

*The State Journal*  
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## THE CENTENNIAL FOURTH.

How the Day was Celebrated in this City.  
The City Thronged. Speeches and Fireworks.  
Everybody Happy and Enthusiastic.

### AT THE HARMONIE EVENING OF THE THIRD,

To Miss Alice Ewing and Prof. Zuendt is due the credit of having conducted this one of the most successful entertainments Jefferson City has ever witnessed. The full programme, as published in the Journal, was carried out to the letter, and the large audience which crowded Harmonic Hall seemed to enter into the spirit of the occasion and really seemed to enjoy the feast of good things set before them. The entertainment commenced with "The Anthem of Liberty," sung by Mr. Botsford, Mrs. Suter, Mr. Schoepp and a choir of trained voices. Of course it was well sung, and fittingly opened the exercises of the evening. After this, followed an oration by Mr. Edwin Silver, which was well timed and possessed more originality than is usual in "Fourth of July" oratory. Mr. Silver had only a day or two to prepare his oration and he is entitled to praise for the manner in which he acquitted himself. A German song, "The Lord's Day," followed the oration and beautiful tableau in illustration thereof.

Then came the reading by Col. Learning of a poem entitled "Night." It is unnecessary to state that Col. Learning did his part well all know his talents as a reader. Following this was a tableau representing Night as regnant over the world. The time represented was that which preceded by several centuries the discovery of America, an era that may well be termed the "Night of History."

Mr. Botsford then read in an impressive manner a historical passage relating the circumstances of the death of General Warren, at the Battle of Bunker Hill as a prelude to a beautiful song entitled "The Death of Warren," Mrs. Suter. "While the song was being sung the curtain rose upon two tableaux, illustrating the conduct of Warren upon that memorable day and his brave death.

Col. Learning again took the stand and read a poem entitled "Morning," which was followed by a corresponding tableau. The theme was taken from the era of discovery, applying to it, from its influence upon the world, the attributes of Morning.

Then came a German song, "Our Country," followed by a third reading by Col. Learning of a poem entitled "Day."

"A shout for our Country" came next, and Judge Krekel immediately rose and echoed the about in a few patriotic words, full of all the fire and vigor of youth.

Following this was a German song, "In the woods," very well rendered.

Closing the entertainment, the curtain rose upon a tableau representing Columbia, as "Day," attracting the admiration and praise of all nations and driving superstition and tyranny from the world.

The entertainment concluded with a dance which was extended to the "wee small hours" on the morning of the fourth. If everyone was mentioned who contributed to the enjoyment of the evening it would take several columns, but it is only just that Miss Alice Ewing, Mrs. Suter, Mrs. Clark, Prof. Zuendt, Judge Krekel and Mr. Botsford should especially be mentioned. The occasion was a fitting prelude to the 4th and was enjoyed with that patriotic enthusiasm which the average American hides deep under his speculative exterior.

### **THE MORNING OF THE FOURTH.**

There were many long and lugubrious faces Tuesday morning, especially among the young people, over the unpropitious aspect of the weather. Soon after the morning salute and the ringing in of the day from the alarm tower, the rain commenced to descend in torrents. It was ominous of destruction to the entire day's enjoyments, and for a time the prospect was indeed damp and unpromising. But after an hour or more the clouds lifted, though not until a postponement of the programme from 9 o'clock until 1 in the afternoon had become imperative.

In the mean time the city began to fill with people from the country, and High street was thronged with pedestrians. The saloons were crowded and there was a general abandon to the pleasures that ruled the hour.

Some of the saloons were very tastefully decorated, particularly at Schotts, Knaup's, Van Hall's and Maushund's where the national beverage flowed freely.

The front of Schott's was festooned with flags of every grade of size interwoven with evergreen branches. As a center piece there was suspended The Declaration of Independence over which hung portrait of Washington, surrounded by a galaxy of other portraits of Martha Washington, Lincoln and Grant, The entire arrangement was artistic and attractive.

### **FUN.**

At about 9 o'clock the crowds were thrown into paroxysms of hilarity by the appearance on the street of an outfit that was rich with humor beyond discretion or expression. It consisted of a tandem team of donkeys hitched to dirt cart covered with a begrimed old carpet cloth and patches and labeled "Black Hills or Bust." The wheels of the vehicle and the donkeys' rears were wrapped with shreds of and the dilapidated and comical looking procession was presided over by a hopeful looking Hibernian and his vigorous mate who bestrode the lead mule after the bifurcated fashion and applied herself vigorously toward helping the establishment along.

Beside the enterprising proprietor of the outfit on a seat in the cart sat the body guard, two swarthy youngsters, each armed with a Quaker gun, which they would occasionally aim at the howling savages that harassed their Journey.

These were Masters Fromme and Spahnhorst.

The whole thing was ludicrous in the extreme, and the success with which the actor sustained their respective characters, including the absurd little donkeys, was This amusing "piece" Was contributed by H. A. and Charley Saunders, father and son, of the First Ward.

Mended by the city band, a big gang of boys escorted the turnout along High and Madison streets, where they were greeted with shout of appreciation.

The morning hours passed swiftly. Arrangements were completed for the grand procession.

Callaway sent over several large delegations to participate in the festivities of the day. At Andries and Keils extra force were kept constantly busy in dispensing candies, sweet meats soda and to say nothing of pyrotechnics, etc.

Scarcely before they were aware of it the hour for forming the procession arrived. The fire alarm bell gave the signal, and the hurry commenced. As the hurry increased, the heat intensified. The line of march, along High street to the Capitol, and in the Capitol Park, a dense crowd assembled, and to the Capitol those who were to take part in the march all repaired.

### **THE PROCESSION**

formed oil Stewart street, and consisted first of the music, the Jefferson City Brass Band, drawn by a team of six horses, seated on the buss of the Transfer Company, which was filled with citizens.

This band, with Sheriff Peter Meyers, Marshal of the day, assisted by Ashley Ewing and E. A. Zuendt. Cant. C. W. Thomas and A. Krekel led the procession, and followed the route laid down In the programme.

Next came St. Peter's Benevolent Society, quite a large and fine appearing body of men.

These were followed by St. John's Orphan Society.

Then came a wagon drawn by a team of four horses, with representatives of the thirteen of the original colonies, composed of as many of the young misses of the city, each bearing a banner upon which was Inscribed the "coat of arms" and motto of each of the States, each miss wearing a sash upon which was printed, in letters of gold, the name of her State, and each wearing a liberty cap upon which shone the State motto. It was a beautiful spectacle, and the young ladles acquitted themselves with becoming grace.

They were :

New York - Claudie Chappell.

New Jersey - Jennie Bruns.

Pennsylvania - Laura Diegel.

Delaware - Hattie Obermayer.

Maryland - Blanche Melbourne.

Virginia - Maggie Davidson.

North Carolina - Lula Deltrich.

South Carolina - Mary Regan.

Georgia - Annie Dunscomb.

Rhode Island - Winnie Burch.

Connecticut - Grace Swift.

New Hampshire - Ella Kochtitzky.

Massachusetts - Mollie Jones.

To Miss Alice Ewing belongs the credit of superintending the arrangement of this part of the programme.

Next and supporting the "Original Thirteen" was a column of Infantry under command of Captain Peasner and Lieutenants Holmes and Schutz.

Supporting this "corps de arme" was a company of cadets armed and equipped cap and pe. and under the command of Captain Schueller.

The Declaration of Independence, Centennial characters, with Columbia, personated by Miss Sophia Williams, in a most charming manner next followed.

Then came the Fire Company with all its gorgeous equipments, Billy Schneider, the indomitable chief in command.

Following the fire company appeared the Tribune wagon. Mounted upon the vehicle were a half dozen printers with one of the small jobbers of the office. As the procession moved "The Tribune." scattered a "job," programme of the day, etc. This was a very happy conceit, and deserves credit for the Tribune boys.

In the immediate wake of the printers car came the grandest burlesque of the day

### **"THE CENTENNIAL BAND,"**

of St. Louis. The expected arrival of this band had been duly heralded through the city press, and expectation was all on tiptoe, in regard to it, and happily expectation was not disappointed.

We acknowledged the compliment or a charming serenade from the band. It is a little curious to note the various comments that greeted this band. Some were disparaging and others quite the opposite.

One lady was heard to observe that if our city band would only practice it would soon play equally as well as this. Another thought it was a shame to bring a band all the way from St. Louis that could make no better music than this. This is still the opinion of the correspondent of the St. Louis Times.

The band brought with it its own band wagon, which was a gorgeous affair of the antique pattern.

The Centennial Band was supported by the

### **"CHARIOT OF GAMBRINUS,"**

a huge beer vat In the midst of an arbor, at which Gambrinus, in the person of William Vogdt, presided, surrounded by his votaries.

This was recognized as the representative of Wagner's celebrated brewery, and It was exceedingly good.

Franz also had a wagon representing his excellent establishment. Next in the procession came the old city hand fire engine, drawn by a yoke of oxen, upon which were mounted some frolicsome boys, who had a great time getting "Buck and Bright" to get up and keep in line.

### **RESPECT FOB THE AGED,**

Following came a carriage of "Old People". Mr. John Francis Willie, aged 85, George Berne, 76; Mrs. Barbara Berne, 84; Eva M. Kock, 7; Mrs. Margaret Mayer, 80; an aggregate of 410 years averaging 82 each.

Then came Helm's advertising car, with a well-dressed chap upon whose banner was inscribed, "i buy my clothing at Helm's." while near him sat a shabby fellow, whose banner said, "I don't."

A ludicrous outfit, "Philadelphia or bust." a band of the essence of burnt cork, who were flashily fixed out, and seemed intent on wring the sights.

Sultz's advertising car occupied the next place in the procession. The car was gaily decorated with the national colors, with

### **SCHULTZ'S BAZAAR**

In letter of gold along either side. Within the canopy were some specimen goods with the low price at which he is selling marked on them.

Black Hills or bust heretofore mentioned came next.

Adam Hoeffler's Advertising "cone," mounted on his delivery wagon followed and represented the various branches of trade in which Mr. Hoeffler does a thriving business.

A company of cavalry under the command of major Wm. H. Lusk, now appeared and made quite and imposing appearance. His Centennial rig gave the Major very much the appearance or the hero of Valley Forge.

C. L. Busch's "Lumber car" under the superintendence of a valiant, old woodman Capt. Opel's battery brought up the rear.

### **DECORATIONS**

The decorations At the Capitol excited the admiration of all. If it was known, under what difficulties and discouragement the work was performed, the gratification would have been deeper still. Mrs. Suter, with her customary energy and good taste arranged everything and to her and her industrious and patriotic assistants, Miss Sallie Gross, Miss Mary Knaup, Miss Carrie Kaiser, Miss Mary Kochtitzky, Mr. C.G. Guenther. Mr. Hugh Rice. Mr. J. C. Fisher, and others, is due all the credit and glory of this work.

If the time allotted had been longer and the appropriation allowed been larger the decorations might have been more elaborate, but there could not have been in better taste.

### **HIGH STREET**

was in her best holiday attire and in a blaze of glory. Opposite the First National Bank and over the street was stretched a huge piece of bunting; and across from the City Hotel and Thomas and Church's was stretched another, while from almost every house from Maushunds to the Old Virginia, on either side of the street were countless smaller emblems of the nation.

Obermayer had flying from one of their upper windows a huge flag of the finest make.

A large number of private residences were also handsomely decorated, particularly Mrs. Major Lusk's with banners evergreen wreaths a center piece to which was the "original little hatchet" which Mrs. Barton contributed to the display.

The elegant turnouts for the Representatives of the colonies and other, historical characters were furnished by Mr. Ben McGill, and were creditable to his establishment

### **THE BATTERY.**

under the command of Captain Opel fired a salute at sunrise and at nightfall. This battery is manned by sergeants John Scherer and John Hert, corporal N. Voelkel privates Jo. Miller Chris Herchenroeder. Chas.

Bonneberger and others. The sundown salute was fired from Bauer's hill, and shattered the windows of the little church there. At the Capitol a large concourse of citizens assembled. Jefferson never saw such an out pouring, in various senses as that.

In the Representatives Hall the

### **"DECLARATION"**

was read by Col. Mack J. Learning, and an oration was delivered by Hon. R.-- Shannon, when Gen. Minor read the sketch found elsewhere.

At night the vast crowd reassembled in the Capitol grounds and witnessed the fireworks display, which came off according to programme.

Captain C. W. Thomas, assisted by captain Wm. Wells, manipulated the pyrotechnics and the effect was brilliant. Nothing like it was ever before witnessed In Jefferson City. It was hard work for them but fun for everyone else.

And thus ended the celebration of the nation's Centennial birthday in Jefferson City.

### **HISTORICAL SKETCH BY J. L. MINOR.**

In the month of March last, the Congress of the United States passed a resolution asking the President to issue his proclamation recommending that one feature of the celebration of this Centennial day should be an essay on the history, reminiscences and statistics of each town, city and county in the Union. In which such celebration should occur, one copy of which essay to be deposited in the Library of Congress, and another in the archives at home. In accordance with that proclamation and the kind invitation of your committee, I am here today to carry out the design of Congress so far as it relates to the county of Cole, and the City of Jefferson.

This recommendation is eminently proper for the events that transpire in each inhabited locality of our country, although apparently unimportant in themselves, yet are but the drops, that swell the stream of a nation's history, and if not preserved, exhale into the mist of tradition, or escape forever from human research. It is true that the public press preserves these facts to some extent, yet records of the press are liable to destruction from the frequent changes of ownership, and the accidents of fire and flood. If this recommendation shall be carried out every twenty-five years (a fair period for each generation) and under proper regulations, securing truth as a basis, there would be gathered a mass of information invaluable in itself, giving to the historian and the antiquarian facility of research and accuracy of detail.

### **INDIANS**

Of the Indian occupancy of the territory of our county, we know but little; There is no positive testimony of any permanent lodges or towns, and the inference is that it was a hunting ground for the surrounding tribes. The immense amount of arrow heads that are found everywhere in our midst gives plausibility to this opinion. It was also their burial grounds for sites; for nearly every prominent bluff on the Missouri contain the venerated remains of their dead, and on some of these funeral mounds are found trees, apparently centuries old. The Capitol is built on one of such mounds, and in its excavation, the workmen exposed a great number of bones and pieces of pottery. I am informed by Judge Krekel that a mound was excavated on his beautiful place in our city, in which were found the moldering skeletons of a large man, and 3 or 4 smaller bodies.

Perhaps the larger figure was that of some distinguished warrior, and the smaller figures were those or his wives who sacrificed themselves on his grave, in order to accompany their beloved lord to his happy hunting grounds.

This legend is at the service of the Judge and my other unmarried male friends. They can use it on all proper occasions, and point with pride to the devotion and passionate love of the Cole County widows, in Indian times. A Missouri widow now so evil-minded persons say, would have more sense. She would quickly put away the old Comanche, and, in due time, plume herself for another conquest.

I am informed by Dr. Winston, that when he was a boy, the Indians, (probably Osages) used to come down on the Moreau, near his father's farm, and in number about 20. Fish and hunt and gather nuts. The smoke of their encampment is still visible on a rock on the banks of the creek.

### **WHITE MEN.**

The first trace of the white man's entrance into our county is found in the faint history of the French trading expeditions up the Osage river. These traders would leave St. Genevieve, or Kaskaskia following the course of the Missouri in keel boats, or going by land along the old "Harmony Mission Trace" (the only road south of our great river) to the headwaters of the Osage. They have left perhaps an imperishable record of their occupancy in names that they have given to some of our important localities. Such as Bois Rule creek, (which we have corrupted into Bob Ruly) the Taverne, Glaize, Pomme de Terre, Thibault, Marias des Cygnes, etc.

### **LEWIS AND CLARK.**

The next visit from the white man to our county was the famous expedition composed of twenty-eight persons, in 1804 commanded by Meriwether Lewis and Wm. Clark. They passed the limits of our county about June, 1804, but have left no distinctive notice of it as it did not differ from other points in its features of grand and savage solitude. This important and dangerous enterprise was organized in the year following the acquisition of Louisiana from France, and was promoted and hastened by Thomas Jefferson, then President of the United States. That distinguished patriot left to be inscribed on his tomb these words: "Author of the Declaration of Independence and Founder of the University of Virginia." Posterity has raised a noble monument of his fame, and beyond the power of description or monumental trophy, in the grateful hearts of his countrymen, scattered over the mountains and valleys and plains of this beautiful land.

### **THE PIONEERS.**

came next in order of occupancy, but as our territory was not particularly attractive to this class of our people, except that it grew lead for their bullets, and game for their families, I have been unable to find any permanent trace of their presence.

### **THE FIRST SETTLERS,**

The first immigration of permanent settlers to this county was in 1818, from Campbell county, East Tennessee. They settled on the Moniteau creek, west of what is now the town of Marion. They consisted of John English and four sons, James Miller and five sons, Henry McKenney and three sons, James Fulkerson and three sons, David Yount and three sons, David Chambers and three sons, John Mackey and two sons, John Harmon and one son, Wm. Gouge and four sons, Martin Gouge and two sons, and Joshua Chambers and two sons, in all thirty-six males, but as they were accompanied by their families, I suppose

they numbered in all about sixty souls. Of the fathers who then emigrated, only one survives, Joshua Chambers. His age is now 83 years and that of his wife 79. Both are stout and hearty. The most noted man among them seems to have been Capt. John English, who was the first Representative from the county. In 1819 John Hensley and two sons and John Hunter increased the numbers of the settlement. The Hensleys were real backwoodsmen and Indian fighters. The elder Hensley, who was the first Senator from the district, after the organization of the county, was too much crowded by the advancing tide of immigration, and in 1845 emigrated to California, where he died and was buried in the Rocky Mountains; a fit tomb for so restless a spirit. John Hunter has left no distinguishing mark, save that he was the first colonel of militia in our county which his marvelous statesmanship gave to his country as no common heritage.

### **MORE SETTLERS.**

About the year 1819 three more settlers located themselves on the bank of the Missouri river, about nine miles west of this city. Their names were Dr. John Brown, Andrew Rice, and John Colgan.

### **COLE COUNTY ORGANIZED.**

On the 20th day of November, 1820, (the same year which marks the admission of the State into the Union) Cole county was organized, and at once entered upon its municipal life. It was taken from Cooper county, and named in honor of Stephen Cole, an old Indian fighter who had lost his life in a fight with the Indians near the present site of New London, in the County of Ralls. He was one of the pioneers who, with Cooper and others, led an adventurous life, raising corn with a rifle on the plow, hunting game and Indians at the same time, and diversifying their intervals of pleasure by a pitched battle with the savages or repelling their assaults upon their fort.

Many years ago Stephen Cooper told me his story: When he was about fifteen years old his father's family and the neighbors were besieged in their fort by the Indians, who had encamped in sight. On one pleasant afternoon young Cooper who had become tired of confinement stole out of the fort, taking with him a squirrel gun, that was kept loaded, of course. Curiosity led him toward the Indian camp, and he managed to get within a short distance of it. Lying behind a log, he watched, for a long time, their occupations, and particular the motions of the young warrior who, in the pride of his paint and plumes, was showing off his own horsemanship, and the gaits of his horse, which, perhaps, he had stolen a day or two before. At last he galloped close to the log, and Cooper could not resist the temptation. He laid his gun on the old tree, took aim and blazed away. He paused just long enough to see the Indian fall from horse, and leaving his old squirrel gun, he started for the fort at full speed, with all the Indians after him in full cry. His father had fortunately heard the explosion, so different from the crack of the rifle, and suspecting at once the cause, hastened out with his men and saved the little fellow.

### **1ST COURTS**

The first circuit court was held in the town of Marion, on the 15th day of January, 1821, at the house of John English. David Todd was Judge, James N. Conway, clerk, Paul Whittley, Sheriff, and Hamilton Gamble, Circuit Attorney. Mr. Conway resigned on the next day and removed to Arkansas afterward. Jason Harrison was appointed in his place. The lawyers who attended the first session were Hamilton Gamble, Pevton R. Hayden. Robt. A. Ewing, John G. Heath, Geo. Tompkins, Abiel Leonard. Dabney Carr and John S. Brickey. An array of talent and legal skill of which the present bar at Jefferson need not be ashamed to own as their peers in every respect.



The first order of the court was that John Shore pay \$1 fine for contemptuous behavior to the court, and to be imprisoned until the fine paid.

History is silent tradition and does not contain any memory of what that contemptuous behavior was, nor whether the fine was ever paid, but I have the gratifying fact to communicate to this audience, that among the names of the present occupants of the county jail, the name of John Shore does not appear.

The next business was the emancipation by Abraham Collett, of his slave, Joseph. I am not sure that Mr. Collett lived to see the extinction of slavery among us and the emancipation made general of which he gave to this county the first example.

In 1812, the first recorded marriage occurred in the country. It was solemnized on the 28th day of June of that year by Judge Geo. Pettigrew. James A. Dunaway and Miss Sallie Howard, were the happy couple.

The first county court was held at the house of John English on the 2nd of April, 1821. John Vivion, James Stark and Jason Harrison were the justices. There were only 2 townships then, in the county, Moreau and Moniteau. Of Moreau Township, John Hensley, Josiah Stephens, and Wm. Weir, were justices of the peace and James Ryan, constable of Moniteau Township, Geo. A. Pettigrew, Thacker Vivion and John English were 1st justices of the peace, Samuel Johnson, 1st collector presented his 1st delinquent list of State and County taxes. That of the State was \$12.91. and that of the County, \$0.45. John Allen in 1823 presented his delinquent list. It was for State \$6.46 and county \$3.18.

Oh what good old days and what a contrast to our present crushing taxation.

Richard Miller enjoyed the distinction of receiving the first license to sell whiskey and Richard Miller was appointed the first jailer. Evil-minded people may vex themselves with trying to establish a connection between the two occupations.

About the year 1820, Wm. and Danl. McKenzie of Franklin, Howard county and Messrs. Bass and Lintz. of Boone county conceived the idea of building up a large commercial town at the Moniteau Rock, two miles below the mouth of the Moniteau Creek. They laid out a town which they called Marion, in the expectation of its becoming the county seat, and perhaps the Capital of the State. Their first hope was realized, and Marion became the county seat.

Danl. McKinzie moved down and opened a store; E. V. Hollingsworth, a Hotel, Joshua Chambers, built a horse mill, John L. Glaze brook a blacksmith shop, Cato, a freedman of John English, established a ferrv and now only one thing more was wanting. Cato started the dram shop. The county built a Court House and Jail. The former was afterwards sold for \$430 and was used as a barn, and was standing a few years ago. In 1826, the county seat moved to Jefferson City, and Marion was gathered to its fathers.

## **RELIGION.**

I suppose that the first words of praise and adoration to God in our county that fell from the lips of the white man were uttered by the Catholics in their trading expedition. The first protestant church erected in the county was built by the Baptists, on the farm of Jas. Dunnica about 10 miles west of Jefferson City. It was a single room built of logs and was standing a few years ago. It was called Sardis, but the congregation has built another of the same name at Elston's in which all denominations have their meetings in common affording a spectacle christian and paternal love, a harbinger of that happy church on high where distinctions and differences of creed are totally unknown.

The first pastor in the old church was John B. Longton. Jason Harrison was clerk, and Martin D, Noland and James Fulkerson deacons. James McCorkle was pastor of the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Samuel Crow and James Moad were elders.

Mr. Longdow, the first Baptist preacher, was a man of force in the pulpit and availed himself of every opportunity of giving point to his lessons of truth and morality. On one occasion when he had rather a larger audience than usual he commenced. "My friends there a good many kinds of religion in this world, one that brings to the throne of God the incense of a pure life of duty performed and of unfaltering and unhesitating faith. This is true religion. Then there is another religion of outside show &c. After going over the different phrases of Christian life he added. "But there Is another kind of religion that break out in this county every two years. Its professors sing the loudest, kneel the lowest, and seek nearest the pulpit. You would think that they were the devoutest Christians in the world; I call that religion the candidates religion and it breaks out just before the election, and I don't see any more of my devout friends until just before the next canvass commences. I am afraid that religion won't lead to Heaven.

Before taking leave of this part of the county, I will state that my friend, Judge A. M. Elston, to whom I am indebted for many of the foregoing facts, informs me that in 1832 he was appointed a justice of the peace, and his continuance to hold the office ever since - a continuous service of 44 years. Perhaps he is the oldest Justice of the peace in the State.

Cole county has been twice curtailed of its limits. Once to give territory to Miller county, and once to add to Moniteau county.

The county seat was finally removed from Marion to Jefferson City in 1820, and Samuel Crow, John Scruggs and Martin D. Noland were appointed by Legislature commissioners to arrange the proper removal. The first circuit and county courts were held in Jefferson City, at the house of John C. Gordon, Judge Todd still presiding. Robert A. Ewing was then the oldest resident lawyer and Jason Harrison was clerk of both courts. Ho held these two offices until 1836 when at the first election in 1835, for clerk, he was defeated by our distinguished citizen Gen. E. L. Edwards.

Gray's Creek, which drains a large section of fertile country, derives its name from the following circumstance: John Colgan, whom I have already mentioned, lost an old gray mare, and spent many days of the fall season in hunting for her in vain. At last he gave up the search and supposed that his mare had been destroyed by wolves. In the spring following on going up the creek, he found his old mare fat and hearty from the pea vine and wild rye, and gave the name of Gray's Creek to the stream, which it bears to this day.

The Moreau derives its name, I suppose, from the French General of that name, who fell at Dresden in 1818, fighting against his country. It is another relic of the old French traders. The old settlers tell this fact about that stream. On one occasion an unparalleled flood of rain fell about its head and along Its affluents. The quantity of water was so great that in discharging itself through the narrow gorge at its mouth, it checked the current of the Missouri river, which was forced back a distance of four miles, and did considerable damage to a mill on Cedar creek, in Callaway county, opposite to this city.

## **GAME**

The buffalo, I suppose, was never here, as no creek bears that name, and no bones of the animal are known to exist here. The bear was an occasional visitor; but Cole county was emphatically the land of the deer and the wild turkey. A gentleman told me that on a short ride from town about four miles, he once

counted eighteen deer in the herd, and that it was no more trouble to kill a deer than to kill a sheep. Turkeys were often killed at the door of the settler. Some of my audience will remember the great invasion of squirrels that occurred about 1839. Guided by the instinct that drove them south In search of food, the vast army crossed the Missouri river in the fall, and passing- through our county, devouring fields of grain and even invading the houses of our citizens.

### **QUAIL.**

For many years the annual emigration of the quail occurred from the North. Gathering in immense quantities on the North bank of the Missouri river ns they could, and take up the line of March southward. Great numbers would fall into the stream and be lost, and citizens, who had an opportunity of knowing, said that these birds would wander up and down the bank of the stream to lighten their weight and then ascend the tops of the highest trees to aid them in their dangerous flight.

### **FISH.**

The fish in our streams, before the use of seines was introduced, was almost marvelous in quantity. A gentleman told one that his father had a weir or trap on the Moreau, and had taken in at one time a wagon load of fish. The croppy has first come among us in a few years past.

The first schoolmaster in the county was Mr. Lashly Wood, who afterwards moved to the town of California. He taught in the town of Marion. I have no doubt that he was a good teacher, for the first syllable of his name is so full of painful recollections to me and so suggestive of duty that he could not be otherwise.

### **OLD CITIZENS.**

The oldest man living in the county is John Wyatt. His ago is 88 years Joshua Chambers ; tas I have mentioned Is 83 and his wife 70, a rare example of conjugal longevity. John Henley of Clark Township, was born in 1707 and is 70 years of age. He served under Col. Carter in Jackson' army of 1812, settled on a farm in 1882 on which he has lived ever since. Mr. Korn is the oldest German. lit is 81 year old; J. C. Guenther is 78 an I his wife Is 79; they have been married 83 year. Capt. J, T. Rogers is the oldest citizen of tho City of Jefferson, having resided here since 1826. Mr. Josiah Lamkin came to his present home near this city, in 1824 . (*Note : Henry Frazier came to the city in 1825, and Mr. Cook living in the county, is aged 104 years, Editor.*)

### **ROADS.**

The first public road in the county was one from Marion towards Boonville; the next from Marion to Jefferson. The petitions for these roads that the inhabitants and travelers labor under great inconvenience for want of them. All I can say is that in some of my wanderings over the county, inhabitant and travelers labor under great inconvenience from having them.

Before leaving the subject of the county and before I approach that of our city, I will mention a few things that perhaps art beneath the dignity of history, yet may serve to interest you.

Your speaker of today, with three others in 1840, under the Influence of the lead excitement, laid out a town at the mouth of Little Tavern on the Osage river, which we called Chouteau, in honor of an early French navigator of that stream. The town was accurately surveyed, beautifully laid out, and a fine typographical map of the future great city of the Osage Valley prepared. We gave to a gentleman who assisted in the survey our best lot on condition that he would build on it. He did so, but very soon

afterwards abandoned his house. I asked him what was the matter, and he answered, almost fiercely, "The d\_\_d mosquitoes drove me clean out." We never disposed of another lot. I have never seen the town since, and if I have my health I don't think I ever will.

Gen. Parsons told me this story, for the truth of which he vouches. On one occasion, having stayed all night at the house of a lady friend, he observed next morning one of the young ladies combing her sister's hair. Its volume attracted his attention, and on making some inquiries about it, the young lady rose from her chair, and her hair, as black as a raven's wing, fell in wild profusion upon the floor, on which it trailed about 6 inches. His fair friend, at his request measured, and found to be six feet two inches long. I leave to my fair friends the question, whether that quantity of hair is a blessing or otherwise.

The first coffee was brought to this county about this time. Someone bought a pound of it in St. Louis, and invited the neighbors to enjoy it. They put it into a pot with a piece of raw pork and kindled a rousing fire, but the grains kept bubbling up, and finally not having a very good taste nor a very good smell, were thrown away, with the general verdict, "Wonder how anybody could fancy that nasty truck."

The usual food was venison, and corn-bread and wild honey. Occasionally sassafras tea was used, but milk was the staple drink for meals.

#### **JEFFERSON CITY.**

When the State of Missouri was admitted in 1820, Congress, in the act authorizing the people of Missouri to form a constitution, submitted to the people five propositions, all relating to the public lands, and all of which, when accepted, would bind the United States.

The fourth proposition read as follows: "Four entire sections of land be, and they are hereby granted to said State for the purpose of fixing their seat of government thereon, which said sections, shall under the direction of the legislature of said State be located, as near as may be, in one body, at any time, in such township and ranges as the legislature aforesaid may select on any of the public lands of the United States: Provided, that such locations shall be made prior to the public sales of the lands of the United States surrounding such location." The convention that met in St. Louis to form the first constitution accepted all these five propositions by an ordinance dated 19th of July, 1820, which day is recognized as the natal day of our State, and the new constitution fixed the seat of government on the lands thus given to be selected within forty miles of the mouth of the Osage river. On the 9th of November, 1820, the following gentlemen were appointed to make the location: John Thornton, of the county of Howard; Robert Gory Watson, of New Madrid; John B. White, of the county of Pike; James Logan of the county of Wayne, and Jesse B. Boone of the county of Montgomery. The latter gentleman dying soon after, his place was filled by Daniel Morgan Boon, of Gasconade. They were to meet at Cote Sans Dessein, in Callaway county. In 1820 the seat of government was temporarily removed to St. Charles, until the first of October, 1826. On the 28th of June, 1821, the legislature passed a resolution requiring the Governor to notify the surveyor of Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas, and the register of the proper land office that the commissioners had selected the following lands: Fractional sections 6, 7, 8; entire sections 17 and 18, and so much of the north part of sections 19 and 20 as will make 4 sections in township 44, range 11, west of the fifth principal meridian. On the 31st of December, 1821, the legislature accepted the report and placed the Capitol where it now is. I will add here that in the interval between the selection by the commissioners and the acceptance of their report by the legislature, one Baptists DeLisle located on a part of site, a New Madrid certificate.

The legislature in vain attempted to make some satisfactory adjustment, but the matter laid dormant until about the year 1848, when suit was brought against Gen. T. L. Price to test the title. The case was carried to the Supreme Court of the United States, and judgment rendered in favor of the State. So that the titles from the State to our lots are clear and indefeasible. These commissioners were instructed to lay off the town into 1,000 lots, the principal street to be not less than 100, nor more than 120 feet wide, and the alleys to be 20 feet wide. On the 19th of December, 1822, the first trustees of the city of Jefferson were appointed. They were Josiah Ramsay, Adam Hope and John C. Gordon, who were authorized to sell 200 lots. Four squares were reserved for a State House; one for a Governor's house; one for a hospital, and one for a seminary of learning. The first sale of lots occurred in May, 1823. At that time (1823; there were only two families living here. Those of Josiah Ramsey and Wm. Jones.

In 1826, when the Legislature convened here for the first time, the following person were living here : Wm. Jones, Josiah Ramsey, John C. Gordon, Daniel Colgan, James F. Roysten, James Dunnica. Hardin Casey, Robert A. Ewing, Alex. Gordon, John Dunnlca, John Price Thomas, Reuben Garnett, Stephen C. Dorris, James R. Pullen, Christopher Casey, Henry Buckner, Hiram H. Baber. David Scrivner, Samuel Harrison, George Woodward, Terry Skurlock, David Sleator, Granville P. Thomas, Asariah Kennedy. Willie Thornton, David Harman. Wm. Henderson, Mr. Thompson, McDaniel Dorris, Mr. Moss and Capt. J. T. Rogers.

In 1923, the State-house must have been nearly finished, for in February 8 of that year, the Legislature appropriated \$18,573 to pay James Dunnica and Daniel Colgan for its erection. On the name day an appropriation was made to pay one of our most distinguished and estimable ladies, who, I hope, is one of ray audience. The act reads, "To Mrs. Jane Ewing, for drawing and painting a plat of the City of Jefferson, the sum of \$10. This product of the skill of this lady was unfortunately burned in 1837, when the Capitol was consumed. To her numerous descendants the preservation and possession of that map could not be purchased for many, many times the sum she received for it.

The first session of the Legislature was held in November, 1826, in the new State-house, John Miller being then Governor. The building was a rectangular brick structure, two stories high, without any architectural beauties. The Representatives occupied the lower story, the Senate the upper floor. A story is told of a representative who presented his credentials to the Secretary of the Senate. "This belongs to the Lower House." said the Clerk. "Where is that?" asked the gentleman. "Down stairs." "Why," said the man, "I saw them fellows there, but I thought it was a dramshop." In November, 1837, this building which occupied the site of the present Executive Mansion was consumed by fire, and many valuable papers lost. The next session of the Legislature met in our Court-house, The Representative occupying the present Court-room and the Senate the second story which was at that time unobstructed by partitions. In 1810, the Legislature and the State officers took possession of our present Capitol.

Jefferson City was made a city in 1839, by an act of the Legislature, and Gen, T. L. Price was its first mayor.

## **NEWSPAPERS.**

The first newspaper issued in this city was the Jeffersonian Republican, printed and edited by Calvin Gunn. It made its appearance in 1828, a neatly printed sheet, and its owner made it a successful enterprise. He had the sagacity to foresee the growth of our city, and to buy at low rates the public lots that are now so valuable to his family. Mr. Gunn died in 1858. His paper was Democratic.

The next paper here was called the Jefferson Enquirer, and made its first appearance in 1838 It was owned and edited by Gen. E. L. Edwards and John McCulloch. The latter did not long to enjoy his editorial life. He died before his paper was a year old, and left a host of friends to lament his death. Gen. Edwards in 1840, sold the paper to Mr. Wm. Lusk, the father of our present Circuit Clerk, who dying In 1842, left the establishment In the hands of his son, James Lusk, who died in February, 1858. And here I will pause for a moment to pay a tribute to the memory of my old friend. I never knew a nobler gentleman. He died too soon for his family, himself and his State.

The Metropolitan under the control of H. Boon & J. S. McCracken had its day of usefulness and profit, and was succeeded by the Examiner, conducted by Mr. Treadway. These papers were all Democratic. Messrs. Hammond & Cronenbold started a Whig paper, but it was not a success.

(In the year 1863, a Republican paper called the State Times was started in the city. Of this paper, at various periods in its history, until 1867, Col. E. Kirby, now a well known citizen of this community had editorial regular organ of Republicanism. In 1869 the paper passed into the hands of Horace Wilcox, and two years thereafter, 1871, ceased to exist. In 1865 the Fortschritt, a German newspaper, was established. It was a popular and prosperous paper. It continued in operation till the fall of 1875 when it was discontinued. Editor.)

The papers now printed here are the Tribune, a Democratic paper, issued by Messrs. Regan Carter, and edited by P. T. Miller. Esq, the State Journal, owned and edited by Mr. N. C. Burch, a Republican sheet, started in December, 1872, and the Volksfreund, a German Democratic paper, edited by Messrs Kroeger & Wagner, (started iu the Spring of 1876.)

Mr. N. C. Burch, of the State Journal, is entitled to the honor of starting the first regular daily paper in Jefferson City, issued for the first time Sept, 9, 1873, and still continued. (It met with many discouragements but has so far bravely withstood them. It was considered a great discredit to the capitol city of the Fifth State of the Union to be without a daily paper and the labor and enterprise of furnishing one should receive the most liberal support of the community. Editor.)

The Tribune was issued in 1864, by C. J. Corwin, who sold out to J. F. Regan, in 1860, who afterwards (in 1871) sold an interest to Ma). John F. Howes. The latter dying, his share was purchnsed by J. E. Carter. The Tribune, during the sessions of the Legislature, had issued a daily paper, but their present permanent daily issue dates from July 1st, 1874.

## **HOTELS.**

The first Hotel was opened by Jno. C. Gordon. He obtained a tavern license on the 18th day of November, 1820, and Josiah Ramsay, Ralph Briscoe and Job Goodall, each obtained similar licenses on the 28th of the same month. Gordon's Hotel, known by the name of the Rising Sun, had for it sign, the picture of the sun in its meredian splendor, every ray glowing, and every point glittering in the reflected light of its great namesake. A part of the Hotel yet remains, opposite the Executive Mansion, and is owned by the family of Major Alfred Basye, one of the first settlers of our town. (With the growth of the city and the demands of its position as the Capitol of the State, hotel accommodations have vastly increased until they now equal those of any except our metropolitan cities. Editor.)

## **FERRIES.**

The first ferry license was granted to Wm. Jones. Among the fees he was allowed to charge was, "For single man 18 3/4 cent." That was right enough, but as nothing was laid of married, men, it is hoped, in consideration of domestic hardship, that they passed free, and perhaps were not allowed to pass at all. The first steam ferries was owned and run in 1839 by Jeff. T. Roger. E. B, Cordell, T. L. Price and John Yount. It was afterwards sold, and a succession of steam ferries since then has at last terminated in the possession of the ferry by Capt. Joseph Fisher.

## **FIRST HOUSE**

built on our soil was a shanty erected about 1819, at the spring near the foundry of Captain Lohman. Mr. McHenry told me that in 1819, he stopped there and got a drink of liquor. By the way, the fashion of drinking then differ somewhat from the present mode In those days they had no straws nor ice. When a man called for a drink, a half-pint tumbler was filled and handed to him on which he could regale himself, if it took a whole day to do It in. He generally paid for it in cut money. A silver quarter was cut into four pieces, called picayunes, two were worth a bit, twelve and a half cents. A Mexican dollar was cut into four pieces generally. Our architectural origin dates from a dram-shop. Can anyone tell me if we still respect the original model?

The oldest house in town is the one on High street, owned by Miss Lusk, opposite Captain Eaton's. The next is the old City Hotel, nearly opposite.

## **DISTILLERY.**

The first distillery was erected near the spring that flows at the foot of the hill on which I reside. It was built and carried on by Mr. McDanel Dorris. While I may regret that its pure and limpid waters were put to so vile a purpose, yet I am pleased to inform you that the whisky made there was pure, if whisky ever is pure.

## **STORES.**

The earliest store In town was conducted by Daniel Colgan in the stone house, the site of which is now occupied by the northeast corner of the Capitol grounds. I. B- Read opened a store in 1323, and T. and P. Miller a large establishment in 1831. The oldest store at present existing is that of M. & J. Obermayer, established in 1844, thirty-two years ago. They commenced business in a little frame building on High street opposite the Tennessee House. The contrast between their humble enterprise then and their present extensive business and buildings much amuse these gentlemen sometimes.

## **PHYSICIANS.**

Omitting Dr. Brown, who does not seem to have any right to the title, save that he sometimes patched up the wounds caused by his liquors,, Dr. Stephen C. Dorris, who died about 1839, and enjoyed, until his death, the reputation of great excellence in his profession, was the first physician.. The following story is told of him:

One day a poor fellow, in the last stages of consumption, came to him for relief. "Doctor," he said, "I am very sick. I have consumption. Can you do anything for me" The Doctor suggested a good many remedies. all of which the young man said he tried without any benefit. "Well," said the physician, "my friend which of all things have you tried gives you the greatest relief?" "If anything ," was the reply, "does me more good than another. I think it is the riding of a hard trotting horse." "Then, young man, my

advice is, keep trotting." The patient left in high dudgeon, and for what I know may be trotting yet. The words afterwards became somewhat proverbial in our city.

The oldest practicing physician is Dr. Tennessee Mathews, who commenced the practice in is. thirty-two-years ago. I nope that he may live to practice thirty-two years longer. Dr. Geo. B. Winston is the next oldest practicing physician. He commenced practice in 1816. The oldest retired physician is Dr. A. M. Davison. The next is his brother. Dr. W. M. Davison.

The oldest practicing lawyer is Gen. E. L. Edwards. He has been at the bar since 1835. The first postmaster was Josiah Ramsey. The next was our present Judge, Hon. George W. Miller, who, commencing the practice of law here in 1829, has been a citizen of our town (with a slight interval) since 1827. We had two mails in that day. The one on the south side of the river generally brought one letter and one paper. That paper was, of course, the *Missouri Republican*.

### **GERMANS.**

The oldest German citizen now living in the city is our old friend Christ Kolkmeier, who came here in 1836, and claims the ancestry of ten children and six Grandchildren. The Germans were not numerous until after 1841, when the immigration set in that has given to that industrious and thrifty people the preponderance of our population.

### **JEFFERSON CITY LAND COMPANY.**

In 1854, a company of gentlemen, consisting of Gen. J. H. Gardenshire, T. L. Price, Dr. B. Bruns, Dr. Curry, Eli E. Bass and Hon. R. W. Wells, laid out an addition to the town of Jefferson, which they called Gray's Point, which extended from the western limits of our city to a point above Gray's Creek, a distance of about four miles. The speculation deserved a better fate than it met with, and it proved to be neither a commercial, nor to the owners, a financial success.

### **MEXICAN WAR.**

In 1846, when the Mexican war broke out, Cole county sent two companies, one of cavalry, commanded by Capt. M. M. Parsons, and one of infantry, commanded by Capt. Wm. C. Angney. The latter served under the command of Gen. Sterling Price, and the former under the command of Gen. A. W. Doniphan. Capt. Angney, after the war, settled in Mexico. Capt. Parsons entered the Confederate service, and served as Major General through the war, to die at last by the bullet of a Mexican assassin. He was a fine lawyer, an eloquent speaker, an accomplished soldier, and a dutiful son.

### **CHOLERA.**

In 1849 the steamer Monroe landed just below town with a large crowd of Mormon passengers. The cholera was raging among them fearfully. The sick and well were landed, and of the number sixty-three died in our city.

### **CEMETERY.**

The legislature gave to the city lot No. 88 for a grave yard, it was opened in 1831. The first body laid there was that of Jefferson Thompson, who came here from Kentucky as schoolmaster, and died in 1832. Alas! that City of the Dead hear me who cannot point to a spot there which encloses some light of his household or some idol of his heart. One monument in the State burying ground arrest attention by its artistic excellence. It is that erected by the State to the memory of Gov. Thomas Reynolds, who fell by his



own hand on the 9th day of February, 1844. The town was startled by the terrible calamity, and an immense concourse of citizens, without distinction of party, attended his funeral. His last letter to my brother, Wm. G. Minor, written just before his death, commences with these words, which appear on his tomb: "In every situation in which I have been placed. I have labored to discharge my duty faithfully to the public." "The cold earth" does not enclose within its bosom the remain of a purer patriot or of a nobler spirit.

### **THE PENITENTIARY**

was opened on the first of March, 1836. The first convict was Wilson Eidson, sent from Green county, for stealing a watch, for two year and forty-five days. He was for nearly three month the solo occupant, looked after by the warden, watched by the guard and restrained by bars. When St. Louis sent three more convict he received them with every demonstration of delight and with many expressions of welcome. In 1836 there was one convict; In 1876, but 1,300.

### **CRIME.**

Three executions for crime have taken place in our city. One of Lane, a guard, for the murder of a convict; one of Berry, a convict, for the murder of a guard; one of Burr for the murder of his wife by slow poison of pounded glass.

### **TANYARDS.**

The first tanyard known was that of Samuel Skidmore, who would make a trough, beat up the bark with his ax, put in his hides, and thus make leather. The next tanyard was erected on the farm of James Dumlca. The next by Capt. Rogers, and the next by W. D. Pratt.

### **MILLS.**

The first horse mill in town was erected by Hardin Casev, on the present site of Obermayer's store. The next by Rob't A. Ewing, on the southern edge of town. The first steam saw-mill was built about 1837 by Azariah Kennedy, on the side of the railroad depot. The next was built by W. P. Riggins about 1847. and is now owned by M. Wallendorf.

(T he first water mill built in this county was about 1836 or 1837 as appears from the county records. The site of it was what is known as "Greenberry Ford" of the Moreau on the road to Castle Rock. But the dam was washed away a number of years ago. What is known as Glovers grist mill on the Moreau is a few miles above the ford mentioned was built by Mrs. Catherine Dollinger in about 1838. The mill is still standing, but with the dam gone and the building and machinery much dilapidated.

A water mill was built on the north fork of the Moreau in about the year 1839 upon what is now the farm of Judge Young, it was built by a man named Cartright and its first miller was old John Meius. It is a grist and water mill and is still in operation we believe.

Riggins (or Tanners) mill on the Moreau almost due south of Jefferson was built as a water and steam mill. It is now run exclusively as a steam mill and does a fair country trade.

Pratt's mill, now owned by Ed Linsenbard on the south fork of the Moreau, in Moreau Township, is one of the most thriving mills of the country. At or near these mills two lead smelting furnaces are built and operated. They are fed by mines in the vicinity.

The Centertown mill owned by Mr. Fred Flessa, is a steam mill and does quite a large custom work.

The Chaney mills, so called from the old Public Printer of that name are in the south part of Moreau Township and are run by steam power.

The principle mills of all this section are those of G. H. Dulle & Sons in this city. They are of steam and were built some five years ago. The first steam flouring mills of this city were built by Mr. G. H. Dulle, some time about 1852. The old building on Jefferson street is now converted into a stave factory.

The new mills of Messrs. Dulle & Son are employed exclusively in merchant work and have a capacity of about 50 bushels of wheat an hour. (Their flour has become famous for its excellence in the markets of Baltimore, Boston and indeed all the East. Editor.)

### **LINCOLN INSTITUTE.**

The history of Jefferson would not be complete if mention was omitted for the Lincoln Institute a normal colored school. This beautiful building was erected in 1867 by the contributions of two colored Missouri regiments, increased a little by State aid. It had at its last session a large number of scholars. It is a matter of just pride to every lover of his country to see this class of our reputation availing itself so earnestly of the opportunity of education, and preparing for the great duties and responsibilities of life, which they must share in common with us all.

### **CHURCHES.**

The first church erected (about 1837) in this town was the Baptist, now in possession of the colored Baptists, The next was the Methodist erected about 1838. The Episcopal in 1842. The Catholics were visited here by Father Helias, from Westphalia, Osage county, about the year 1837. The number of communicants then was 25; now it is 600. The first resident pastor was Jas. Murphy, in 1846. Their first church was on High street, a very small frame building. In 1860 the new church was built and occupied. There are now 10 churches in our city.

### **MILITARY OCCUPATION.**

In 1801 Governor Jackson, who had occupied our city, retired to Boonville, and was succeeded in military occupancy by Gen. Lyon who did not tarry long here, but pushing on to Boonville, had a skirmish with the troops under Gen. Sterling Price. Gen. Lyon soon afterwards lost his life in Wilson's Creek in 1861.

Col. Boernstein succeeded him and in the shifting scenes of the war came Generals Grant, Pope, Fremont, Totten, Loan and Brown. The city was not disturbed by any conflict save a skirmish in October, 1804, between the Confederate forces under Gen. Price and the Union forces under General Brown, and others. Not more than fifteen or twenty lives were lost.

The first foundry was started by Col. Badine in 1872, and is now owned by a stock company.

Our public schools were organized in the fall of 1867, and are flourishing. The last report gave the number of pupils at 500 and the number of teachers at 11. The new building, a stately structure, was erected in 1871. The President of the Board of Education is Dr. Geo. B. Winston; Principal, F. A. Nitchy.

The present capitol was commenced in 1837 and finished in 1842 - Stephen Hills, an English man was the architect. The present executive mansion was started in 1872, and finished in the same year.

## **AREA PRODUCTS &C.**

(The area of Cole county is 202,400 acres which, at last census, 1870, 32,942 acres were improved, with an annual product the valuation of which was over \$300,000. In 1870 the assessed valuation of the real and personal property of the county was \$4,115,612, the actual value being fixed at \$7,000,000. The State and county tax was \$39,312. Town, city &c. \$53,000.

The population of Cole county is about 12,000, of which Jefferson City has about a half. Editor.)

And now my friends, that I have reached the conclusion of my labors, permit me to hope that our beautiful city and county shall not go backward in our hands, or in the hands of those over whose education we have any control. Nature has given to us, in wild profusion some of her choicest gifts - healthiness of location, a genial and inspiring climate, and a soil whose fertility cannot be impaired, except by careless culture or inexcusable neglect. The markets of the world are at our feet.

Judging from the improvements of the last century we cannot predict the great future of our city. Its population may be numbered by hundreds of thousands, and it may be the capitol Valley of the Mississippi. Be it future what it may in 1976, let us see to it that we at least leave our own county and city better than we found them.