁶Ibid., p. 243.

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¹J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Lexington's First City Directory (Lexington, Kentucky: Winburn Press, 1953), p. 1.

²Ibid., pp. 5 - 18.

³Kentucky Gazette and General Advertiser (Lexington, Kentucky), October 3, 1809.

⁴Fayette County Courthouse, Court Records Book, July 1813, p. 492.

⁵Kentucky Gazette. . . , February 26, 1816.

⁶Henry Clay, The Papers of Henry Clay, ed. by James F. Hopkins and associate editor Mary W. M. Hargreaves, II (Lexington, Kentucky: University of Kentucky Press, 1959), 281, 635.

⁷Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book I, p. 469.

⁸Robert Peter, M. D., History of Fayette County, ed. by William Henry Perrin (Chicago, Illinois: O. L. Baskin and Company Historical Publishers, 1882), pp. 716, 619.

⁹Charles R. Staples, The History of Pioneer Lexington 1779 - 1806 (Lexington, Kentucky: Transylvania Press, 1939), p. 232.

¹⁰Fayette County Courthouse, Order Book 1, p. 166.

¹¹Kentucky Gazette, April 4, 1809.

¹²Fayette County Courthouse, Order Book 1, p. 82.

¹³Ibid., August 25, 1810. ¹⁴Ibid., September 11, 1810.

¹⁵American Statesman (Lexington, Kentucky), November 23, 1811, Harvard College, Houghton Library, Ebeling Newspapers.

- ¹⁶Kentucky Gazette. . ., July 18, 1814.
- ¹⁷Ibid., July 27, 1813.
- ¹⁸Robert Peter, History of Fayette County, pp. 656, 710.
- ¹⁹Kentucky Gazette. . ., March 16, 1795.
- ²⁰Ibid., January 24, 1804. ²¹Ibid., May 4, 1813.
- ²²Ibid., May 24, 1793.
- ²³Independent Gazeteer (Lexington, Kentucky), June 14, 1805, Harvard College, Houghton Library, Ebeling Newspapers, E 294.
- ²⁴Kentucky Gazette. . ., October 17, 1814
- ²⁵Fayette County Courthouse, Will Book B, pp. 12, 113, 221, 228, 295, 486, and 492; Will Book I, p. 236; Will Book M, p. 170; Will Book N, p. 414
- ²⁶Kentucky Gazette. . ., January 21, 1799.
- ²⁷Photograph taken at the John Mason Brown house in Frankfort, Kentucky, 1968.
- ²⁸Ruth Davidson, "Museum Acquisitions," Antiques, Vol. XCV (January, 1969).
- ²⁹Clay, The Papers of Henry Clay, II, 240.

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APPENDIX A

LEXINGTON WOODWORKING CRAFTSMEN 1792 - 1820

Key

- (A)= Apprentice or Journeyman
(B)= Listed in 1806 City Directory
(C)= Listed in 1818 City Directory
(D)= Listed in Kentucky Gazette
(E)= Listed in Fayette County Court Order Books
(F)= Listed in Fayette County Court Will Books

CABINETMAKERS

If an artisan is listed as both a cabinet and chairmaker I have entered his name under this list.

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|----------------------|-----|--|
| Allen, E. S. | (D) | 1816 |
| Armstrong, George | (E) | (A) - 1804 |
| Brotton, _____ | (E) | (A) - 1817 |
| Brown, John | (E) | (A) - 1803 |
| Clay, Porter | (B) | 1806 |
| Hickman, William | (E) | (A) - 1804 |
| Hill, James | (C) | 1818 |
| Ingels, Thomas | (E) | 1816 |
| Jones, William | (E) | (A) - 1814 |
| McChord, John | (F) | 1797 |
| McElwee, C. B. | (D) | 1818 - 1819 |
| McIlvane, Archibald | (D) | 1804 - 1814 |
| Masterson, Zachariah | (E) | (A) - 1816 |
| Megowan, James | (D) | 1812 - 1818 |

CABINETMAKERS (cont.)

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|-----------------------|-----|--|
| Megowan, Thomas | (F) | 1819 - 1842 |
| Miller, Jacob | (D) | 1799 |
| Owens, Thomas | (E) | 1805 |
| Parrish, Benjamin | (B) | 1803 - 1818 |
| Powers, Stephen | (C) | 1818 |
| Protherol, William M. | (D) | 1794 |
| Putnam, Joseph | (D) | 1795 |
| Ragan, Stephen | (E) | 1811 |
| Rankin, Samuel | (C) | 1818 - 1823 |
| Ritter, Charles | (C) | 1818 |
| Ross, Alexander | (E) | (A) - 1809 |
| Sayers, David | (D) | 1793 |
| Scroggin, John | (E) | (A) - 1809 |
| Sprangler, John | (D) | 1794 - 1822 |
| Spencer, Daniel | (D) | 1793 - 1812 |
| Stephenson, James | (D) | 1801 |
| Warner, Elijah | (C) | 1818 - 1828 |
| Weaver, Daniel | (D) | 1790 |
| Whitney, Thomas | (B) | 1795 - 1819 |
| Wilson, Robert | (B) | 1806 - 1838 |
| Whoreton, Joseph | (E) | 1798 |

CHAIRMAKERS

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|------------------|-----|--|
| Carter, James | (E) | (A) - 1803 |
| Challen, William | (D) | 1809 |
| Dundas, James | (D) | 1799 |
| Gaunt, _____ | (D) | 1813 |
| Gibson, Israel | (E) | (A) - 1810 |
| Grant, _____ | (D) | 1804 |
| Hardwick, James | (D) | 1794 |
| Jemison, _____ | (D) | 1804 |
| Holmes, Isaac | (D) | 1805 |
| Holmes, Robert | (D) | 1788 - 1816 |

CHAIRMAKERS (cont.)

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|------------------|-----|--|
| Messick, Isaac | (E) | (A) - 1812 |
| Messick, Nehemia | (E) | (A) - 1814 |
| Metheny, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Reed, William | (D) | 1797 - 1818 |
| Vos, J. H. | (D) | 1813 |

PIANOFORTE MAKERS

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|-----------------------|-----|--|
| Eveden, T. L. | (D) | 1816 |
| Geib, George | | |
| (selling John Geib's) | (D) | 1814 |
| Green, Joseph | (D) | 1805 |
| Veltenair, Christian | (C) | 1818 |

CLOCKMAKERS

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|------------------|-----|--|
| Ayres, Samuel | (D) | 1813 |
| Hiter, John | (D) | 1813 |
| Humphreys, David | (D) | 1810 |
| Hyman, Henry | (D) | 1799 |
| Palmer, H. L. | (D) | 1809 |
| Platt, Ebenezer | (D) | 1792 |
| Smart, George | (D) | 1795 |
| West, Edward | (D) | 1788 |

TURNERS

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|-----------------|-----|--|
| Baxter, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Mandell, Conrad | (D) | 1811 |
| Marsh, John | (D) | 1810 |

JOINERS AND HOUSE CARPENTERS

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----|--|
| Alsop, Spencer | (C) | 1815 - 1818 |
| Anderson, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Ater, _____ | (C) | 1818 |
| Baker, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Barbee, Joseph | (C) | 1818 |
| Brand, James W. | (D) | 1812 |
| Burton, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Capell, Benjamin | (C) | 1818 |
| Cassell, Jacob | (E) | 1810 |
| Clarke, John | (D) | 1818 |
| Downing, John | (B) | 1806 |
| Ducker, James | (C) | 1818 |
| Ennis, James | (C) | 1818 |
| Fisher, David | (C) | 1818 |
| Gough, Michael | (C) | 1818 |
| Hanson, William | (C) | 1818 |
| Harris, Archibald | (E) | 1807 |
| Henley, E. | (C) | 1818 |
| Higginbotham, Ralph | (C) | 1818 |
| Jones, Nelson | (C) | 1818 |
| Kauck, George | (C) | 1818 |
| Kennedy, Matthew | (D) | 1814 - 1818 |
| Law, Samuel | (E) | 1806 |
| Long, Samuel | (D) | 1809 |
| McDaniel, George and James | (C) | 1818 |
| Megowan, David | (D) | 1808 - 1818 |
| Miller, Benjamin | (C) | 1818 |

JOINERS AND HOUSE CARPENTERS (cont.)

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--|
| Moffet, Cyrus | (C) | 1818 |
| Nelson, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Patterson, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Pigg, Lewis | (C) | 1818 |
| Porter, Ephraim | (C) | 1818 |
| Reed, Stephen | (C) | 1818 |
| Roach, Henry | (F) | 1801 |
| Russell, Joseph | (C) | 1818 |
| Shields, James and Patrick | (C) | 1818 |
| Shryock, Matthias | (C) | 1818 |
| Stout, David | (C) | 1818 |
| Stringfellow, John and William | (C) | 1818 |
| Tilton, Peter | (C) | 1818 |
| Tudor, Thomas | (C) | 1818 |
| Van Pelt, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Welman, Cornelius | (C) | 1818 |
| Welsh, _____ | (C) | 1818 |
| Wilson, John | (C) | 1818 |
| Winscott, Joseph | (C) | 1818 |
| Wright, Pettice | (C) | 1818 |

OTHERS

| <u>Name</u> | | <u>Known Dates of Residence in Lexington</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--|
| Barton, Abraham | (C) | |
| (sells cabinetmaking tools) | | 1805 |
| Brownlee, George | (B) | |
| (reedmaker) | | 1806 |
| Downing, Francis | (D) | |
| (sells new chair making patterns) | | 1806 |
| Fife, Thomas (reedmaker) | (C) | 1818 |
| McIntosh, James | (C) | |
| (carver and gilder) | | 1818 |

APPENDIX B

INVENTORIES OF TWO LEXINGTON
CABINETMAKERS

These inventories appear as they were recorded from the original in the Fayette County Courthouse Will Books. Although both men died after 1820 they were practicing the cabinetmaking craft prior to that date.

* * *

A List of property sold by Meshack Vaughn as administrator of John Spangler, Dec^d

| | |
|---|----------|
| Meschack Vaughn - one Hatchet, one pair of pinchers | \$2. |
| Ditto one set of plains | 4. |
| Ditto one hand saw | 2.12 1/2 |
| Ditto one sash plain, one bead plain | 2. |
| Ditto two iron bolts, one punch | .62 1/2 |
| Ditto four squaires, one rule, one compass | 1.50 |
| Ditto one oil stove | 2.25 |
| Ebenezer Vaughn---one sorrel mare | 24.00 |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Mr. Meshack Vaughn to John Spangler for work done by him | |
| To Laying floor 448 feet 8 I. of square jointed at 25 ^s | 11.25 |
| To Drising 294 feet tonge & groving and not laid | 6.75 |
| To 100 feet of Partition at 15 ^s | 2.50 |
| To 3 Dow frames at 4 ^s pr. | 2.00 |
| To 5 Risers & cutting out one horse | 1.50 |
| To 57 lights of glass at 6° pr light | 4.75 |

| | |
|---|-------|
| To Cutting out and checking up 4 windows | 2.00 |
| To Cutting out and checking up 2 doors | 1.00 |
| John Spangler D ^d . To Meshack - June 1820 | 27.00 |
| To one sorrel mare five years old at | 3. |
| To pasturing the above mare 3 months | |
| To attending on the above John Spangler Dec ^d in times) of his illness being six weeks at my house at \$7 per week) | 42. |
| To keeping and grain feeding the above mare three months | 4.50 |
| To plank & timber to make a large gate | 1.00 |

The undersigned Commissioners appointed to settle with Meshack Vaughn his administration of the estate of John Spangler Dec^d find that the whole of the estate which came to the hands of said administrator amounts to Thirty-nine dollars and 47 cents and we also find that there was dealings between Spangler and Vaughn, during his life, and we have a personal knowledge of the two accounts herewith filed, marked A and B except the item for the gate, and we do certify that said Vaughns account exceeds that of the account of said Spangler as stated in the annexed accounts, and there is a balance due to said Meshack Vaughn of Six dollars and 31 cents.
June 14, 1822

Thomas D. Miller
James Headly
Achilles Webster

* * *

Inventory and appraisement of the effects of the late Elijah

Warner, Esq. Deceased.

Commenced 5th Nov 1829 Lex'ton Ky

| | |
|--|--------|
| 18 Mahogany Chairs | |
| 2 Mahogany Sophas | 321.60 |
| 1 pr Large pier Glass (old formerly Parkers) | 60. |
| 1 pr Gilt frames for Ditto (new) | 40. |
| 1 pr Large mantle Glasses | 80. |
| 1 Doz Lyree chairs (flag bottom) | 40. |
| 1 " Mahogany col ^d ditto ditto | 30. |

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1/2 | Doz Green chairs (wooden bottoms) | 15.00 |
| 1/2 | ditto Gilt Windsor ditto | 7.50 |
| 1 | pr small alabaster Urns with Stands | 50.00 |
| 1 | mantle Glass | 18.00 |
| 1 | Glass Chandilier | 8.00 |
| 1 | pr Brass andirons (old) | 6.00 |
| 1 | " Brass mounted Shovel & tongs (old) | 4.00 |
| 1 | old Fire fender | 1.50 |
| 1 | portrait of ("La Fayette") | 1.50 |
| 2 | pictures ("Joseph & his Brethren") | 5.00 |
| 1 | picture " <u>Fruit Woman</u> " | .25 |
| 1 | Sett 3 pillon & _____ Tables | 60.00 |
| 1 | Sett 3 Reeded Tables | 45.00 |
| 1 | Forte piana | 400.00 |
| 1 | Piana Stool | 25.00 |
| 1 | pair Snuffers & plated tray | 50.00 |
| 1 | " Pillon & Claw Tables | 25.00 |
| 1 | Old Hearth Brush | .25 |
| 1 | Bunch pea Cock feathers | .50 |
| 1 | Piana Cover | 10.00 |
| 1 | pair alabaster matte vases | 10.00 |
| 1 | " ditto Candle Sticks | .75 |
| 1 | " old Brass andirons | 4.00 |
| 1 | " " " shovel & tongs | 2.00 |
| 1 | old " Fire Fender | 1.00 |
| 2 | new Ditto a \$15 | 30.00 |
| 2 | pr new Brass andirons \$15 | 30.00 |
| 2 | " " Brass shovel tongs & poker | 12.00 |
| 1 | plated Snuffer Tray | .25 |
| 1 | mahogany Side Board | 75.00 |
| 4 | pr cut Glass Decanters a \$2 | 8.00 |
| 1 | " plain Ditto | .50 |
| 1 | water Decanter | .50 |
| 1 | Broken Decanter | .06 |
| 1 | Large & 1 small Bk Bottles | .25 |
| 1 | Sugar Bowl | .06 |
| 1 | Glass Pitcher | 1.00 |
| 1 | pr Decanter Stands | .25 |
| 4 | Large waiter (1 large & 3 small) | 2.25 |
| 9 | Cut Glass Tumblers | 1.50 |
| 1 | Cordial Stand with 3 bottles | 5.00 |
| 1 | pr Cellery Glasses | .50 |
| 1 | qt Tumbler | .12 |

| | |
|--|------|
| 1 plated tea urn | 1. |
| 1 Doz Cutt Cordial Glasses | 1.50 |
| 1 plated preserve stand | .75 |
| 4 Glass Lamp Chimnaies | 1. |
| 2 Paper Window Blinds | .50 |
| 12 Doz plain jelly Glasses a 6 cts | 1.12 |
| 10 Cut Glass wines | 1.25 |
| 5 ditto | .62 |
| 7 ditto | .88 |
| 5 ditto | .62 |
| 2 Common Glass preserves | .50 |
| 1 Sett Tea China (75 pieces) | 35. |
| 1 " Ivory handle Knives and forks, 2 doz | 20. |
| 6 Doz Lamp Wicks | .75 |
| 1 piece Gauze for Covering Glasses | .25 |
| 14 Marble fruits | .75 |
| 1 Liverpool pitcher | .25 |
| 1 ditto Tourine | 1. |
| 1 Stone China Do with Dish | 1. |
| 2 Vegetable Dishes | 1. |
| 2 Fruit Baskets with Dishes | 1. |
| 3 Mugs | .50 |
| 1 Wash Bowl and Cracked Bowl | .50 |
| 1 Lott 17 beef plates, 14 Saucers & 7 cups | 1. |
| 1 pr Sugar Dishes | .50 |
| 1 pr Creams | .25 |
| 1 Britannia Sugar Dish and Iron Spoon | .25 |
| 25 assorted plates | 1. |
| 1 Bread Tray | .12 |
| 3 Ticklers | .12 |
| 2 pudding plates | .75 |
| 1 Old Plated Castor | .50 |
| 1 Salt dish | .12 |
| 3 Jars & 2 bottles | 1.50 |
| 1 Demijohn with mollasses | .50 |
| 1/2 Doz Knives & forks & tray | .75 |
| 1 Basket with Corks & medicine | .13 |
| 8 wax ornament | .13 |
| 1 portrait " <u>Doct Holly</u> " | 1. |
| 4 Lamp Glasses | .25 |
| 1 Gig whip | 1. |
| 13 leaverlids a \$2 | 26. |
| 5 Table Cloths a \$1.50 | 7.50 |

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| 1 Suit, Bed & Window Calico Curtains | 15. |
| 2 Calico Bed spreads a 1.25/100 | 2.50 |
| 1 Suit Silk window Curtains Cornises etc | 15. |
| 1 mersailles quilt | 5. |
| 7 Counterpanes a \$3 | 21. |
| 3 Calico Spreads a \$2 | 6. |
| 2 Suits white window Curtains \$2 | 4. |
| 22 pillow Cases a 16 2/3 cts. | 3.67 |
| (2 Bolster Cases 75/100) 3 Sheets \$1.50/100 2 towel 25/100 | 2. |
| 2 Lots valance & Fringe | 8. |
| 1 Lot new Fringe | 3. |
| 8 pillow & Bolster ticks | 2. |
| 1 warming pan | 3. |
| 1 Carpet 90 yards a \$2 25/100 new | 202.50 |
| 1 passage Carpet a \$1.37. 11 yds new | 15.12 |
| 1 Stair do 14 yds a 95 cts new | 13.30 |
| 2 Hearth Rugs a \$16 new | 32. |
| 1 Bed Room Carpet 24 yds new | 24. |
| 1 Ditto Hearth Rug new | 6. |
| 30 yds old Scotch Carpet a 25/100 | 7.50 |
| 10 " " Home made a 25/100 | 2.50 |
| 1 Old Hearth Rug | 1. |
| 3 3/4 yds old passage Carpet a 25/100 | .81 |
| 1 pr Old Brass andirons | 3. |
| 1 " " Shovel and tongs | 2. |
| 1 Fire Fender | 1.50 |
| 1 Doz yellow Windsor Chairs | 12. |
| 1 Rocking Chair ans 1 arm do a \$1.50/100 | 3. |
| 1 Red waiter \$1.2 oil Cloth Table covers \$1.50/100 | 2.50 |
| 3 paper window Blinds a 25 cts. | .75 |
| 1 High post Bedstead Blue Cornise | 25. |
| 1 Hair matrass | 12. |
| 1 pr Claw Card Tables | 25. |
| 1 Beaureau & Book Case | 60. |
| 1 mahogany Case with Clock | 60. |
| 1 pr plated Globe Lamps | 30. |
| 1 Small Gilt frame Pier Glass | 3. |
| 1 Sett marble & alabaster vases | 8. |
| 1 pr marble & alabaster Candle Sticks | 1.75 |
| 1 plated Snuffer Tray | .25 |
| 1 Doz Breakfast Knives & forks new | 3. |
| 3 venetian window Blinds | 12. |
| 1 passage Lamp (formerly Doct Hollys) | 3. |

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| 1 pr over Shoes | 1.50 |
| 1 Old Knife Case | 2. |
| 15 yds Hair Cloth wide a \$1 | 15. |
| 4 1/2 yds Ditto narrow a 50/100 | 2.25 |
| 3 Gilt Frame pictures for | 3.50 |
| 2 pr Rifle pistols and molds | 10. |
| 1 two barrell pistol & Belt | 3. |
| 1 powder Horns with powder | .50 |
| 1 Clock & Case (sold before M ^r W ^s death | 25. |
| 1 Old Desk | 8. |
| 1 High post Bedstead, Cornise, Bed & Straw do | 30. |
| 1 alabaster Candle Stick 25/100 1 pr plated do \$1 | 1.25 |
| 1 Small waiter 12/100. 1 pr Iron digs 50/100 | .62 |
| 1 pr Tongs 50. 1 old map of world 25/100 | .75 |
| 4 maps, Europe, Asia & Africa a \$1. Ky \$4 | 7. |
| 20 yds home made Carpet a | 3.34 |
| 2 pr window Cornice a \$2.50/100 | 5. |
| 2 picture Frames (not Gilt) | 1. |
| 1 Small Square Candle Stand | .25 |
| 1 house Belt \$1.50/100. 5 1/2 yds old Carpet for 50/100 | 2. |
| 1 Copper wine Cooler | 3. |
| 1 High post Bed Stead, Cornice & Bed | 25. |
| 1 Beaureau \$10. 1 State and atlas 12/100 | 10.12 |
| 3 Scotch Harps a \$3.18 Iron Stair Rods 50/100 | 9.50 |
| 1 Lot Bits Old Coffee mill etc | .50 |
| 17 yds old home made Carpet for | 2.50 |
| 1 Scotch Rug 25/100 | 1.25 |
| 1 Old portmanteau 50/100 13 Trunks at 50/100 | 20. |
| 2 Boxes 1 Containing Sundries | .38 |
| 1 Saddle, Cloth, Sircingle & Cover | 10. |
| (1 Bear Skin 50/100) 22 yds Stair Carpet a 25/100 | 6. |
| 7 old window Sash with some Glass | 3. |
| 2 feather Beds, Bolsters & Pillows a \$10 | 20. |
| 15 yds passage Carpet 37 1/2/100 | 5.62 |
| 1 Press board & Goose 50/100. 35 Brass Stair Rods \$3.50/100 | 4. |
| 1 Kipp Skin No. 1. | 2.25 |
| 6 Sides of ditto No. 5. | 7.50 |
| 6 do of upper Leather No. 1. | 9. |
| 6 do of ditto No. 2. | 9. |
| 7 do of ditto No. 3. | 8.75 |
| 3 Philadelphia Calf Skins | 4.50 |
| 3 Sheets & 1 pillow Case | 3.25 |
| 1 Sacking Bottom | 1. |

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| 8 peices flax Linen 252 1/4 yds a 18 cts. | 45.40 |
| 1 peice Table Diaper 17 3/4 yds 25 cts. | 4.44 |
| 8 peices Tow linen 195 1/2 uds a 12 1/2 cts. | 24.43 |
| 22 " Janes 513 1/4 yds a 50 cts. | 256.62 |
| 3 Linsey 80 1/4 yds a 31 cts. | 24.88 |
| 11 1/2 yds Blanketing a 40 cts. | 4.60 |
| 25 " Blue Cotton Janes a 25 cts. | 6.25 |
| 21 plough lines a 12 1/2 cts. | 2.62 |
| 1 Bed Stead & 2 Beds etc. | 25. |
| 1 flag Bottom Settee | 5. |
| 1 Superfine Half high post Beadstead) | |
| 2 Beds, Bolsters, pillows & Furniture) | 75. |
| 1 Secretary | 75. |
| 1 Levverlids a \$2 | 14. |
| 3 Counterpanes | 6. |
| 3 Blankets a \$1.75/100 | 5.25 |
| 16 yds Rag Carpet for \$3.1 Shovel 50/100 | 3.50 |
| 1 pr Iron dogs 75/100 1 Toilette Glass 25/100 | 1. |
| 36 veavers Slaies a 1/6 | 6. |
| 12 gun Boxes Common Cigars | 3. |
| 1 old toilett Stand | .50 |
| 1 Box old Trumpery | .50 |
| 1 Trunk containing Sundries | 15. |
| 1 Basket containing 34 Brass Knobs | 1.50 |
| 9 Handles, 11 Escutchians etc | -- |
| 1 Basket 95 pill Boxes | .25 |
| 1 Box 35 phials | 1. |
| 1 magnifying mirror | .50 |
| 1 old Knife Tray of Medicine etc | .25 |
| 1 Little Box Garden Seeds etc | .25 |
| 12 doz Brass Knobs a 75 cts. | 9. |
| 1 1/2 doz Inlet Brass Handles | 1.50 |
| 9 Small Files 50/100. 2 Gross white nails \$2 | 2.50 |
| 15 Gross small Screws a 25 cts. | 3.75 |
| 2 pr Card Table Hinges, old screws & Buckles | .44 |
| 8 Straight Castors \$1. 2 Setts Claw do a \$2.50/100 | 6. |
| 1 Sett Curtains \$3. 2 Sett Bed ditto a \$1. | 5. |
| 1 Doz Large Claw Castors | 12. |
| 1 Sett Breakfast Table ditto | 2.50 |
| 132 Squair phials | 3. |
| 114 lbs. Sole Leather a 20 cts. | 22.80 |
| 28 Large Blk Bottles a 12/100 1 piggin 50/100 | 4. |
| 7 Jars 2 Canisters & tin Scoop | 1.25 |

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| 1 Stool \$1. 15 Empty Bbls a 25 cts. | 4.75 |
| 1 varnish Bbl 25/100 1 wine Cask \$1 | 1.25 |
| 16 Bbls 5 year old, & 9 Bbls 1 y. old whiskey= | |
| 828 1/2 Galls averaged at 30 cts. | 248.15 |
| 2 Bbls Bounce supposed 50 Galls at 50 cts. | 25. |
| 1/2 Bbls Race Turpentine | 3. |
| 1 Franklin Stove \$10. 6 old Jugs \$1 | 11. |
| 1 Box Glass 50/100 5 large window Sash \$5 | 5.50 |
| 2 Kegs peach Brandy 13 Galls a 75 cts. | 9.75 |
| 2 " apple Ditto 11 Galls a 30 cts. | 3.60 |
| 2 Demijohns 2 Galls each Brandy | 4.50 |
| 1 Sett old Scales and weights \$1 old Cleaver 50/100 | 1.50 |
| 2 Kegs 1 Stone Kettle and 1 Box old Irons | 1.50 |
| 2 Bbls 1 with Gum Copal 1 Lamp Blk | 2. |
| 1 pr Steel yards 50/100 1 Hand pump 50/100 | 1. |
| 1 pr fetters \$1 one Demijohn 50/100 Slabs \$1 | 2.50 |
| 1 Breakfast Table \$2 1 Large Settee \$8 | 10. |
| 1 Old Tick containing new feathers | 8. |
| 12 Tincture Bottles a 2/3 Clothes Basket 12/100 | 4.62 |
| 1 Jar wafers \$1 Two Tables a \$3 & 50/100 | 4.50 |
| Kitchen utensils collectively | 17.55 |
| 2 Ten Gallon Kettles \$2 1 ten plate stove \$10 | 12. |
| 2 old axes \$1. 2 Stands of Bees for \$2.50/100 | 3.50 |
| 68 Lard Kegs a 25 cts. | 17. |
| 8 Large Casks for meat etc | 5. |
| 1 half Bushel measure | .75 |
| 1 new Grindstone | 1. |
| 2 mahogany wash stands a \$10 | 20. |
| 4 Bureaus at \$15. 2 Clock Cases a \$15 | 90. |
| 1 lot hoop Iron Say 50 lbs a 5 cts. | 2.50 |
| 1 Breakfast Table | 5. |
| 1 Bag Epsom Salts \$4 old table 12 1/2/100 | 4.12 |
| 1 mantle time peice | 6. |
| 4 Broken peices webbing | 2. |
| 1 Sett Bed Cornice \$2 Hen Coop \$6. tongs 6/100 | 8.06 |
| 1 Ten plate stove & pipe \$15 8 planes \$2 | 17. |
| 2 Low post Bed Steads a \$6 | 12. |
| 1 Turning Lathe & tools | 8. |
| 5 work Benches a \$3. 2 Tables a \$1 | 17. |
| 2 Hand Saws a 25/100 1 venering ditto | 3.50 |
| 58 Clock Cases a \$6. | 348. |
| 9 Ditto. Condemned | 5. |
| 1 Cross Cut Saw \$1 paint Stone etc \$2 | 3. |

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| a quantity of Lumber in Garrett | 5. |
| 1 Bbl Ky. Red \$1 Bed & Bedstead \$5 | 6. |
| 1 Coach & Harness | 250. |
| 1 Gig \$250. 10 waggons a \$30 | 550. |
| 1 Dearborn \$30 Road waggon \$60 | 90. |
| 1 Cart \$25. 8 Cows a \$6 | 73. |
| 17 Horses from \$15 to \$80. average \$30 | 510. |
| 1 Steer \$6. 1 Grindstone & Frame \$3 | 9. |
| 1 Small table \$1. 3 old Chairs 75/100 2 hoes \$1 | 2.75 |
| 5 new window Curtains cornice (ornaments etc appraised at cost(| 194.70 |
| 2 Saddles a \$10. Saddle Blanket \$1 | 11. |
| 1 pr Steel yards, 2 Bed Steads a \$5 | 10. |
| 29 wooden Clocks a \$3 | 87. |
| 26 Ditto damaged | 26. |
| 1 patent Eagle Sopha | 15. |
| =lbs. Spanish whiting a 4 cts. | 1.62 |
| 345 lbs Rosin a 1 1/2 cts. | 5.17 |
| 741 lbs Bar Iron a 15 cts. | 37.05 |
| 100 Galls Tar a 15 cts. | 15. |
| 183 " do a 16 cts. | 29.28 |
| 52 yds Janes a 50 cts. | 26. |
| Lumber & plank in an about the Lumber yard averaged a | 152.50 |
| <u>Silver Plate</u> | |
| 1 pr Tea pots) | The weight |
| 6 new Tumblers) | |
| 4 old Ditto) | |
| 1 Sugar Dish & Cream) | |
| 4 Salts) | |
| 1 Large Soup Ladle) | |
| 3 Sauce Ladles) | |
| 2 Cream Ladles) | |
| 2 pr Sugar tongs) | |
| 1 pr Butter Knives | |
| 6 Setts Table Spoons) | 1. |
| 2 " Dessert ") | |
| 5 " Tea ") | |
| 1 " ditto containing ten spoons) | |
| 1 " ditto " five do) | |
| 3 Gilt Salt Spoons) | 290.44 |
| 26 1/2 yds Janes Rec ^d 16 th new a 50 cts. | 13.25 |
| 1 Lot of Carpenters Tools | 3. |
| 1 Box containing phials | 2. |

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| 1 Box containing Kings yellow | 1. |
| 1 " pale pink point | 1. |
| 1 1/12 Doz Batemans Drops | 1. |
| 1 paper | .25 |
| 2 papers Epsom Salts | .25 |
| 1 paper Colts foot | .25 |
| 2 Trunks containing sundry Books & pamphlets | 10. |
| 83 1/2 yds Janes a 50cts. | 41.75 |
| 4 Silver Watches \$8 | 32. |
| Furniture in Ware Room | 222.54 |
| Deduct for error in pr. snuffers and plated Tray (folio 2) | 49.50 |
| 8 hoes a 37 1/2 cts. | 3. |
| lot of Chains | 1. |
| 2 Riddles | .50 |
| Old ax Stone Hammer etc. | 1. |
| 9 1/2 yds drab Cloth a 1.75 | 16.62 |
| Library | 30. |

Slaves

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|--------------------------|------|
| Bill Negro man | 400. |
| Stephen do do | 375. |
| Cesar do do | 150. |
| Aggy do wman & (| 300. |
| child at the brest--(| |
| Sarah Jane negro Child | 150. |
| Mary Ann do do | 100. |
| Charles do do | 75. |
| Jacob a negro boy | 200. |
| Lewis a " " | 125. |
| George do " (| |
| not sound (| 100. |
| Dick a negro boy (| |
| not sound (since dead)) | 100. |

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| amount brot forward | \$8,984.51 |
| Total amount of Personal property & Slaves | \$30,768.56 |