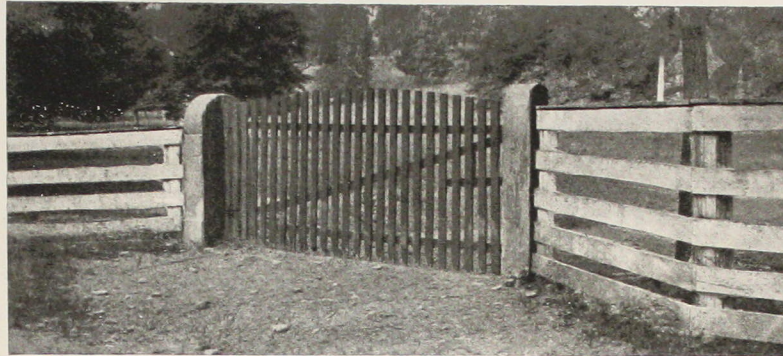


“SYLVAN HALL”



"SYLVAN HALL"



“Sylvan Hall”

ONE of the first brick habitations built in Middle Tennessee, in 1808, is now standing in good preservation and is known as the William D. Philips home, built by his father, Joseph Philips 2d, who emigrated from Tarboro, Edgecombe County, North Carolina, in 1791, with his wife, Milbry (abbreviation of Milberry), one daughter and a number of slaves.

The old Philips residence is six miles from Nashville on the Dickerson Pike.

The first purchase of land by Joseph Philips 2d was one section, on which the old home now stands—a grant from the State of North Carolina, which Joseph Philips 2d purchased from the grantee in 1790, the year before he emigrated to this section of the Territory of North Carolina. His first residence, built in 1791, of logs and hand-sawed plank, was burned in March, 1808, and the construction of the old home now standing, was commenced at once. The brick were made on the place, the plank and timbering cut with the primitive overhead or whipsaw from the wild forest adjacent, a deep cellar underlying the entire main building was excavated, and two rooms were occupied the following Christmas. The furniture—tables, chairs and bedsteads—was made on the place, and some of the furniture saved from the burning of the first residence is now, after a lapse of one hundred and twenty years, part of the furnishing of the ancestral home.

The brick kitchen and spinning room, with the olden time loom, on which was woven into cloth the cotton and wool grown on the place to clothe the family of the owner and his slaves, are still standing. The old kitchen has been used by five generations of the family and it contains an open, wood fireplace and bread oven in one side of the chimney wall. Numerous articles for domestic service, brought from North Carolina with the forefather of the Philips family, are still in use by the present owner of the old homestead, Mary Elizabeth Polk, only child of Rufus King Polk and Margaret Philips Polk.

The original barn, stables and granary are untouched by decay.

William D. Philips was born in 1804. He married Eliza Dwyer of Franklin, Tennessee, in 1824, who died in 1871. To them



were born six children—Milbry, who married William P. Harding; Mary, who married John Felix DeMoville; Joseph 3d, who married Annie Cozart of Columbus, Mississippi; Daniel Dwyer, who married Mary Elizabeth Finn of Nashville, Tennessee; and Margaret, who married Rufus King Polk of Ashwood, Tennessee. William D., Jr., died in boyhood.

William D. Philips, before his death in 1879, divided his farm of about one thousand acres and conveyed by deed of gift the subdivisions to his children, his daughter, Margaret, becoming the possessor of the old home built by her grandfather, Joseph Philips 2d.

In contrast with the spirit of unrest and change that characterizes American life of the present, this property has been in the Philips family, by direct inheritance and unbroken title, for one hundred and twenty years.



A Portion of the Old Negro Quarters

“HILLHURST”



"HILLHURST"

“Hillhurst”

THE home of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Creveling, Jr., is situated on the Dickerson Pike. The place originally belonged to Mr. Aeneas Hooper and from him it descended to Claiborne Hooper, his son, who died there in 1848. His daughter inherited that part of the place on which the house now stands, and she, as Mrs. Phillips, built the house. After her death it was sold to Mr. William Duncan and by him to Mr. John Hill Aiken, who remodeled the house. After his death it passed into the hands of Mr. Sanford and from him to the present owners, who have enjoyed its beauties and the pleasures of a country home for the past three years.



"WEST VIEW"

“West View”

THE residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. W. Brown is situated two miles out on the Dickerson Pike. The house was built in the early fifties by Captain William B. Walton. The place was afterwards owned for many years by Mr. W. F. Bang. Leading towards the house there is an imposing driveway of fine old cedars, planted by the original owner. There are few places that command so many beautiful views.



"MAPLEWOOD"