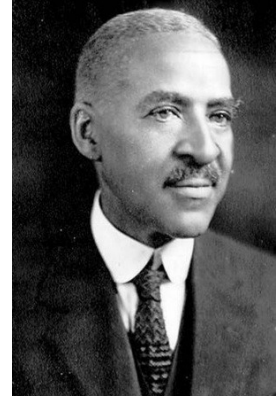


***William H. Perry's poem  
for the Founding of Kentucky State:***



Majestic hills that guard our honor'd State,  
Break now your silence, help us to rejoice;  
Awake ye silent sentinels, find voice;  
Ye need no longer, like the hoary seers,  
Keep watchful eye upon the coming years,  
For we are armed for what the years may bring,  
Are strong for effort, therefore with us sing  
Ye smiling plains, assist us in our praise;  
Ye winged songsters, lend your charming lays;  
Aye! let us all unite, with might and main,  
Make known the burden of our glad refrain.  
Today we gather here to dedicate,  
In name of Progress, and of our growing State,  
This Normal School, wherein we consecrate  
A safe guard that will bless with fruits of peace  
Our homes and State as swift the years increase.  
Here shall the mind's true growth be clearly shown;  
Truth be portrayed and Error overthrown;  
The principles of thought shall be explored;  
The teacher's art to its high realm restored.  
They who, within these walls, shall knowledge gain,  
How they should childhood's nascent powers train,  
Shall to our Commonwealth protection be,

Greater for peace and for prosperity,  
More true to her high hopes and aims, by far  
Than all the arts and implements of war.  
O then Eternal One whose boundless pow'r  
Holds us in life, this priceless dower  
To us by Thee in gracious love is sent;  
And we to Thee our thankful hearts present.  
The Nature's glory and the State's renown,  
That constant joy and happiness that crown  
The peaceful homes of our great prosperous land,  
Shall we endure, if Thy indulgent hand,  
Scattering peace and comfort everywhere,  
Shielding from dangers that the years may bear,  
Shall give us in the paths that lead aright  
And guard us with Thy all-subduing might.  
And we would learn of Thee; Thou art the cause  
Of all our joys, and these Thy wondrous laws,  
Deep-written in Thy works, that here abound,  
Proclaim Thy wisdom matchless and profound.  
Where'er we look, where'er we turn we find  
New evidence of Thy creative mind;  
Throughout creation, wheresoe'er we scan,  
Proofs of Thy goodness both to beast and man  
All testify of Thee; our spirits yearn  
To know Thee more; and in Thy works discern

Thy truths—from Thee this lesson gain,  
How we may, beings noblest, heights attain.  
O may Thy blessings on the school descend;  
Protect it ever—against ev'ry ill defend;  
And may the lessons herein gain'd and taught  
With rich result, with highest good be fraught.