Harrison County, Names Derived from Poll Book, New Salisbury, Indiana, November 8, 1864

Ruth Dorrel and Lois Naughton Allis

On Tuesday, November 8, 1864, more than 200 white, adult males gathered in New Salisbury, Indiana, to vote for president of the United States. Incumbent Abraham Lincoln was running against Democratic candidate George B. McClellan. At that time, state and local governments did not print the paper ballots used for voting. Instead, each political party printed its own ballot and listed only those candidates which it supported. This system made it difficult to vote a split ticket or to vote secretly. Additionally, ballots could be designed in ways to deceive the voter as to which candidate he was selecting.

After a voter selected the proper ballot, completed it, and placed it into a locked ballot box, an office clerk recorded the name of the voter in the official poll book. These poll books give us the official record of all who voted on a particular date at a particular location. Poll books can be extremely useful to family historians, though surviving copies are somewhat rare. They can be used to identify groups of men who share the same last name and to find recorded names of individuals who were not counted in state or federal censuses. Some historians estimate that the number of individuals missing from the 1860 census records, for example, may be around 15 percent. Surviving poll books may be held by a local or state historical society, library, or archive.

The New Salisbury poll book, part of the collections of the Indiana Historical Society’s William H. Smith Memorial Library, is particularly interesting. Not only was this a general election during the Civil War, but it took place only sixteen months after the Confederate Army, led by John Hunt Morgan, road through Harrison County, burning and pillaging towns as Union forces pursued them. New Salisbury is located directly in the path that Morgan’s Raiders traveled
between their sacking of Corydon and Salem, Indiana. Voters listed in this poll book may well have had that event on their minds as they gathered to vote on this particular November day in 1864. Names from the poll book are transcribed below.

Notes

**Voters in Harrison County General Election, 1864**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Myers, James</th>
<th>Davis, Dennis</th>
<th>Emily, James</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crawford, Jonathan</td>
<td>Peter, Nicholas S.</td>
<td>Flock, George</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crawford, Marquis D. T.</td>
<td>Hubbard, Andrew J.</td>
<td>Troutman, Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, George W.</td>
<td>Davis, Fountain</td>
<td>Winn, Wm. M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulvana, Samuel</td>
<td>Roberts, Aaron</td>
<td>Lahue, John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flock, Benjamin</td>
<td>Roudenbush, Jacob, Sr.</td>
<td>Sigler, Alferd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flock, Abraham</td>
<td>Valz, John</td>
<td>Cluny, Robert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weyard, Wm. H.</td>
<td>Hansel, Adam</td>
<td>Draper, Wm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flock, Christian</td>
<td>Gresham, Jesse H.</td>
<td>Bersht, Philip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rusk, Robert S.</td>
<td>Speak, Wm. H.</td>
<td>Crayden, Caleb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberts, Wm.</td>
<td>Rudill, Wm.</td>
<td>Ramsey, Samuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurst, Nimrod M.</td>
<td>Roudenbush, Jacob, Jr.</td>
<td>Wright, Wm. W.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kepley, George M.</td>
<td>Shesten, John</td>
<td>Harbaugh, John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welker, John W.</td>
<td>Roudenbush, John</td>
<td>Lahue, Cornelius</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Marshall, John W.   Reap, Philip   Eskey, Thomas
Alexander, David C.  Berkshire, John A.  Lindsey, Tarkinaton
Marshall, Colmour L.  Potter, Harvey H.  Smith, Wm. B.
Heins, Henry          Emily, John H.     Boley, Wm. S.
Starr, James W.       Brubeck, Philip    Glotsbach, Valentine
Houp, Conrad          Byrn, Andrew A.   Litch, Michael, Sr.
Flock, Jacob          Sapenfield, Henry  Long, John G.
Stevens, Thomas       Moser, Franklin   Boston, Perry L.
Crandell, Ira         Byrn, Ephraim      Heints, Henry, Sr.
Walter, Jacob         Lone, Jeremiah    Shaver, David
Markwell, Joseph      Walk, Doctor F.    Doer, Joseph
Crandall, Sylvester   Hancock, Samuel W.  Potter, Johnson
Lindsey, Elkaner      Conrad, John       Elwood, Jesse
Eaton, James          Conrad, Joel W.     Allen, John
Walk, Andrew J.       Dewese, Joseph     Bell, John
Wolf, John C.          Wright, Newton    Hiser, Jacob
Bringle, David H.     Yenawine, George M.  Routh, Thomas
McCully, George W.    Levi, Abraham      Byrn, Joel
Walk, Joseph A.       Lahue, Jonathan J.  Peyton, Andrew J.
Linder, Archibald     Shearer, John M.    Lahue, Joseph
Jenkins, Jonathan     Allstott, Wm.      Crandall, Francis M.
Walk, Martin V.       Kepley, Solomon    Boughnoe, Andrew
Evans, James          Davis, Francis      Byrn, Daniel
Hull, John            Dobson, Henry      Blankenbeker, Wm.
Cook, John            Dewese, David F.    Myers, Simon
Sibert, Wm. W.        Cahoe, Joseph       Evans, James P.
Hurst, Francis M.     Sigler, Richard     Seipp, Conrad
Walker, Joel          Walk, Abraham       Bringle, Wm. L.
McCoy, Absalum        Strother, Amstead   Avery, Jacob
Dwese, George W.      Wagoner, Daniel     Stierstetter, Peter
Stevens, Charles F.   Merke, Andrew       Noath, Andrew
Frederick, John       Alexander, James    Stam, Adam
Stevens, Nathanael W. Eaton, Jesse       Litch, Michael, Jr.
Fite, John S.         Conrad, Frederick    Roass, Peter
Moss, Gustavus        Lahue, Ganes        Leasongood, Casper
Hiser, John J.        Penal, John W.      Hurst, Wm.
Hiser, Jacob          Wright, Francis      Dewese, Thomas B.
Bill, Jacob, Sr.      Lazier, John        Byrn, Chauncy C.
Heints, Conrad        Bersht, Jacob       Cartwright, Charles
Byrn, Conrad          Wright, John        Kepley, Dennis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hiser, Conrad</th>
<th>Strather, Jackson</th>
<th>McCloud, Martin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adam, Adam</td>
<td>Godfrey, Jacob</td>
<td>Kepley, Milroy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hehn, Michael</td>
<td>Blume, Frederick</td>
<td>Byrn, Levi M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyer, Hugh</td>
<td>Minch, Christopher</td>
<td>Coffman, Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lone, James</td>
<td>Hurn, Jacob</td>
<td>Dome, Hiram A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kepley, John</td>
<td>Jenkins, George W.</td>
<td>Tembel, Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crandall, Cornelius</td>
<td>Hiser, George</td>
<td>Krackman, Philip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cradall, Cyrus</td>
<td>Hilderbrand, Winsel</td>
<td>Hurn, Levi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf, Peter W.</td>
<td>Holz, Francis</td>
<td>Mitchel, Wm. J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kesler, John</td>
<td>Hurst, Harbin G.</td>
<td>Lahue, Marshal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armstrong, Archibald</td>
<td>Greiner, John F.</td>
<td>Herbert, Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felmy, Jacob M.</td>
<td>Hiser, Henry</td>
<td>Crandall, John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heints, George</td>
<td>Somer, John</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haup (?), Christopher</td>
<td>Mosser, Frederick</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Electors in Harrison County General Election, 1864**

- Pettit, John
- Wolfe, Simeon K.
- Holcomb, Silas M.
- Newland, Elijah
- Carlton, Ambrose B.
- Wilson, Barton W.
- Brown, James
- Landers, Frank
- Johnston, Archibald
- Applegate, Jonathan C.
- Osborne, J. G.
- Lowry, Robert
- Sansberry, J. W.
- Gooding, David S.
- Thompson, Richard W.
- Denny, James C.
- Nixon, Cyrus T.
- Pritchard, Henry R.
- Sexton, Leonidas
- Claypool, Benjamin F.
- Wright, J. J.
- Osborne, John
- Davidson, R. P.
- Belford, James B.
- Dickinson, Timothy R.
- Wallace, John M.

**Online Connections**

**Regional Sources and Stories**

© 2012 Indiana Historical Society Press. All rights reserved.