

P.O. Box 97
Shawnee, Ohio 43782

November 20, 2013

William Barker, Sheriff
Perry County Sheriff's Office
110 W. Brown Street
New Lexington, Ohio 43764

Dear Sheriff Barker;

Recently in searching through the New Lexington Democrat from 1921 I came across the enclosed article about an attempted jail break at the County Jail. I guess it was thank goodness for "Trusties".

Can you still see the original wooden floor in the basement? I wonder if an inspection would show the spot where the hole was made?

Another great piece of Perry County History. I hope you enjoy it.

I am also enclosing my list of Perry County Sheriffs that I have been compiling while volunteering at the County Archives. If you have any information on the earlier Sheriffs let me know. As I flesh out the rest of the missing years, I will be sure to send you an updated copy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Dishon". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops and a prominent initial "R".

Rob Dishon
Perry County Historian

ATTEMPTED JAIL DELIVERY

Trusty Prevents Four From Making Escape from County Jail.

Had it not been for information voluntarily given by a trusty at the county jail, four prisoners would have attempted to make their get-a-way Monday evening. During the absence of Sheriff and Mrs. Minshull, who were attending the memorial day services at New Straitsville, their former home, a hole was made in the floor of the jail and everything was in readiness for the men to drop through into the boiler room during the night and make their escape. A prisoner who had not taken part in the plot, passed a note to Mrs. Minshull telling her of the plan. The men had concealed the hole in the floor with a rug and chairs.

The prisoners identified with the plot are: Harry Youtsey, Grant Rodgers, Harry Jenkins and Mike Samutkin. They have been transferred to the second floor of the jail.

New Lexington Democrat June 2, 1921