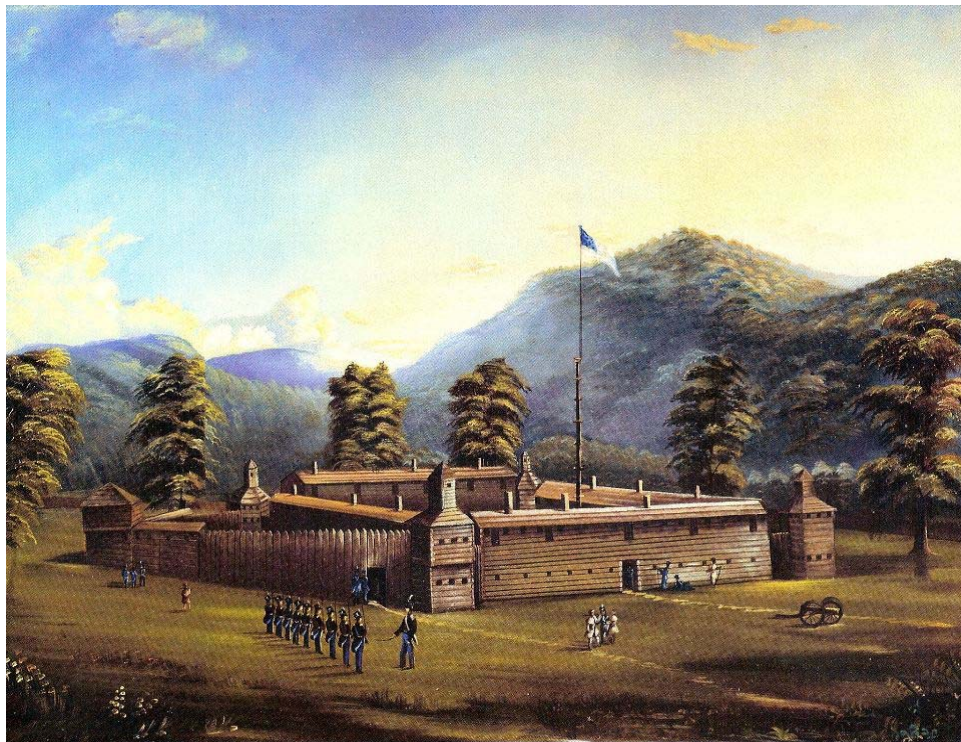


THE FAMILY OF DAVID EVERETT WADE AND MARY JONES WADE,  
CINCINNATI PIONEERS

By

WILLIAM H. CHATFIELD

December, 2008  
Cincinnati, Ohio



Fort Washington, Cincinnati, built 1789.



DAVID EVERETT WADE

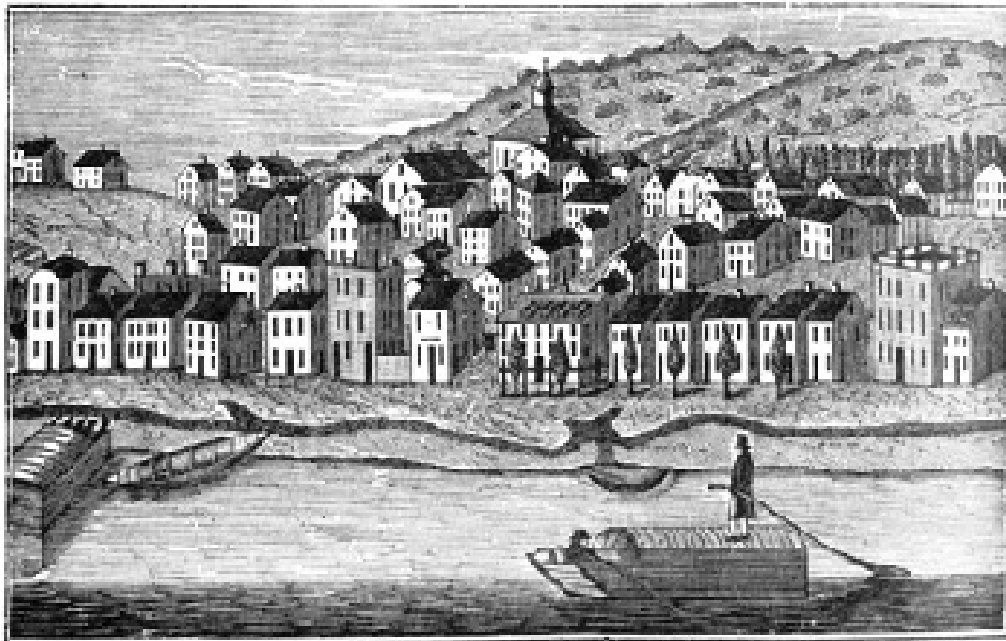
“David Everett Wade, born in 1763, whose mother was Sarah Everett of the New England family of Edward Everett, was a soldier in the Revolution when a mere boy, and came from Elizabeth, N.J. to Cincinnati in 1790. He owned a tannery, bought real estate, and was engaged in other business. He was an elder in the First Presbyterian church, the first religious society organized here, and gave to it money and land which the church still owns. For many years he was an Overseer of the Poor. Three streets in the West End where he owned a farm, were named for him, Everett, David, and Wade. “Deacon Wade” was a quiet man of strength, humour, and capacity, who kept his principles and his queue to the last and died in 1842 a rich land owner. He was buried first in the graveyard that surrounded the old First Presbyterian church, thence he was removed to that one which was converted into Washington Park, and was finally carried out to Spring Grove.” Rev. Charles F. Goss.

Dear Sir Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 1816  
The same weapon  
with which Phillip con-  
quered Greece will  
ensure a ready admittance  
into the seminary. You  
have used quite enough  
of it. Add another  
dollar and it will  
do. Be so good as to send  
it by the boy  
yours  
D Wade

Letter from David Wade to his attorney, George Torrence; only known signature of Wade.

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Woodcut, Cincinnati in 1810.



## FOREWORD

In 1955 Harry R. Stevens, then a professor of history at Duke University, wrote “David Everett Wade (1763-1842), Patriot, Tanner, Deacon, Alderman”, published in the Bulletin of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio. This meticulously researched biography sets forth Wade’s many accomplishments, especially after he settled in Cincinnati in 1790 as one of its earliest pioneers. What interested me, though, was his quote “of Wade’s family life, little is known.” Over the last several years, I have accumulated many documents and completed extensive historical, genealogical and general research on the Wade family. Using Stevens’ useful information, I have found much more about Wade and his life, as well as a compilation of his many descendants.

My father and grandfather, both named William Henry Chatfield, were “weaned on Wades” with stories told them by their mother/grandmother, Eliza Wade Chatfield. My father always said our branch with the Wade surname name died out, but I have discovered many other descendants of David E. Wade and met with newly found cousins such as Ruth Wade Brunings of Richwood, Kentucky, a noted Wade/Bedinger historian; Nancy Burns Strause of Columbus, who grew up on the Wade estate in Butler County, Ohio; and Pat Wade Zillig of Maryland who has a great deal of Wade information. A lifelong friend of mine, Richard Oliver of Cincinnati, and I were always told we were related through the Wades, and now I have the proof.

The following is as much a history of rural New Jersey and southwest Ohio from the 1760s to the 1860s as it is a history of David E. Wade and his family. To interest the reader, I have chosen to weave historical facts with documented social and family history and attempted to paint a picture of this vibrant American family.

Research is ongoing, and additional data and documents will be appended as received. Comments, corrections and contributions are encouraged and gladly accepted.

William H. Chatfield  
The Pendleton House Publishing Company  
559 Liberty Hill  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202



The Pendleton House, a National Historic Landmark.

## DAVID EVERETT WADE-AN INTRODUCTION

Much can be gleaned from public records, written histories and private manuscripts about the remarkable personal and public life of David E. Wade. He was born a British subject in the colony of New Jersey, fought in the Revolutionary War and emigrated, or “removed”, as was said in those days, to the Northwest Territory of the young United States. He became a leading citizen of Cincinnati and left a large and prosperous family in his 79<sup>th</sup> year.

Wade was the only child of David Wade and Sarah Everett although his widower father had ten children by three wives (see later chapter on the Wade’s in New Jersey). His mother died when he was only two, his father when he was sixteen. As a teenager, he saw the British burn the family church, murder the minister’s wife, and destroy every house in his hometown of Connecticut Farms, New Jersey. Joining the militia at 17, he was twice wounded and later captured by the British and imprisoned in a notorious enemy ship in New York Harbor. After the war, he and a neighbor girl, Mary Jones (1765-1811), were married and soon joined a band of New Jersey citizens moving to the “Symmes Purchase” in the Northwest Territory along the Ohio River. The pioneers sought a new and prosperous life of farming and business, bolstered by their strong Presbyterian faith. The move would not be without peril: the area between the Miami Rivers was dubbed the “Miami Slaughterhouse” due to the persistent Indian menace. Scalping, kidnapping and torture were all too common.

In 1790, the Wades and a few others traveled by pack horse, ox-drawn wagon and flat boat to Cincinnati where David built his first house on the river bank with the dismantled boat timbers. The next year he built a log house nearby and in 1797 erected his final home. A substantial frame home in a simple federal style, it was still standing in the early 1900s, the oldest residence in the city.

Wade’s father was a shoemaker and tanner, and his son followed his father’s avocation, establishing a tanyard next to his cabin and supplying the small village and Fort Washington’s soldiers with necessary leather goods. His prolific orchard provided fruit for residents. Wade’s spring was the village water supply and his large outlying woods yielded timber for cabins. Wade was an original subscriber of the First Presbyterian Church and its successors, serving as trustee, elder and deacon for over 50 years.

Deacon Wade served elective terms as township trustee, Hamilton County commissioner, town councilman and one of the three original city aldermen. As a respected churchman, he was entrusted with the offices of overseer of the poor and appraiser. His many civic duties included original subscriber to the Cincinnati Library; trustee of Cincinnati University and Lancaster Seminary, forerunners of Cincinnati College; trustee of Cincinnati College and Miami University; and a leader of the Western Museum Society.

Besides the tannery and orchard, Wade’s business included serving as a shareholder and director of the city’s first bank, the Miami Exporting Company. However, his most profitable investments were in land. Not much of a speculator, he invested for the long-term and thus was not financially embarrassed by the frequent bank panics of the times during which two of his partners, Martin Baum and Judge Jacob Burnet, lost their fine homes. At his death in 1842, Wade owned thousand of acres in Hamilton, Butler and Warren counties in Ohio, Franklin and Marion counties in Indiana,

and Kenton County in Kentucky. Some holdings were small city “in-lots” of one half acre while others included the 1500 acre land patent of Butler County land.

The Wades had 12 or more children (some accounts claim 14), seven of whom lived to adulthood and remained in the Cincinnati area. All led successful, prosperous lives, married well and had large families. All who survive to adulthood were devout Presbyterians. Unfortunately, we know little of Mary Jones Wade, who like most frontier wives, lived a perilous life. She died in 1811 of tuberculosis, aged 46 and was buried beneath the Presbyterian Church near five of her infants. David suffered a debilitating stroke in 1834, and was lovingly cared for by his daughter Sarah and her husband Dr. Benjamin Bedinger who lived with him until his death in 1842.

From his picture Wade appears to have been a serious and stern man, well dressed in the old style black coat and white cravat. To the last, he kept his hair tied in the Revolutionary queue. “He was a quiet man of strength, humor and capacity” according to his obituary in *The Cincinnati Gazette*; his attributes included “industry, economy, temperance, patience, prudence, fortitude and cheerfulness.” He was buried in the churchyard on Fourth Street. A few years later, he was removed to the larger burying ground on 12<sup>th</sup> Street (now Washington Park) and then was reinterred in Spring Grove Cemetery in 1859. A suitable monument notes his name and a plaque proclaims his status as a Revolutionary War patriot.



Monument and plaque in Spring Grove Cemetery marking grave of David E. Wade. Monument to the right is for General Melancthon S. Wade and family.

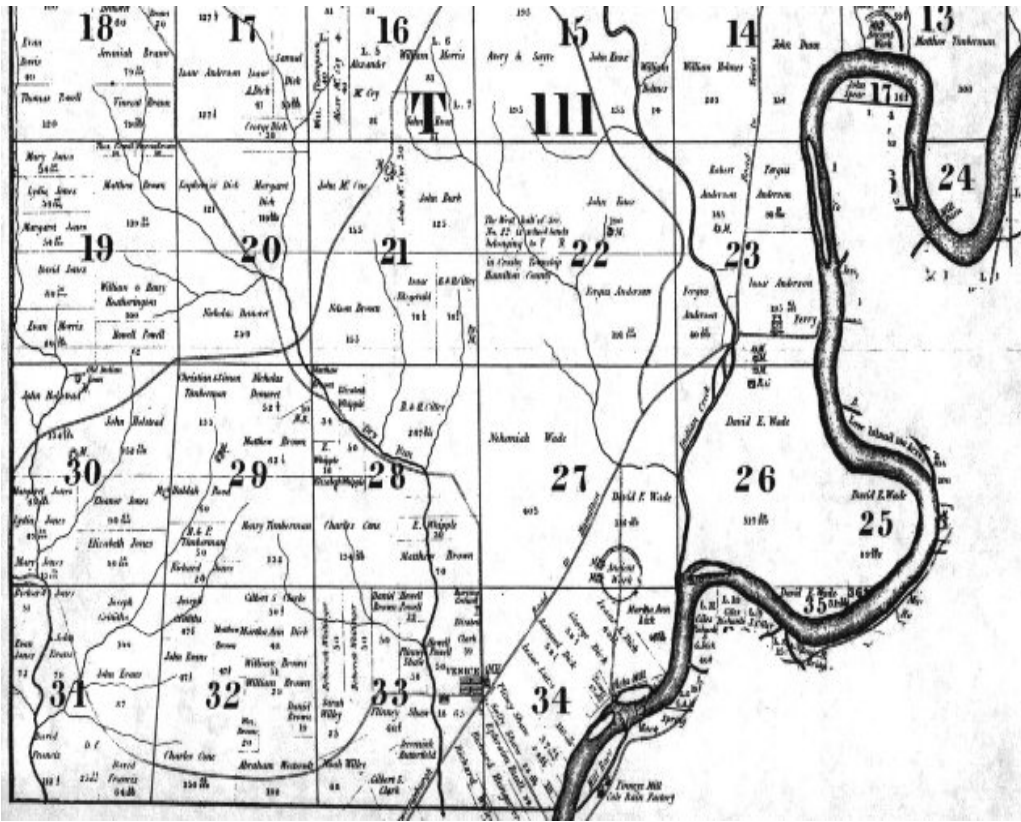
## DAVID E. WADE'S CHILDREN

The Wade's first two children were born in New Jersey: Stephen (1787-1793) and David (1788-1844). Just three years after the arduous journey to Cincinnati, tragedy struck the young family and small town. The first smallpox epidemic of 1793 took the lives of one third of the 900 inhabitants, hitting the elderly and young especially hard. In the space of 22 days, Nicholas Everett (1790-1793), Sarah Everett I (1793-1793), and Stephen died (some accounts claim these three deaths were in 1795). Another child, James, died at one week old in 1799; Noah, birth date unknown, died in 1806.

Living to adulthood were David, born in 1788, Nehemiah, born in 1795, Mary in 1797, Sarah Everett II in 1800, Melancthon Smith in 1802, Susan Ann Livingston in 1805 and Stephen Jones in 1808. As noted previously, Mary Jones Wade succumbed to TB in 1811 and was buried with the five children who predeceased her.

Six of David E. Wade's seven children who survived to adulthood had strong Butler County, Ohio connections, due in part to Wade's purchase of 1500 acres of U.S. Treasury lands in the county. The sale of Wade's vast holdings after his 1842 death (conservatively valued at over \$600,000) and the rural Venice property made all seven children wealthy. Like their parents, the seven were careful with their holdings and shared their wealth and strong faith with the Presbyterian Church and related charities. For instance, Nehemiah gave \$10,000 to the Oxford Female College, which later merged with Miami University, and he helped establish several churches, serving as an elder most of his life. Mary Wade Oliver, Susan Wade Guy and Stephen J. Wade lived for a time within blocks of the others in Oxford, Ohio. Their sons graduated from Miami University (before the Civil War) while the parents were strong supporters of many community and educational institutions in Oxford. Melancthon, Stephen, Susan and other Wades were contributors to the American Colonization Society, a Presbyterian-led group that promoted recolonization of ex-slaves back to Africa. Sarah Everett Wade Bedinger financed the Richwood, Kentucky Presbyterian Church and its cemetery.

The oldest, David (no middle name), remained in Cincinnati, continuing his law practice for over 30 years while also serving as county prosecutor and treasurer. Melancthon, a general in both the Ohio militia and the U.S. Army, ran the family tannery while Stephen, a cigar merchant, developed several blocks of commercial buildings in the Bottoms of Cincinnati; both brothers were partners in several successful dry goods businesses before retiring in their 30s to live off their profits and their inheritances received upon the 1843 partition of the Wade real estate holdings.



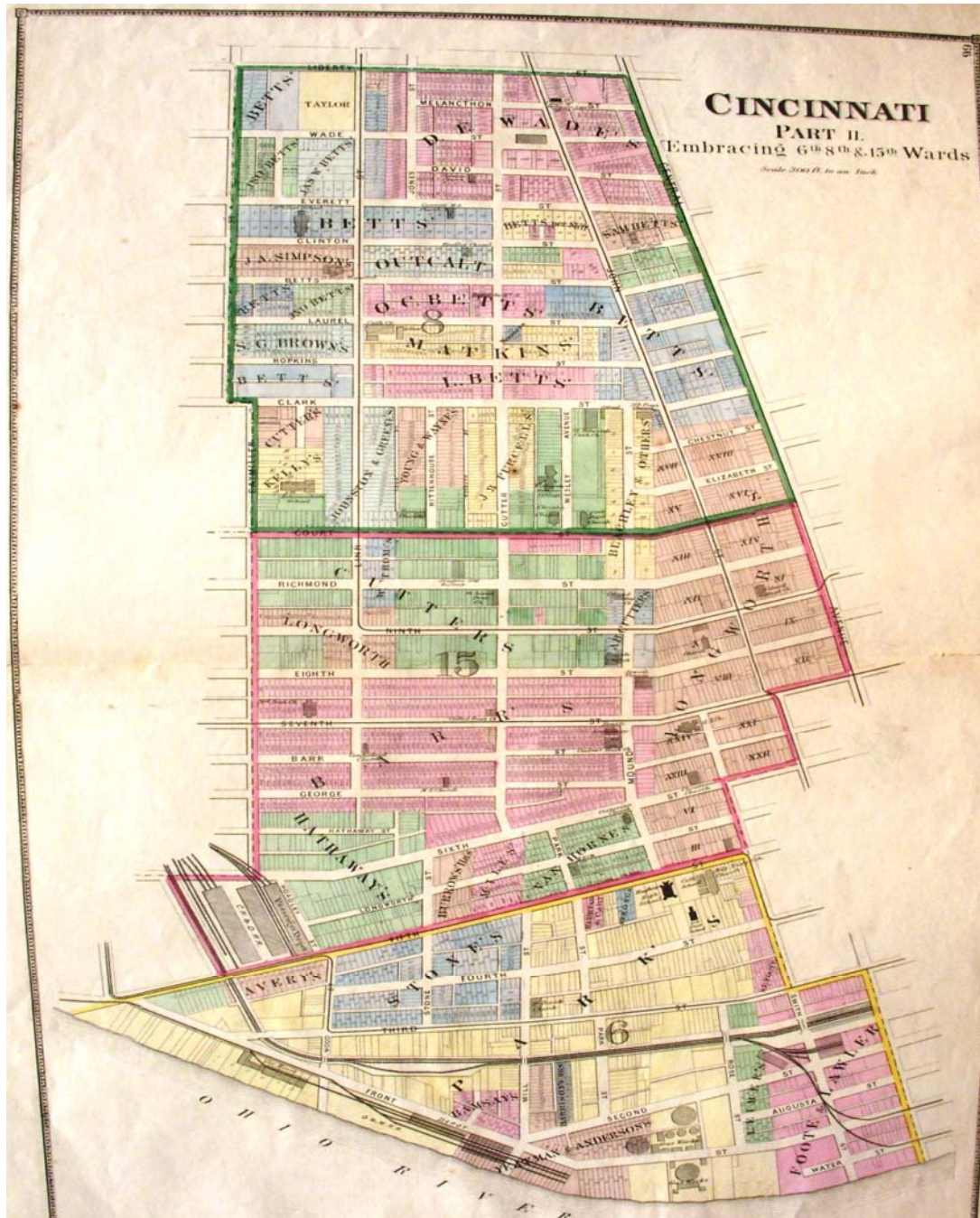
1836 map of Ross Twp., Ohio, showing full section 27 and part sections 35, 36, 25 and 26 owned by Wades. A 26 acre Indian mound was located on the property.

Dr. Benjamin F. Bedinger, husband of Sarah Everett Wade, and Dr. Alexander Guy, married to Susan Wade, reduced their medical practices after their wives inherited. The Bedingers lived with and cared for her invalid father from 1834 until his death in 1842. Thereafter they purchased a 2100 acre plantation in Boone County, Kentucky. Dr. Guy became a leading force in the national affairs of the Presbyterian Church. Dr. David Oliver, husband of Mary Wade, continued to practice medicine in Butler County.

Records on file at the Hamilton County Courthouse show that after Wade's will was filed in Common Pleas Court, partition of his many holdings was undertaken, as required by the terms of his will. Wade named his neighbor Peyton S. Symmes (an attorney and fellow Presbyterian), Henry B. Funk (leather merchant) and Judge George P. Torrence as trustees to value, apportion, and partition his real estate. Nehemiah Wade was granted 412 acres near Venice, Sarah W. Bedinger 266 acres in Campbell (later split into Kenton) County, Kentucky, Susan Guy her farm in Symmes Township and Mary W. Oliver her farm in Warren County. The balance of the Butler County plantation was divided among the children.

The seven lots (one-third acre each) comprising the Wade mansion and the tanyard along Congress and Butler streets overlooking the Ohio River were divided among Susan, Melancthon and Stephen. Sarah received out lot Number four (four acres) at Eighth and Broadway where now stands the Times-Star Building, currently used as a courthouse. Stephen, the youngest, was not yet married and 31 when his father wrote his will and thus received the "homestead" at the northwest corner of Congress and Butler streets. The house, built in 1797, remained until the early 1900s when, as the oldest house in the city, it was demolished to make way for more factories and warehouses.





1869 Titus map of part of West End, Cincinnati. One of D. E. Wade's subdivisions appears in upper right corner. Altogether, Wade owned about 200 acres here and nearby; the area was originally known as "Wade's Woods" or "Texas".

The 288 lots in David E. Wade's subdivision, formerly Wade's Woods along the Miami and Erie Canal, the adjoining Wade subdivisions on the east side of the canal, the 50 acres north of Liberty Street in the West End, and the 53 acres in Clifton were divided among the heirs in 1843. By that time the boomtown of Cincinnati had become the most densely-settled city in America and land was at a premium. Most of the lots were only 25 by 90 feet and were snapped up at auction by developers and builders and soon crowded with sturdy but simple two story houses. German and Irish immigrants filled the West End and built breweries, churches



and factories. Wade's heirs gave land for the Wade Street Market which was built in 1847 with boat timbers taken from the demolished First Presbyterian Church. Among street names were David, Everett, Wade, Melancthon, Jones, Oliver and Livingston.

Court records show that the properties appraised in excess of \$550,000, the equivalent of \$30,000,000 in today's dollars. Each child received \$80,000 in real estate, worth much more in the boom market.

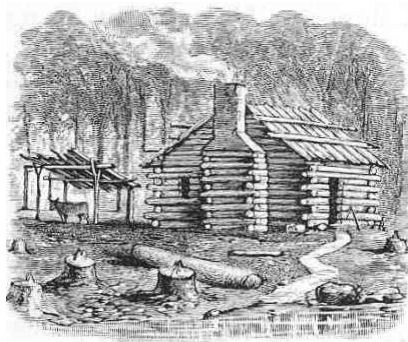
How did the seven fare with their inheritances? Census records show that they retained their real estate holdings which greatly appreciated by mid-century; they lived comfortable lives with all the luxuries that the Victorian era provided. I have no information on David Wade II's estate after his death at 57. His first wife predeceased him, and his second wife moved to Syracuse, New York. His daughters Mary W. Kennett and Harriet W. White both had successful husbands (insurance and medicine, respectively) and lived in large homes in then-fashionable Avondale.

Nehemiah Wade's legacy was in the farmland he and his second wife each inherited in Venice and which sustained many generations of Wades. Mary W. Oliver and her husband, Dr. Oliver, careful Presbyterians, used their property to educate their family that included three or more doctors and several Miami graduates. Sarah Everett W. Bedinger funds helped build the Richwood (Ky.) Presbyterian Church and cemetery where she is buried. She and her husband purchase the 2100 acre Boone County plantation and large country estate named Forest Home (see separate article on Forest Home by Ruth Wade Brunings). Their nearby Kenton County farm, where she lived after dividing Forest Home among her children, was passed down in the family until subdivided in the 1880s to help establish Erlanger, Ky., a former railroad community that now adjoins the Greater Cincinnati Airport.

Melancthon S. Wade lived across Congress Street from his father, ran the tannery and his own dry good business. After his father's death he purchased a large brick mansion on the Lebanon (now Reading) Road and Shillito Street in Avondale where he lived with his children and many servants. He owned a 100 acre farm in outlying Springfield Township on Compton Road, acreage on Harrison Avenue and his share of the Butler County lands. From his wife, a member of the Goforth and Armstrong families, he acquired a large part of the "Turkey Bottoms", the flat plain where Lunken Airport now sits.

The Guys sold their farms near Loveland and Middletown and moved to Oxford. Susan A. L. Wade Guy was described as a "wealthy heiress", and she and Dr. Guy supported the Church, Oxford Female College and The American Colonization Society. Stephen, as stated, remained in the homestead until marrying. He and his wife outlived their many children, leaving their property to their two granddaughters.

Individual biographies of each of the Wade children are included herein, together with information on succeeding generations.



## THE WADES OF NEW JERSEY

The largest concentration of American Wades in the 18<sup>th</sup> century resided in New Jersey, mostly in and near Connecticut Farms, originally known as Wades Farms, and now known as Union, New Jersey, the county seat of Union County. The village was laid out not unlike a plantation, or even an English village, with a cluster of homes and work buildings and a church surrounded by walled fields and pastures. General Washington, during one of his visits, described the village as “the garden of New Jersey.”

Stuart C. Wade, the principal Wade family biographer and author of *The Wade Genealogy*, lists the first American Wade as Benjamin Wade (1646-ca.1700). He arrived from England on Long Island in 1660 before settling in Elizabeth, New Jersey (the colony’s first town) by 1675. Benjamin was a clothier and extensive landowner. He married Ann Looker (1649-1737), daughter of a member of the New Jersey Colonial Assembly. Their grandson Robert Wade (1684- ) lived in Elizabeth and married Phebe Ball. One of their sons was the first David Wade (ca.1733-1779) who married three times: (1) Phebe Ball (ca.1733-ca. 1762) with whom he had three children, Phebe, Caleb and Noah; (2) Sarah Everett (1721-1764), married in Connecticut Farms after 1762. Their only child was David Everett Wade (Feb. 22, 1763-July 22, 1842), the subject of much of this work; (3) after Sarah died, he married Rhoda Magie and had six more children. The Wades were closely related to the Ogdens, Spencers, Halsteds and Halseys, families that became prominent in American history.

The first David Wade was a tanner and shoemaker, living in a fairly substantial farmhouse near the 30 other dwellings, the church and burying ground. These Wades and their large family prospered for a few years, but then the Revolutionary War ravaged New Jersey. The British commander, Sir Henry Clinton, occupied New York, and General Washington’s army was forced into New Jersey. In June, 1780, British and Hessian soldiers, under the command of Baron Knyphausen, were sent from Staten Island to Elizabeth, New Jersey, with orders to attack Morristown upon the false assumption that there was great sympathy for the British in New Jersey.

Outside Connecticut Farms, the American troops attacked on the British flanks, forcing them to retreat. As they passed back through Connecticut Farms, they burnt every house and the church out of revenge and upon the orders of British Governor Tryon. The Wades buried their silver and other valuables in the ash-pit and their well. Cousin Ruth Wade Brunings inherited a silver spoon with initials “SE” and a document linking it to Sarah Everett, David E. Wade’s mother. The British first set fire to the house of Deacon Wade (probably David E. Wade’s father) and the Presbyterian Church and then advanced to the house of the Rev. Mr. Caldwell. His wife was inside and a soldier or renegade walked up to the window, and seeing her surrounded by her children, with an infant in her arms, deliberately shot her through the heart. Her body was thrown in the street and the house torched. This incident horrified the patriots and galvanized their resolve to defeat the British.



Silver spoon owned by David E. Wade's mother, Sarah Everett. Identified as made by Thomas Hammersley, New York, 1756. Passed down in Wade and Bedinger families to Ruth Wade Cox Brunings.



Initials SE for Sarah Everett (Wade). Hidden from British and Hessian soldiers in Wade well during Revolutionary War.



Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, rebuilt in 1783 after being burnt by the British.

As an aged invalid, David E. Wade had his attorneys prepare an affidavit of his military service. He stated that in 1777, he enlisted in the Essex County Militia as a private and served a series of nearly consecutive monthly tours of duty until the close of the war. Close to home, Wade was involved in two fiery skirmishes at Connecticut Farms and the Battle of Springfield where the British were forced to retreat. Here Wade was wounded in the wrist, but still was able to reach General Nathaniel Greene in time to receive and convey orders to continue firing despite a shortage of ammunition. Wade

continued to reenlist throughout the war. While in the whale boat service, he was captured and imprisoned on board the notorious prison ship Jersey and later moved to New York's North Church and then the Sugar House before finally being exchanged.



Battle of Springfield, New Jersey, June, 1780. David E. Wade was wounded twice but managed to convey orders from General Nathaniel Greene.

These battles, considered minor in the annals of the war, nevertheless served to rouse the Jersey fighting spirit to repulse the blundering Knyphausen. Thereafter, the British left New Jersey for the duration of the war. In 1830, on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of these events, David E. Wade and other veterans returned to the battlefields to commemorate the victories.



David E. Wade's father, also a soldier, had died a few months before the battle, and his widow and many of her neighbors filed claims for their war losses but were never reimbursed. All told, 21 Wades from the area served in the war. David Wade's claim, one of the largest, is interesting in that it inventories the property of a prosperous colonial landowner:

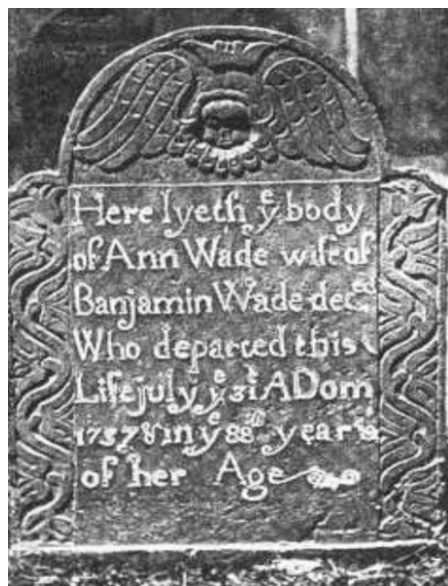
“dwelling house, 40 by 80, two stories high; shoemaker's shop; barn; 4 feather beds; 1 desk; 3 linen and 1 woolen wheels; 1 spooling wheel; 1 large brass kettle; 2 tea kettles; 1 saddle and bridle; 1 large iron kettle; 1 clock; 1 large looking glass; 150 pairs men's shoes; 1 large dining table; 1 round table; 2 small tables; 1 gum cupboard; 9 banister back chairs; 9 common back chairs; 1 low chest; 1 warming pan; 3 muskets; a beautiful earthen and tea ware set; 1 small looking glass; 6 large pewter platters; 18 pewter plates; 4 pewter basins; 1 set of shoemaker's lasts; 2 sets of shoemaker's tools; 1 set of silver teaspoons; 6 coverlets; 6 blankets; 3 bed quilts; 3 sets of curtains; 12 pairs of sheets; 14 yards homespun broadcloth; 20 yards striped linen; 66 yards of brown linen and tow cloth; 4 diaper table cloths; 10 pairs of pillow cases; 1 cedar lye tub; 10 barrels; 2 cedar wash tubs; 1 barrel of soap; 1 iron pot; 60 sides of tanned leather; 1 pair of silver buckles; 4 good bedsteads; 1 gum rocking cradle, iron shod; 1 hog weight 180 pounds; 12 cords of burnt bark; the half of barn burnt, 36 by 28; the half of a bark house, 36 by 24, bark wheel, etc.; the half of a beam house. Total loss 761 pounds sterling, 18 shillings, 6 pence.” Signed, Rhoda Wade and Robert Wade, Esq.

Undaunted, the villagers began to rebuild their homes and church. On Sunday mornings, parishioners marched to town with their benches, boxes, boards and chairs, as there were no pews. Times were tough after the war and rebuilding was slow and costly. The American economy was in tatters and the new U. S. Congress was in its infancy. Many veterans were anxious to start anew, and the talk of the country was of the new lands and opportunities in the Ohio Country, a long and harrowing trek by foot, wagon and flatboat across 700 miles of wilderness.





Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church and Cemetery, Union, New Jersey.



Tombstone of David E. Wade's great-great grandmother



## THE GREAT MIGRATION

Jacob Burnet, a friend of the Wades and a resident of nearby Newark, wrote in his *Notes on the Early Settlement of the Northwest Territory* of “Revolutionary War soldiers who had exhausted their fortunes in maintaining the desperate struggle and retired to the wilderness to conceal their poverty and avoid companions, mortifying to their pride, while struggling to maintain their families and improve their conditions.” The Wades (as well as many of our ancestors) were in this same predicament. As a result, entire communities began preparations to move west. For New Jerseyites, the chosen land was “between the Miami’s” in the newly formed Northwest Territory. Prominent judge and New Jersey congressman John Cleves Symmes had secured the right to purchase one million acres from the Treasury Board and was offering to sell land at 66 and 2/3 cents per acre. Free lots in a proposed city as well as lumber and provisions were promised.

The various Wade families scattered in different directions. The Thomas C. Wade family migrated to Columbia (later part of Cincinnati). Another contingent settled in Brown County, Ohio in the Virginia Military District. The family of Jephtha Homer Wade, the great Cleveland tycoon and founder of Western Union, settled in upstate New York.

Meanwhile, David E. Wade, an orphan whose step-mother was about to remarry, decided to leave home. He was penniless as the Continental Congress had reneged on his and many others’ pay. He soon married a neighboring girl, Mary Jones (1765 -1811) on June 6, 1786. Mary was the daughter of John Jones, a Welsh Presbyterian minister and that is all we know about her family. Their first child, Stephen, was born near Elizabeth, New Jersey on April 7, 1787, followed by David II in 1788 and Nicholas in 1790.

In 1790, the young family joined a group traveling by wagon from New Jersey over the Allegheny Mountains to Redstone Old Fort on the Monongahela River in southwest Pennsylvania. There they purchased a sturdy flatboat made with heavy timbers and capable of holding an entire family, complete with all their animals, supplies and possessions. After several weeks of river floating and a stop of a few days at Limestone (now Maysville), Kentucky to take on fresh supplies, the Wade’s flatboat nudged up to the riverbank at Yeatman’s Cove, Cincinnati.

Wade forthwith dismantled the boat on the top of the bank along what was to become Front Street and hastily erected a simple cabin. The next year, 1791, he built a log house a bit further up the bank on lots he purchased and that later became the northwest corner of Congress and Butler streets, near what later became the off-ramp of the Purple People Bridge. Both homes are depicted on the St. Clair map of Cincinnati drawn in about 1792 and considered the first map of the village. To function in the new cabin, the Wades would have furnished it as follows: one Dutch oven, a six to eight gallon iron pot with iron lid and ears and standing on four feet, used for rendering lard and tallow, and boiling water; one smaller iron pot for boiling meats and vegetables; one iron skillet, four inches deep, square with lid and legs and a long handle, used for frying meat, baking pone, wheat and bread; several cranes; long handled shovel and tongs; bread baking boards; pewter plates, dishes and spoons, iron knives and forks which came from the East with the family. The “beds” were primitive frame and rope pieces for adults with “mattresses” of cloth stuffed with corn husks or feathers. Children slept in groups on the floor or in the loft.

At the same time, Wade began construction of a tanyard using techniques he had learned from his father. Their New Jersey tanning, leather and shoemaking business never recovered following the senior Wade's death and the destruction caused by the British. Young David E. Wade had only a rudimentary knowledge of the industry and few of the tools. He did, however, choose a spot with a good spring, so necessary for a tannery. Soon he dug pits and lined them with hogsheads to serve as vats for soaking and tanning hides. He also built boxes above ground to hold lime and sheds to store firewood and bark. A beam house was erected to hold a wheel used to crush the bark. Wade and his helpers placed hides in a pit of water to soak for a week to remove dirt, blood and loose flesh. Then the skins were soaked in a mixture of lime and water to loosen the hair. Next a tanner would lay a hide over a beam and using a special knife, scrape off the hair before soaking the skin in a slurry of tanbark and water. The hides were laid flat and immersed in a tanning solution to become saturated and finally removed and hung up to dry. It was a dirty, smelly job and was done next door to the Wade house for over 40 years!

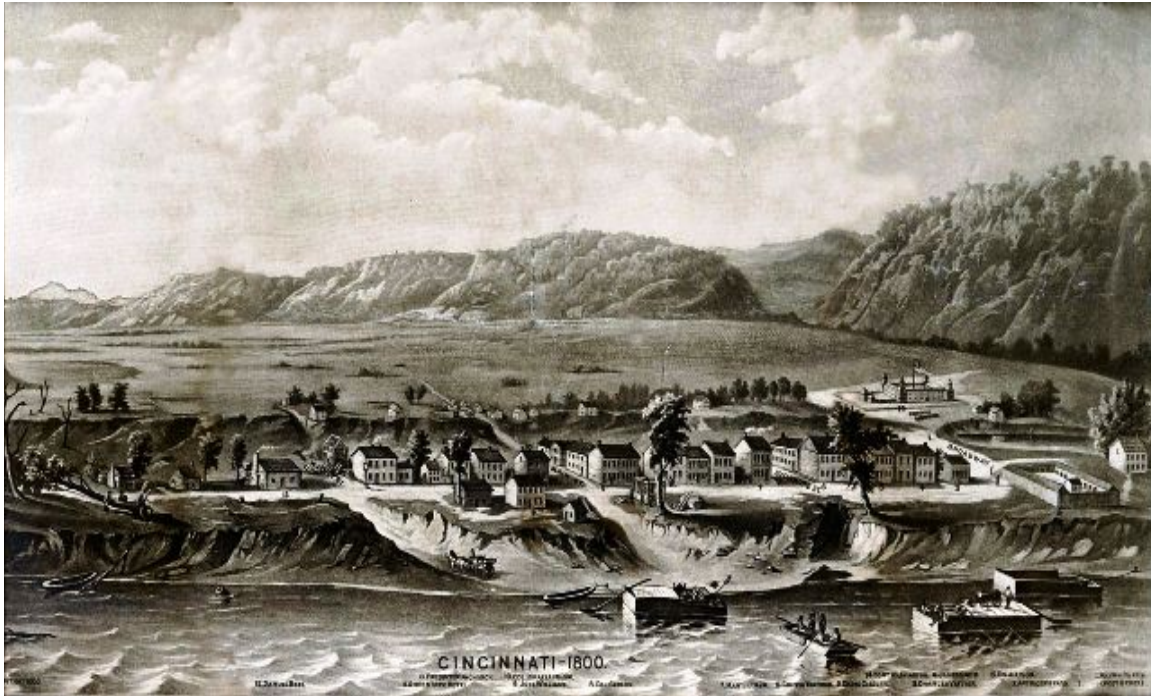
The cured leather was sold or cut and stitched over poplar heels to make shoes and boots. Wade's biggest customer was the U.S. Army garrisoned nearby at Fort Washington. Soon, Wade had a few extra dollars and began investing in land, a wise decision in light of the young city's boomtown status.



Ohio River flatboat.

## THE WADES IN EARLY CINCINNATI—1790-1840

When the Wade family disembarked near today's Public Landing in 1790, Cincinnati was no more than a dirty little settlement of primitive shacks. There were 11 families and 24 unmarried men inhabiting 20 or so small cabins on the lower bank. By the end of the year, the Wades and 40 or so new arrivals had built similar housing and even a few frame houses. Workers included two blacksmiths, two carpenters, a shoemaker (Wade), a tailor and a mason. That year Indians killed 15 or 20 citizens, their scalps reportedly sold to British Lord Henry "Hair Buyer" Hamilton, commander at Detroit. Soon a few squares of rough, muddy "streets" took shape. The first Wade cabin stood alone, to the east of those clustered between Sycamore, Main and Front streets, and on a rise next to Deer Creek (now Eggleston Avenue).



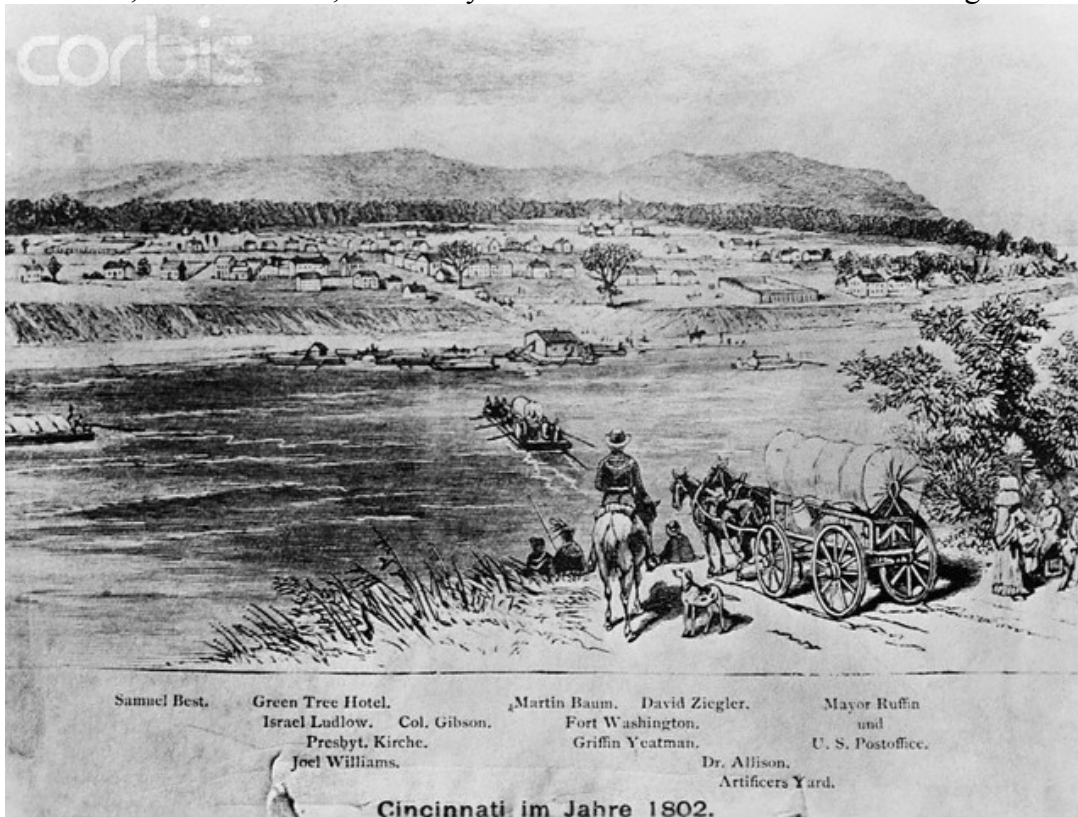
Cincinnati in 1800. The Wade's 1797 frame house was built on the site of their second log cabin, located behind the two story house at the far right, next to a pond.

Wade earned a few dollars making shoes for the soldiers at Fort Washington, only three blocks away. He approached land proprietor John Cleves Symmes and purchased four lots on the far east side of the village, near what is now Pete Rose Way and the exit ramp from the Purple People Bridge. The site was on fairly high ground, contained a spring and was just above a small pond. Just to the west was the stockaded artificer's yard of Fort Washington. Wade took possession of the four lots in 1791 and agreed to pay \$154.00. Once Symmes obtained a clear title, he conveyed a deed to Wade dated July 28, 1793.

The Wades were anxious to move from the makeshift cabin built of boat timbers they had quickly erected on the riverbank in 1790, so they built a more substantial log house on one of the four lots bought from Symmes at the northwest corner of Congress



(now Pearl) and Butler streets. The logs were hewn and shaped to fit snugly. The chimney was probably stone instead of clay. The floors were rough boards and the door was stout, no doubt hung on leather hinges made by Wade. Window glass was rare so greased paper was used to cover the small openings and allow some light. Small openings were required to prevent Indians from crawling through. In fact, 11 year old Oliver M. Spencer, a Wade relative, was kidnapped by Indians at the mouth of Deer Creek “just feet away from Wade’s home” (HSPO article on O. M. Spencer). The boy was later ransomed, returned home, eventually married and had 15 sons and one daughter.



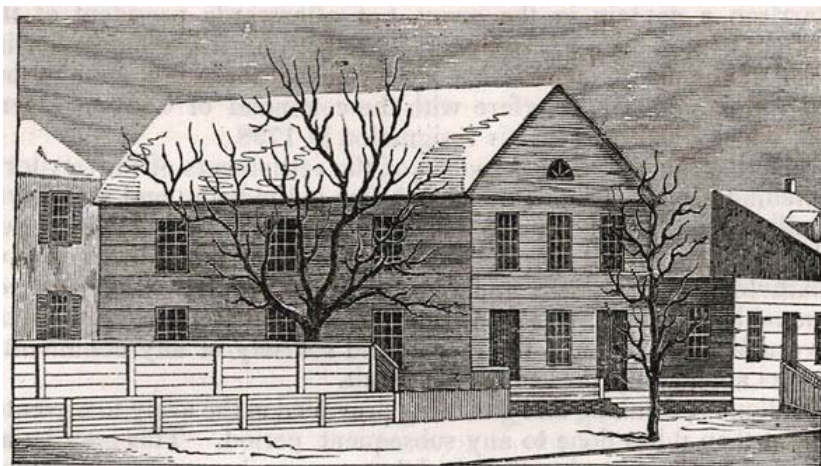
Another early view of Cincinnati. The 1797 Wade house can be seen just above and to the right of the stockade artificer’s yard.

Wade’s relative and former commanding officer, Col. Oliver Spencer, Sr., wrote that in 1791, there was only one frame dwelling, that of chief surveyor and New Jersey friend Israel Ludlow. Matthew Winton kept a tavern on Front Street nearly opposite the Wade cabin. Ezekiel Sayre, a soldier at the fort, lived opposite the Wades. The population growth slowed for a time when about half the men left with the army under General Harmar to fight the Indians, many of them never returning after the slaughter of Harmar’s soldiers in 1790 (See chapter on John Armstrong). St. Clair’s disastrous defeat the next year by Little Turtle (Miami), and Blue Jacket (Shawnee) was even worse. It is considered by historians as the worst defeat in American history-700 killed out of 1400 men with the entire U. S. Army reduced to only 300 soldiers. Numerous families were frightened away and fled to Kentucky or back east. Smallpox struck, and many, especially children, died. A tablet, found years later in the Presbyterian Church on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, memorialized five of the Wade children who died of smallpox. The only new

business that year was a horse mill for grinding corn. The mill site doubled as a meeting place for the Wades' Presbyterians.

On the other hand, the village of Columbia, four miles upriver (near present day Lunken Airport) had 1100 residents, a mill on a riverboat, and many well built houses (see chapters on the Goforth and Armstrong families). However, Columbia was susceptible to flooding, and after the 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers and 1795 Treaty of Greenville, Cincinnati emerged as the dominant settlement, well on its way as the first boomtown of the West. By then 354 surveyed town lots of one half acre each had been purchased. Each came with a four acre "out-lot". In-lots were four to eight dollars apiece and out-lots were soon \$20 per acre. Rapidly the prices tripled and quadrupled. Houses stretched to two stories, many well built and painted red. In the upper town were two squares, one intended for a courthouse and one for the Presbyterian Church, built in 1792. With the boom came inevitable problems. Many citizens were idle and drunk. The soldiers were hard-fisted and heavy drinkers and were often court-martialed. One soldier was "obliged to run the gauntlet, have his head shaved, a collar put around his neck and in this manner be drummed out of the fort and city" (Greve).

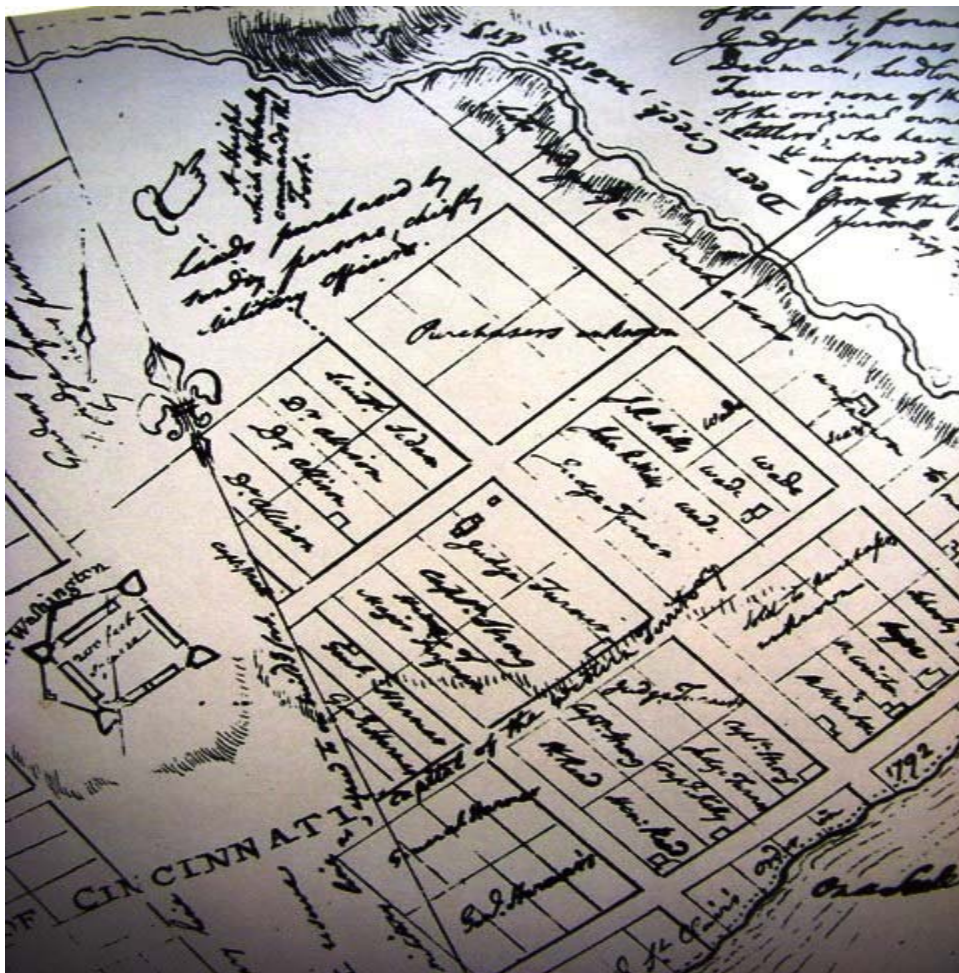
The pious Wades and others pressed to hold Sunday church services outdoors, at the horse mill or at private homes. In 1791 Wade and a few others undertook a subscription to raise funds to erect a church. A published list of subscribers included nearly every citizen of the day. Wade pledged \$10 and then an additional \$400 in 1812 when a new and larger church, the famous "two-horned church" was erected. Trees were cleared at Fourth and Main and within a small circle, seated upon the logs, sat the worshippers. Men with rifles stood nearby to watch for Indians. Under Wade's supervision the first church was erected in 1792 and the four lots (two acres) enclosed with a post and rail fence. The timbers were from trees felled on the site, and the building was one story frame, 30 by 40 feet, resting on blocks of wood, roofed with weatherboards and sided with clapboards. There was no plaster, lath or ceilings, and the floors were of disassembled boat plank. Logs were used as seats. Unplaned cherry was fashioned into a rough pulpit behind which a preacher stood upon a boat plank. Despite its primitive construction, the devout Wades were elated to have the town's first house of worship and the first they had been in since leaving New Jersey.



*The First Church in Cincinnati.*

Over the next 150 years, two larger and impressive churches arose. The Wades worshipped here for the remainder of their lives, Mary dying in 1811 and David in 1842. Each time the church was rebuilt, the Wades were large donors. Today on this site is the massive and cold marble edifice known as the United States Federal Reserve Building. David Wade remained a trustee, elder or deacon from 1795 until his death in 1842. It was written and often repeated that the Deacon wore a cloth cap daily but strode proudly up to Fourth Street each Sunday in a fine fir hat.

The largest man-made structure in the West was Fort Washington, at the Wade's doorstep and built by the fledgling U. S. Army in 1789 to protect the pioneers. Despite its proximity and several hundred soldiers, Indians were still killing settlers at an alarming rate. Soldiers and pioneers were scalped, tortured, and roasted alive by Indians, all with the blessing of the British. Many of the soldiers had settled in cabins with their families near Fort Washington and the village suffered greatly from their loss. It was not until 1794 that a most competent soldier, General "Mad" Anthony Wayne was finally able to defeat the Indians, allowing the flood of immigrating pioneers to swell.



First known map of Cincinnati, 1792. Ft. Washington is at left and 4 of Wade's lots are center right.



1794 was a better year for the small town. President Washington signed a deed (land patent) to Symmes for 311,000 acres to begin a process to clear up the many disputed land titles, a common occurrence in boomtowns. A line of keelboat packets began regular runs between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. Keelboats, unlike flatboats, could return upriver by the power of push-poles and oars.

When Wade's good friend Judge Jacob Burnet arrived from New Jersey in 1796, there were only 15 rough, unfinished frame houses with stone chimneys in addition to the many log cabins. Not a single brick had been seen in the town. He was impressed, though, with the enclosed but unfinished schoolhouse and the larger homes of Territorial Secretary Winthrop Sargent and Army Surgeon Dr. Allison, both of which stood to the side of the fort and were surrounded by gardens and orchards. The Wade house and gardens were in front of and below the fort. Burnet's pasture lot was near Wade's on Deer Creek where stood a large hollow sycamore tree occupied by an old lady who served as washerwoman for the fort. The notorious General James Wilkinson was commandant of the fort and rode in the town's only carriage.

Debtors and criminals were housed in a primitive jail, and a whipping post stood at Fifth and Main behind the church (now Government Square where the buses park). Court was held nearby, but the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territory, Judge Symmes presiding, met at Yeatman's Tavern on the river. Indians were lodged in the fort and the nearby artificer's yard was just west of the Wade home. Here the Army's workmen built and repaired tubs, kegs and firearms. Wade supplied them with saddle, harness and shoe leather to fulfill a contract he entered into with Territorial Governor Arthur St. Clair.

Dr. Daniel Drake, the "Benjamin Franklin of the West" arrived on the riverfront in 1800 and described the "scattered cabins, dirty within and rude without". The 1802 panoramic view depicts the sparsely settled village and the Wade's house on the far east side next to the forest. In 1797, Wade used another of his Congress Street lots to build a timber-framed house, large enough for the growing family, a few relatives, boarders, laborers and servants. Judging from early pictures and drawings of the village, the Wade house was most probably two or two and a half stories with limestone chimneys inset at the gable ends and sheathed in unpainted clapboard. The wood-shingled roof would have sloped to the front above six over six windows. Eventually the house would have been painted white and green shutters added (Cincinnati had white lead factories early on). On the west side a wing was built, slightly inset. Often referred to as the Wade Mansion, it was plain but certainly an improvement from a hastily built cabin.

In an address to The Cincinnati Pioneer Association, Nicholas Longworth stated, "A traveler from New York was standing at Wade's door one afternoon gazing on the beautiful sunset that filled the sky with purple, crimson and gold, and upon the beautiful river flowing by amid the hills clothed with the native forest in its fullest green. Turning to the Deacon he broke forth in a rhapsody of admiration on the grandeur of the view before him and said that at New York City we have no views to compare with this. 'Are you fond of beautiful parlors and furniture' said the Deacon, and flung open the front door of his parlor and pointing to his red and yellow carpet, bright curtains and painted chairs, he said, 'Have you parlors in your city superior to this?'"

The remarkable panoramic daguerreotype of Cincinnati in 1848, the original of which is owned by the Public Library of Cincinnati, shows the Wade house, painted white with dark shutters and surrounded by factories and warehouses. Dr. Drake said the year 1797 was marked on the side.



Porter and Fontayne 1848 panoramic daguerreotype. 1797 Wade mansion is second row center, white frame gable-end house. The taller section on the right was an addition.

Young Nicholas Longworth, a New Jersey shoemaker with a law license, arrived penniless and boarded at Deacon Wade's for two dollars a week, eventually marrying and moving a block away from Wade. Visitors from nearby Columbia staying with the Wades included our ancestors Judge William Goforth, Dr. William Goforth and Col. John Armstrong (see later chapters). In 1817, local census records note: "David E. Wade-farmer. 17 in household - 7 adults, 10 children, 2 Negroes. 2 houses value \$8000. 91 in-lots at \$7000 and 40 out-lots not valued".

In her 80s, the Wade's granddaughter Sarah Everett (Eva) Bedinger dictated her reminiscences to her fellow California cousins, Mary Wade and Edith Wade Hart. Her descriptions are colorful but probably somewhat exaggerated (see manuscript). She stated the house was not, "one of your pioneer cabins either, but a real mansion, three stories high with a veranda for every floor. The people all laughed and called the place 'Wade's Folly'". It must have been large though, as Cist's Miscellany, 1845, noted that "the west half of the Wade dwelling on Congress Street is the oldest building now standing in Cincinnati" An aerial photo of East Pearl Street (formerly Congress) from the 1890s shows three and four story brick apartment buildings, a tall steeple church and a cigar factory that dwarf a small white house with dark shutters, the remnants of the Wade home.



Nicholas Longworth boarded with the Wades when he first moved to Cincinnati. He and David Wade were partners in many real estate ventures.

To the west of the house stood the smelly tannery and behind was a large garden and orchard: “One of the oldest gardens in town was that of David E. Wade, who came from New Jersey in 1789 and became one of Cincinnati’s wealthiest citizens. He it was who had the finest parlor in town, furnished with window curtains, fine rush-bottomed chairs, and an ingrain carpet, the first west of the Allegheny Mountains. Wade specialized in fruits, excelling in the cultivation of peaches and pears. His son, General Melancthon S. Wade became a grower of fine fruit and an active member of the Cincinnati Horticultural Society.” Greve, p.464 and HPSO.

Across Butler Street from the house was a landscaped arboretum of several acres that stretched to Deer Creek and was known as the Apollonian Garden. An early form of an amusement park, admission was twelve and a half cents and the proprietors, an association of mechanics (industrialists) advertised “Cologne water of a very superior quality, and Bologna sausages and beer”. In 1830 Senator Henry Clay delivered an oration to Wade and 700 citizens.

English authoress Frances Trollope moved to Cincinnati in 1828 to establish her “bazaar”, a forerunner of today’s department store. Located a block from the Wade’s at Third and Broadway, it was not successful and Trollope left town bitter and broke. In her *Domestic Manners of the Americas*, she wrote a scathing description of the Queen City where pigs roamed at will in the muddy streets, wallowing in their own filth and feasting on rotting garbage. “Peasants” allowed the family cow to wander about, returning home

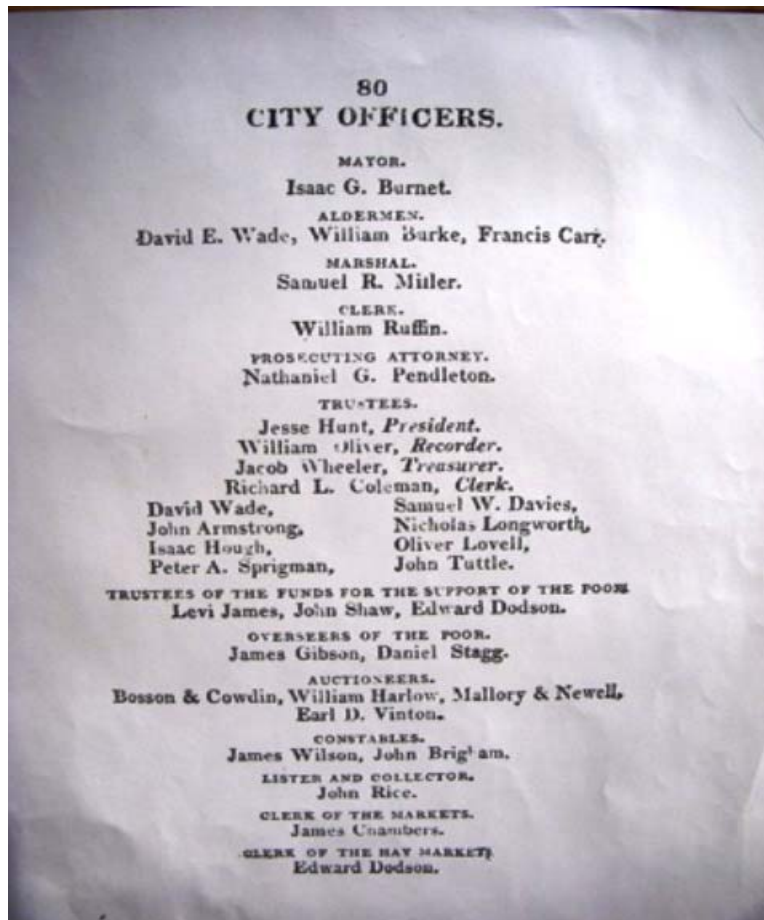
daily to be milked and fed a slop of cornmeal. She described rude, simple residents as religious fanatics. She visited a revival at the Wade's Presbyterian Church where she claims parishioners screamed, frothed at the mouth, fainted and shouted their faith.

Conversely, Harriet Martineau was much more flattering. In her *Society in America*, published in 1837 she wrote: "Cincinnati is a glorious place. Few things can be conceived finer than the situation of this magnificent city, and the beauty by which she is surrounded. She is enthroned upon a high platform—one of the rich bottoms occurring on the Ohio...Behind are hills, opening and closing, receding and advancing; here glowing with the richest green pasturage. These hillsides reminded me of...Windsor Forest; no description that I am acquainted with is rich enough to answer to what I saw on the Ohio. Cincinnati is the most healthy large city in the United States...The streets are wide...The furnishing of the dwellings is as magnificent as the owners may choose to make it...If the merchants of Genoa were princes, the citizens of Cincinnati, as of every first city of a new region, are princes and prophets at once."

Martineau and Trollope were probably both right, and they sold many books. All the world wanted to learn about the booming West, and thousands made the pilgrimage to the Ohio Valley.

Life in the town certainly did improve and the civic responsibilities assumed by the early pioneers greatly enhanced the quality of life. Once the church was established in 1792, David E. Wade turned his attention to education. In 1802, he and 23 others formed the Cincinnati Library. Their efforts met with futility, but in 1809 Wade chaired a meeting to hear Dr. Drake's vision of a circulating library. It finally opened in 1814, and Wade served as a trustee for many years. Meanwhile, Wade became a trustee of the proposed Cincinnati University, and in 1815, he joined others to establish the Lancasterian Seminary that evolved into the Cincinnati College. Wade also was a trustee of Miami University from 1815-1821.

As a devout Presbyterian, Wade chose carefully what political offices to be affiliated with. The most obvious was overseer of the poor, to which he was elected in 1792 and served off and on for years, his office requiring him to collect a small tax and care for paupers. From 1792-1794 he was a township officer and in 1802 he was an original town trustee. Then in 1819, he became one of the three original city aldermen when Cincinnati became a city. A term as a county commissioner, township appraiser and Orphan Asylum board member also kept Wade busy.



1824 Cincinnati city directory. David E. Wade listed as alderman and his son David as a trustee.

Wade's business ventures continued to expand. As a tanner, he was well known and trusted by leather merchants and traders. In 1803, the Miami Exporting Company was founded to aid farmers and merchants in moving their crops and goods to New Orleans and the East. Wade was an early shareholder and then a director in 1805. The group of businessmen was exclusive and tight-knit: Martin Baum, the city's first merchant and a Wade in-law; the paper-maker Christian Waldsmith; the wealthy Judge Burnet and his brother Isaac; Robert Wallace and Samuel Perry, relatives of Wade by marriage; attorney Jesse Hunt; and innkeeper Griffin Yeatman. The company evolved into the city's first commercial bank after 1807, and Wade, as one of the largest shareholders, served a term as chairman. Soon the bank was fueling the boomtown's economy by arranging shipping, exports and credit.

Wade's third business venture was in real estate. After acquiring the lots surrounding his cabin and tanyard, he set about purchasing lots on the edge of the city, such as the out-lot at Eighth and Broadway, eventually giving it to his daughter Sarah W. Bedinger. The site became mercantile and eventually the location of the landmark Times-Star Building, now part of the court system. Tiny Bedinger Alley is still marked. Earlier, in the 1790s, Wade acquired a tract of nearly 100 acres, near what are now Liberty Street and Central Parkway. At first it was all wooded, but many of the trees were cut and

hollowed out to make pipes for the city's first water system. Originally the area was known as Wade's Woods but later was dubbed Texas due to its remoteness and use as pasture. Wade held the property for over 40 years and his heirs profited greatly from it when it was divided into hundreds of lots and streets with names such as David, Everett Wade, Melancthon, Jones, Oliver and Livingston. Other smart investments included 53 acres in Clifton and a long strip of valuable land near where Music Hall and several breweries were built on the Miami and Erie Canal.

Wade and Nicholas Longworth, his former boarder and later the city's first millionaire, formed partnerships to buy city lots and entire sections of land in the outlying and still unsettled areas of what were to become Butler and Warren counties. Often, Wade loaned Longworth money for land purchases, taking a mortgage on the property. Wade, much older than Longworth, was content with his own holdings, but Longworth never stopped acquiring and then developed his world famous vineyards atop the city's eastern slopes. Wade and Longworth, an especially clever and thrifty lawyer, eventually dissolved their partnerships after the pious Wade felt Longworth had sharpened him. Wade did well and "Old Nick" went on to amass holdings second only to William B. Astor of New York, son and heir to John Jacob Astor. In 1804, one of Longworth's first clients paid him with two copper stills which Longworth traded for 33 acres of West End land valued at two million dollars in 1863. "Old Nick" left an estate valued between 15 and 20 million dollars.

In 1800 Wade's friend, William Henry Harrison, later ninth President, while a congressman, pushed a bill through Congress to lessen restriction on purchase of government lands. A land office was opened in Cincinnati in 1801 and Wade was one of the first purchasers. Offered for sale were federal lands west of the Great Miami River and throughout much of what became the Indiana Territory. The price was two dollars an acre with up to four years to pay, so Wade grabbed 1500 contiguous acres at the junction of Indian Creek and the Big Miami. In 1805, he received a formal land patent signed by President Thomas Jefferson and Secretary of State James Madison. The location of this original document is unknown but it was copied in the records of the Butler County Recorder. The Wade heirs were presented a beautifully colored and detailed plat, also recorded. The original is in the possession of Ruth Wade Brunings.

Wade held the acreage until his death when it was divided among his children who held onto most of it until the 1900s. Today, nearly 400 acres remain titled in Wade descendants, Nancy Burns Strause and her brother Tom Wade Burns. Still an operating farm, the land is eventually to be developed. The family hopes to build something like a YMCA and a town center for Ross Township and its residents. Nearly all the land was farmed throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, principally in corn, wheat and even tobacco. A large 26 acre Indian mound was visible for years, now buried under U.S. 27. Today much of it yields valuable glacial gravel and rock for its owner, the giant conglomerate, Martin-Marietta Corp. Also on former Wade land sits the Ross Township High School complex as well as Tom Wade Burns' 1845 farmhouse and Melancthon S. Wade's stately 1856 mansion. Not bad for a \$3000 investment!

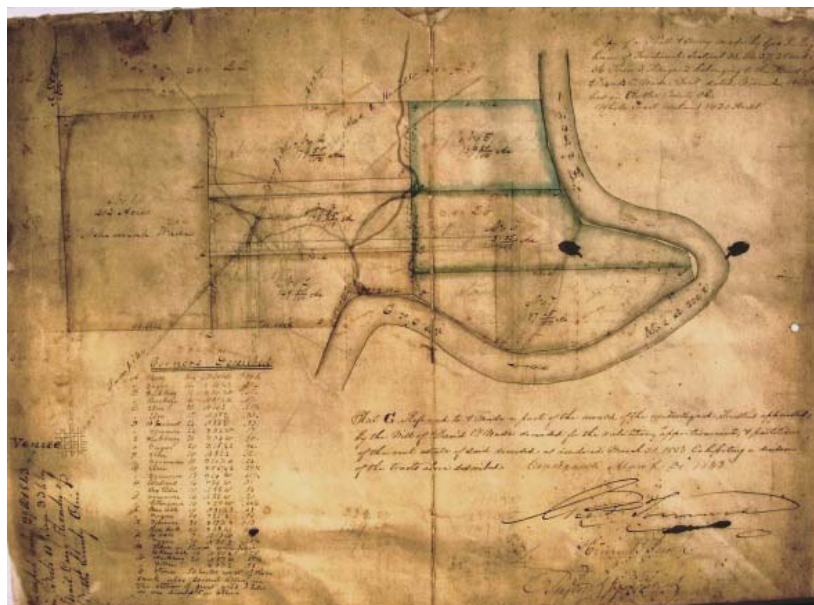
Unlike flatter cities such as Philadelphia, New York, and later, Chicago and St. Louis, the phenomenal growth of the city was confined to the rather small basin and lower Mill Creek Valley, hemmed in by the precipitous hills. The Wade's neighborhood of cabins and quaint frame houses was increasingly surrounded by industry. With the



advent of steamboats and steam- powered machinery, the Bottoms became the industrial valley of the West. Cist's 1834 Cincinnati Directory lists the following businesses within a block or two of the Wades: The Bell and Brass Foundry, Steam Sawmill, The Fayette Steam Engine Factory (directly across the street), The Aetna Foundry and many more. Deacon Wade even had to endure P. O. Reilly's Brewery only a block away. It was steam powered and produced 125 barrels per week.

The frontier life was hard on Mary Jones Wade. Having borne 12 children in 20 years, she fell ill with a lingering consumption (TB) and died in the spring of 1811. Wade buried her beneath the old boat timbers of the Presbyterian Church, near her five deceased infants. A tombstone was inscribed, "Here lies the body of Mary Wade, wife of David E. Wade, who died on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord, 1811 at 5:00 o'clock, on Sabbath day, aged 45 years, 6 months and 12 days". On a nearby wall, a melancholy tablet states, "In memory of James Wade who died on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D.1795; Nicholas Everett Wade who died on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of November, A.D.1795; Sarah Everett Wade who died on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, A.D.1795; Stephen Wade who died on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of December, A.D.1795; Noah Wade who died on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, A.D.1806. Children of David E. Wade and Mary Wade, who died on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, A.D. 1811."

Despite the industry, noise, smoke and dirt, David Wade stayed put, but one by one his neighbors moved to the newly fashionable areas on West Fourth and West Sixth streets, the West End and beyond to the hilltops and even out to Butler and Warren counties. Frequent floods in the Bottoms forced most to move above Third Street. Factories, tenement houses and warehouses crowded the Wade homestead. Nearby Deer Creek ran red from the blood of hogs processed in the massive slaughterhouses that lined its banks. In 1846 Wade's heirs sold the tanyard lot to the Catholic Church which built the large Gothic edifice named St. Philomena Church. On the other side of the Wade house, they sold lots upon which were constructed four story brick buildings used as residences and stores. Congress Street was renamed Pearl Street, and it became a busy feeder street to the nearby Pennsylvania Railroad station and the bridge to Newport.



Plat of David E. Wade's 1803 Butler County, Ohio land patent.



Later view of Bottoms, ca.1900. Remnant of Wade home barely visible ^ between St Philomena Church and Penn Station.

Most probably, Wade wanted to remain next to his tannery. A widower who never remarried, he didn't need to move. Besides, son Melancthon lived across the street, and Stephen, the youngest child, was still at home as late as 1834 when Wade signed his will. Thereafter, it was probably too late to move—David Wade suffered a severe stroke that kept him virtually bedridden until his 1842 death. Even as an invalid, though, Wade retained control. He convinced his daughter Sarah Bedinger and her family to move in with him for a few months—they stayed eight years. Dr. Bedinger was six feet, eight inches tall and surely a good protector.

In the amusing reminiscences of Sarah Bedinger, she notes that David remained the master of his house. To prove it he guarded the keys to the pantry and cellar. Sarah had to beg him to use the keys. David rested in his armchair by the fire while his grandsons took turns holding a paper between the fire and the patriarch to keep him from becoming too warm. The old patriot insisted on voting and was conveyed to the polls each election in his carriage. His paralyzed hand could no longer write and he made his mark with an “x”.

David Wade's death, as noted in the Introduction, occurred in 1842. He was 79. *The American Almanac and Repository* stated Wade “settled on a farm in 1790. During all the changes that the place of his residence has undergone, he continued the same, his manners and morals unchanged by prosperous fortune. He was 40 years an Elder and lived to see nearly 50 Presbyterian churches spring up where there was but one, which he helped found. He died on the spot upon which he originally settled, 50 years earlier.”

With all the foregoing background of early Cincinnati, David and Mary Wade and their contemporaries, a close examination of the Wade's children and early years is appropriate. Much more is known of the seven surviving Wade children. Their individual biographies follow.

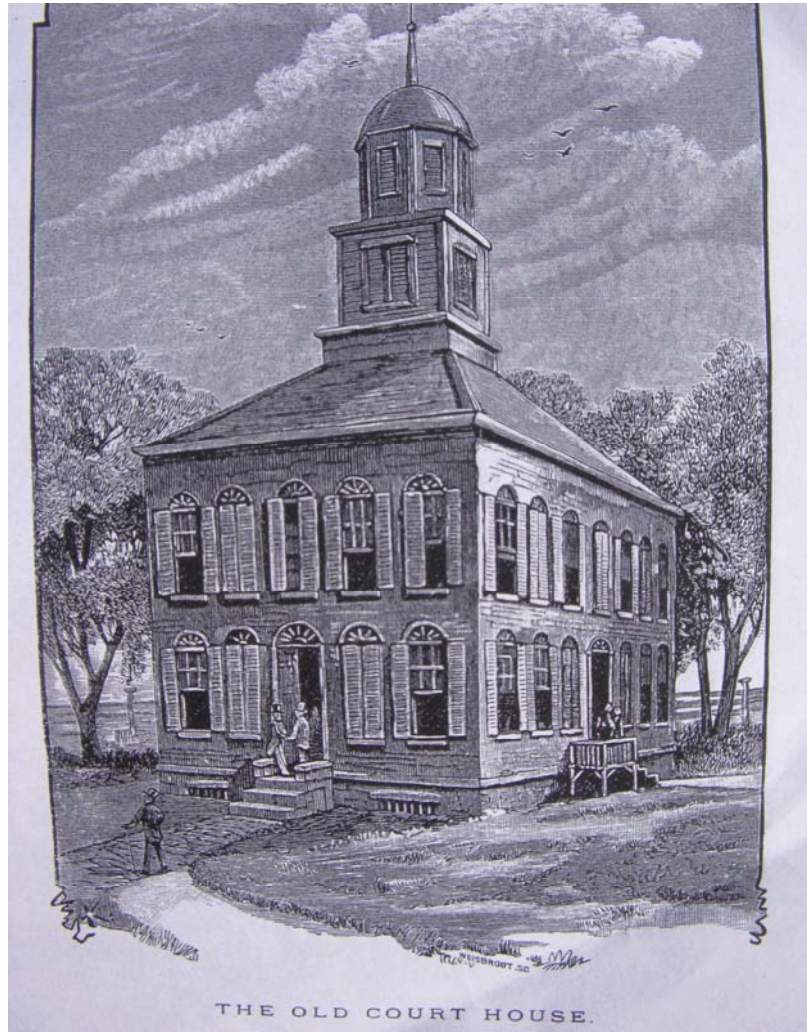


American Empire sofa, ca. 1820-1830, probably owned by David E. Wade. Later owned by Melancthon S. Wade and Eliza Wade Chatfield. Currently in possession of William H. Chatfield.

The Wade family experienced the death of siblings and parents during the first few years of the rollicking boomtown. They arrived in 1790 to a few hundred hardy pioneers huddled in dirty huts and lived to see an industrialized steamboat city of over 160,000, inhabited, at various times, by such notables as President William Henry Harrison, General Arthur St. Clair, John James Audubon, Stephen Collins Foster, Harriet Beecher Stowe and many more historical figures. They saw and no doubt met visiting luminaries including Aaron Burr, General Lafayette, Henry Clay, Charles Dickens, Chiefs Little Turtle and Blue Jacket, and Abe Lincoln, to name only a few. The Wades were an important part of Cincinnati, the first great city founded after American independence. The vibrant city's prodigious growth reflected the rise of the new nation and its vast western territories.

The Wades became products of their surroundings, possessed with a pioneer spirit, strong religious beliefs, and a close-knit family that remained close to home their entire lives. The family was noted for its patriots, pioneers, physicians and preachers. They cared for their parents, supported the town as it grew to a world-class city, and raised and educated David and Mary's 48 or more grandchildren.

## DAVID WADE II



David E. Wade and Mary Jones Wade's second child, and first to reach adulthood, was named David (no middle name) after his grandfather, and was born near Elizabethtown (probably Connecticut Farms), New Jersey on September 19, 1788. He accompanied his parents and older brother Stephen on the Great Migration, or "removal", to the Ohio Country (Symmes Purchase) in 1790, at less than two years of age. He was carried by wagon with a group of New Jersey Presbyterians to Fort Redstone on the Monongahela River and thence down stream by flatboat to Pittsburgh, then Limestone, Kentucky and finally to Cincinnati. He lived at first in the dismantled boat on the river bank and then at his parent's log house built nearby.

Young David was sent back to New Jersey to be educated at Basking Ridge Academy, an early boarding school and feeder to the College of New Jersey (now



Princeton) as there were no schools in the frontier village of Cincinnati. Returning home, David studied law with Judge Jacob Burnet, a New Jersey friend and the young town's most prominent attorney. Burnet drafted Ohio's first constitution in 1803. The first book printed in Cincinnati and the Northwest Territory was *W. Maxwell's Laws of the Territory of the United States Northwest of the Ohio*, printed in 1796. David Wade and all attorneys of the day relied on it extensively. His copy, signed "David Wade's book" is owned by Miami University. There are reportedly only 18 original copies extant, one of which was sold at auction in 2008 for \$103,500.

David served in the War of 1812 as aide de camp to the Wade's cousin, Major General John S. Gano. The general's order stated, "David Wade, Ensign is appointed Aid de Camp to Gen Gano and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly." He helped garner support by speaking at a rally in the Apollonian Garden, just across Butler Street from his parent's home. Also in 1812, at age 24, he was elected Hamilton County Prosecuting Attorney, holding the office until 1829. Other offices held were First Ward city councilman in 1819, Cincinnati township trustee, and Hamilton County Treasurer from 1825-1831.



A century after the Great Awakening, meetings like this one at Duck Creek, near Cincinnati, were an American institution. BILLY GRAHAM CENTER

English authoress Frances Trollope visited a religious event similar to this while living in Cincinnati in the 1820s. David Wade II spoke at several patriotic rallies before large crowds.

As a young prosecutor, Wade met and married Mary Grace Caroline Mansfield in 1812. Mary was one of six children of Henry S. and Mary Fenno Mansfield, both from illustrious Connecticut families. As noted in the biographies of David E. Wade's children, each married into a successful, large and usually Presbyterian family. Mary and her older brother, John F. Mansfield, traveled to Cincinnati in 1805 and lived with their

uncle, Col. Jared Mansfield, the Surveyor-General of the Northwest Territory, a Yale graduate and West Point instructor. The Colonel set up the surveying system used throughout much of the West. Mary's cousin, Harriet Sisson, married Dr. Daniel Drake, the famous physician, author and civic promoter. Her brother John was a captain in the War of 1812, and another brother, Joseph K. F. Mansfield, was a West Point graduate and Union general killed at Antietam. Mary's cousin Edward Deering Mansfield was an attorney, West Point graduate and author. The Colonel and his extended family lived on the Mill Creek at Ludlow Station near present day Northside. The fort had been converted to the county's largest home by Israel Ludlow, the city's first surveyor. In 1809 Mary and the Mansfields moved closer to town to Mount Comfort, the Bates mansion on Colerain Pike in Cumminsville, renting the large house, farm and orchards from Col. Isaac Bates.



Mount Comfort, the old Bates place, stood near the former Cincinnati Workhouse. Torn down, 1930s.

Edward Mansfield wrote, "John Mansfield lived in town, and his sister Mary Mansfield, was the only one living with us. She was married while living with us at the Bates place, to David Wade. Her husband was a lawyer and prosecuting attorney. The home was a comfortable brick home with a fine lawn and garden". The family enjoyed a large social circle, with Mrs. Jared Mansfield and Mrs. Israel Ludlow as Cincinnati's first "grande dames".

David's law office was located on Sycamore Street, between Fourth and Fifth. In 1826 he formed a partnership with Elijah Haywood, a politician and supporter of Andrew Jackson, first on Sycamore and then on the second story of the Miami Banking House on Front Street. The Wades lived on Fourth Street, between Sycamore and Broadway, near

younger brother Stephen J. Wade, in the city's most fashionable residential district, consisting of fine brick row houses on newly macadamized streets. The 1817 city census lists David Wade as follows: "1 Negro, 2 adults, 3 children, 2 houses value \$1200, 2 in-lots at \$5900, total wealth \$7100."

Mary died young at 33 in 1825 and David remarried Ann M. Hart (?), born in New Brunswick, Canada later of Syracuse, New York where she died in 1871. David died in 1844 of consumption (TB), just two years after his father and was buried in the Presbyterian Grounds on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. In 1859 he was re-interred in Spring Grove Cemetery. Ann Wade's will instructed her step son-in-law, Col. John Kennett, to use her funds to erect a "suitable monument for her late husband, David Wade". Edw. D. Mansfield wrote of Wade, "He was a good man, a good lawyer, a good public prosecutor and a useful citizen."

The children were:

1. John Mansfield Wade (1813-1865), a city councilman in 1847-1848, who later moved across the river to Newport, Kentucky near his job as a railroad agent. His wife was Harriet and they had five children, Frank, Charles Howard, Ida, Joseph and Henry.

2. Mary C. Wade (1816-1896). She married John Kennett (1809-1898), born in St. Petersburg, Russia (his father served in the American embassy) and later colonel and commander of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ohio Cavalry (USA). His first wife was Elizabeth Gassaway and their son was Henry G. Kennett, an attorney and Civil War general. Mary's children were John M. Kennett (1847-1913), an insurance clerk in Col. Kennett's insurance business, and Grace (1856-1931), a landscape and flower artist and sculptor. She married Charles Wheelwright. Col. Kennett also owned a tobacco house and for a short time, the Reds. He was president in 1881 when the ball club was expelled from the league for selling beer and playing baseball on Sundays.

3. David E. Wade (1818-1881), married Mary, of Missouri. They owned a very fertile farm on the Mississippi River a few miles south of Hannibal, Missouri in Ralls County. After his death, his heirs sold to the Atlas Portland Cement Company of Philadelphia which built a huge cement plant along the river. 1880 census record note the Wades and a nephew, yet another David E. Wade, age six. Next door was John M. Wade, age 33, a printer, his wife and two sons. John later filed suit over the sale of the farm to the cement firm.

4. Joseph Wade (1821- ). He married Jane McCormick who died in 1869. Both Joseph and older brother John boarded with their grandfather, Deacon Wade after their mother's death. Joseph later lived with his sister Mary in Avondale.

5. Harriet Wade (1823-1899) was raised in her parent's home on Broadway and married Dr. John Flavel White (1813-1881) in 1845. Dr. White was born in Philadelphia, graduated from Dartmouth College and moved to Cincinnati in 1845 as a surgeon in charge of the military hospitals in Covington and Cincinnati. He was a founder and professor of Miami Medical College (Cincinnati) as well as a deacon at the Second Presbyterian Church. Harriet was killed in a railroad accident in Clermont County in 1899. The Whites had three children: (1) Ambrose who married Lucy Gaylord Pendleton; (2) James M. White (1848-1931); and (3) Edward Pearce White (1851-1854).

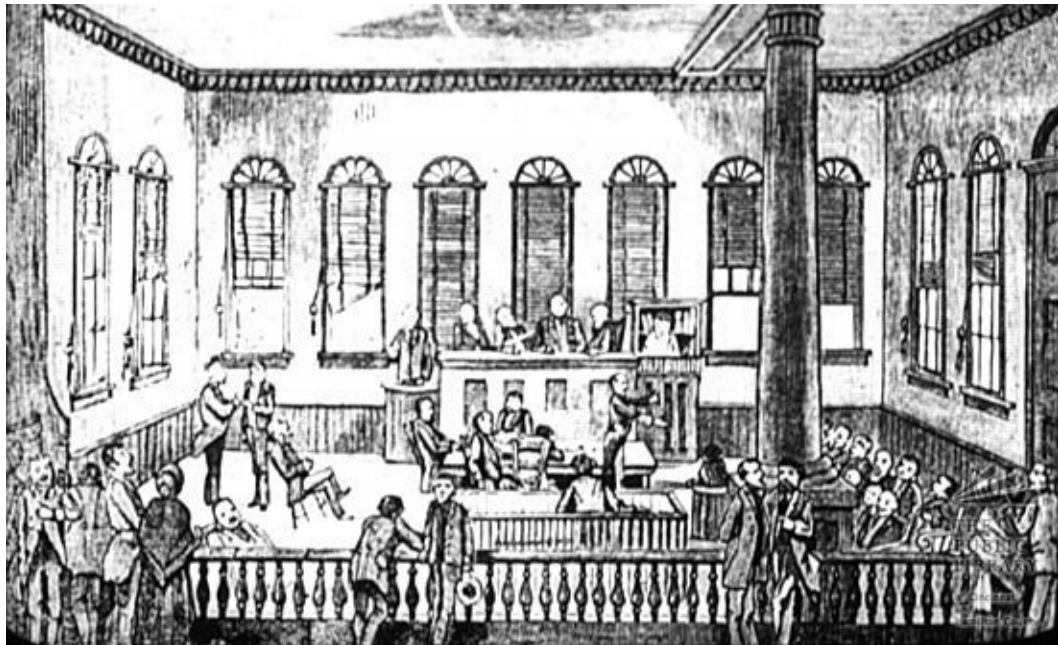
6. After Wade remarried he and Ann had a daughter, Louisa H. who married Thomas E. Townsend. Louisa died young, leaving their child Edmund Wade Townsend (c. 1856- ). The family lived with Ann in Syracuse.

Colonel Kennett organized the 4<sup>th</sup> Ohio veteran volunteer cavalry, made up mostly of Cincinnatians and trained them at Camp Dennison under the watchful eye of

his wife's uncle, Brigadier General M. S. Wade. Campaigning into Tennessee, Kennett's cavalry accepted the formal surrender of Nashville from its mayor, then captured Springfield and Fayetteville and Murfreesboro, Tennessee and Decatur and Huntsville, Alabama. He pursued famed Confederate General John Hunt Morgan and his Raiders through Kentucky and Tennessee. Later he fought the Texas Rangers before resigning in 1863 owing to ill health. Thirty-five years later, the Colonel was present at their cavalry's reunion at the Madison Road residence of Lucien Wulsin, now the site of the Regency House.

The Kennetts and Whites were quite prominent and long time residents of Rockdale Avenue in Avondale. According to the WPA Federal Writers book, the John Kennett house at 414 Rockdale, a two story frame on brick structure, was the social center of Avondale in the 1870s, where the Kennetts held lavish receptions for generals, statesmen and other celebrities. The Kennett house originally stood on a 10 acre plot in a locust grove north of this location; it was moved to its present location after the Colonel's death in 1899. Kennett came of a Russian family that stood high in the esteem of the czar. He arrived in Cincinnati as a young man with a Harvard degree and took a prominent part in civic affairs.

Judge A. G. W. Carter's *The Old Court House* states, "At manhood, David Wade became a successful lawyer, and was for a very long time Prosecuting Attorney of Hamilton County, and performed the duties of that onerous and responsible position, faithfully and diligently. I well remember him, and his interesting family, for they resided next door to us on Broadway for many years, and were highly and deservedly respected. Mr. Wade was a good man, a good lawyer, a good public prosecutor, and a useful citizen."



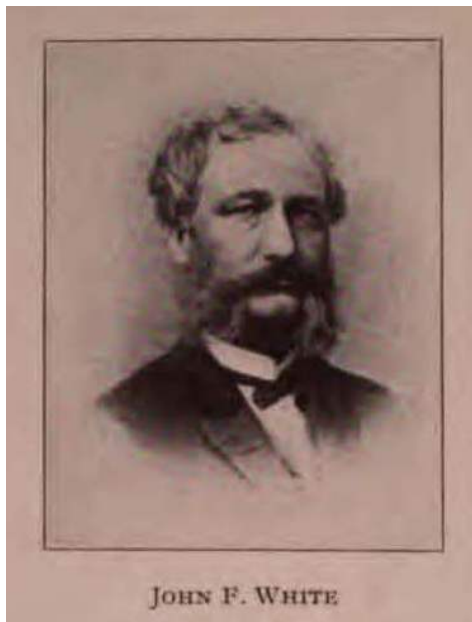
Courtroom in the old court house. Only 30 lawyers and a few judges served the town and county.





COLONEL JOHN KENNETT.

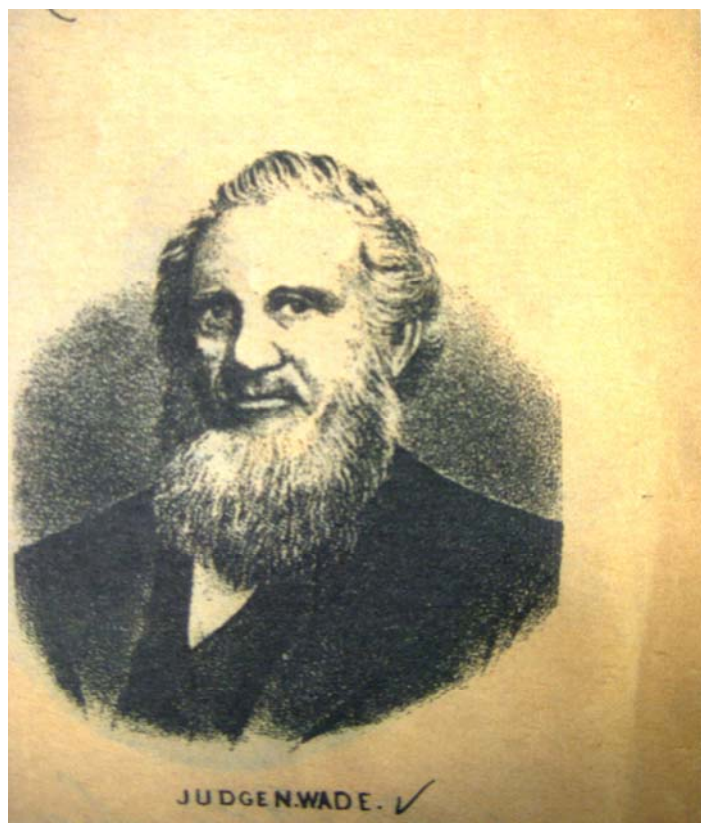
John Kennett, born at St. Petersburg, Russia, 1809; died in Cincinnati at the age of 90. As a child he was raised in close touch with the royal household, but his parents, disliking the monarchical form of government, sent him to America to be educated. He was brought to the United States by an English gentleman named Lewis, and lived for some time with the Boston family of Princes. At Harvard Nat P. Willis was his roommate, and Bancroft, the historian, his tutor. After college Kennett went back to Russia, but disliking it, returned to America to become a United States citizen. As a young man he came to Cincinnati, and remained an active and honored citizen in business and civic affairs throughout his long life. He was always active in military affairs, being active in legislation for better military equipment in Ohio, as well as tireless in the organization of volunteer companies of militia. Kennett was part organizer and first commander of the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.



JOHN F. WHITE

Dr. White, a co-founder and professor of the Miami Medical College.

## NEHEMIAH WADE

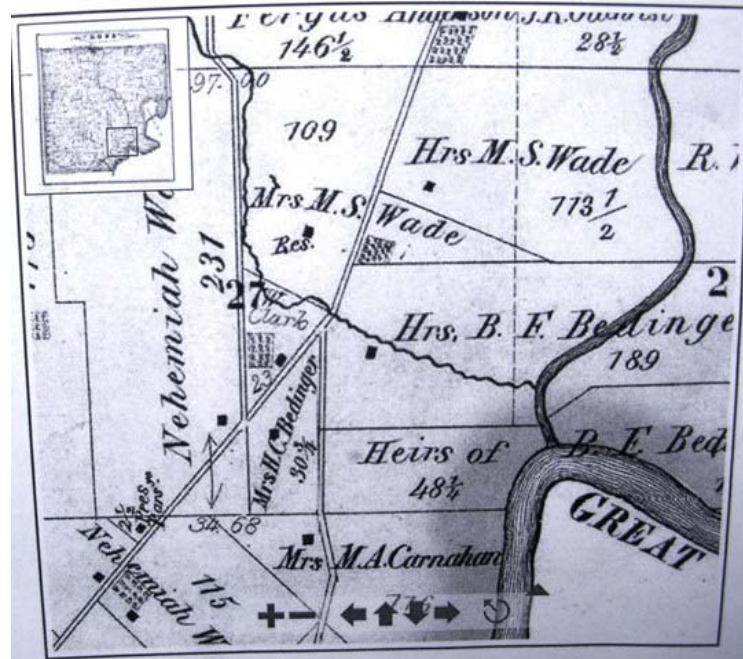


David E. Wade's second son and first born in Cincinnati was Nehemiah Wade (1793-1879), later of Elmwood in Venice (Ross), Butler County, Ohio. He was a long-time judge, Presbyterian elder, landowner and patriarch to nine children, two wives and twenty two or more grandchildren.

Nehemiah was born in the "Wade Mansion" in the Bottoms of Cincinnati at the northwest corner of Congress and Butler Streets and was named for a Wade ancestor in New Jersey. His early education was "obtained by his own exertions", i.e. he worked in his father's tanyard. At age 15 he began "industrious pursuits" as a bank teller at The Miami Exporting Company, of which his father was a major shareholder and director. The company was founded in 1803 to promote trade and navigation but evolved into the city's most prominent bank. Directors included Martin Baum (founder), Israel Ludlow, Griffin Yeatman, David Kilgour, Oliver Spencer, Samuel Perry, Jacob Burnet and William Ramsey, the last four with Wade connections.

In 1813, Nehemiah married Margaret Wallace (1795-1833), youngest daughter of Robert Wallace, an associate of David E. Wade as a Presbyterian elder. As with their other children, the Wades made certain their child married a Presbyterian from an established pioneer family, and the Wallaces were an extraordinary family. The five daughters were all beautiful and married well. Ann Wallace united with Martin Baum, the City's first industrialist and builder of the Baum-Longworth-Sinton-Taft house, now

the Taft Museum. Rebecca Wallace married Judge Jacob Burnet, the city's most prominent jurist, author of Ohio's first constitution and later a U.S. senator. Mary Wallace and Samuel Perry, an early entrepreneur, were married. Matthew Wallace founded and led many of the region's Presbyterian churches during his long career. Another brother, Captain Robert Wallace, owned the estate Longwood south of Covington and served in the War of 1812; his daughter married John Shillito, the founder of the once vast Shillito dry goods store. Their mother, Rebecca Chambers Wallace, was a refined Philadelphia lady, whose ancestors included England's Robert Cromwell and royalty.



1869 map of Ross Township indicating division of Wade's 1500 acre patent.

It must have been an eye-opening experience for Margaret and Nehemiah to move to the Butler County frontier in 1815. The vast forests were just being cleared and there was a bounty on wolves. Much of that part of the county west of the Great Miami River remained for decades after Wayne's defeat of the Indians as backwoods, the hinterland. Most homes were log; a few were stone or brick. Of course, Cincinnati in 1815 was only slightly more advanced but it was the center of the mid-Ohio Valley, with a population of over 3000, rapidly becoming a steam-powered industrial city. The young Wades settled on 404 acres of David E. Wade's 1500- plus acre purchase on the Great Miami River just outside the small village of Venice. The farm is still owned by their descendants, Nancy Burns Strause of Columbus, Ohio and her brother Tom Wade Burns who lives there 208 years after Wade purchased it for \$2.00 per acre. David E. Wade's Cincinnati neighbors, the Isaac Andersons and Samuel Dicks, also left the city and settled next to the young Wades, intermarrying with them, becoming the leading families of Ross Township.

Wade, Anderson, Dick and others took advantage of the 1800 Act of Congress that opened for sale at \$2.00 per acre lands west of the Great Miami and established a land office at Cincinnati. Wade's land patent, the original of which was signed by

President Thomas Jefferson and Secretary of State James Madison, became one of the most important parts of the family fortune. Wade established a powder mill at the mouth of Indian Creek and Samuel Dick built a grist mill and sawmill nearby. Butler County farming soon flourished, the bountiful corn crop distilled into whiskey for shipment to the South and the fattened hogs driven to market in Cincinnati. For over 100 years farming was the principal livelihood of the many Wades who settled on David's land.

Nehemiah helped establish the Venice Presbyterian Church in 1828 as an outgrowth of the Bethel Church above nearby Millville, serving as one of the original elders for over 50 years. In 1856 the present handsome Greek revival church was built. True to the Wade tradition, the family supported the church. Its records mention, in addition to Nehemiah, Robert W. Wade (his son), Nehemiah Chambers Wade (another son), Rev. Matthew Wade (a grandson), Robert Carey Wade (a grandson), Julia S. Wade (a niece-in-law) and Rev. William MacMillan (a son-in-law).



Venice Presbyterian Church, built 1856.

Neighbors Judge Fergus Anderson and Judge Wade organized a local militia and conducted drills prior to the War of 1812. After serving as justice of the peace, Nehemiah was elected to the Butler County Court of Common Pleas in 1841 and was reelected in 1847, serving in that office 12 years. Wade served as president of the board of The Oxford Female College (later absorbed by Miami University) and received a \$10,000 donation from him. He, along with many other Wades was a member of The American Colonization Society, organized to help former slaves repatriate to Liberia, Africa.

Following David E. Wade's death in 1842, the seven Wade children began to receive their considerable inheritances. Nehemiah used his in part to build the lovely



Elmwood, a federal style frame house still standing on the main street of Venice, complete with a circular driveway and matching gazebos. A picture of Wade's Elmwood appears in the 1875 Butler County Atlas. Indeed, there were at least six Wade homes on the estate: Elmwood; Woodlawn, the 1856 country home of Gen. M. S. Wade; Sunnyside, the 1842 home of Nehemiah Chambers Wade and others currently unidentified. Just south of the Wade patent was Edward Wade's 1813 brick home.

Margaret Wade preceded her husband in death in 1833 at age 37, just nine months after bearing her eighth child. Her grave at the Venice Cemetery is most prominent, consisting of an above ground rectangular brick crypt with an inscribed horizontal stone marker.

In 1834 Judge Wade married his neighbor Jane Anderson Dick (1791-1866), a mother of seven and widow of George Dick, mill proprietor and large landowner. They had one daughter together (see below).

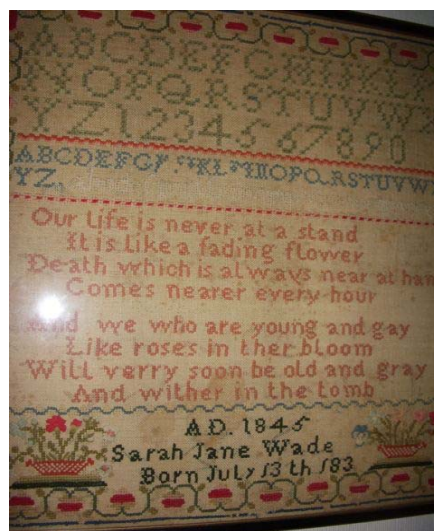


Butler County Courthouse, Hamilton, 1817-1885. Site of Judge Wade's courtroom.

Nehemiah and Margaret had at least eight children:

1. Mary Perry (1814-1852); m. Dr. James Stewart 1807-1849), son of a Presbyterian minister. Both are buried in Spring Grove. Their daughter Margaret (1845-1916) married Wade family friend and neighbor Isaac R. Anderson, son of Judge Fergus Anderson and Jane Dick. Two of their children survived to adulthood: Charles Anderson (1862-1935) and Agnes Anderson (1875-1963), a Bryn Mawr graduate.
2. Rebecca Wallace died 1817 at 15 days; buried at Venice Cemetery (the oldest grave).
3. Robert Wallace (1821-1902), life-long Venice farmer/landowner. My Grandfather Chatfield (1889-1944) remembers visiting him in the 1890s. He married Maryetta (1828-1865) and had four children: Nehemiah, Jr. (1847-1926), a Miami U. grad who married Alice Dick, moved to Monrovia, California and had two daughters, Mary and Edith who lived in California; Matthew (1848-1877), also a MU grad as well as a

- Presbyterian minister in Kansas, married Mary Copley and was buried at Venice near his son Wallace Copley Wade; Mary A. or Maryetta (1851- ) married William Anderson; and Maggie or Margaret (1856-1883).
4. David E. Wade (1822-1881), was educated at Cincinnati Medical College and practiced medicine in the West End, actually living at 86 Everett Street, (built in the former “Wade’s Woods”). He was a surgeon in the Civil War. Married Mary Eliz. Snodgrass (1828-1859) and had three children, Robert E. (1850-1873), died of TB at 86 Everett St; Sallie E. (d. 1833); and Maggie (1852- ), the lone survivor who married and moved to Chicago. David E. Wade has a large monument at Spring Grove and is not to be confused with the pioneer David E. Wade.
  5. Letecia C. died at age one and was buried in 1823 at Venice.
  6. Nehemiah Chambers (1826-1890), another lifelong Venice resident; lived at Sunnyside, an 1842 brick farmhouse on his father’s farm and in 1847 married Mary Frances Gilliland (1828-1886), a minister’s daughter. They had eight children, five of whom had children: Robert Carey (1848-1882) (see chart); Nehemiah Adam (1850-1921), a Miami graduate who married the girl next door, Nannie Sellers (1862-1932) (see chart); this is Nancy Strause and Tom Burns’ line; Elizabeth Jean (1857- ), married Cincinnati attorney Andrew J. Marsh. Their children moved to Texas where Stanley Marsh I became a wealthy rancher and oilman and his grandson, Stanley Marsh III, is known as the “helium millionaire” and owner of the original Cadillac Ranch, site of the vintage vertical Cadillac sculptures; and Edward (1870-1939 ), married Mattie Dunn (see chart). They lived with children Robert Dunn Wade (1893-1973), Timothy Lee (1915-1969) and Helen L. in an 1813 brick house south of Ross. Robert D. Wade married Stella Vitz and their children are Pat Wade Zillig and yet another Dr. David E. W. Wade of Memphis.
  7. William Thomas died in 1832 at one and a half; buried at Venice.
  8. Stephen Jones (1828- ) m. Sarah Henderson. He was educated at Farmer’s College (College Hill), Miami and Hanover College.



Sampler sewn by Sarah Jane Wade.

Nehemiah and Jane had one daughter, Sarah Jane (1836- ) who married the Presbyterian minister William MacMillan and lived in Oxford. Their children were Miss Mary MacMillan (1870-1936), a Cincinnati playwright, historian and godmother of my aunt Elizabeth Ann Chatfield (1917-1979); and Dr. Wade MacMillan (1865-1940), a MU graduate, head of orthopedic surgery at Cincinnati's Christ Hospital and first medical director at Miami University Hospital (a campus building was named MacMillan Hall and served as the university's first hospital); No issue with his wife Marian Thayer.

This branch of the Wade family, founded by a pioneering judge and his aristocratic wife, has been prominent in Butler County for nearly 200 years, producing many Miami University graduates and useful citizens. Wade's Mill Road and Wade Court are streets in Ross. The Venice Presbyterian Church and the Venice Cemetery have greatly benefitted from Wade descendants, some of whom still live in the area.



Monument of Nehemiah and Jane Wade, Venice Cemetery.







Elmwood , Venice (now Ross), Ohio. 1840s home of Nehemiah Wade and descendants.

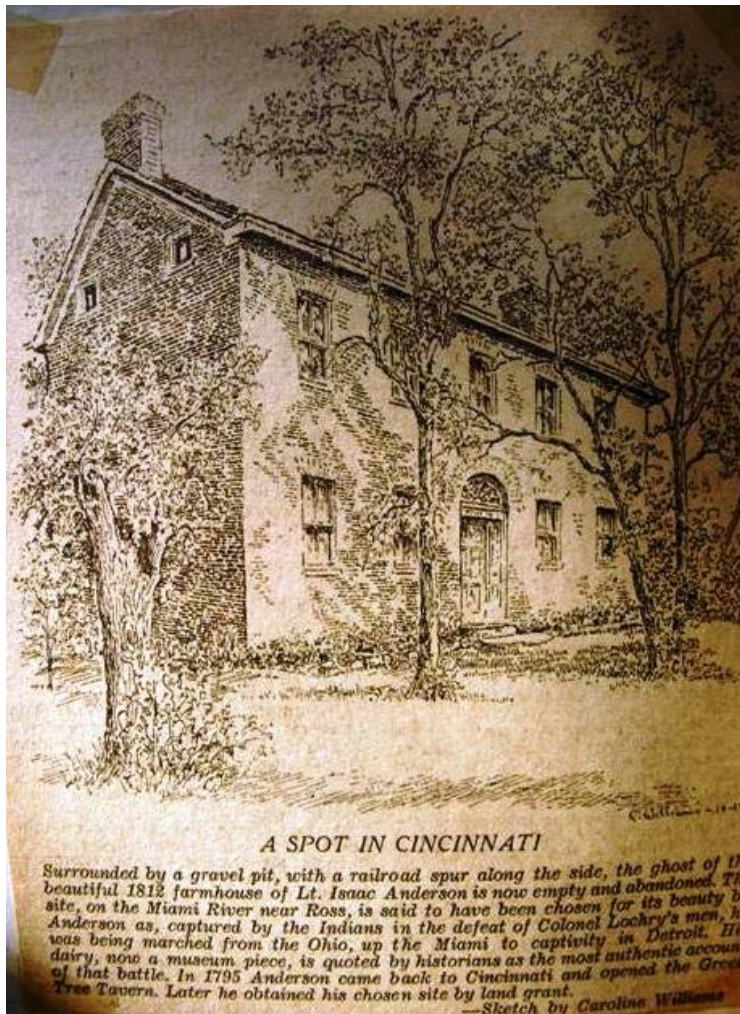


Sunnyside, Venice (now Ross), Ohio, built by Nehemiah Chambers Wade, ca. 1842.





1813 house purchased by Judge N. Wade. Later owned by his grandson Edward Wade.



The parents of Jane Anderson Dick Wade, second wife of Nehemiah Wade, lived here.

## MARY WADE

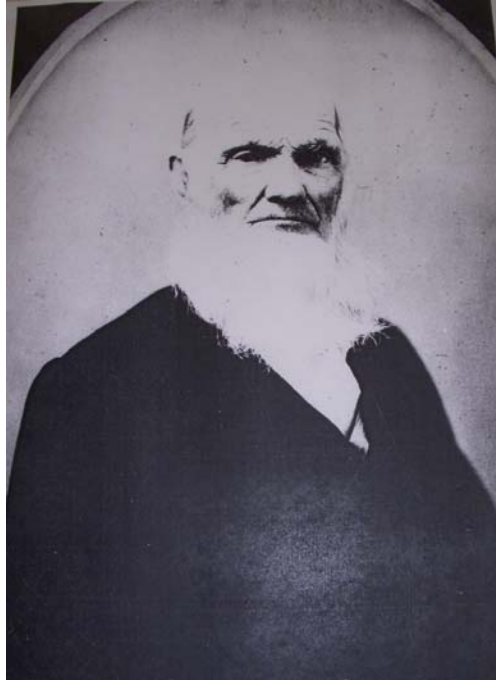


Mary E. Wade (1797-1871) was David E. and Mary Jones Wade's fifth child, born the year the young family moved from their small log cabin into the adjacent house her father built and referred to by Dr. Daniel Drake as the "Wade Mansion".

At age 19, Mary wed Dr. David Oliver (1792-1869), the son of Ohio pioneers from Marietta, the first settlement in the Northwest Territory. Several accounts claim Oliver was the first white child born at the Marietta Colony, variously described as Fort Harmar, the Farmer's Castle and Belpre. The Farmer's Castle was the stockade station erected by pioneers at the confluence of the Ohio and Muskingum Rivers. Dr. Oliver was the 10<sup>th</sup> of 11 children of Revolutionary War veteran Col. Alexander Oliver from Massachusetts and Mary Warner of Vermont. One of David's sisters was Electra Oliver who married the celebrated Oliver M. Spencer (1781-1838), captured as a child by Indians and later ransomed. He became a leading force in the Cincinnati business community, serving as president of the Miami Exporting Company.

David Oliver studied medicine in Cincinnati where he met Mary Wade who lived a few blocks from the medical school. They had a somewhat difficult time obtaining David E. Wade's permission to marry. As a strict Presbyterian, he would have preferred a son-in-law of the gospel versus one of the scalpel. Besides, if Sarah Everett (Eva) Bedinger's description of him (see appendix), written in her 80s, is true, the doctor enjoyed frequenting the many taverns in the rough and tumble town of Cincinnati. Dr. Oliver had led a hearty bachelor's life, serving under General Harrison in the War of

1812 and fighting in the famous Battle of Tippecanoe. Thereafter, he spent two years on a privateer (some say that made him a pirate), acting under letters of marque from the Republic of Columbia, and was severely wounded in a naval engagement with a Spanish man-of-war.



Dr. David Oliver, one of the earliest born citizens in the Northwest Territory.

In 1816 the Olivers moved to Brookville, Indiana, a then-flourishing town on the Whitewater Canal, where the doctor practiced medicine and the family lived on a 160 acre farm owned by David E. Wade. Next, in 1832 they moved to a 170 acre Ohio farm given to the by Mary's father and located along Dick's Creek in the tiny crossroads of Blue Ball, Warren County (later annexed to Middletown). The doctor practiced in nearby Lebanon. The Olivers remained until the 1850s when they moved to Oxford, Ohio at the insistence of their daughter Susan who promoted education for her siblings at that city's colleges and seminaries. Mary supported the Oxford Female College and The American Colonization Society, and Dr. Oliver was a ruling elder in the Oxford Presbyterian Church for decades.

The family resided on East High Street across Campus Street from Mary's sister Susan Guy and brother, Stephen J. Wade. The Olivers home was formerly a boarding house and they modified and enlarged it to house their many children and grandchildren that visited each summer. The book *Old Oxford Houses* by Ophia Smith describes, "The doctor added arches of fine marble in the fireplaces. The parlor was furnished with a velvet carpet, a nine-piece parlor set of walnut upholstered in green rep, four pairs of lace curtains and hangings, two marble-top tables, a piano with a fancy cover, a brass clock. In the hall was a hat rack, a centre table and a mirror." "Mrs. Oliver had her own equipage, consisting of one horse and harness with a rockaway carriage. She lived in comfort, as the inventory of her personal estate shows. At auction in 1871, her personal effects brought \$5102.05."



Dr. Oliver died in 1869, and Mary moved to Cincinnati, living on Everett Street next door to her nephew, Dr. David E. Wade (grandson of David E. Wade), until her death in 1871. Their house was sold and in 1896 became the home of the country's first Beta Theta Pi fraternity chapter. The core of the original house has been surrounded by additions and the Beta Quadrangle has become an impressive Oxford landmark.

Both Olivers are interred in the Oliver lot at Spring Grove on the front lawn beneath one of that cemetery's largest obelisks and beside 42 of their relations.

The children of the Olivers were many; five died in infancy including Mary Elizabeth whose tombstone sits in the Blue Ball Cemetery in Middletown, Ohio. The six adults were:

1. David Wade Oliver (1819-1905), born in Blue Ball, Ohio. He moved from the farm to Cincinnati in about 1842, engaging in the alcohol and grocery trades before moving to Bayonne, New Jersey in 1865. He acquired considerable real estate and served as mayor for two terms beginning in 1883 and lived in a mansion overlooking all of New York Bay. He married Mary A. Harrison (1826-1899) of Louisville and had two children, Alexander L. and Mary Warner.
2. Alexander Launcelot Oliver (1822-1868), born in Brookville, Indiana, graduated from Ohio University in 1845 and Harvard Law School in 1850. He practiced law in Cincinnati, remained a bachelor and was killed in a railroad accident.
3. Melancthon Wade Oliver (1824-1899), born in Brookville, Indiana, graduated from Miami University and Harvard Law College in 1849, clerking for Judge Burnet. He was a well-known lawyer in Cincinnati, often representing the many Wade family members and serving as trustee for some of their trusts. He was a common pleas court judge from 1856-1864 and in the state legislature from 1873-1875. He served as a trustee of Miami University for many years as well as a city alderman and park board commissioner. He married Anne E. Gere (1826-1911) of Massachusetts and Oxford, Ohio in 1850 and lived in Price Hill (a Cincinnati neighborhood) where he served as a director of the Price Hill Incline Plane Railway. They had six children, three of whom survived to adulthood: Mrs. Lucy McDuffie, Mrs. Ella McDuffie and Fielding W. Oliver who lived in St. Louis and worked as president of Tudor Iron Works, owned by his cousin, William E. Guy.
4. Susan Ann Oliver (1828-after 1900) the "exceptionally beautiful and gifted daughter of Dr. Oliver, a retired physician of prominence" (memoir of her husband Dr. J. H. Brookes). She was an excellent horsewoman and was spotted riding on the campus at Miami by James Hall Brookes (1830-1897). Brooks was a Tennessee native and son of a Revolutionary veteran; he graduated in 1853, attended Princeton Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1854. Twelve days later, he and Susan were married at her parent's home in Oxford. He served Presbyterian churches in Dayton and St. Louis and was nationally recognized for his writings. They had five children, three surviving including Susan Brookes Spencer of St. Louis, wife of Judge Sheldon P. Spencer.
5. Warner Symmes Oliver (1836-1928), born in Warren County, Ohio, graduated Miami University in 1857 and married Elizabeth Chadwick (1837-1928). He was a merchant and lived on Clinton Street and Park Avenue in Walnut Hills. Their children were (1) David Symmes Oliver (1860-1930), Covington attorney; (2) Dr. John Chadwick Oliver (1862-1946), a graduate of Miami Medical College in Cincinnati, co-founder and dean of the University of Cincinnati Medical School, president of the Academy of Medicine. He married Carrie F. Wright and their two



- sons Wade Wright Oliver and Symmes Frances Oliver were physicians. Their daughter was Sarah Elizabeth Kerber; (3) Mary, b. 1866; (4) Warner (1868-1907), single, resident of Ohio Institute of Feeble Minded at Columbus; (5) Leander Davies Oliver (1872-1923) who married Ada Burkhold. Their issue included Mary Elizabeth (May), (1904-1980), married Carl J. Ochs, MD, and John B. Oliver (1907-1977). John B. Oliver was the father of John Wade Oliver (1943-1944), John C. Oliver, currently a resident of South Carolina and Richard D. Oliver, living in Cincinnati; and (6) Susan Ann (1874-1943) who married George S. Baily. Their son Oliver (1902-1933) married Sarah Lippincott and their son is Oliver L. Baily currently living in Cincinnati.
6. Sarah Everett Oliver (1840-1917), married Rev. Alexander H Young, a minister and was known for conducting Sunday school classes in the country churches. Three children. They lived with Mary Oliver in Oxford.



Oxford Presbyterian, Church Street, Oxford, 1890



Miami University, 1858



Beta Theta Pi House, East High Street, Oxford, Ohio. Section on the left was the home of the Olivers; extensively remodeled.



Oliver obelisk, Spring Grove Cemetery, burial site for 44 Oliver descendants.



View of lake at Spring Grove beside Oliver family plot.



## SARAH EVERETT WADE



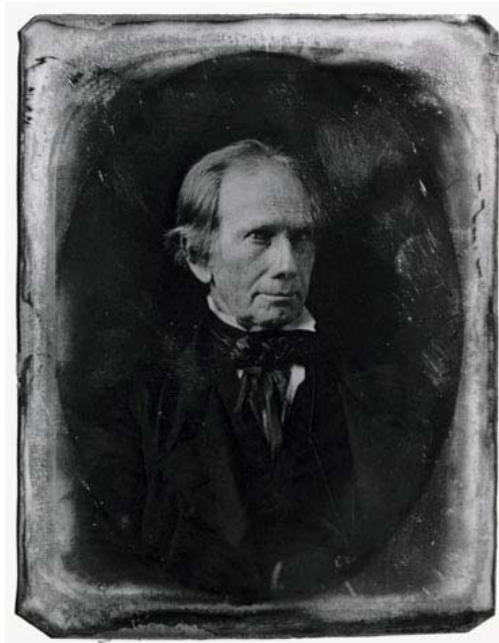
Sarah Everett Wade (1800-1880), the eighth child of David E. and Mary Wade was the last to die of all 12 children. She married a doctor, cared for her father for eight years after his stroke, lived on plantations in Kentucky and was a devoutly religious Presbyterian. She was born in the Wade home at Congress and Butler Streets, just yards from the Ohio River and within view of Kentucky, the state that would become her home. The year was 1800, three years before Ohio became a state. At the time Cincinnati was a small town of only a few dozen buildings, most built of log, and 750 pioneer settlers.

As a 20 year old, Sarah met the imposing Dr. Benjamin Franklin Bedinger (1797-1871), a Philadelphia-educated medical doctor from the Kentucky settlement of Blue Licks on the Licking River in Bourbon County (later Nicholas County). At six feet eight inches tall and possessed with considerable intellect, the doctor attracted much attention. The Bedingers were a prominent Pennsylvania/Virginia family that removed to the wilds of Kentucky in the 1780s. The doctor was one of 10 children of George Michael Bedinger (1756-1843), a major in the Revolutionary War who served as a Kentucky legislator, judge and U. S. congressman. George Michael's second wife was Henrietta Clay. One of his daughters married a cousin of Henry Clay, the great statesman; one son married his first cousin, yet another Clay; and one more son married Dr. Daniel Drake's daughter.





Entrance to Forest Home, Boone County, Kentucky; Some of these burr oak trees are over 300 years old.



Henry Clay, a Bedinger relative and co-founder, American Colonization Society.



Forest Home, late 1800s, showing many Bedingers. The third floor ball room had been removed.

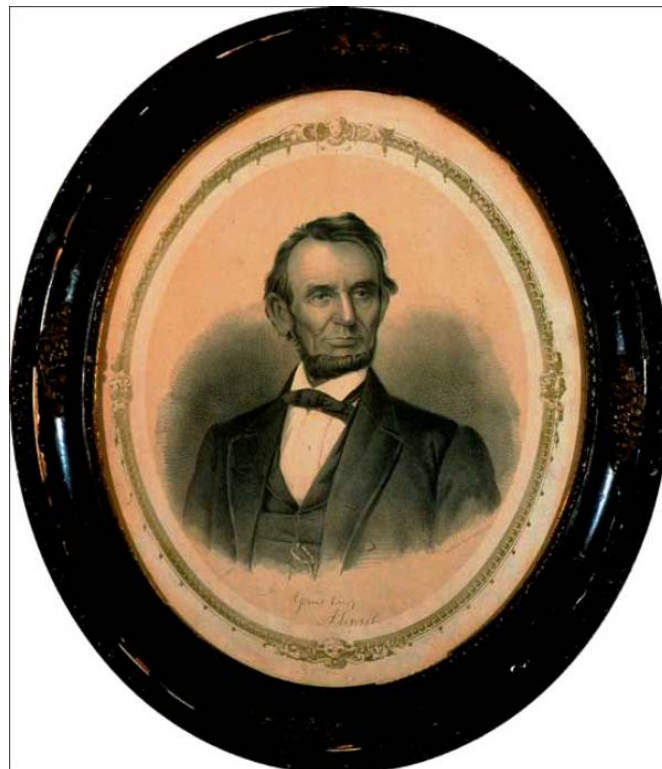
Dr. Bedinger met Sarah in Cincinnati while working for Dr. Drake and serving with him on the faculty of the Cincinnati College. Their son, Rev. Everett Wade Bedinger wrote: "Sarah Everett, named for her grandmother, was an earnest, devoted Christian from her youth. She had a clear, strong intellect, a warm loving heart, an indomitable will completely under her control." Sarah's father, the stern deacon, was skeptical of the young doctor who professed science over religion. At Wade's urging, so the story goes, two of his tannery boys challenged Bedinger to a fight and tried to throw him into a vat of tannic acid. Instead, the giant gave them the heave-ho. What Wade thought of this is not known, but he consented to the marriage. In 1826, the Bedingers settled on a 170 acre farm in Campbell (later Kenton) County, purchased for them by David E. Wade. The young doctor eventually gave up the practice of medicine and began investing in land in Kentucky and Indiana. At that time a doctor made only twenty-five cents for a house call.

In 1834, David E. Wade suffered a paralyzing stroke and summoned the Bedingers to Cincinnati for help. An anticipated stay of a few months stretched to eight years when the old patriot finally died. During their time at the Wade home, the Bedingers began their children's education, and the doctor served as a trustee of The Cincinnati College.

After Wade's death in 1842, the family moved across the river to Covington for three years. With part of Sarah's inheritance, they purchased a 2000 acre plantation just outside Richwood in Boone County, and an adjacent 100 acre tract with a massive early 1800s mansion on it, named Forest Home. There they joined the Richwood Presbyterian Church, with the devout Sarah contributing large sums to rebuild the church, the manse,

the Sunday school and the adjacent cemetery. After 150 years of ownership by Bedingers, the plantation has dwindled to 56 acres. This remainder, less the house which was the largest in the county but was unstable and had to be demolished, remains in a descendant's name. The lovely site remains a bluegrass meadow shaded by 300 year old oak trees and protected in perpetuity by a conservation easement.

The family grew and prospered in the vicinity. Yes, both Dr. Bedinger, and his father before him were slaveholders, but as carefully documented in Cousin Ruth Wade Brunings' detailed manuscript, the Bedingers were benevolent owners and gradually freed all their slaves. As Mrs. Brunings wrote, "Richwood Church and the Bedingers were committed to the position of the Presbyterian Church at that time. This official church position was to consider slavery as morally wrong, to free slaves at the age of 30 after they had been educated and trained to be self supporting, and to provide them with religious instruction. Gradual emancipation was thought to be in the best interests of slaves so they could survive and prosper in a hostile society." Poor Sarah must have had a difficult time justifying slavery, especially after the Presbyterian Church officially decreed the institution to be a moral sin. Dr. Bedinger and his son Everett met Abraham Lincoln at a presidential convention. They spent a long evening in a hotel in Springfield, Illinois discussing the fledgling Republican Party and the dangers it faced over slavery and other issues. Imagine the six feet four inch Lincoln and the six feet eight inch Bedinger together. Did they have their stovepipe top hats on?



Lincoln met with Dr. B. F. Bedinger and later appointed Melancthon S. Wade a general.

As each of the Bedinger children married, their parents gave them cut-up portions of Forest Home land. The senior Bedingers moved back to Kenton County and bought the Bartlett Graves farm, Walnut Grove, renaming it The Elms. The couple remained there the remainder of their lives. Before her death Sarah, gave land to the nascent village

of Erlanger for a railroad depot. She even named the town after one of the investors, the Count D'Erlanger. The Bedinger heirs, of which there were many, divided the farm to form the heart of the new town. Many of them lived there before migrating en mass to Southern California in the late 1800s.

The six children of the Bedingers were:

1. Olivia Morgan Bedinger Todd Ranson (1824-1858). She died when her firstborn was eight months old, prompting the deistical Dr. Bedinger to become a dedicated Presbyterian, serving the Church the remainder of his life.
2. George Michael Bedinger, II (1826-1906), educated at Old Woodward College in Cincinnati and served as Boone County Attorney; worked in the tobacco and lumber businesses in Erlanger, KY. He married Hannah Fleming. Most of his nine children relocated to cattle and dairy ranches in the Bakersfield, California area.
3. Everett Wade Bedinger (1830-1916), born on the Erlanger farm as were the older two. Woodward College, Yale class of 1851, attended Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Danville, Kentucky, ordained 1859. In 1860 he fled to Canada to avoid arrest by the Union Army as a Southern sympathizer, later returning to serve as a soldier's chaplain in Virginia from 1861-1865, and then as a minister in Virginia and Kentucky. He has 14 children by two wives: (1) Sally Lucas, his second cousin; (2) Anna Moore Bilmyer of Virginia. Among his offspring were two ministers and three missionaries in Brazil, Mexico and Korea. Two other sons were lawyers. Most of the children were buried in the Richwood Presbyterian Cemetery near their parents. He was the longest serving minister of Richwood Church in its 175 year history.
4. Daniel Bedinger (1835-1907) b. Cincinnati, m. Mary Cilley. 10 children. The Cilleys were a large family with extensive farm holdings near the Wade plantation in Ross Township, Butler County. Three Cilley sisters married three Bedinger brothers.
5. David Wade Bedinger (1839-1874) b. Cincinnati, m. Elizabeth Ann Cilley, lived at Forest Home at the time a fire destroyed the third floor ballroom and circular stairway. Even without the third floor, the house contained 6400 square feet. He died of internal injuries after he fell from an overhead beam during reconstruction of the house. They had six children, including Agnes (1871-1955), who married a nearby farmer, William Bruce Roberts. Their youngest daughter was Sarah Elizabeth Roberts (1906-2001) who in turn married Bradie Nelson Cox. One of their three daughters was Ruth Wade Cox, now Brunings, the well-known historian who now owns and lives on the remaining 56 acres of Forest Home. For over 100 years, the farm was owned by widows who were unable to fully maintain the large house. Nonetheless, it was paid for, and the family survived the Great Depression, selling a few hogs each fall to pay the real estate taxes.
6. Benjamin Franklin Bedinger II (1843-1868), m. Harriet Cilley. They lived on the Wade farm property in Butler County, had three children before he died. She remarried a neighbor, Alphonse C. Turner and had five more children. A chart outlining all the Bedingers is attached.



The Bedingers were large in physical size and number of offspring. Perhaps it was the mixing of English Wade genes with Rhineland Bedinger (“Budingens”) genes; or perhaps the Pennsylvania-Virginia-Kentucky upbringing made them so prolific. Sarah Wade Bedinger’s six siblings took spouses of English or Scotch-Irish ancestry. Large families were the norm with the Wades but so were most 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century families. It was often said that children were an economic advantage rather than a liability. Even then, the Bedingers were known for large families: George Michael had ten children, Benjamin Franklin had only six but then 35 grandchildren, and Everett Wade had fourteen children. Partly because of these numbers, much is known of the family. Fortunately, we have several interesting manuscripts, included herein, on the family. For those interested in the Civil War, states rights and slavery issues, these two fine manuscripts should be read: “Slavery in Kentucky” and “Slavery and the Tragic Story of Two Families-Gaines and Garner, Maplewood Farm, Richwood, Kentucky”, as well as “Forest Home, Boone County, Kentucky”, all three by Wade descendant Ruth Wade Cox Brunings. Also of interest is Everett Wade Bedinger’s “A History of The Yale Class of 1851”.



Dr. Benjamin and Sarah Wade's bed, built for his 6' 8" frame.



Dr. Benjamin F. Bedinger and Sarah Everett Wade Bedinger



Richwood Presbyterian Church, Richwood, Kentucky.



George M. Bedinger (1756-1843), Revolutionary War major and U.S. congressman.



Forest Home, 1984, just prior to demolition.



## GENERAL MELANCTHON S. WADE



Melancthon S. Wade as a young man; portrait in possession of Melancthon Wade Chatfield.

David and Mary Wade's ninth child and fifth to survive to adulthood was the uniquely named Melancthon Smith Wade, born in Cincinnati in 1802 and died in the nearby town of Avondale in 1868. The young boy grew up in the Wade's Congress Street homestead, playing in the adjacent tanyard, pond and nearby Duck Creek (now flowing underneath Eggleston Avenue). Until 1808, the stockaded but abandoned Fort Washington still stood two blocks away. Soldiers, including his older brother, marched nearby in preparation for battle in the War of 1812. He was schooled by private



preceptors and at the tiny community school built by his father and other Presbyterians at Fourth and Walnut Streets.

According to family lore, David E. Wade was befriended by Revolutionary War General Melancthon Smith after Wade was wounded at the Battle of Springfield in 1780. He told Smith he hoped to name a son after him. The name Melancthon is derived from Philip Melancthon (1497-1560), a Lutheran and chief disciple of Martin Luther. No fewer than ten of Wade's descendants bore the name Melancthon as well as a street named Melancthon (later renamed Bauer) in a Wade subdivision in the West End.

At 15, Melancthon was placed by his father as a clerk in the dry goods store of John B. Ennis where he remained four years. Next he moved to the dry goods store John D. Jones, working several years as a salesman and often traveling for the house as a collector. Like many of the clerks of the day, he soon was able to purchase an interest in the firm, no doubt with financial help from his father and savings the young Wade accumulated from his continuing employment at the family tannery where he was listed as a currier.

M. S. Wade remained with Jones until 1830 when he partnered with younger brother Stephen J. Wade (1808-1872) to open a store on Main Street, a few doors above Third and known as M.S. and S. J. Wade's. At the time, his competition for the city's largest dry goods store was John Shillito's, founded in 1832. It opened with an impressive inventory. Their announcement in "*Demming's Directory of 1831*" noted "New Store, M.S. and S.J. Wade respectfully inform their friends and the public generally, that they have just received and are now opening a new and fashionable assortment of fancy and staple spring and summer dry goods including London fine cassimeres, buff and white Marseilles and Valencia vestings, superior French bombazines, colored Italian lustrings, rich crape gauze, bead bags and purses, artificial flowers, linen and cloth table diapers, etc.!" Imagine that just 25 years earlier, dry goods in Cincinnati consisted of buckskin, coonskin, beaver and homespun. The firm evolved into Wade and Lord by 1837, located at the southwest corner of Fourth and Main. In 1845 the business had done well enough for the brothers to retire and live off the profits along with their considerable inheritance.

In addition to the dry goods business, Wade ran for Congress in 1848, losing to a Chatfield relation, David T. Disney. Like his father, Melancthon Wade supported the Cincinnati College. In 1849 he was appointed trustee by the directors to dissolve the Miami Exporting Bank of which his father had been a shareholder. That same year he was vice-chairman of the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, and in 1856 he and his brother Judge Nehemiah Wade were elected to the board of Chicago's McCormick Theological Seminary which had absorbed Cincinnati's Lane Theological Seminary. As a Presbyterian, he supported the American Colonization Society which advocated voluntary return of slaves to Africa as an alternative to total abolition of slavery. M. S. Wade, along with his brothers Nehemiah and Stephen, served on the board of The Oxford Female College. He was a leader of the Pioneer Association, a civic group whose members were all descendants of Cincinnati pioneers. In 1848 a eulogy and procession was held for recently deceased former president John Quincy Adams and Wade served as parade marshal. Other business affiliations were with the Cincinnati, Lebanon and Xenia Railroad and the Lafayette Bank of Cincinnati.

All Wades were staunch Presbyterians and General Wade was no exception. He and Mrs. Wade were long-time members of the First Presbyterian Church of Cincinnati and worshipped at the church on Fourth Street that replaced the simple frame edifice

erected by David E. Wade and other pioneers. According to church records, General Wade held pew numbers 11 and 64, valued at \$400 with yearly rental of \$105.

Upon receiving his share of his father's real estate holdings, Wade assisted in their subdivision and eventual sale to builders, wisely reinvesting in other properties outside the city. He owned tracts of land along Harrison Avenue (10 acres), Compton Road in Springfield Township (100 acre farm), and Reading Road in Avondale (two lots of five and eight acres). From his first wife Eliza Armstrong and her family, he inherited and acquired lots and farms in excess of 100 acres on the east side of the town of Columbia. The property reached from the Ohio to the Little Miami Rivers, crossing the New Richmond Turnpike (now Kellogg Avenue) and encompassing much of present day Lunken Airport. He and his father, David, sold land to Nicholas Longworth on Mt. Tusculum where Longworth established his famous vineyards.

In 1848 General Wade built the stately Italianate mansion known as Woodlawn along the Hamilton-Cleves Pike near Venice (now Ross) on his share of his father's large Butler County lands, eventually deeding it to his son, M. S. Wade, Jr. Gen. Wade's heirs subdivided his holdings after his death, a task that took 19 years. The General was said to be one of the largest real estate taxpayers in Hamilton County upon his death.



Woodlawn, Ross (Venice), Ohio, built 1856, Country home of Melancthon S. Wade.

After Wade's marriage to Eliza Goforth Armstrong (1804-1861), the daughter of the renowned Indian scout and war veteran, John Armstrong (see Armstrong chapter), he moved across Congress Street from his widower father into a small frame house in order to remain close to the family and tanyard and within walking distance of his dry goods store. Following the senior Wade's death, he left the gritty Bottoms and its polluted,

smoke- and chemical-filled air for higher ground two and a half miles north on the Lebanon Pike (now Reading Road). In 1843, Wade traded fellow abolitionist Christian Donaldson lots valued at \$14,000 for the large brick house known as Beech Grove situated on a scenic wooded ridge top at what was later known as Reading Road and Melish (now ML King Blvd.). The massive three story building was built by English educator Horace Gooch in 1832 and used briefly as a female seminary.

Wade filled the house with family: his surviving son, two daughters, a son-in-law, many grandchildren, two laborers, and two servants according to the 1860 census. The house was described as “one of the finest villas in Ohio”. The general's heirs sold the home in the 1870s when it was renamed Boman's and converted into a lunch, beer and wine resort and then a boarding house. In the early 1900s it was demolished and replaced by a bowling alley and filling station.



Brigadier General Melancthon S. Wade, USA.

As a young man, Wade joined the Ohio Volunteer Militia, Cincinnati Division, rising to rank of general and remained active the rest of his life. In 1861 upon the outbreak of the Civil War, Wade wrote to President Lincoln, offering his services to the government. Upon the recommendation of Major General Ormsby Mitchel and five others, Lincoln wrote to his Secretary of War, “I think the case is sufficiently made for

Gen'l Wade to be appointed", signed "A. Lincoln" See *The Collected Works of A. Lincoln*, Vol. IV, by Roy Basler, Rutgers Univ. Press, 1953. On October 1, 1861, he was commissioned Brigadier General of Volunteers by Lincoln and assigned to duty as the first commandant at Camp Dennison, then the rendezvous for the major portion of the Ohio troops.

Wade travelled regularly by horse and buggy the 10 or so miles from Avondale to the camp along the Little Miami River. His officers, including his chief of staff, Andrew C. Kemper, and son Lt. John A. Wade, resided in the commodious stone house of his friend Christian Waldsmith, the wealthy miller and paper merchant. Also present was Colonel John Kennett, head of the Fourth Ohio Cavalry and son-in-law of Wade's older brother, David. The general's duties consisted of attending to voluminous correspondence, meeting with officers, requisitioning equipment and provisions and inspecting troops.

Unfortunately, Wade's wife, Eliza, died very suddenly on October 21, 1861. Just after Sunday supper and in front of her husband and son, M. S., Jr., she began to ascend the back stairs with a silver bread basket when she stumbled and fell dead. Her death as well as Wade's failing health required him to resign his commission in March, 1862 after completing the establishment of the camp and overseeing the training of the first wave of Ohio soldiers. As many as 15,000 men were in training during Wade's command. Typhoid fever, malaria and other diseases were rampant, and the camp was nicknamed "Camp Maggoty Hollow". Twice as many men died from disease as from battle in the Civil War, and the elderly Wade reluctantly resigned.

As in many Civil War-era families, the Wade's found their family on both sides in the war and on the slavery issue. The general's sister Sarah Everett Wade Bedinger lived on a 2100 acre plantation in Northern Kentucky, and her husband, Dr. Bedinger, owned many slaves, yet both were staunch Presbyterians and advocated abolition. Their son served as a chaplain for the Confederate Army. Wade descendant Ruth Brunings has written of their predicament and her well-argued defense is included in this work.

In many respects, the family life of Gen. Wade was most unhappy. His wife died suddenly at age 57. His three oldest children all died young: Melancthon Armstrong (1828-1833) died of scarlet fever, Everett Jones (1831-1834) died of cholera and M. S., Jr. (1833-1866) died of lock jaw after a fall from a tree in the front yard of Woodlawn, their Butler County estate. Frances L. (1836-1872) died unmarried at age 36 from dropsy (congestive heart failure). The fifth child, Anna did live to 90 but remained unmarried until age 48 and had no children. She died the widow of Scotsman Alexander Blair Hay (1842-1912) in the Masonic Home in Springfield, a residence for the aged.

The sixth child, Mary (1826- ) wed Thomas Lockett (1817-1872) at age 21 and had eight children. At first, they lived in Chillicothe where the Locketts were well-connected but soon moved in with General Wade to reside in luxury at Beech Grove. After Mary received her inheritance, the growing family moved to a farm on Todd's Fork in Warren County. Here the Lockett's "luck" ran out when Thomas committed suicide by hanging in 1872. Four of her children died young: Mary, Jr. aged 20 and Bessie, aged 21 succumbed to consumption (TB) in 1873. Then Charlie, aged 10 and Harry, aged four died from scarlet fever within a month in 1874. Apparently the despondent Mary Wade Lockett fled to Texas with the four other children. The oldest Melancthon W. Lockett (1849-1890) died unmarried at Bay View, Texas; Fannie married and had issue in Texas; Thomas Noland (1858-1893), his father's namesake, had issue in Texas and Warren County, Ohio; William Goforth (1860- ) died unmarried in Birdville, Texas.



An interesting aside: The Wades allowed Mary's bachelor brother-in-law to be buried in the family plot in Spring Grove Cemetery. Philip N. Luckett was a brevet brigadier general in the Confederate army, and rests just a few feet from M. S. Wade, a Union general. Luckett is the only Confederate general buried in Spring Grove.

Four of Mary's children are buried near each other in one of the Wade lots in Spring Grove. In fact all of General and Mrs. Wade's seven children, except Mary, were buried beside them in Spring Grove.

The youngest in the M. S. Wade family was John Armstrong (1843-1915) who married Cecelia (Celestia) Adelaide Ashcraft (1844-after 1900), daughter of Jessie Ashcraft and Mary Ann Miller. They lived in Columbia, Hyde Park and in the city. Apparently they separated and Cecelia moved to Dayton. John worked as an engraver after his inheritance was gone. As an elderly man, he hand-addressed invitations for the Loring-Andrews store. According to Uncle David E. W. Chatfield (1921-1988), he was known as "Champagne Jack". He died in poverty at the City Infirmity. These Wades had six children: Melancthon, Mary S., Susan May, Celia A., Fannie L. and Bessie. This Melancthon lived in Dayton and had a son, Melancthon; both are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Dayton.

M. S. Wade, Jr. (1833-1866) lived at Beech Grove, and as a young man enjoyed a fashionable social life in Cincinnati, Avondale and Chillicothe, attending balls and teas, and as detailed in a romantic diary he kept and still in the possession of one of the Chatfields but currently missing. His belle was Julia Holmes Stewart (1838-1902), the beautiful daughter of Avondale businessman Alexander Stewart and Eliza Priscilla Schaeffer. In 1856, Wade, Jr. moved to a 221 acre farm on the 1500 acre David E. Wade plantation. He and his father built the large country home they named Woodlawn and where he moved his bride after their marriage in 1858. One January day in 1866, M. S. Wade Jr. climbed one of the stately walnut trees in front of Woodlawn to retrieve his daughter Eliza's cat. A fall injured his hand and he was dead in days from lockjaw, aged 32.

Wade, Jr. and his father both engaged in agricultural pursuits and entered competitions in the Cincinnati Horticultural Society's fairs. In 1851, General Wade's 31 varieties of apples were described as "a very handsome display, with fine specimens, remarkable for their appearance, and some of them unique." He also entered plates of Catawba, Isabella, Fox, Schuylkill, Muscatel and Ohio grapes, all grown at Beech Grove. A newspaper clipping of long ago notes "Melancthon S. Wade, Jr., of Ross Township, exhibits specimen of tobacco raised by him. One of the stalks weighed seven and a half pounds" As an aside, the author, his great-great grandson, raised burley tobacco on his own farms from 1976-2004.

Melancthon, Jr. and Julia had three children: Melancthon Armstrong (1865-1884) who died of paralysis, M. S. Wade, III (1860-1864) who died of typhoid fever, and the lone survivor, Eliza (1863-1925), named for her two grandmothers. Eliza and her widowed mother held on to Woodlawn, spending summers and holidays there, but lived much of the time in downtown Cincinnati while Eliza was educated at Bartholomew's Academy and then at Waltham Academy in Massachusetts. Julia worked at several printing firms as a book binder. Her large collection of colorful musical song sheets is in the possession of descendant Christopher J. Chatfield of Cincinnati.



Eliza Wade Chatfield (1863-1925) with sons William, Melancthon and Albert.

Eliza met William H. Chatfield, Jr. (1860-1924) of downtown Cincinnati, and they were married at the Covenant Presbyterian Church in Washington, D. C. The couple lived in Walnut Hills and then College Hill where they purchased a comfortable old home (see picture in Chatfield chapter) next to the Presbyterian Church. It was here they raised their three boys, with frequent trips to Woodlawn.

Grandfather William H. Chatfield's (1889-1944) brief family history depicts life at Woodlawn: "My real memory of this place occurs about the time I was between six and eight years of age during the 1896-97 campaign of McKinley against Bryan. I can still see in my mind's eye McKinley's kind face tacked to a big walnut tree at the entrance to Woodlawn- 'Free Silver' denoted a road straight to hell and 'you cannot crucify mankind on a cross of gold'. There was a long winding drive banked by lovely old trees that led up to a beautiful house appearing so cool in summer and so warm and homelike in winter. The house had a porch running across the entire front. The entrance in the center opened on a center hall and to the left a staircase. On the right was a double parlor, twin fireplaces and a number of pieces of old family furniture and a flowered carpet, a charming place used only occasionally. On the left was the sitting room and there most of the time the family gathered. Our family at that time consisted of my mother, two brothers, Grandmother Wade, Aunty, her maid, and Charles Ward who took care of our horses, and myself. In the rear off the sitting room was the dining room, then the kitchen. Upstairs, a center hall with four bedrooms and then in back two maid's rooms and a room where we used to take baths, a large tin tub with water heated in the kitchen."



Coin silver spoons, engraved "MSW" and "MSW Jr."

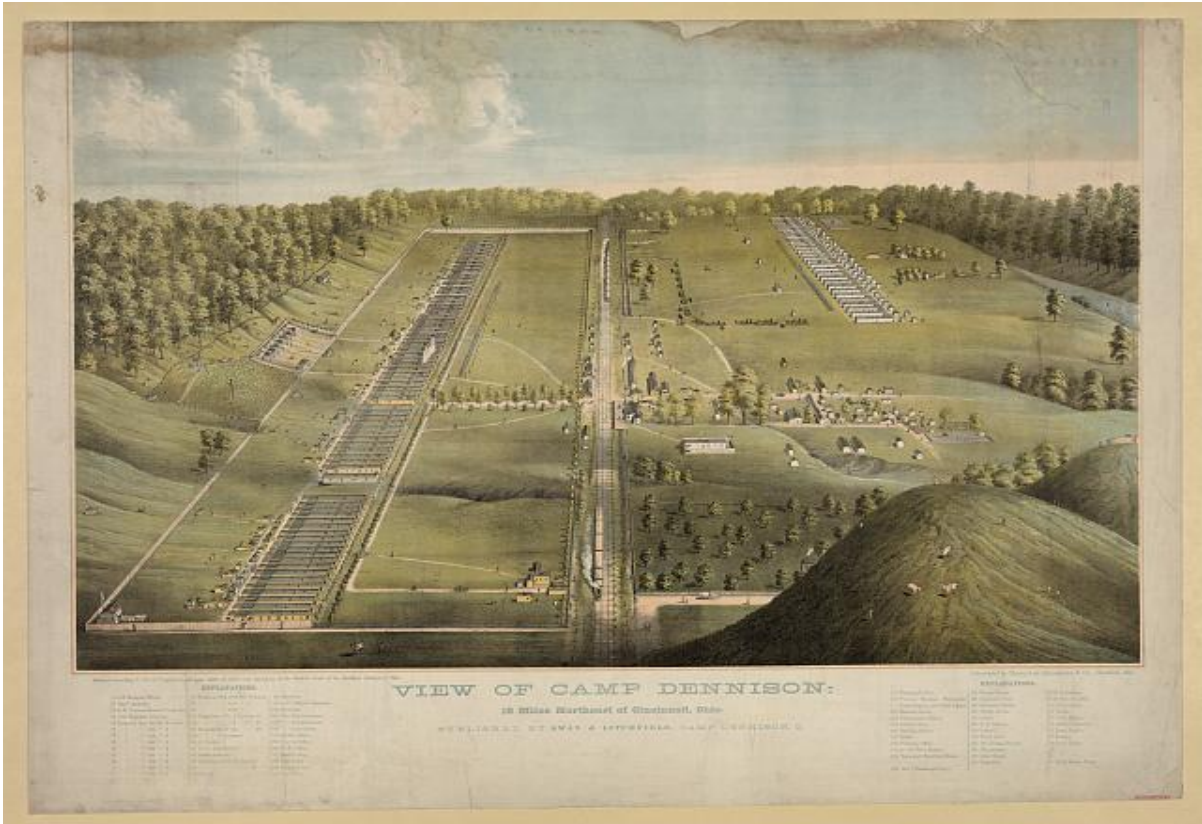
General Wade remarried in 1864, taking the widow Mary Catherine Spining Stone (1820-after 1900) as his bride. She was from a prominent Springfield, Ohio Presbyterian family and was the niece of Mrs. William Holmes McGuffey whose husband was the Miami University professor and author of the acclaimed McGuffey's Eclectic Readers. Her sister married department store magnate George W. McAlpin and a nephew married a Gano who was related to the first Mrs. General Wade. Years later, in 1888, Wade's granddaughter, Mary Estella Wade, daughter of John A. Wade, married Arthur Milton Spining, Mary's nephew. Confusing, no doubt, but these relationships were important to Victorians and Cincinnatians.

The Spining name (also spelled Spinning) is well-known in southwest Ohio. Mary's grandfather was Northwest Territory Judge Isaac Spining, a New Jersey Revolutionary War veteran who settled near Dayton on a 900 acre estate (now part of Wright Patterson Air Force Base). Her father, Pierson S. Spining of Springfield, was a wealthy businessman who built part of the Miami and Erie Canal and the National Road. Mary was one of 11 children, and in 1837 married Dr. John Stone of Marietta and had two children before his premature death. For many years thereafter, she lived with her mother and unmarried sisters before meeting General Wade through the McAlpins and McGuffeys. The Wade children grew close to their stepmother who was quite refined and a great assistance to the elderly general. He enjoyed squiring Mary and two of his daughters around town in a large carriage. After the general's death, Mary moved downtown and eventually returned to Dayton and lived many years with her sister Sarah and her husband, David W. Stewart.

On August 11, 1868, General Wade died at his residence in Avondale of "congestion of the brain". The next day's Enquirer noted "Readers will be surprised to see the announcement this morning of the death of Maj. General Melancthon S. Wade." The notice stated "Funeral, Thurs 13<sup>th</sup>, 10a.m. Friends of family invited to attend. Carriages will leave John P. Epply's at 9 a.m., corner of 9<sup>th</sup> and Plum."

The Victorian fixation with death, diseases and plagues all played out in the M. S. Wade family. The frequent tragedies and strict Presbyterian faith, deep pioneer roots and family fortune combined to produce an exemplary family which fulfilled its civic, religious and family obligations. This colorful, aristocratic 19<sup>th</sup> century family left few descendants. To date we have found none with the surname of Wade. Nonetheless, the name is carried on; for instance in the Chatfield family: two Melancthon W. Chatfields,

Lida Wade Chatfield Montgomery, David E. W. Chatfield, Dr. David Wade Chatfield, Everett Wade Chatfield and Eliza Wade Chatfield among others. The Bedingers, Guys, and others had generations of Davids, Sarahs, Everetts and Marys, making genealogical research a challenge.



Camp Dennison, Ohio, Gen. M.S. Wade, first commandant, 1861





Membership certificate, American Colonization Society; several Wades were members.



Brig. Gen. M. S. Wade.



Melancthon S. Wade House, Lebanon Road (now Reading Road), Avondale, Cincinnati, Built 1832.



Beech Grove, rear view showing kitchen wing, portico, gazebo and 21 chimney caps.

## SUSAN ANN LIVINGSTON WADE

Susan Ann Livingston Wade (1805-1852) was born in Cincinnati, married a doctor, and lived much of her life in rural Warren and Butler counties, principally in the college town of Oxford. She was a longtime supporter of education, mother of six and grandmother of fourteen or more. Her sons were all college-educated, some with multiple degrees and included a minister, two attorneys and a state legislator.

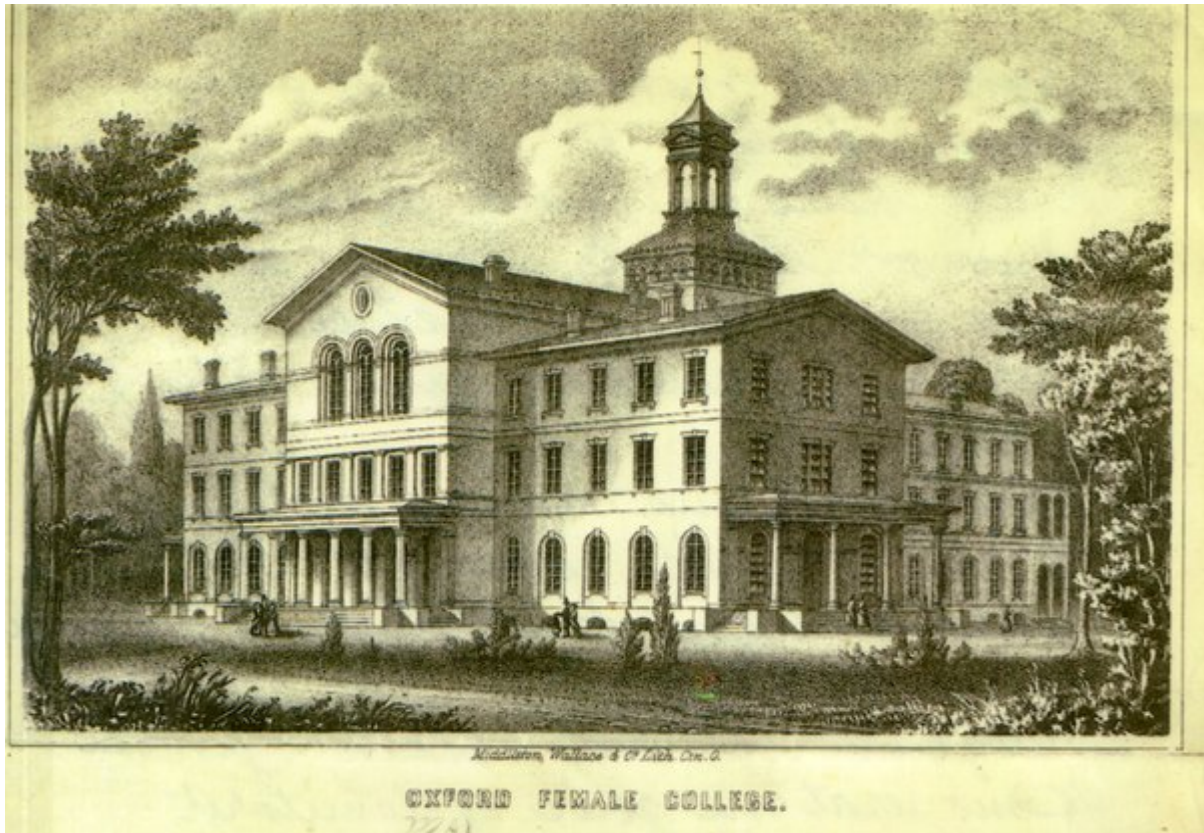
Susan was probably named after Judge John Cleves Symmes' third wife, Susan Livingston whose father was New Jersey's famous Revolutionary War governor, residing only four miles from the Wade family. Susan and older siblings Mary, Sarah and Melancthon were born only seven years apart and were raised together at the Wade homestead near the riverfront in Cincinnati. The children helped with the many family chores and played in their father's orchard and across Butler Street at the beautiful Apollonian Garden, an arboretum and early day picnic grounds. Their mother, Mary, died of tuberculosis when Susan was only six.

According to Susan's cousin Sarah Everett (Eva) Bedinger, in her reminiscences of 1932, Susan rebelled against her father's notion that daughters only needed religious and family education. She probably received a local private education which certainly led to her conviction to assure that all her own children attended college.

Susan met and married medical student Alexander Guy (1800-1893), a North Carolinian and grandson of a Revolutionary War veteran; his ancestors also included a Rolfe and Pocahontas. Dr. Guy attended Miami University and earned a medical degree in 1830 from the Medical College of Ohio before marrying Susan that same year. This was David Wade's third experience with a daughter marrying a physician. The pious Wade was no doubt beginning to accept doctors into the family. Dr. Guy embarked upon a 40 year medical career, but in part to please his wife and father-in-law enrolled in the Princeton Theological Seminary, graduating in 1834. Practicing both professions simultaneously, Guy preached in New Brunswick (Canada), Middletown, Round Bottom, Mt. Carmel, Bethel (all in Clermont County) and Cheviot, just west of Cincinnati. For a time, the Guys lived in Symmes Township, near Loveland, Ohio on a 234 acre farm originally purchased by David E. Wade in 1800. In 1852 Susan died and Dr. Guy and his children move to Oxford, Ohio to live next door to Mary's sister Mary Oliver and to educate the boys at Miami University. Dr. Guy managed Susan's considerable estate.

Dr. Guy was involved in national affairs of the Presbyterian Church, a strong supporter of The American Colonization Society along with his wife, and trustee of the Lane Seminary. His many volumes of medical and religious books were donated to the Presbyterian Church, and he helped purchase a home to serve as the manse of the Oxford Presbyterian Church where he served as an elder for 37 years. *The History of Oxford College for Women* states, "For perhaps more than half a century, Oxford knew and highly respected a tall, lean man slightly stooped, dressed in a green, once black, cape and a stove-pipe hat of ancient vintage, Dr. Alexander Guy. He was a picture of ancient elegance and respectability. No man in Oxford gave more liberally. Married to the wealthy Susan Wade of Cincinnati, he may have felt that looking after the investments of her fortune and performing the duties of a regular pastor were not congruous. However, there is no record, or rumor, of any business deal that was not entirely honorable."

Susan's legacy was used to help establish The Oxford Female College (chartered in the 1850s and largely funded over the years with Wade endowments estimated in excess of \$75,000) and to educate the Guy children. The college was the oldest Protestant school for women in the U. S. conferring the B.A. degree.



Susan died in 1852 at age 47 and was buried in the Oxford Cemetery. Dr. Guy remarried, taking Amelia Roper of Iowa as his second wife. In 1876, Dr. Guy sold their home which eventually became the fraternity house of Phi Gamma Delta. Upon his death at 93, he was buried next to Susan in the Oxford Cemetery. His will bequeathed money to the American Bible Society and the Oxford Presbyterian Church.

The children of Susan and Alexander Guy:

1. Theophilis Wilson Guy (1831-18 ), born in Cincinnati, educated at Woodward College in that city and Hanover College in Indiana. He moved to Oxford in 1854, farmed until 1864, moving to Jefferson County, Missouri to become an orchardist and florist on a farm given to him by his parents. During the Civil War, he was offered a position on the staff of his uncle General Melancthon S. Wade but was unable to serve after contracting typhoid fever. He married Mary Graves of Hamilton County, Ohio who died in 1879 and then married Anna Priester. He served as a state legislator and was a Presbyterian and Republican. He had one surviving child from the first marriage, Everett J. Wade, an Illinois florist and two children, Ada and Alexander, from the second marriage.

2. Sarah Everett Guy (1833-1872), one of the many Sarah Everetts named for David E. Wade's mother and daughter. Born in Princeton, New Jersey while



her father was in the seminary, Sarah became the third wife of Reverend Mr. Charles Peabody, an eminent Congregationalist minister and a Dartmouth graduate. Sarah met the reverend while he was visiting his sister, Helen Peabody, in Oxford where she was the first head of the Oxford Female Seminary for Women (later Western College). The Peabodys had one child, Susan Wade Peabody, a graduate at Oxford (OH) and Wellesley College and a trustee of Western College. She obtained a PhD. from the University of Chicago in 1908 where she resided.

3. Mary Charlotte Guy (1836-1916), married Frederick C. Maltby (1835-1928), a Miami University graduate and had five children, Henry, Frederick, Guy, and Alexander, all of whom lived in St. Paul, Minnesota and had issue. They lived on a wheat farm near Pine Bend, Minnesota that was given to them by her father, Dr. Guy. They were both buried in the Pine Bend Cemetery.

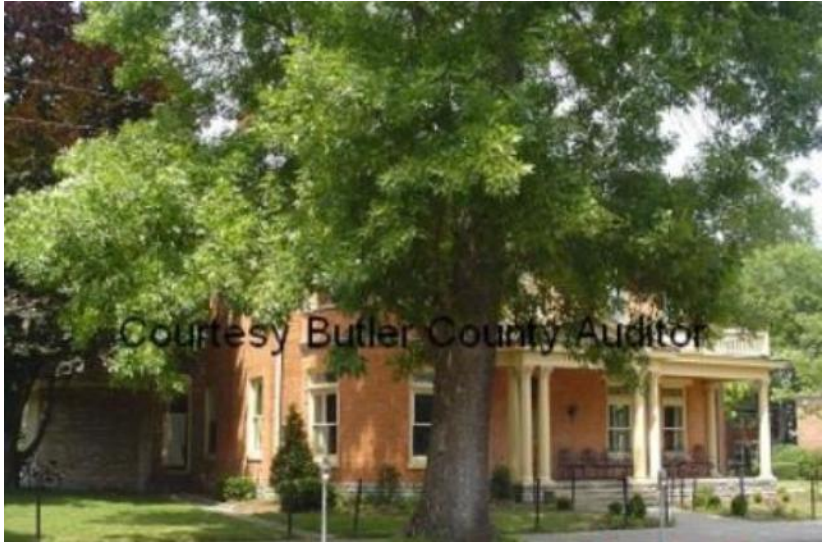
4. Edward Alexander Guy (1838-1913), born in Cincinnati, 1858 graduate of Miami University with classical honors at age 20. He attended divinity schools in Princeton Theological Seminary (1858-1860), became an evangelist, preaching in New York City, Cambridge, London, Cincinnati, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. and wrote and published a new translation of the Gospel of Matthew in 1883. He was described as "one of the most charming men, so cultured and full of the joy of life". He married a Mrs. Hogans and died in Jacksonville, Florida in 1913.

5. David Wade Guy (1842-1902), Miami U. class of 1861, graduate of Princeton, 1862, a veteran of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry, law degree Cincinnati Law School, 1864. Lieut. Guy also served as assistant superintendent of the St. Louis Soldier's Home, 1862-1863. He clerked in Cincinnati before settling in Oxford to practice law and teach modern languages at Miami. He married a French lady, Anna Racine Brand, at Fontainebleau, France in 1867. She died in 1868 from childbirth and is buried beside David E. Wade in Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati. The couple had one son, Henry Percy Wade, of France. David lived with and cared for his elderly father. It is believed he was buried in the Oxford Cemetery.

6. William Evans Guy (1844-1928), born in Cincinnati. Miami U. student before enlisting in the Ohio Volunteers. He graduated from Princeton University in 1865, obtained a masters degree in 1868, and studied chemistry at Heidelberg and Freiberg in Germany. Returning home, he earned a law degree in 1879 from Cincinnati Law School. He worked in mining in Colorado, became assistant geologist of Missouri, and then founded the large Tudor Iron Works in St. Louis. As a prominent and wealthy industrialist, he also headed three railroads and several coal mining companies. In 1894, Mr. Guy married Katherine Lemoine of St. Louis. Their children were Katherine, William Edwin, David Wade and Evelyn Spotswood Guy. The family lived in a magnificent Tudor manor, still standing, at 10 Portland Place in St. Louis. Oldest daughter Katherine married Henry Sage Fenimore Cooper, a descendant of the famous author, James Fenimore Cooper. They had four children, some of whom still reside in Cooperstown, New York, home of baseball's Hall of Fame.

Susan Wade Guy's children were certainly among the best educated of David E. and Mary J. Wade's many grandchildren. Four of them had multiple degrees. Susan died young at age 47 but shared her inheritance with educational

and religious institutions. It is hoped that pictures or photographs of this interesting family can be located



Dr. Alexander Guy, a recent widower, owned this East High Street house and lived here with his children from 1854-1876; now the location of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. Next door was the Oliver house.



Old Miami, 1811.

## STEPHEN JONES WADE

Stephen Jones Wade (1808-1872) was the last child born to David and Mary Wade. Less than two and a half years after his birth, Mary died at age 45. However, with six older siblings, cousins and a father all nearby, Stephen was well-cared for. Like all the Wade children, he was raised in the house on Congress Street and educated in local schools which were usually private and small.

In 1835, Stephen married Harriet Sloo Ramsey (1812-1876), the Pennsylvania-born daughter of Dr. Samuel and Elizabeth Ramsey. Dr. Ramsey moved to Cincinnati in 1808 and practiced with Dr. Richard Allison, the city's first physician and surgeon to the U. S. Army at Fort Washington. Dr. Ramsey had an office at 14 West Front Street, just opposite the Public Landing. Otto Juetner wrote, "He was universally respected on account of his integrity, philanthropy and knowledge. He had no diploma but was considered a good, reliable physician". Edward D. Mansfield, a contemporary, wrote, "Dr. Ramsey was of Scotch descent, one of the old school gentlemen, stiff, starched, and stately, with the queue and high-topped boots, visiting his patients on horseback or in his gig."

As noted in the chapter on M. S. Wade, Stephen and Melancthon were partners in the dry goods business of M. S. and S. J. Wade. In the 1840s, Stephen and John H. Groesbeck developed the three corners at Front and Walnut, two fine buildings at the corner of Second and Walnut, and Stewart's Block on Second between Main and Walnut. They were substantial structures with cast iron fronts, handsomely ornamented. Stephen was also a general trader in commodities; for instance, in 1853 he was buying large quantities of turpentine in North Carolina and having it shipped to Cincinnati via New Orleans. In the 1849 City Directory, Wade was listed as co-owner of Wade, Eckstein and Co. Druggists, located at the northeast corner of Main and Fourth.

By 1866 Wade was listed in the City Directory as a tobacconist at 43 Broadway, with his residence at 183 E. 3<sup>rd</sup>. He then brought his three sons, Ramsey, William and Everett into the business, renaming it Wade's Sons and then Wade Bros. and Co. "manufacturers of fine cut chewing tobacco and smoking tobacco, 139 Longworth"

Over the years, the Wades lived in several locations downtown but the old neighborhood had become crowded with factories and tenements. Stephen and his siblings gradually sold off their many downtown holdings. The family sold the tanyard lot to the Catholic Archbishop who erected the large gothic Church of St. Philomena, and Stephen sold a group of adjoining lots in 1857 for over \$120,000.

The Wades moved to Oxford, Ohio after his father's 1842 death, living in the house on High Street that later became home to several Miami University presidents before it was taken over by a fraternity. In about 1866, they returned to Cincinnati. Some addresses of the Wades: 1866-3<sup>rd</sup> and Broadway; 1869-139 Longworth; and finally 383 W. 6<sup>th</sup>. Census records list Stephen as a pork merchant with real estate valued at \$200,000. Like several other Wades, he endowed the Oxford Female College and contributed to The American Colonization Society. He was described by the College as "a gentleman of much Christian benevolence and philanthropic spirit who made a proposition to sustain the boarding establishment at his own expense, for whatever pay the scholars might bring in for tuition".



Lithograph , 1884 flood, view from Third and Walnut. S. J. Wade built several of these buildings.

The Stephen Wades, much like close brother Melancthon, suffered great tragedy with their children. Of the 10 offspring, only two lived past 30. Stephen and Harriet, as well as most of their many children, are interred at Spring Grove Cemetery. It is unknown if their grandchildren produced offspring. The children:

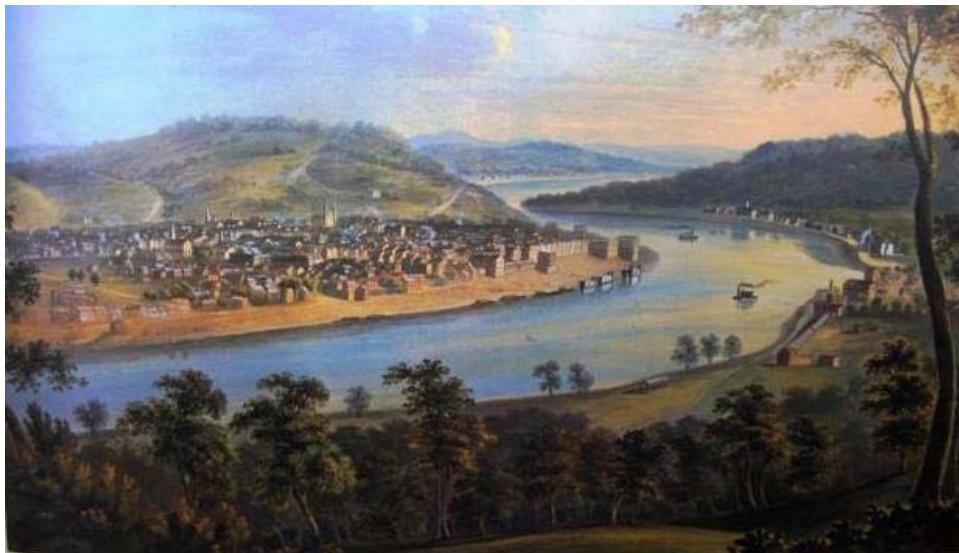
1. Marshall (1835-1838).
2. Charles.
3. Mary Elizabeth (1838-1848), d. typhoid.
4. Harriet Ramsey (1840-1842).
5. Samuel Ramsey (1843-1871), married Harriet; two daughters, Flora and Annie.
6. Stephen Jones (1847-1848). 1,2,3,4,and 6 were all buried in the Presbyterian Burying Ground on 12<sup>th</sup> Street.
7. William James (1847-1870), twin of Stephen; married; daughter Helen.
8. Stephen II (1849- ).
9. Annie (1853-1934), died in San Fernando California near her two daughters, Annie Young Ward and Flora Wade Young Flo. Married Edward Davis Young. Member DAR. Are Flora and Annie the same two mentioned in 5 above?
10. Everett Jones (1850- ), d. at Oxford after his mother. The City Directory lists Everett and his cousin David Wade Guy as operators of The Eclipse Tobacco Works at 139 Longworth Street in 1873. In 1874 he was a “dealer in notions and fancy goods” at 418 W. Fifth. In 1876 he was in the meat



business at 649 Freeman and living at 157 Dayton Street and by 1891 his business was real estate, loans and auctions at 75 W. Third.

11. Flora Harrison (1855-1882), d. at Cleveland.

In conclusion, Stephen J. Wade was a successful merchant and philanthropist engaged in a variety of businesses in mid-century Cincinnati. Wade's family life was tumultuous, with the early deaths of most of his ten children. Both Wade and his wife died at age 64.



Cincinnati from Covington, Kentucky painted by John Casper Wilde, 1835.

## CONCLUSION

This story began with impoverished but proud Revolutionary War veterans and their dangerous journeys to the West where wolves, savages, the British and disease were confronted and defeated. Gentlemen of 18<sup>th</sup> century refinement arrived in the wilderness, still dressed in London's finery, carrying gold-tipped canes and their hair tied in queues. Their attire soon changed to buckskin and fir, the ladies giving up their silk for homespun. To survive, they learned to build log cabins, cleared the forests and assumed agricultural and industrial pursuits. The New World of America had again reinvented itself and continued to do so throughout the Victorian century.

The legacy of the Wades of Southwest Ohio mirrored this pattern. As decades passed, succeeding generations defined this truly American family. David Everett Wade and Mary Jones Wade had seven children who survived to adulthood. All married, producing 53 grandchildren (many died young) and 127 or more great-grandchildren.

All of the Wade children remained in Southwest Ohio or Northern Kentucky, as did many of the grandchildren, but eventually the descendants migrated westward. The grandchildren in particular received the best education available in the United States: Princeton, Yale, Harvard, Miami University, Wellesley, Bryn Mawr, University of Pennsylvania and University of Cincinnati Medical, to name only a few schools. Many of the Wade progeny stayed close, however. After 200 years, two family members still reside on Wade farms in Ohio and Kentucky. The author, his brother Melancthon W. Chatfield, cousins Oliver L Baily, Richard Oliver and Christopher Chatfield, to name only a few, live within site of one former Wade holding or another.

Cincinnati remained a vibrant and burgeoning city, its population doubling every decade from 1800 to 1850, due in large part to eager German and Irish immigrants. While the prominence of the Wades and their pioneer contemporaries waned, they remained useful citizens, comfortable in their physical and social surroundings but earnest in their theological, religious, charitable, medical, legal and literary pursuits. But the times and tide were changing. Land was no longer the great source of wealth. Multiple social and economic forces converged: industrial and commercial pursuits were ascendant, financial panics were recurrent, families dispersed and rural life began to diminish. The Civil War defined the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the United States.

After the War, Cincinnati and the Ohio Valley were to an extent "yesterday's news". Chicago and St. Louis were paramount; the future lay in Iowa, Minnesota and westward to the mountains and Pacific. Wade descendants were no different. They continued to migrate west, settling many new communities and instilling their Revolutionary War, pioneer, and religious (usually Presbyterian) values across the land.

## REFERENCES

Most histories of Cincinnati contain references to David Everett Wade and his extended family and descendants. These includes books by Cist, Ford, Greve, Leonard, Roe, Howe, Venable, Mansfield and Drake as well as Rev. Goss' (written in large part by Wade descendant Mary McMillan) *History of Cincinnati and Hamilton County Ohio: Their Past and Present*, Cincinnati, 1894. All of these are found in the Public Library of Cincinnati, the Library of the Cincinnati Historical Society and on the internet through Google Books.

Additional information was found in the records of the Hamilton County Recorder and the Butler County Recorder, the Digital Journals of The Cincinnati Historical Society, the Digital Press of the University of Cincinnati Library, *The Cyclopedia of Butler County, Ohio*, 1882; *The Cyclopedia of Hamilton County, Ohio*; The David Rumsey Historic Map Collection; The 1869 Titus Maps of Cincinnati and Hamilton County; The Panoramic Map of Cincinnati, 1900; The Panoramic Daguerreotypes of Cincinnati, 1848, by Porter and Fontayne; The Sanborn Maps, online and in the collection of The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County; Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio online records; The U. S. Census, 1790-1930. Also: Williams, Caroline, *The City of Seven Hills*, Cincinnati: 1938; Kenny, Daniel J., *Illustrated Cincinnati*, Cincinnati: Robert Clarke and Co., 1875; Harlow, Alvin F., *The Serene Cincinnatians*, New York: E. P. Dutton, 1950; Wade, Stuart C., *The Wade Genealogy*, New York: Published by S. C. Wade, 1900; Shoptaugh, Laura, *Some Descendants of Jonas Halsted and Some Allied Families*, 1954; Maxwell, Sidney D., *The Suburbs of Cincinnati*, Cincinnati: G. E. Stevens, 1870; Flower, Olive, *History of Oxford College*; Manuscript by William H. Chatfield, (1889-1944) written in 1938; manuscripts and genealogical charts by Sarah Everett (Eva) Bedinger, Ruth Wade Brunings and Mrs. Wade Burns.



Photocopy of painting alleged to be David E. Wade. Collection of Cincinnati Historical Society.

## WILL OF DAVID E. WADE

In the name of Our Heavenly Father, Amen. I David E. Wade being weak and feeble in body but of sound mind and disposing memory for the purpose of justly setting upon those who are to succeed me the earthly goods and estate wherewith it has pleased a kind providence to bless me do make, ordain and publish this my last will and testament: hereby revoking all others heretofore made and published.

First. I do desire that all my just debts be fully paid as speedily as practicable.

Second. I bequeath unto Hannah Stevens, daughter of my late sister in law of the same name the sum of one thousand dollars.

Third. I do desire that all the rest and residue of my estate of whatever name or description in law, whether real personal or mixed and wheresoever situated, wherever in the State of Ohio or elsewhere, may be divided equally among my seven children, David Wade, Nehemiah Wade, Mary Oliver, Sarah E. Bedinger, Melancthon S. Wade, Susan A. L. Guy and Stephen J. Wade, or in the case of the death of any of them leaving issue then between the survivor or survivors and the heirs of such deceased, the personal estate of my executors and the real estate in the manner and on the principles hereinafter set forth. That is to say I do appoint and request my friends Lewis Whiteman, Henry B. Funk, Peyton S. Symmes and George P. Torrence, to act as trustees, for the valuation division and partition of said real estates; to proceed as soon as convenient not exceeding four months after my decease to appraise and value the whole of said estate separately, including those hereinafter specifically demised and to set them off and apportion them among said devisees that the entire shares shall be equal in value. The estates specifically demised and to be appraised as aforesaid, are to be charged or set down at the appraised value thereof, to the person receiving the same as part of the entire portion to be received by him or her or them out of my entire estate to be distributed as aforesaid. The estates above referred to as specifically demised are as follows, to wit. To my son Nehemiah, his heirs and assigns, four hundred and twelve acres of land, on the Great Miami River in Butler County, Ohio near the place where he now resides and for which he holds a deed from me. To my daughter Sarah E. Bedinger her heirs and assigns, two hundred and sixty acres of land in Campbell County, Kentucky, the same as where she and her husband lately resided. Also to my said daughter Sarah her heirs and assigns, to and for her and their sole and separate use the one equal third of that portion of Out Lot No. Four on Broadway in the City of Cincinnati owned by me. To my son Melancthon S. Wade his heirs and assigns the east half of Lot No. 15 on Congress Street in the City of Cincinnati the same for which he now holds deed from me. Also all that part of Lot No. 14 on said Congress Street of which my said son has the possession. Also Lot No. 34 on Congress Street being the same on which a tanyard occupied by him has been for many years located. To my daughter Susan A. L. Guy her heirs and assigns one hundred and seventeen acres of land in Symmes Township, Hamilton County, Ohio the same for which she and her husband hold a deed from me. Also to my said daughter Susan her heirs and assigns to and for her and their sole and separate use that portion of Lot No. 12 on East Front Street West of Butler Street in the City owned by me: the same being 50 feet in front. To my son Stephen J. Wade his heirs and assigns all that portion of ground located in the City of Cincinnati at the corner of Symmes or Third and



Butler Street which was mortgaged by me to John Jolley to secure the repayment of two thousand dollars with interest borrowed of him by my said son- said lot being about 40 feet on Symmes Street and extending back the same width about 150 feet on Butler Street to be taken with the encumbrance thereon which was incurred for the benefit of said son. Also part of Lot No. 35 on Congress Street being 50 feet off the west end thereof for which I executed a deed to my said son but never delivered the same and in as much as my said son has expressed a desire that the whole of the homestead property consisting of Lots No. 35, 36, 37 and 38 (portions of which are specifically demised to him as above stated) shall be set apart at the valuation as so much of his share of my estate, it is therefore my desire and I hereby further direct that he shall have the option of claiming said homestead, by filing with the appraising Trustees herein before mentioned, within three months after my decease and prior to their official action on the trust assigned them a written request that said four lots and appurtenances shall be valued and assigned to him as aforesaid. I do further appoint my son and son in law Nehemiah Wade and Benjamin F. Bedinger, Trustees to take the sole care, management and control of the share herein granted or which may be apportioned to him as aforesaid to my son Stephen J. Wade for and during his natural life: hereby giving them full power and authority to lease or otherwise dispose of the same or any part thereof, for the benefit of the said Stephen J. Wade and at his request to sell as much or all of the same as they may deem proper and to his advantage. To my daughter Mary Oliver her heirs and assigns to and for her and their sole and separate use the farm whereon she and her husband now reside near Middletown in Warren County, Ohio. And for as much as I granted my son David a certain lot of land in Cincinnati situated on Main Street between Fourth and Fifth streets which he has since sold, I do hereby direct that the sum of ten thousand dollars (considered as land specifically demised) shall be set down to him in the general division of said estates to be charged as of the value of ten thousand dollars at the time of said division And I do further direct that in making the partition and division aforesaid the said trustees (and in case they or a majority of them on notice being given them of their apportionment by any of the parties interested in partition, shall refuse or be unable to discharge the trust herein reposed, then that those of them who do act in conjunction with said others as may be substituted for those declining or unable to act as aforesaid by the Court of Common Pleas of Hamilton County) shall proceed within the period aforesaid, or some reasonable time thereafter, not exceeding in all four months after the said period to value separately in convenient parcels, the whole of my said real estate, wheresoever situated including the estates above specifically demised; setting down the value of each in writing adding thereunto the sum of ten thousand dollars aforesaid signed by said appraisers or a majority of them, that they then ascertain the aggregate value of the whole, and the equal share of each whom distribution is to be made as aforesaid and then apportion and set off the said estates by metes and bounds in equal shares according to the appraised value to and among the said parties thereunto giving those to whom specific demises are herein made the said land as specifically demised as part of their shares and charging my son David as aforesaid with ten thousand dollars provided in the valuation of said property herein specifically devised it is my desire that the valuing trustees shall not include in their estimate any improvements which they

shall be satisfied had been made by the persons to whom the are devised. If by any casualty or otherwise, the partition should not be made as aforesaid then I do direct that the estates above specifically devised shall be considered by way of advancements to said devisees to be accounted for as such on a final distribution of my estates. I do further direct that the portion or share of my estate above allotted to my son Stephen shall stand charged with the payment of the said sum due to John Jolley as aforesaid. Also with the payment of all debts and liabilities of whatever description, due and owing or incurred at the time of my decease by or against my son Nehemiah, whether as endorser, security or otherwise on behalf of or for account of my son Stephen, either individually or as a member of any of the late firms of M.S. and S.J. Wade. Wade Hills and Co., Wade and Lord or any other firm succeeding the same also with the payment of any loss, damage or harm or expense that may be or may have been sustained by said Nehemiah on account of his liabilities as aforesaid and if any portion of the estate of said Nehemiah should be sold under legal process at any time to pay off any of the said debts or liabilities incurred on behalf of said Stephen, so that the same shall be satisfied for less than the appraised value thereof, then the said share of Stephen shall stand charged also with the payment to said Nehemiah of the amount of said injury. I do further appoint David Wade, Nehemiah Wade and Benjamin F. Bedinger trustees to take the sole care, management and control of the share herein granted to my daughter Mary Oliver (excepting such part thereof as is specifically devised to her for her sole and separate use) for and during the joint lives of her and her husband giving them full power and authority to sell lease or otherwise dispose of the same or any part thereof for the benefit of said Mary and her children and at her request as may seem to said trustees best. I do further direct that no claim or demand whatsoever shall be made by my executors or any of them or any person administering on my estate, of any of my sons, daughters, their husbands or wives or legal representatives, on account of any claim, debt or demand or cause of action which I may have or hold against them or any of them at the date hereof unless the same shall have been demanded by me during my life at any period hereafter- provided that the advances heretofore made by me and the property herein devised, shall be considered and received by them as in full of all their claims and accounts against me up to this date. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 1838. Lastly I do appoint my sons David Wade, Nehemiah Wade, Melancthon S. Wade, Stephen J. Wade and son in law Benjamin F. Bedinger executors of this my last Will and Testament. David E. Wade x his mark and seal. Witnesses: Edward D. Mansfield, Peyton Symmes, William W. Philips.

On August 20, 1841 a codicil was added deleting the trust for Stephen.

A second codicil dated July 18, 1842 contained technical corrections.

Wade died July 22, 1842 and his will was filed in the court records of Hamilton County Ohio (now known as Probate Court).

1057 Buchon Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
October 1, 2014

William H. Chatfield  
The Pendleton House Publishing Company  
559 Liberty Hill  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Cousin,

After a recent internet search, I purchased *The Family of David Everett Wade and Mary Jones Wade, Cincinnati Pioneers*. I have been working on my family history and was delighted to find this volume available. I appreciate the wonderful account you have given of my ancestors, and I enjoyed reading about what became of their descendants.

I have been having trouble finding information about Dr. Samuel Ramsay and so am very glad to have the information you were able to provide. I also knew nothing about the life of Stephen Jones Wade so you can imagine how delighted I was to read about him in your book.

In your foreword you mentioned that you would be glad to receive any additional information. Someone in my family has the Ramsay Bible with its family record pages. In the 1970s an aunt photocopied the pages along with her typed transcription. She also photocopied the Wade family Bible. However, it was too difficult for me to read until I discovered who owned it and photographed (unfortunately, only some of) the pages. I am enclosing copies of both for you. If you would like me to email my digital files of the Wade pages, please let me know.

On page 75 of your book, you said that Harriet Sloo Ramsay was born in Pennsylvania in 1812. According to the Bible records, her birthdate is October 17, 1817. If Dr. Ramsay arrived in Cincinnati in 1808, Harriet would have had to have been born in Ohio. (I believe the correct spelling for Ramsay is with an a rather than an e.)

Using the family Bible records as well as the lot cards from Spring Grove Cemetery, I have assembled the attached family group for Stephen Jones Wade and Harriet Sloo Ramsay. I believe that Marshall and Charles are the same person. There is no birthdate listed for Charles in the family record and there is no Marshall listed at all. The cemetery record is for a Marshall, and there is nothing for a Charles. Do you have other information that might help solve the mystery?

The family records indicate that Samuel Ramsay Wade married a Harriet Green on March 23, 1864. I do not believe Samuel Ramsay Wade had two daughters named Annie and Flora. I think that his four children were Alfred H. Wade (1865 - 1937), Harriet G Wade (1866 - after 1880), Samuel Ramsay Wade, Jr (1867 - 1949), and Edith May Wade (1869 - 1934). Of these, Alfred had two children, Harriet's fate is unknown, Samuel seems to have had one child named Helen, and Edith had four children. I do not know if Samuel Sr has any living descendants.

William James Wade (1847 - 1870) married Matilda Smith on September 30, 1869. Their daughter Helen Mill?? Mindow?? was born on July 29, 1870, four months after her father died. I do not know what became of Helen or her mother. The names Mill and Mindow were recorded along with Helen's name in the Wade family Bible.

Everett Jones Wade (1850 - 1917) married Dora Bell Park (1849 - 1888) on December 16, 1868. They had five children: Eva Bell Wade (1870 - 1949), Stella May Wade (1873 - 1950), Grace Ramsay Wade (1874 - after 1880), Ada Louise Wade (1876 - 1921), and Stephen E Wade (1879 - after 1943). The family Bible records say that Everett married twice. I have found evidence that he married Louise B in 1884. This may not be correct since his first wife, Dora Bell Park, apparently did not die until 1888. Ancestry.com records show an Everett Jones Wade living in Ohio in 1910, and his dying in Salt Lake City, Utah, where he was buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. I assume it is the same Everett Jones Wade but couldn't guarantee it. I have not ordered an official document.

As for Everett's grandchildren, I think Eva Bell had one daughter about whom I have no information. Stella May married but apparently had no children. I have found no mention of Grace Ramsay past the age of six. Ada Louise had two children with Charles Claude Maris and two children with Niels Peter Nielsen. I believe it is possible that Ada Louise has descendants living today. Stephen E. Wade married, but I have found no evidence that he had any children.

Although she was the last born, I will cover Flora Harrison Wade next. According to her nephew Edward Davis Young, Jr., Flora and Annie Marshall Wade were living with their mother in the Oxford home when Harriet Ramsay Wade died. They decided it would be best to move to Cincinnati to some sort of residence for young ladies. During this time, Edward Davis Young (1852 - 1939), a family friend who had lived in Cincinnati until his family moved to Cleveland in 1860 was in Cincinnati for a visit. Flora and Annie encountered him at church and became reacquainted. Edward was the grandson of Samuel Davis, Jr, one of the Davis brothers who were Cincinnati pork packers/dealers. Edward began courting Flora, and they married on November 14, 1878, and moved to Cleveland. She had a stillborn daughter a year later. In 1880 her daughter Annie Wade Young was born. In August of 1882 twin daughters Elizabeth and Harriet were born. In September 1882, just seventeen days after the birth of her twins, Flora died. The twins both died in 1883.

When the twins were born in 1882, Annie Marshall Wade, Flora's sister and the ninth-born of Stephen Jones Wade's ten children, came to help care for her sister and her



young nieces. In 1885 she married her sister's widowed husband. Edward Davis Young had two more children with Annie Marshall Wade. Their daughter Flora Wade Young was born in 1888 (1888 - 1983), and their son Edward Davis Young, Jr., was born in 1890 (1890 - 1986).

Annie Wade Young (1880 - 1953) married Benjamin Briggs Ward, M.D., in 1905. Benjamin (1880 - 1929) had been born in Persia to American missionary parents. His parents moved to California in 1905 and encouraged Annie and Benjamin to do so also, which they did in 1909. Her father, Edward Davis Young and her step-mother/aunt Annie Marshall Wade, also relocated to San Fernando, California, in 1920. Their still unmarried daughter Flora Wade Young moved with them. Their son Edward Davis Young, Jr and his wife came to California about that time, too. Neither Flora nor Edward had any children.

Annie Wade Young and Benjamin Briggs Ward had three children and adopted a fourth child. They had 14 grandchildren and 34 great-grandchildren. There are great-great grandchildren and even a few great great greats. So, you can see that there are a number of Stephen Jones Wade's descendants who would be interested in learning more about him and his father, the revolutionary war soldier.

I hope you will get in touch with me. In addition to the clearer copies I have of the family Bible, I also have a close up of a David Everett Wade portrait. It looks like it could have been the likeness from which the illustration on page 2 was based. In addition, I have a photograph of a painting made of the twin boys born in 1847, Stephen Jones and William James.

Your fourth cousin once removed (I think),

Trudy Lindaman

email [tlindaman@gmail.com](mailto:tlindaman@gmail.com)

text (805)395-1022

# Relationship between William H Chatfield & Margaret Gertrude "Trudy" Ward.

---

## **William H Chatfield**

*is your 4th cousin 1x removed*



William Henry Chatfield (1915 - 1993)

*father of William H Chatfield*



William H Chatfield III (1889 - 1944)

*father of William Henry Chatfield*



Eliza Wade (1863 - 1925)

*mother of William H Chatfield III*



Melanchthon Smith Wade Jr (1833 - 1866)

*father of Eliza Wade*



Melanchthon Smith Wade (1802 - 1868)

*father of Melanchthon Smith Wade Jr*



David Everett Wade (1763 - 1842)

*father of Melanchthon Smith Wade*



Stephen Jones Wade (1808 - 1872)

*son of David Everett Wade*



Flora Harrison Wade (1855 - 1882)

*daughter of Stephen Jones Wade*



Annie Wade Young (1880 - 1953)

*daughter of Flora Harrison Wade*



Edward Davis Ward MD (1916 - 1998)

*son of Annie Wade Young*



## **Margaret Gertrude "Trudy" Ward**

*You are the daughter of Edward Davis Ward MD*