

## SPITE LANE

Augustus Turner built a house, whose identical site, would be at 610 Terrace Court, if it [was] still standing. The house was used for over a hundred and ten years, and when it was at last torn down many of its large timbers were used in the construction of new houses. At the death of Augustus Turner the property passed to his son, Frederick Turner. Some time later Frederick finding himself in financial straits received a loan from Dr. Bowman. After the allotted time for the payment of the loan, Dr. Bowman foreclosed the mortgage and thereby caused Frederick Turner to be forced into a Sheriff's Sale. At the sale Dr. Bowman bought the remainder of the Turner property.

In the meantime Henry Beharrell had died and left his property to his children. They sold the property as building lots and opened a thoroughfare from Market Street to Spring Avenue; intending to continue it to the Slate Run Road, but found that Dr. Bowman had no intention of giving thirty feet of property for any street.

It was related that when Augustus Turner bought the property from Henry Beharrell, there existed an agreement that in the event a street were made they would each give thirty feet of ground for this purpose. Since there was no written agreement to this effect the Beharrell heirs could not force Dr. Bowman to give up the required thirty feet of land necessary for the continuation of the street.

Therefore from Spring Avenue to the Slate Run Road there only existed a thirty-foot lane.

Owing to the existing difficulties about extending the street, Dr. Bowman was never privileged to use the lane, as it was marked "PRIVATE", not so much to make it so but to prevent its use by one refusing to contribute to its necessary outlet on Slate Run Road.

Even with this handicap, building began on the Beharrell holdings; on the one side of the lane were lovely houses; on the other a corn field belonging to Dr. Bowman.

When Dr. Bowman died he left his property to Mary Cornelia Bowman, his daughter. She moved into the heart of New Albany and sold the house and the northern half of the property to Mr. Charles H. Beck. Mr. Beck had bought the property as an investment, with the idea in mind of selling lots and building houses. He soon began to investigate the reason for Beharrell Avenue being a full-width street at one end, and a lane at the other. Finding that reason in the spitefulness of Dr. Bowman in not giving the thirty feet, he went to Miss Bowman and persuaded her to give that portion of land which would complete the necessary width of the street; he in turn gave his share of land to complete the street to Slate Run Road.

Thus in 1923 the street was extended and improved to its full length and width, and was given the name of Beharrell Avenue in honor of that first family resident upon the original purchase made by Henry Beharrell.

- from GRANT 29 IN TRANSITION