HISTORY

OF THE

City of Quincy, Illinois

BY

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CHAPTER I.

"ILLINOIS COUNTRY." CONTESTS FOR ITS POSSESSION. EARLY POLITICAL HISTORY. AN OUTLINE SKETCH OF ITS HISTORICAL SETTING, MAY PROPERLY INTRODUCE A HISTORY OF THE "GEM CITY."

What was known as the "Illinois Country" for the ninety years which intervened between the early French discoveries and the surrender of the region to the English, in 1763, was bounded by the Mississippi on the west, by the river Illinois on the north, by the Onabache (Wabash) and Miamis on the east, and the Ohio on the south. The Act of Congress defining the boundaries of the State, included all the territory west of the Illinois to the Mississippi, and north to what is now the Wisconsin line. Thus the site of the present city of Quincy was included in the State of Illinois.

The French explorers were the first to visit the "Illinois Country" and for nearly a century, they held undisputed possession. Spain held a claim to the whole region, but it was feeble, and she was kept too busy elsewhere, to make it good, and in 1763, she relinquished it. The country at this time, passed under the authority of the British crown. England held it for fifteen years. In 1778, General George Rogers Clark, in command of a small, but gallant army, took possession of it for the colony of Virginia. At the close of the war of the Revolution, England, by treaty, surrendered forever her claims to supremacy.

Virginia had already in 1780, ceded to the Confederate colonies all her acquired rights as conquerer; and made the deed of cession, and relinquishment by the celebrated ordinance of 1787. During the preceding nine years, a sort of quasi sovereignty, partially recognized and less enforced, had been asserted by Virginia. The entire country north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi had been, in October 1778, formed into the "County of Illinois," and Col. John Todd was appointed "Lieutenant Commandant." He was invested with a blended military and civil authority, which he exercised, nominally, until his death at the noted Blue Lick battle in 1782. After him a Frenchman, Timothy Montlrun by name, appears to have been vested with whatever of authority was exercised in Virginia.

In 1787, Congress assuming control of the country, embracing what is now the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, entitled it the "North-west Territory" and elected General Arthur St. Clair its Governor. In 1790, Governor St. Clair declared all that country lying between the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers and an east and west line about on the parallel of the present site of Bloomington, Illinois, the County of St. Clair, Cahokia being the county seat. Five years later, in 1795, all south of the present county of St. Clair was set off and called Randolph county. These two counties constituted all of Illinois as organized, until 1812.

In 1800 (May 9th) Congress divided the North-west Territory. All west of what is now the State of Ohio, was declared the territory of Indiana. The population at the beginning of this century, of what now constitutes four great states, was estimated at 4875 whites; 135 negro slaves, and about 100,000 Indians. William H. Harrison (afterwards President of the United States) was appointed Governor, and Vincennes was selected as the territorial capital. Governor Harrison's administration was vigorous and successful. During his first five years, he concluded ten treaties with the various Indian tribes, extinguishing their title and securing the cession of their lands to the United States. By the treaty of November 3rd, 1804, made with the Sauks and Foxes he received from them the surrender of all the land between the

Illinois and Mississippi rivers (embracing the "Military Tract") to which this tribe laid claim and the greater portion of which they held in possession. On the 3rd of February, 1809, Congress formed the territory of Illinois including what is now the states of Illinois and Wisconsin. This was the first Federal recognition of the name Illinois, although following the action of the Virginia colony in 1778, the term "Illinois" had been in popular use, generally applied to all the northwestern country. The word "Illinois" is a French perversion of the name claimed by the Indian tribe, which at the time of the French advent, controlled the principal portion of what now forms the state. Afterward, overborne and crowded southward by superior numbers, it passed out of existence. The various remnants to the last retained their original name, "Leni," or "Illini," as the French pronounced it. It is the general Algonquin term for "superior men."

The population of the new territory in 1809, was estimated to be about 9,000 whites and somewhat less than 50,000 Indians.

An imperfect census taken in 1810, returned 11,501 whites, 168 slaves, and 613 "mixed" exclusive of Indians.

Kaskaskia became the capital of the infant territory. Settlements were sparse. They lay along the Mississippi from about Kaskaskia to near the mouth of the Missouri; up the Kaskaskia or Okaw river for a short distance; skirting the Ohio river and running up the Wabash beyond Vincennes, by far the larger portion of the inhabitants, being of French birth or extraction.

Beyond the lines above named, the Indians held almost undisputed control. Ninian Edwards was appointed territorial Governor, an office which he retained, by successive re-appointments, until the territory became a state. He was a gifted, brilliant, imposing man, far superior to most of his public associates, and while his positive nature created for him almost constant political conflicts, his position, high character, and admitted ability, kept him until the day of his death, more than any other, the representative man of Illinois.

The first delegate to Congress was Shadrach Bond, a popular man of fair native ability. He, in 1814, was succeeded by Benjamin Stephenson. Nathaniel Pope (Territorial Secretary) succeeded Stephenson in 1816.

Pope was afterwards made United States District Judge. He held the office until his death, in 1850.

Randolph and St. Clair were the two original counties, but in 1812 Johnson, Gallatin and Madison were formed. The latter comprehending all the northern portion of the State. Subsequently other counties were formed in the southern part of the territory until 1818, the number amounted to fifteen. Congress on the 18th of April, 1818, acceding to the application made by the territorial legislature in the preceding winter, passed a bill admitting Illinois into the Union as a State. The constitutional convention representing the fifteen counties, met at Kaskaskia in July of the same year and completed the constitution on the 26th of August, 1818. It was not submitted to the people but went into effect immediately.

At the first State election September, 1818, Shadrach Bond was chosen Governor and Pierre Menard, Lieutenant Governor, without opposition.

CHAPTER II.

FIRST WHITE MEN TO SEE THE SITE OF THE FUTURE CITY. EXPLORATION OF JOLIET AND MARQUETTE. FIRST INHABITANTS. ITS EARLIEST COMMERCE. TOPOGRAPHICAL.

In the month of May, 1673, Louis Joliet and Jaques Marquette, with five voyageurs in two canoes, started from St. Ignace in Lake Michigan on a tour of exploration. They passed through Green Bay and up the Fox Rivers; then through Winnebago Lake, thence westward, crossing a portage into the Wisconsin river. They journeyed down the Wisconsin, and on the 17th day of June found themselves upon the waters of a great river. To this, they gave the name Rio de la Conception. The Indian name was, according to some etymologists, "Meach Chasseepe." Its signification was "gatherer of all waters" or "great river." Some of the early French explorers gave it the name of "Colbert" in honor of their prime minister. The Indian name of Mississippi has happily survived.

Spanish explorers had seen the river in its lower waters, and De Soto had been buried in its bosom, but those Frenchmen were the first to see it in the higher latitudes.

It was a thrilling moment to these bold adventurers, when, emerging from the mouth of the Wisconsin, their canoes floated upon the broad bosom of the swift flowing river. It then flowed clear and pure. The plow and spade of civilization had not broken up the sloping surface of its vast water-sheds to pulverize the soil and transform it into a muddy torrent with every serious rain-fall. Rootlets and leaves of the forest and the grasses of plain and

prairie, caught, filtered and tempered the flow of its contributing streams. No city polluted it with sewage. Innumerable schools of fish swam in its waters and bred, by countless millions, in its quiet sloughs and bays. Its banks were lined with virgin forests of elm, sycamore, walnut, cottonwood, oak and pecan. They had never echoed to the stroke of the pioneer axe or the crack of his rifle. Prairie bottom-lands alternated with woodland and stretched away on either side to the distant bluffs. Islands abounded, as now, roofed with a tangle of vines and fringed with drooping willows. Sharply defined against a stretch of forest green occasionally was seen some tall, dead tree, bleached by the storms of many years, lifting up its leafless branches, gracefully festooned with the green and scarlet of the trumpet-vine. The white and blue heron waded the swamps. The eagle and the halcyon darting from the high over-hanging boughs with a splash, broke the mirrored surface of the river. Flocks of pelicans covered the low-lying sandbars, looking at a distance like banks of snow left by the retreating winter. Herds of buffalo sought the river to slake their thirst and grazed upon the grasses of the adjacent bottoms. Deer with lifted heads and wild eyes gazed for a moment upon the voyageurs and vanished into the thickets. Flocks of geese, swan and ducks were without number, and upon alarm rose into the air with a beating of wings, which sounded like the roll of thunder.

Those explorers traded with the Indians for supplies of maize and venison, while they often used the dry breast of the wild turkey, broiled upon coals, as a substitute for bread.

Following the flow of the great river, they sought that which was the prime incentive for all the daring and enterprise of the age, viz: a western water route to the East Indies. Marquette's journal tells us that in thirty days, (July 17th), he reached the mouth of the Arkansas, about fourteen hundred miles below where he entered the Mississippi; that during this time he made a halt of six days, in the earlier part of his voyage; that during the first four days he journeyed 180 miles. This shows his average daily travel to have been, not far from fifty miles per day.

While no special mention or description is made in his journal that would apply to this locality as it does to Alton, Rock Island and other points, yet on the rough chart which he has left, there is drawn high land at just the place on the river where our bluffs appear. Taking all these facts together, his total average distance travelled per day, time consumed and halts made, he probably reached the site of the present city about the 1st of July, 1673.

We can imagine these explorers landing upon the bank of the river, which now is the wharf of Quincy. As their two canoes neared the shore, the Indian dogs greeted them with their noisy and wolfish yelps, while the brown men, women and children rushed forward to see for the first time in their lives, the "pale face." Undoubtedly, Marquette asked them about the bay. It would have appeared to him as a tributary river. Some Indian making a rude drawing in the sand with a stick, would answer his inquiries about the geographical features of the country, its forests, lakes, sloughs and tributary streams.

At this time they all abounded in fur-bearing animals. Mink, musk-rat, otter, raccoon, wolf, fox and beaver were numerous. The Indians began to learn that they could exchange the products of the trap and the chase, for the calicoes, hatchets and trinkets which men from the North offered them in trade. This was the first rude beginning of commercial transactions associated with the site of the future city.

These early inhabitants of the locality disappeared, and left as memorials of their existence, the mounds upon the bluffs and a few stone hatchets and flint arrow-heads.

In 1805, Gen. Zebulon Pike was sent by the War Department to explore the Mississippi from St. Louis to the Falls of St. Anthony. He started from St. Louis on Friday, August 9th, 1805, with a Sergeant, three corporals and seventeen privates in a keel boat seventy-five feet long. He was provisioned for four months. As he passed up the river, he considered the advantages of various points for the location of Forts. The bluff, on which the city of Warsaw was afterwards built, being near the mouth of the Des Moines river, and nearer to the Indian country, was selected as being a better strategic point for military purposes than the site of the future city of Quincy. There Fort Edwards was built.

In 1813, a military expedition consisting of two battalions of mounted rangers, started from old Fort Edwards, lying east of the present city of Alton, and passing through what is now Calhoun County, came northward along the river to the site of Quincy. Here they struck the Indian village and destroyed it. The small trading with the French was broken up.

This cruel attack was, in part, in retaliation for some injuries some of the frontier pioneers had suffered. The Indians were driven northward, some of them escaping into Iowa to seek revenge afterward, under the leadership of the chieftain Black-hawk. The site of the future

city again became a wilderness. The only human being to break upon its solitude was an occasional trapper or hunter, landing from his canoe and camping for a night.

Little can one who today looks upon the broad and beautiful area on which our bustling city stands, realize the contrast of the present scene, with the wild solitude that revives in the retrospection of nearly a century. One may indeed imagine the aspect of the locality, were the buildings all removed, the streets abandoned and all tokens of life taken away. But permanent changes have been effected; landscape lines are now gone; physical features forever effaced, which, only a few survivors ever saw.

Years ago, as the first white settler saw it, before axe or plough had desecrated nature's sanctity, the city was marked by alternations of timber and prairie; timber in the ravines, along the streams, covering also the crest and river face of the bluffs; and prairie generally on the level land and the ridges which separated the ravines. The timber was usually heavy except near the heads of the "draws," where it became gradually lighter or altogether disappeared. The prairie was luxuriant, not with the long swamp grass of the bottom lands, nor of the prairies in southern Illinois, but with a grass about breast high and very thick. It did not, as many imagine reach to the river, or even to the verge of the bluffs. Along the river bank from what is now known as Broadway to Delaware, there stood a scattering growth of trees, while south of the latter point, the rank, luxuriant, almost impenetrable vegetation, common to our bottom lands, prevailed. The strip of land below the bluffs, and along the river was then much narrower than at present; the hills having been cut and blasted away. From Broadway south to Delaware the rock cropped out continuously and was always visible at an average stage of water. For keel and steamboats, the usual landing place was then and long after between Vermont and Broadway; probably selected, because the trees here were convenient to tie to, and the river plateau was broader; also because they were more sheltered from the wind. It was easy to get into the river again from there, as at that time, the point of the "island" lay much higher up than at present; in fact the main river channel ran directly over, where, is now the highest growth of willows on the "Tow Head."

The present area of the city, was about equally divided between timber and prairie, the latter slightly predominating. The prairie from the east threw out four long arms, or feelers, as if striving to reach the river; one of these, extended as far as Eighth street in what is now known as Berrian's Addition; a second about the same distance on State Street; a third creeping into the heart of the city and narrowing down, pushed diagonally across the public square, nearly to Third Street, and the fourth, broke in about Chestnut and Twelfth, thence "with many a winding bout," almost lost at times, reached nearly to Sunset Hill. East of Eighteenth Street all was prairie save a short thicket spur which ran eastward a few blocks from the Alstyne quarter near Chestnut, and a small grove of young trees at what is now Highland Park, which has greatly increased in size.

Between Twelfth and Eighteenth, in John Moore's Addition, all excepting a small slice off the northwest corner, was prairie. On the south side of Gov. Wood's large field about 18th and Jefferson there stood about twenty acres of heavy timber, part of which yet may be seen. Along the rear of the present residences of Messrs. L. Bull, McFadon and Pinkham, lay a small thicket, and a similar shaped strip of larger growth, stretched across the Alstyne quarter, from near Broadway and Eighteenth, to the corner of the Berrian quarter, uniting west of Twelfth with the heavy forest in Cox's addition.

To follow the division line between the prairie and timber, let one commence in Eighteenth street on the south line of the city facing north. On his right all was prairie, on the left timber. The line ran nearly due north almost to Jefferson street, crossing the latter a little west of Eighteenth, pushed three or four hundred feet into Gov. Wood's large field, then turned sharply around in a southwesterly direction, recrossed Jefferson about Fourteenth, crossed Twelfth near Monroe, thence ran through Berrian's Addition in a direction somewhat south of west to near Eighth, where curving back almost on itself, it enclosed a pretty little prairie islet of about ten acres. Thence it bore northeasterly, crossing Jefferson about Ninth, touching Twelfth (but not crossing) at Payson Avenue, there swinging around toward the west, it followed nearly the line of Ohio to Eighth, then north along Eighth to near where Dick's Brewery now stands, thence east; irregularly parallel with Kentucky, just touching the northeast corner of Gov. Wood's garden; here, veering sharply northwest, it crossed Twelfth, just north of York, then ran eastward nearly to Eighteenth.

From this point, (Jersey and Sixteenth), it turned west again and passing through the back part of L. Bull's grounds gradually neared Maine Street so as to take in the Webster School House, a few of the trees standing

there yet. From the corner of Maine and Twelfth, it ran by a wavering line to the corner of Hampshire and Eighth. This part of the city (Dronlard's quarter between Eighth and Twelfth) was cut up by ravines running from north to south, all of them sustaining thickets of various length, according to the size of the ravine and all pointing northward. The Post Office building stands on what was prairie, but just on the southern edge. The line from there ran west, slightly inclining to the south, so as to cross the corner of Sixth and Maine street diagonally. It passed southwest, touched Fifth Street, followed it down on the east side as far as the Engine House, crossed the street, there, leaving Robert Tillson's lot, corner of Fifth and Jersey, part in the prairie and part in the brush; thence it went southwest to near the corner of York and Fourth, crossing Fourth at the alley between York and Kentucky. Bending then somewhat south, then west, then north all in this same block, it recrossed York near Third. This was the most westerly limit, the nearest approach that the prairie made to the river. Immediately west, across Third Street, there lay, embosomed in the thick timber, a pretty little pond, a noted resort for wild ducks, covering about three acres, its western limit reaching nearly to the crest of the bluff. Vestiges of this little lake existed as late as 1840 and later. Long before this the timber had disappeared, and the pond was finally drained in cutting York Street through to the bluff.

From here the prairie line went back, passing north, up Third to Jersey, thence diagonally across block 18, to the corner of Maine and Fourth, thence north along the west side of Fourth, with the square (all prairie) on the right, it turned across Fourth just north of Hampshire, struck Vermont at Fifth, passed along the southern edge of Jefferson Square, about one-third of the square being prairie. That portion which was afterward a burying ground crossed Broadway near Seventh, still running northeast, crossed Eighth, then took a nearly direct course to Twelfth. Not crossing Twelfth, it bore off in an irregular line towards the northwest, and running almost to Sunset Hill, before reaching which, it swept around to the right and north, and again east and southeast, joining itself to the heavy timber in Cox's addition, making in this part of the city just such a prairie island as we have mentioned in Berrian's addition, only a greatly larger one.

The natural drainage of the city was defective entailing no small amount of difficulty and expense in providing for needed sewerage. The reason of this is that along the river front the ravines which ran up into the bluff, were extremely short, scarcely draining as far east as the Public Square. A larger portion of the city, especially that most easily settled, was drained to the east.

By far the largest portion of the water that fell ran in the water shed inclines toward the east instead of direct to the river, and found its way there finally through the great ravines that seamed the eastern and central portion of the place.

The crest of the bluff immediately overlooking the river, scolloped as it was on the western face, by these scant ravines was yet highest about the line of Second and Third Streets and thence toward the east the land descended for some distance. The average height of the bluffs above low water mark was 126 feet. The crest occasionally rose into little conical peaks, in many of which bones, weapons, and other remains of the Indian race have been found.

The highest among all these was "Mount Pisgah." It stood on the south side of Maine, near Second, and was much the highest peak on the bluffs, commanding a most attractive view of the river and our rich surroundings in every direction. Its name was earned first by the promising prospects it offered, and afterwards was kept and claimed, so it is said, from the many promises there made, when, in later years, it became the trysting place of negotiating lads and lassies during the dusky hours.

The streets have shorn away its northern and western face, the vandal grasp of improvement toppled its high head to the dust, the very heart of the haughty hill has been washed into the waves of the river on which it had frowned for centuries but there is many a perusser of these pages who will always cherish pleasant and regretful remembrances of the venerable mount.

CHAPTER III.

1821.

BIOGRAPHICAL. JOHN WOOD. WILLARD KEYES. THE FIRST INHABITANTS OF QUINCY. THEIR EXPLORATIONS. LEGEND OF "TREASURE TROVE." PIKE COUNTY ORGANIZED.

Pioneer history must be mainly biographical. It is the record of the actions of individuals. Often seemingly insignificant, they lead to re-

sults of high importance. The pioneer goes into the wilderness, often prompted by a restlessness of temperament, and unconsciously with his axe and rifle, help lay the foundations of city and state. He builds more wisely and broader than he knows.

But the founders of the city of Quincy, laid its foundation with clear conception of, and a confident faith in the future of their enterprise. The actions and the utterances of our pioneers, so far as we have any record of them, bear testimony to their firm confidence in the ultimate growth and prominence of the city. Fortunate it is, that in the later period of their lives, they have found solace and satisfaction for the trials and hardships of frontier life, in the realization of the prosperity for which they had long looked and labored. They founded one of the most prosperous and beautiful cities in the State of Illinois.

To Governor Wood belongs the distinction of having been the first actual settler of Quincy. A native of Cayuga County, New York, coming to Illinois in 1819, in search of a location, he met in the winter of that year with Mr. Willard Keyes, a Vermonter who, like himself, a single, young and adventurous man, was on the lookout for a fitting place in which to "settle down for life."

They established themselves in all the royal independence of a log cabin in the "bottom," some thirty miles south of where QUINCY now is and resided there for two or three years on the northern skirt of settlement, in what was then Madison, now Pike County.

Before anchoring themselves, these two men, with others, on the tenth of February, 1820, started on an exploring expedition through the southern part of the Military Tract. This journey occupied several weeks and carried them along the sections next the Illinois River as far north as the base line and thence east and south towards the junction of the two rivers. Wood and Keyes wanted to visit and inspect this place. The published maps of the country, defective as they were, all showed that here was a bluff bank on the east side of the river, the only really available point north of the mouth of the Illinois for a town, that would always be above overflow. It so happened, that these poor boys, Wood and Keyes, rode borrowed horses, and although anxious to go, having at last got in its neighborhood, to the bluffs of the river which their imaginations and conversations had fixed upon as the site of a future city, could not persuade the older heads of the party to go there, and hence, passing through about where now is Camp Point, then only a point of timber, jutting into the prairie and known as Indian Camp Point, and coming in their travel, within about twelve miles of QUINCY on their southern return, they "put for home," which they reached on the first of March, having been eleven days on their tour of exploration. This little episode indicates how nearly our pioneers came to fixing their location some years prior to the period of their permanent settlement. Still clinging to their original thought, awaiting the fitting chance for its development, they occupied themselves with farming and occasional explorations with seekers for land, whom their knowledge of the country and skill in woodcraft enabled them to efficiently aid. From a private journal kept by the father of the writer, describing a business tour he had made in 1821, from his residence in the southern section of the state through the military tract, we copy the following allusion to our future city fathers.

"Passed the night with two young bachelors from northern New York, Wood and Keyes by name. These young men propose to be permanent settlers and have all the requisites of character to make good citizens, much as will add to the character of a community and the development of landed values about them."

It was on one of the land-seeking excursions, as above named, in February, 1821, that Wood at last struck upon the long-thought-of El Dorado. Piloting two men, Moffatt and Flynn, in search of a quarter section of land owned by the latter, it proved to be the quarter section immediately east of and adjoining his present residence, on the corner of Twelfth and State Streets. The primitive beauties of the location touched his fancy; and he determined that it was just what he desired and should be secured, if within his power. The locality we have described in our second chapter. It was a disappointment to Flynn, who was impressed with its loneliness, and said he would not have a neighbor in fifty years. He carried away with him these feelings of dissatisfaction. On Wood's return to his cabin he lost no time in pouring into the eager ears of his partner his enthusiastic impressions; and his intention of returning to plant himself for life. Catching the infection which so blended with his own predilections and desires, Keyes, at his first convenience, borrowed a horse from his nearest neighbor, eight miles distant, and going up alone to look at the promised land and see for himself; needed but a single glance to become convinced that he need seek no further, or, to use his own words, that "not the half had been told." He laid out for the night at the foot of the bluff near the river, returned on the following day, and thenceforth, the purposes

of the young adventurers were fixed. Their home was chosen, the site of the future city was selected and they waited only the opportunity to establish themselves.

These details are given as indicative of the ideas that stimulated our ancestors in their settlement of the place. Circumstance, as has been seen, conspired to lead them to conceal the profound satisfaction which they entertained respecting their future home. Wood, it will be remembered, was "tongue-tied" by the presence of parties from whom he expected to purchase, and before whom it was not judicious to too strongly express himself, and whatever Keyes may have said or thought, could hardly have been remembered and brought away by his sole companion, another man's horse.

The primitive appearance of the place has been heretofore portrayed. It was an unbroken wild with no evidences of past permanent occupation, save the remains of a few rude stone chimneys or fire-places on the river bank about the foot of Broadway and Delaware streets. These were known to be the vestiges of the huts erected by French traders who in past years had occasionally wintered here, or sometimes made it a temporary rendezvous in their occasional dealing with the Indians.

There was a tradition connected with the locality current among the Indians and frontiermen, of a "treasure trove" that may yet start up to the enrichment of some child of fortune.

The story, fully as well authenticated as the legends of Capt. Kidd and Aladdin, is, that a wealthy Indian trader by the name of Bauvet, who lived here about the year 1811, buried two kegs of French crowns and was shortly afterward killed by the Indians, leaving the secret of his deposit unrevealed. The proof of this story will be established by the finding of the crowns.

The site of Quincy was at this time in Madison County.

The Legislature on the 31st of January, 1821, formed the county of Pike, embracing all the territory between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, reaching on the north to the Wisconsin line. Cole's Grove, now in Calhoun county, and since called Gilead, was the county seat. At the same session, February 14th, a legislative apportionment law was passed making Pike a representative, and Pike and Greene counties a senatorial district. So numerous and sometimes so conflicting were the applications for new counties, that on the 30th of January, a law was passed requiring that all intended applications to the General Assembly for the formation of counties must be previously published twelve times in a newspaper. The only newspaper in the country was published at Edwardsville. John Wood led the movement, which after a few years resulted in the formation of Adams County.

CHAPTER IV.

1822.

JOHN WOOD'S LOG CABIN THE FIRST BUILDING IN QUINCY. SIXTY DOLLARS FOR ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY ACRES. DANIEL LISLE AND JUSTUS PERIGO. THE FIRST SETTLERS IN ADAMS COUNTY, (THEN PIKE). FIRST STATE ELECTIONS. EFFORT OF THE PRO-SLAVERY ELEMENT TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION.

Wood and Keyes had but little difficulty in securing from Flynn the "refusal" of the land whose fertility and surroundings had so fastened upon their fancy. Flynn was as zealous to get rid of, as they were to acquire it. There was, however, a difficulty of another nature and one equally important to overcome. It took money to buy the land, and the enormous price asked by Flynn of sixty dollars for these 160 acres, was a fabulous sum to our young adventurers. They had, however, twenty dollars of their own and a neighbor forty miles away, happened to have the forty more to loan them and the trade was completed, to the satisfaction of all parties, in the summer of 1822. In the fall of this year, Wood came up and making "camp" on the bank of the river near the foot of Delaware street, commenced the erection of the first building within the limits of the present city. Not very pretentious was this lone structure, no architectural skill elaborated its style, no "sealed proposals" heralded its construction, no scheduled "estimate or written contracts," formalized its birth. It was a log cabin of the most primitive sort, 20 by 18 feet in size, built without the use of a single nail, a stranger to the aristocracy of "sawed lumber," clay chinked, with puncheon floor, rough stone fire place and chimney built of sticks bedaubed with clay. It was truly a wooden structure both in material and maker. With occasional aid from his distant neighbors in Pike, especially at the "raising," Mr. Wood was enabled to complete his home sufficiently to warrant moving in on the eighth of December, 1822. This cabin, long since destroyed, is remembered by some of the old settlers. It stood on the southeast corner of Front and Delaware streets,

facing west. Constructed with more care than was usual in those early days, subsequently, with additions made, a porch attached, whitewash liberally used and surroundings attended to, it became noted for an appearance of comfort and taste superior to most of the houses in the country.

For the first seven years, its ownership was a divided or doubtful one between two claimants, John Wood, the constructor and occupant, and the United States, in which rested the ownership of the land. For a while, the government claim was the only valid one. Although Mr. Wood at this time owned the land which he had purchased from Flynn and which he was now preparing to farm, the first soil, in this section broken, by a plow (he was a "squatter") was on the spot where he lived. Then and for some years later, the squatter on unsold government land was an intruder, (in law, a "trespasser.") Subsequently, a judicious and liberal reversal of the government policy, gave to the squatter a color of prior claim to the ownership of the land on which he had located whenever it came into market through the operation of the pre-emption laws. Excepting the patent on bounty lands, all the land in this section south of the base line was not subject to entry or purchase, until 1829.

At the time of Wood's settlement there were but two other white residents within the limits of what now constitutes Adams county. These were Daniel Lisle (afterwards County Commissioner) who lived a short distance south of where the town of Liberty now stands; some of whose descendants are yet residents in that neighborhood, and Justus I. Perigo, an old soldier who had settled in Section 9, 3 S. 8 W, on the quarter section which he had drawn. This land joins the well known "Chatten" farm in Fall Creek township and was probably the first improved, or perhaps we had better say cultivated land in the county. Taking the statement reported to have been made by its owner in the early times, it must have been in a singularly advanced condition of culture for those days.

The story is that Perigo, practically conscious of what Adam had been told that it was "not well for man to be alone," went for a wife in the southern part of the state, and successfully dazzled the fancy of a "confiding female" by the representation that he owned a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he had two thousand bearing apple trees. Record has not perpetuated Mrs. Perigo's comments, when, on coming up to the farm, she found that the two thousand apple trees were wild crabs.

Throughout the succeeding winter, Wood, with an occasional assistant, found ample employment in clearing the premises about his cabin, "mauling rails," etc., preparatory to his farming operations in the coming year, keeping "bachelor's hall" in the single tenement of which he was the sole occupant in 1822.

The elections in August, 1822, had generally a fortunate result. Edward Coles was chosen governor over three contestants, receiving a minority vote, but a larger one than any of his competitors. A. T. Hubbard was chosen Lieutenant Governor. He afterwards resided in Quincy and his remains lie in the "old grave yard" now called Jefferson Square. Daniel P. Cook was again elected Representative to Congress by an increased majority over John McLain, his opponent, in 1820. Thomas Carlin, afterwards Governor, was elected State Senator from the Pike and Greene District, embracing what is now Adams, and Nicholas Hanson, representative to the General Assembly. The election of Coles and Cook was an advantage to the cause of freedom that can never be overestimated. They represented, the former especially, anti-slavery element in the state and to Governor Coles, his position, example, energy and efficient action perhaps more than to any other man, is due the redemption of Illinois from the designs of the slavery propagandists. Now, for the first time, fairly entered this fireband into the political arena which it inflamed with intense excitement, to the exclusion of all other issues, throughout the two succeeding years, absorbing all minor questions and drawing a line of division through the political elements on which the political organizations of all subsequent time have stood and still exist.

Jesse B. Thomas was re-chosen United States Senator by the Legislature this year.

Two questions of exciting nature came before the General Assembly in 1822 and 1823, and in reference to them, the representatives from the "Kingdom of Pike," as our huge county, three hundred miles long and with an average width of fifty miles, was called, became part of a "curious piece of political history, which has occasionally been published as an illustration of sharp practice in the early days. The seat of Nicholas Hanson, representative from Pike, was contested by John Shaw, and after an examination into the question, Hanson was allowed the place, as was proper, he having, undoubtedly, been elected. The election for United States Senator came on soon after and Jesse B. Thomas, the former member, was re-elected. Hanson voted for him. The other issue to which allusion was made above, then came forward. An organized effort was made to introduce slavery into Illinois.

Forbidden in the Constitution of 1818, it could only be legalized by the revision of the constitution and in that instrument it was provided, that, to call a convention for such purpose two-thirds of each branch of the legislature, must order an election and the people then vote in favor of such call and then the legislature order, etc. The senate had a two-third majority of pro-slavery men, so that there no difficulty was found; while in the House they lacked just one of the requisite two-thirds. But where there is a will there is a way to shape desired ends. Wrong never knows scruples. Consistently with the policy, it ever after possessed, of defying law, right and decency when its interests demanded, slavery resolved upon its course. Shaw, a coarse, pliant and not scrupulous man, the unsuccessful contestant of Hanson, was sent for and he agreed if the seat would be given to him that he would vote for the convention. So the question decided ten weeks before was reconsidered. Hanson, who had been admitted and held the office for ten weeks, was turned out. Shaw was voted in, and casting his vote for the convention, it carried, and three days after Shaw's admission the General Assembly adjourned. These facts have been heretofore published, but usually with an important error. Probably to give piquancy to the story, it has been said that Hanson was admitted to vote for Thomas, which Shaw would not have done, and that Shaw was afterward brought in to vote for the convention as Hanson would not do. This is not correct. The senatorial election had no influence in determining Hanson's claim to a seat. It was decided on its merits. The turning him out was an after-thought, resorted to, when it was found, towards the close of the session, that one vote was needed, and Shaw's pliability and general views were known to be just what was required. Shaw was a rough, course natured man, of some means and more notoriety, of a most suspiciously contraband complexion and appearance, and not burdened with any amount of scruples to unload, that would have prevented him from voting any way on any subject (or promising to do so) to get his seat. He was known as the "Black Prince" of Calhoun.

The effect of this high-handed defiance of rule and propriety, was most seriously damaging to the cause of the pro-slavery men, and was a charge during the succeeding canvass which they could not deny or defend.

At this session, December 30th, 1822, the boundaries of Pike County were more completely defined, the base line six miles north of Quincy being the northern limit, all above, being "attached." Provision was also made for the selection of a county seat which should be south of the base line. Calhoun county was subsequently cut off from the lower portion of Pike with Cole's Grove (Gilead) as its county seat, while the county seat of Pike was established at Atlas, forty miles south of Quincy, which thus became the legal centre of this part of the county for the next three years.

CHAPTER V.

1823.

JEREMIAH ROSE. PIONEER HOSPITALITY. FIRST STEAMBOAT TO LAND. FIRST PASSENGER. STEAMBOATS DESCRIBED. SALE OF LANDS IN "MILITARY TRACT" FOR TAXES. KEYES BUYS A HALF SECTION.

The legislation bearing especially upon this section (what is now Adams County) during the year 1823, was not extensive or important. On the 28th of January, Fulton County was formed by detaching that portion of the military tract lying east of the Meridian; and on the 18th of February, as stated in the preceding chapter, by the aid of Shaw, the bogus representative from Pike, the call for a convention to revise the Constitution of the State, passed the General Assembly, and thereupon, commenced the fierce political struggle, which raged throughout the farthest bounds of the state and was ended by the decisive result at the polls eighteen months later.

In March of this year, Major Jeremiah Rose, with his wife and daughter, moved up from the lower part of Pike County, where he had been residing, and commenced "housekeeping" in Wood's cabin, its proprietor boarding with them.

The same spring, Wood and Rose broke and put under tillage about thirty acres of the land on either side of State street, just east of 12th, which Wood had enclosed during the winter, this being the land bought by him of Flynn, and the first cultivated ground in the vicinity.

There was very little immigration during the year, though a few settlers dropped in at scattered points throughout the county. Tyrer, on his land in Melrose, southeast of the city, Major Campbell and the Worleys in the Rock Creek section, and perhaps half a dozen other families, or, generally, single men, settled in other localities. The little family of four monarchs of all they surveyed plodded diligently on

through the monotonous time, gradually surrounding themselves with more and more of the comforts of home, plain as these comforts were, and extending the sphere of their farming labors as the months rolled along. An occasional land hunter; a straggling squad of Indians; the monthly passage by of the military mail carrier from below to Fort Edwards (Warsaw); now and then a United States Army officer on his tour of duty; these were the random links that gave them some connection with civilization.

Whoever came, stepped at once into the hospitalities he sought without doubt as to welcome or waiting for an invitation.

Hotels were unknown, or rather it might be said, that every cabin, tent, or camp was a free hotel, a "lodge in the wilderness" open to the unasked use of all. Those were the days when "every stranger seemed a friend and every friend a brother," and the traveler more than repaid the care he caused when he opened his budget of news and gossip from the far-off world.

Such was the social condition throughout the whole frontier of the west here and elsewhere, and this, like some others, from location or accident, became one of the noted stations for the traveler's hospitable welcome. Stateliер structures have since arisen, from which reach out more tempting offerings of luxury and style, but never has the wearied wayfarer been solaced with truer comfort and rest, than in the rough-hewn huts of our pioneer sires. Rugged as might be the outer seeming, welcome smiled on the threshold and plenty crowned the board, and in the little clean-kept cabin, from stranger and sojourner faded away all thought of homely cheer while partaking of the kind hospitality of their hosts.

A salient episode in the monotony of the time, was the appearance of the "Virginia," the first steamboat that attempted the navigation on the upper Mississippi. It was a stern wheeler with a cabin on the lower deck, and no upper works, not even a pilot house. It was steered by a tiller in the hands of the pilot, as are canal boats at the present time. It was 118 feet long and 22 feet beam, and drew six feet when moderately loaded.

The "Virginia" passed up in May of this year with the object of demonstrating the feasibility of navigation by steam of the Mississippi from St. Louis to its junction with the Minnesota (Fort Snelling). This, though the first boat that passed over the lower rapids, was but the second that had ascended to that point. Three years before, a government steamer, the "Western Engineer," commanded by or under the direction of Major S. H. Long, an army officer eminent for his acquirements as a discoverer and civil engineer, steamed up as high as Keokuk. This was in the summer of 1820 or 1821; authorities disagree upon the precise date.

On its downward trip, Mr. Asa Tyrer, who afterward located, lived and died east of what was long known as Tyrers' (now Watson's) Spring, happened to be on the river bank, having roamed here to examine his land. He hailed the steamboat, was taken on board and thus the Engineer became the first steamer that landed at Quincy, and Mr. Tyrer the first passenger therefrom. It was many years before another was seen.

Before this time, and for many years afterward, transportation on the river was carried on by keel boats, which made their periodical trips from St. Louis to Fort Cranford, Prairie Du Chien or Fort Snelling, laden with supplies for the army and the Indians, and whatever else of freight might be picked up. The ordinary speed of these boats was from eight to twelve miles a day, by being cordelled or poled along the banks except when, with a favorable south wind, sail could be raised, when their progress was greatly accelerated.

Freight usually had a fixed price, that is, the charge was as great to any intermediate point as throughout the whole distance unless the shipper would guarantee that when his way freight was taken out an equal amount should replace it. Then rates proportionate to distance would be charged.

The construction of the Engineer "smoke boat" or "fire canoe," as the Indians termed the steamboat, was peculiar enough to warrant description. Authorities differ somewhat as to the detail of appearance, one writer says that "on the bow running from the keel, was the image of a huge serpent, painted black, its mouth red, and tongue the color of a live coal; the steam escaped through the mouth of this image. The Indians looked upon it with great wonder and astonishment. They declared it was the power of the great Spirit; and said the big snake carried the boat on its back. Some were afraid to go near the machinery. The steamer was in command of Lieutenant Swift, but the vessel was not very swift, but as a means of exploration, the boat was a success. She was a side-wheeler, and the first to ascend the Upper Missouri, and Mississippi." Another and more reliable authority, the Rev. John M. Peck, who writes from his personal observation, says "the boat was a small one with a stern wheel and an escape pipe so contrived as to emit a torrent of smoke and steam through

the head of a serpent with a red forked tongue projecting from the bow."

A steamer, however, was a curiosity in those days. It was not until about the year 1830 that steamboats fairly superseded the keel boats on the Upper Mississippi, and not until a later period, that their business became general and regular. The reasons were manifold.

One was the light amount of business that offered either way up or down, and unless steamboats had a shipment of government stores for army or Indian use, it did not pay to steam into the wilderness, and again the construction of boats in those days precluded navigation of the upper rivers except during for a short period of the year.

They were built shiplike on ocean models, round bottomed and deep, drawing more water light, than the largest packets now draw loaded.

The steamers of "old times," as recollection pictures them, contrast strikingly with the floating palaces of to-day. They were short, blunt, broad, with small wheels; the wheelhouse rarely rising above the level of the cabin floor. The ladies' cabin was located at the stern of the boat as now, the gentlemen's cabin was below and in the rear of the wheel houses. The sides of the cabins were filled with two and sometimes three tiers of berths, with long curtains that during the day were drawn aside. State rooms were much later inventions; not until about 1836 were these in use, and only then and later, was the custom of making the cabins all lined with staterooms, general.

The space now occupied by the main cabin was unfinished and used by the half-fare or "deck" passengers. The roof did not, as now, extend forward over the boiler deck. It ran about two-thirds the length of the boat with the little pilot house standing on its forward edge. There was no cover to the boiler deck and up through it ran the two chimneys. A single engine only was used with one escape pipe and especial care was taken to have the escape of the steam as loud as possible, so that it might serve as a note of warning to the country for ten miles or more around.

A bowsprit from six to ten feet long protruded at the front on the end of which the flag staff rested. Some of the earlier built boats made use of the bowsprit as a scape pipe for the steam as depicted in another part of this chapter.

Some of these seekers for land during this and the following year returned and settled in various directions but they were few and scattered. Only those who, as soldiers, had drawn land or those who had bought of the soldier, could legally occupy the government land, for, as we have stated, it did not come into market until about 1830.

The bounty lands were first offered for sale, under state laws, for taxes, in December of this year at Vandalia, when all the lands granted by the government to soldiers lying between the two rivers where default to pay taxes had occurred, were put up for sale and this sale attracted a great representation of settlers and speculators. So extensive, however, was the amount of land offered in contrast with the number and means of the attendant purchasers that little or no competition occurred, the buyers formed in a circle on the day of sale and the lots were bought in turn, and subsequently divided by the purchasers. Mr. Keyes (who up to this time remained at the old residence in five south, six west) and Mr. Wood, attended this sale and purchased sundry lots in the vicinity of Quincy, trusting to their intended occupancy and the chance of obtaining the other title if their tax purchase was not redeemed. At this time Mr. Keyes purchased the half section north of Broadway and West of 12th street, for the amount of taxes and costs amounting to about eleven dollars, the complete title of which he acquired at a later day.

Atlas was now and for two years after the nearest postoffice. To that place a weekly mail carried on horseback was brought.

CHAPTER VI.

1824.

CABINS OF WOOD. KEYES. DROULARD. FIRST BLACKSMITH. FIRST PHYSICIAN. PRO-SLAVERY AGITATION. TIN TEAPOT FOR A BALLOT BOX. FIRST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTON. GOVERNOR CARLIN. ROLL CALL OF ARRIVALS.

In the spring of 1828 Willard Keyes, who two or three years before had been keeping "bachelor's hall" with John Wood, about thirty miles south of where Quincy now is, came up to the "bluffs," following his old "pardner." Wood, and built for himself a cabin some twenty feet square, and rather larger and more pretentious than that of Wood's. It was located near what is now the corner of First and Vermont streets. This "settlement" of Keyes' was a "squat," the term in those days, applied to a location or residence on government land not yet subject to entry, and was in opposition to the laws which forbid such settlement and occupation. Mr. Keyes hoped, however, to obtain a pre-

emption under the law which would entitle him to priority in purchase when the land became subject to sale. But the fact of its being fractional and the subsequent taking it for the county seat under the provisions of a law which reserved any quarter section from private entry that had been selected as a county seat, before its offer for sale, spoiled the hopes of the pioneer. He cared little about this, because it was mainly through him that the county seat was located where it now is to the sacrifice of his immediate interests in the land on which he lived. This rough, little cramped cabin became a prominent building, because put to many public uses in those early days. It was the "temple of justice" where the first court was held. It was the place for public assemblages, where the early officials met and the primitive organizations were matured, sometimes it served for religious meetings (like Wood's cabin, a half a mile south); it was a general free hotel for the wanderer and the wayfarer, and the temporary stopping place of the immigrant with his family until he could make his permanent location in the neighborhood. This was the second house built in Quincy.

In the fall of this year came John Droulard, a Frenchman, and a shoemaker by trade, who had served in the army. He became the owner of the northeast quarter of section two, township two south, range nine west, the 160 acres now in the center of the city lying immediately east of the fractional quarter on which Keyes had settled; bounded by Broadway and 12th streets on the north and east, on the west by the alley, running from Maine to Hampshire, between 6th and 7th, and on the south by a line nearly half way between Kentucky and York streets. This was a choice piece of property, which, in a few years, Droulard frittered away. He erected a cabin near the northeast corner of what is now Jersey and 8th streets, a little west of where the gas works are situated. These three houses, Wood's, Keyes' and Droulard's, were the only buildings in the place in 1824. This same season, Asa Tyrer, who had visited the place some years before, came again and set up a cabin and blacksmith shop about a mile southeast, near what was long known as Tyrer's Spring, since called Watson's Spring, named for Ben Watson, the son-in-law of Tyrer, who long lived there afterward. A Dr. Thomas Baker, the earliest physician in the county, came also during the summer and established himself about two miles south, below the bluff. He was a learned and skillful man. A few years later, he moved north into what is now Mercer county, and shortly after, was accidently killed—kicked by his horse. The three families first named, Wood, then unmarried, with whom was Major Rose and family, Keyes also a bachelor and Droulard with a family were the people of Quincy. Their special pioneership may be stated thus: Wood first came, built and settled; Rose then followed, took Wood's cabin, kept house for him and brought hither the first family; Keyes was next in the order of coming, and the first to settle on what became the original town of Quincy, and Droulard was the first resident land owner. Keyes, Wood and Rose were living on land to which as yet they had not obtained title. They were "squatters" in fact, as were many of our early settlers at first, but they were the possessors of the entire area, and their apparent ownership "fenced in," as it were, the locality so that there seemed "no abiding place" for anyone else until the following year, when the establishment of the county seat on the fractional northwest quarter of section two, threw the land open to settlement. There were a few settlers around within a range of thirty miles or more, less than a hundred in all, men, women and children. The census of the following year gave 192 as the population of Adams and Hancock. Quiet and monotonous was the life they led on this edge of civilization; devoted to their simple daily task, gathering the news from the outer world that came through the meagre monthly mail or was brought by the occasional traveler or the incoming settler, who were certain to be thoroughly pumped of all the news they contained. Yet their isolation and distance from older communities did not prevent their taking interest in public affairs and the growing future of the great state whose fortunes they had linked with their own. And the time soon came for this little community to play a not unimportant part in the movements permanently shaping the destiny of Illinois. During this year, there came up and was settled the most exciting and vital political struggle that ever affected the social, political, moral and material interest of the state.

Illinois six years before had been admitted to the union with a free constitution, but was in many respects, practically a slave state. Her early settlers were mainly from the south, and most of her public men were of southern birth and proclivities. Slaves had, without restriction, been brought here during territorial times and even later, and they remained here as slaves. Again, by stipulation in the treaties which transferred all of the Louisiana territory, embracing the valley of the Mississippi, negroes belonging to the French and Span-

ish owners remained slaves for life, and the children of such slaves so continued until they became twenty-eight years of age. Thus a large slave element and interest existed.

The election as governor in 1822 of Coles, an avowed emancipationist, who had brought hither his own slaves from Virginia and given them their freedom, aroused all the latent disagreeing elements on this subject and stimulated a struggle as bitter and fierce as always characterized contests over this issue during the after years when the pro-slavery interest attempted to dominate the nation. It was essential to the introduction, and sustaining of slavery, such as existed, that the constitution should be changed. To do this a convention must be called. In the legislature of 1822-23 one vote was needed to pass the law calling for a convention to be voted for at the next election. It was furnished from the "military tract."

The scheme by which a majority in the legislature was secured in favor of the convention, has been related. The measure was adopted by a majority of one.

From this time, the spring of 1823, for eighteen months, until the August election of 1824, the state was stirred up with great excitement. Voting for a convention, meant and was recognized as voting for slavery. If a convention was called, the apportionment in the state was such that it would have a majority of pro-slavery members, and there was the certainty that a constitution recognizing slavery would be framed and adopted without submission to a popular vote, just as the constitution of 1818 was adopted.

There were but four votes in Quincy, and in what is now Adams county there were perhaps a score or more, but they were earnest and active. The county, which was then Pike, as far north as the base line six miles above Quincy, was canvassed thoroughly, so was all the country north as far as Rock Island. The voters turned out en masse, and on Sunday morning, the day before the election, nearly fifty had gathered here at the "Bluffs," as the place was then called. They rode to Atlas, forty miles south, swimming the creeks which were "bank full," and plumped their votes on the following day. Of the one hundred votes cast at Atlas, ninety-seven were for "no convention" or a free state, and three were "for the convention." The "no convention" ticket swept the state by about 1,800 majority, and Illinois was preserved to freedom.

At this same election, Nicholas Hanson, who had been so unceremoniously ejected from the previous legislature, was re-chosen by a most decisive vote. He resigned before his term expired and was succeeded by Levi Roberts, of Fulton county. Fulton and Pike were then a representative district. Thomas Carlin (afterward governor) was elected state senator. Daniel P. Cook was elected again to congress over his competitor, ex-Governor Bond. Illinois was entitled to but one representative. Ninian Edwards, U. S. senator, having resigned, John McLean was chosen as his successor.

The presidential election in November, which resulted in the success of John Quincy Adams, was marked by a feature which is said to have had some bearing upon the name given to the county and town in the following year. At this time the whole country between the rivers, north of Pike county, was attached to that county, and called, from its extent, the "Kingdom of Pike." As there were no organized or authorized voting places north of Atlas the settlers concluded to try their own hands independently at electing a president. Accordingly on the day of election some twenty or more of them assembled, and organized a poll by electing judges and clerks and made use of a tin teapot for a ballot box and voted. John Wood came up from Atlas the day before with a list of the Adams electors. Nobody knew the names of the Clay or Crawford electors. They all wanted to vote. So, though many of them thought that Jackson or Crawford or Clay was the better man, they unanimously voted the Adams ticket.

At this presidential election in November, 1824, twenty votes were said to have been cast. This number is not improbable, as men were then allowed to vote, away from home, anywhere in the state at general elections, and the qualifications of the voters as to age, citizenship, etc., were rarely inquired into. Indeed, some of the voters on this occasion were residents of Missouri, but who could not find any other place in which to exercise their freeman's privilege. There is one point in this old and oft told story of their making use of an old teapot for a ballot box which is of more than doubtful validity, and which rather tends to cloud the whole transaction with some uncertainty. The manner of voting then in this state was viva voce, and not until twenty-four years, was the ballot box system adopted as the law. Why or how a teapot should have been needed is somewhat of a puzzle. Still, as all the parties are dead and the story now can neither be refuted nor proven, it is well enough to let it stand and not be too critical in the vindication of the truth of the story.

The presidential election had no political character. The contest between General Jack-

son, Henry Clay, John Quincy Adams and Wm. H. Crawford for the presidency was almost entirely personal, and based, mainly, on individual preferences or local feeling. These men had all been more or less closely associated with the late administration of President Monroe and entertained nearly the same general political ideas. This was also the case in regard to the local elections and officials.

Hanson and Carlin—representative and senator—represented no party, for there were no parties nor party names, to serve under. They were of general agreement in public matters but of different stamp of character and training, and would have drifted into opposition over the strong political lines that formed a few years later. These two were important men in their day. Hanson was possessed of more than ordinary ability, and had a great deal of influence in the legislature and at home. After he resigned his seat in the house, during this session, he returned to New York, his native state. Carlin filled a large place in the history of this section and the state. He was state senator for eight years, soon after came to Quincy as receiver of the land office, and in 1838, was chosen governor. He was a man of limited attainments, of rough appearance and habits, but had force of character, good judgment and personal integrity, qualities which secured him public confidence and success.

Settlers came slowly drifting into the vicinity during the year; perhaps a dozen or more families settled in what afterward became Adams county, most of them in the southern portion. None came to Quincy, or the "Bluffs," as it was then called. These settlers were either soldiers who had come to take possession of the land which they had drawn as bounty, or parties who had purchased of the soldiers. No other than the military bounty lands had, as yet, come into market. These settlers passed directly on to their lands and commenced and were kept busied with their rude improvements. During the year there moved into the county, Levi Wells, Orestes and Zephaniah Ames, Amos Bancroft, Rial Crandall, James Pearce, L. Budkirk, the Seehorns, Elias Adams, Lawrence Cranford, Daniel Moore, Peter Journey and perhaps half a dozen others. There was but little intercourse because the people were few, were busy clearing their lands and lived far apart. There was no trading because there was nothing raised to sell, and but little was wanted. Supplies, such as could not be raised at home and were needed, were obtained from Clarksville or Louisiana or sometimes, from St. Louis. Clarksville, Missouri, was then the postoffice. Afterward a postoffice was established at Atlas, forty miles south. Up to this time, none but log houses were built in the county, and all of these were built without iron, all ties and fastenings being made with wooden pins.

CHAPTER VII.

1825.

COMMISSIONERS LAY OUT THE TOWN AND FIX THE COUNTY SEAT. WHY COUNTY NAMED "ADAMS" AND TOWN "QUINCY." FIRST WEDDING. FIRST CIRCUIT COURT. MAILS ONCE A WEEK. DIFFICULTY IN GETTING TITLE TO SITE OF CITY. FIRST PLAT OF CITY. FIRST SALE OF LOTS. FIRST BURIAL GROUND. FIRST COURT HOUSE. ROLL OF NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS.

Eighteen hundred and twenty-five was a notable year in the history of Quincy. It was the natal year of county and city, and when the former assumed its permanent place in the political structure of the state. In 1824, and also in 1825, up to the time when the Commissioners authorized by the state, came to locate the county seat of the new county, there were at "the bluffs" but three resident families and as many cabins. These last were, as has been related, first, John Wood's cabin, near the corner of Delaware and Front streets, inhabited by John Wood and Major Jeremiah Rose and family; second, Willard Keyes' cabin, near where Front and Vermont streets join, in which he lived by himself, and, third, (also third in the order of erection), was the cabin of John Droulard, a Frenchman. He was a shoemaker by trade, and the owner of the quarter section bounded by Twelfth street on the east, Broadway on the north, the west line reaching to the alley between sixth and seventh streets, and the south line to a point between York and Kentucky streets. Droulard's cabin was situated near what is now the corner of Seventh and Jersey streets, on the block northwest of the present gas works.

In conformity with the notice referred to in a preceding chapter, application was made to the General Assembly at its session of 1824 and 1825 and the same was referred to the Committee on Counties, of which General Nicholas Hanson, the representative from Pike county, which then embraced all the country between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, was chairman. He reported a bill, which was passed and approved January 18th, 1825, creating the counties of Adams and Schuyler, providing for their organization, and dividing the remainder of the Military Tract into future counties, each

temporarily attached to either one of the above counties, but authorized to independently organize when the population amounted to three hundred and fifty persons; authority being given to the Governor to appoint the necessary county officials. Adams and Schuyler counties, under this law, were allowed to initiate their corporate organizations whenever the Circuit Judge should order an election for County Commissioners. This election for Adams county was ordered and held on the 2nd of July. Hancock county by the law, was attached to and formed, temporarily, a part of Adams.

The three commissioners, appointed in pursuance of the above legislation, to select the county seat for the new county, were Joel Wright, of Montgomery County, Seymour Kellogg, of Morgan, and David Dutton of Pike.

On the 30th of April, two of the Commissioners, Messrs. Kellogg and Dutton, came to "the bluffs" to perform their allotted task. They had been strongly impressed with the propriety and had come to the determination, as they expressed it, of locating the county seat "as near the geographical center of the county as possible." Fate decreed otherwise. Luck, strategy and the impressive treatment they received at "the bluffs" produced a reversal of this design. They were courteously received on their arrival. One-fourth of the male population of the place was absent (Wood being at St. Louis), but the residue (Keyes, Rose and Droulard) turned out en masse. The Commissioners accepted the hospitalities of the place, and when they started on their search for the center of the county, twenty-five per cent of the male population (Willard Keyes) volunteered to escort and guide them. One finds, as a curious commentary on the uncertainty which sometimes attends the action of a person of the most assured capacity, that, on this occasion, Mr. Keyes' proverbial skill in wooderaft and experience as a land pilot, appears to have been entirely lost, or, left at home; since, notwithstanding his valuable and disinterested aid, the worthy commissioners after a day's toil, found themselves far more likely to reach the center of the earth than the center of the county. After floundering through the briars, bogs, quagmires, swamps and quicksands of Mill Creek, sinking sometimes to their saddle girths, happy were the fagged dignitaries, abandoning their profitless search for the central "Eldorado," to retrace their steps, and, when the dusk came on, find shelter beneath the generous roof of the cabin of John Wood and Jeremiah Rose. A substantial supper; a comforting sleep; a hearty breakfast on the ensuing morning, and the bewildered judgment of the now refreshed Commissioners, ripened to a result. Passing, with all the people of the place in procession, over the broken bluffs and through the grassy woods to the narrow, prairie ridge that crept across what is now Washington Square, they halted about the spot where is now the bronze statue of John Wood. Here, driving a stake into the ground, with all the formality and impressiveness that could be brought to bear, they officially announced that the Northwest quarter of section two, township two, range nine west, was from that hour the county seat of Adams County. Then, reverently placing their hands upon the top of the stake, they christened the place "Quincy."

John Quincy Adams had been elected President and on the preceding 4th of March, took possession of the White House, and just about the time of this visit of the commissioners, the inaugural address of "The old man eloquent," which had been delivered to Congress some two months before, had been brought in the mails. It formed, of course, a topic for conversation between the Commissioners and the citizens, and Kellogg, a warm Adams man from Morgan, sore over a recent political struggle, said, "In our county, they've named the county seat Jacksonville, after General Jackson." "Well," said some one from the crowd, "let's call our county seat Quincy, and we'll see which comes out ahead, Jackson or Adams." It was carried by a unanimous vote.

As the county had been called Adams and the town christened Quincy, an attempt was made to have the stream that flows into the river at the foot of Delaware street, named "Johnny Creek," so as to complete the sequence of the cognomen. It failed to stick.

Another query about names occurs in the case of "The Bay," which stretches along the foot of the bluffs for about three miles above the city. "Boston Bay" it was called in the earlier times and on the older maps, as some say, because "a Bostonian once navigated his craft up this bay, mistaking it for the main channel of the river." The more reasonable theory is, that it took its name from a French trader by the name of Bouston, or Boistone, who lived on its east bank.

A notable event occurred shortly after this visit of the Commissioners, the first of its kind, and hence the cause of no small sensation in the infant community. It was the marriage of Amos Bancroft to Ardelia Ames. Whether these young people were stimulated to this step by a laudable ambition to be the first local pioneers in the good work invented by old Adam, or whether they were influenced by that which makes young folks nowadays "go and do

likewise," it is not now material to inquire; sufficient is the fact that theirs was the pioneer wedding, the first marriage solemnized in Adams County. The venerable Mr. Bancroft afterward removed to Missouri, where he died February, 1875.

The first election was held for county officers on the 2nd of July at "Keyes' Cabin," where the Presidential vote had been taken the fall before. Whether the old teapot officiated again is not recorded. About forty votes were polled. These forty votes included probably almost every man in Adams County; those in the attached territory on the north, and also anybody else who chose to vote. Our unselfish and unsuspicious ancestors were not sensitive on the suffrage question. Age, residence, or other qualifications were matters that they inquired into very little. Their reasoning was that any one who came along, unless Indian or negro, had a right to vote, if not here somewhere, and hence perplexing questions were rarely asked. The commissioners chosen, were Peter Journey, a Jerseyman by birth, who lived at the foot of the bluff about ten miles south; Willard Keyes, a native of Vermont, resident, as we have stated, about the foot of Vermont street, and Levi Wells, a native of Connecticut. Mr. Wells then resided in the south part of the county near Payson, but soon moved to Quincy, remaining in the city until his death. The estimated population of the county at this time, was seventy. On the 4th of July, the newly chosen officials met for organization at the house of Mr. Keyes. They appointed as temporary clerk (subsequently making the appointment permanent), Henry H. Snow. Mr. Snow (or Judge Snow, as he was always named in later years) was a single man. He had arrived in Quincy but a few days previous. He was a native of New Hampshire, a man of good clerical attainment, qualifications much needed in those days, and with an unusual fund of general intelligence. He soon became the incumbent of nearly all the official positions in the county. His name is perhaps, more directly associated with the records and public business of the place than that of any other of the earlier settlers. Earl Pearce was appointed constable and Ira Pearce deputed to take the census. The Pearce family lived near where the Alexander farm now is, five miles south. Joshua Streeter, John L. Soule, Lewis C. K. Hamilton and Amos Bancroft were appointed justices of the peace.

Near the close of July or early in August, the first Circuit Court convened, as usual, at the cabin of Mr. Keyes. No apology was due Mr. Keyes for the public use thus made of his house, since the fact is, that his was the only one of the three cabins in the place that had no women or children in it. At this term, little or no business was transacted farther than what was necessary to the organization of the court. The first formally concluded legal business was at the succeeding term in October. At the session of the County Commissioners preceding the term of the Circuit Court, the panel of Grand and Petit Jurors being made out is said to have embraced every qualified juryman in the country except two, and one of those was under indictment.

John Yoreke Sawyer, the first circuit judge, was no ordinary man. He was a native of Vermont. He possessed acquirements and legal acumen, fully adequate to sustain the character of the local bench in those days. In one respect, he was far beyond rivalry. Judge Sawyer weighed nearly four hundred pounds, while, as an illustration of how extremes will often meet, his good wife could not bring down the scales at ninety pounds. The wags used to say that it took an active lawyer to get around the Judge, and when, in the little sixteen-foot square cabin of Mr. Keyes, where the first court was held, or even afterward in the twenty-two by eighteen court-room subsequently erected, his honor took his seat, the room seemed full of justice. He had a spice of jolly waggery at times:

Mrs. ..... said he, to a country landlady as he picked up the plate of butter, "what's the color of your cows?" "Why, Judge," she answered, "they're all colors; white and black and speckled." "So I should think, by the looks of your butter," was the Judge's reply. He was a fair lawyer, and a correct man. He remained in office but two years. The General Assembly at the session of 1826 and 1827 changing the circuit court system, appointed Samuel D. Lockwood, in the place of Sawyer. He afterward removed to Vandalia and died there March 13th, 1836, while editing the Vandalia Advocate.

Neither Quincy nor Adams County, in those halcyon days, were blessed with any lawyers, but at this first session the Judge was accompanied by the Prosecuting Attorney, James Turney, A. W. Cavarly, for many years after a prominent politican from Greene County; Ben Mills, the most gifted man in the state of his day, who died at Galena some twenty years later; J. W. Whitney, the Lord Coke of famous "Lobby" memory; John Turney, and perhaps other members of the bar, from "below." H. H. Snow was appointed circuit clerk. He was, as before stated, peculiarly qualified for positions of this character and for many years "swung

around the circle" of public trusts, efficient, faithful, and respected by all. He was Circuit and County Clerk, Probate Judge, Justice of the Peace, Postman and Recorder, and kept singing school besides. He died honored and lamented in 1860. Colonel James Black of Vandalia, was the first appointed postmaster and recorder, but a few days' residence disgusted him with the primitive surroundings and he left, deputizing his duties to Mr. Snow, who soon succeeded to both positions. Levi Hadley was appointed sheriff, an excellent man, who, four years later, in 1829, fell from a steamboat and was drowned while on his way to Galena.

These, and those previously named, were all the county officials appointed or thought necessary at the time. In the year following, an assessor and treasurer were appointed. Nicholas Hanson was the representative, and Thomas Carlin, of Greene County, was state senator.

Up to this time, Atlas, forty miles south in Pike County, was the nearest postoffice. There was received a weekly mail, carried on horseback. When Quincy became a "local habitation and a name" it received the benefit of this weekly mail, but it was many years before the mail bag came oftener than once a week. Access to the world without was by horseback, and when not in an especial haste, by keelboat or canoe. Steamboats came "occasionally," stage coaches were unknown, and roads were not yet made. The heaviest duty that pressed upon our new county commissioners was the devising where roads ought to be. There ran at this time along the river bank, under the bluff, a faintly beaten track, made by the military travel, from Fort Edwards (Warsaw) south. There was also a road from near the cabin of John Wood up the creek, dividing when it reached the higher ground, one path pointing towards Fort Clark (Peoria), and the other eastward, towards the Illinois river, at Phillips' Ferry.

Although the location of the county seat had been established and the name decided, the work was, as yet, far from being done. The N. W. 2-2 S. 9 W. had, it is true, been declared by the authorized commissioners of Illinois, to be the county seat of Adams County, but the land belonged yet to the United States, and Adams County could exercise no ownership over it until the same had been bought and paid for. The land was not as yet in the market. A serious, but perhaps unavoidable drawback to the ready settlement of the new states was the delay of the Government in completing its surveys and throwing the lands open to entry. For nearly ten years after the admission of the State, only the bounty or soldier's patented lands of the Military Tract were within the reach of immigrants, the Government, or "Congress" land, as it was called, not being ready for entry or offered for sale. A very judicious act of Congress, however, had secured to counties the right of pre-emption, or priority of purchase, whenever the land came into market, of any one designated quarter-section to be used as a county seat. The land above-mentioned had been, as we have seen, selected by the State Commissioners; but the next step, and the most difficult, was the raising of the money (about $200) to deposit with the land office and thus confirm the pre-emption; and herein "lay the rub."

The score or two of residents of Quincy and the vicinity as yet had little money. Mount Pisgah could almost as easily have been lifted from its base as the required amount for such a purpose have been furnished by our handful of pioneers.

Fortunately a Mr. Russell Farnham, a well-known, liberal "river trader," the first who took out a peddler's license from the county, had the money and would advance it if he could have some personal assurances of its ultimate return. He regarded the infant county as a very mythical institution, in a business point of view. On being thus assured, he loaned the money ($200) and took the note of the Commissioners, dated August 17th, 1825, secured by H. H. Snow and David E. Cuyler as endorsers. This note was taken up and another given by the commissioners without endorsers, dated September 6th, 1825, payable May 15th, 1826, with 10 per cent interest from August 17th, 1825. This note was held by Farnham, and no payments were made on it until April 10th, 1829, when $205 were paid, and on the 1st of May, 1830, the remainder was paid. Mr. Farnham died not long afterward, of cholera, at Portage de Sioux.

With this money the patent was obtained, but not without much tribulation. It was well known that the quarter was fractional, while the precise number of acres was uncertain. The commissioners deposited as much of the money as they thought necessary, desiring to use the remainder for other purposes. They were advised that their deposit was probably too small. Another installment was added and still the matter appearing doubtful, they were informed that if they would deposit the whole amount ($200) the patent would be at once issued to them for 160 acres, and the difference be refunded whenever the exact measure of the quarter was ascertained. This was done and this is the reason why the patent or deed from

the United States conveys 160 acres, while, as was subsequently ascertained on working out the field notes, when filed, the real area was but 154 acres.

The deed from the United States was not made until the 13th of February, 1832. It conveys the N. W. 2, 2 S. 9 W. to the "County of Adams and its successors."

On the 9th of November the commissioners made an order that there should be a survey and plat prepared of the quarter section on which the county seat was located, and that a sale of lots should be held on December 13th. They appointed Snow surveyor and he, in conjunction with the commissioners, laid out the town in equilateral blocks, except where the diagonal directions of the river and the fractional proportions on the east and south varied the plan. Five streets were platted, running east and west; the central one called Maine and the others named respectively, York, Jersey, Hampshire and Vermont, after the states from whence came the three commissioners and the clerk, six streets running north and south, after Front were, consecutively numbered from the river eastward.

In making this survey and plat, the leading idea with all was to reserve for the "public uses" the highest, most central and level ground so far as was possible. These surveys were made entirely in rods, not feet. The blocks, lots (where not fractional of necessity) and the streets, were uniformly laid out thus: Blocks twenty-four rods square; lots twelve rods deep, and six rods wide; streets four rods wide, except Maine street, which was given five rods. Block number twelve (now Washington Park) was reserved as a public square. It was choice ground for such a use, and in relation thereto, "many a hard fought battle at the polls was made to preserve the public square from desecration by those who could conceive no other utility for the square than to make it the receptacle of every building that could be thought of, from the court house and the jail to the butcher's stall." The first butcher in Quincy spiked a wooden bar to a tree in the square, and hung his meat on it. When the community consumed the meat, and he concluded it would be ready for further consumption, he killed another animal. Besides the reservation above stated, there was also set apart a strip of land along the river for the purposes of a public landing, and all the tier of lots on Fifth street, between Maine and Hampshire for "public uses." Also that portion of the present Sixth street with all east thereof; now known as Block 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36; and the front tier of lots along the river from Maine street south, were marked on the plat as "unappropriated ground," remaining thus until laid off in lots on a supplemental plan March 4th, 1828.

In 1826, the south half of what is now called Jefferson Square was reserved as a "burial ground for the people of Adams County," and the lot on Fifth street immediately north of the court house for school purposes.

The sale occurred as ordered, having been duly advertised in the St. Louis and Edwardsville papers, on the 13th day of December. It was continued from time to time, as the county commissioners ordered, and the last of the lots were sold in 1836, about the time the second court house was built.

There was but little speculation in the original "town quarter." Although it had been extensively advertised, when came the sale day, few outsiders were present to buy, and the resident neighbors had no means after buying their corn bread and bacon to spare for speculative purposes. The only foreign purchaser was a Dr. Mullen, an army surgeon, who happened to be present, at the time of sale and bought a few lots. All the other lots sold were taken by the town and county people.

Deeds were not given at once, as the title had not at the time of the first sale been formally received. Several years elapsed before complete conveyances were made, and, in the meantime many of the original purchasers having assigned their bonds, the title in such cases was made by the commissioners direct to the assignees. The terms were one-fourth cash, and the remainder in three annual payments.

The following are some of the prices paid: Lots 1 and 2, block 19, being the southwest corner of Fifth and Maine, running half way to Fourth street, was bought for $30.00. The other portion of the ground to Fourth street, now including the Daneke building and the QUINCY (Newcomb) House, was bought for $46.00. The corner, 99 by 198 feet, on which now stands the QUINCY (Newcomb) House brought $27.00, the highest price paid for property located around the square. Two hundred feet north from, and including the old post office corner on Fourth street, was struck off for $29.00. The Park corner (Maine and Fourth), 99 feet on Maine street and 198 feet on Fourth, sold for $18.25. The corner of Maine and Fifth on which stands the Flach's building, sold (99 feet on Maine street and 198 on Fifth) for $16.25.

The following is a schedule of the first day's sale:

Block	Lot	Price	Block	Lot	Price
5	2	$ 6.00	17	2	$ 4.00
5	3	21.00	17	3	6.00
5	4	20.50	17	4	12.25
5	5	25.50	17	5	5.00
5	6	38.00	17	6	5.50
6	3	30.00	17	7	10.00
6	4	20.00	17	8	10.00
6	5	19.00	18	1	18.25
6	6	18.50	18	2	18.00
13	4	11.00	18	3	14.50
13	5	18.00	18	4	11.50
13	6	20.00	18	5	14.50
13	7	9.00	18	6	12.50
14	5	5.50	18	7	14.25
14	6	7.00	18	8	4.50
14	7	6.00	19	1	13.25
14	8	9.50	19	2	16.75
15	3	19.50	19	3	19.00
15	4	12.00	19	4	27.00
15	5	12.00	19	5	18.00
15	6	19.50	19	6	14.00
15	7	6.50	19	7	16.00
15	8	10.00	19	8	14.00
16	1	15.00	20	4	16.25
16	2	6.50	20	5	8.00
17	1	5.50			

The ground on which now stands the QUINCY (Newcomb) House brought the highest price of any on the hill. Rufus Brown, the first hotel keeper, bought it for a tavern stand, for which purpose it has always been used. It was part of the high, narrow prairie ridge that ran northeast and southwest across the public square, and was of course, in demand. Lots on the river bank stimulated the most competition. The only house on the quarter section was the cabin of Willard Keyes. The highest price paid for any one lot was $38.00 and proportionately for others in block five and six on Front Street. The reason was, that there, Keyes had settled the year before, and an unfriendly acquaintance forced him to bid high to save his improvements. It may be said, however, in passing, that the worthy pioneer lost nothing, eventually, by his purchase. For instance, thirty years later, a part of lot three, block 6, one hundred feet in depth, he sold to the writer at the rate of $100 per front foot. The whole lot 99 by 198 feet, had cost him in 1825, $21.00.

The first courthouse was located by order of the Commissioners, December 17th, 1825, on lot six, block eleven. This placed it in the edge of a natural grove on Fifth street, near the corner of Maine, where now stands what is known as the Dodd building. It faced west. "At the meeting on December 16th, 1825, the County Commissioners ordered that the sheriff let to the lowest bidder the work of building a courthouse, to be twenty feet long, eighteen feet wide, of hewn logs seven inches thick and to face ten inches, to be laid as close together as they are in J. Rose's house," (this was the cabin of John Wood, the first and model house of the place, in which Wood and Rose lived), the lower story to be eight feet high, the building to have nine joists, eight sleepers, to be covered with clapboards and to be completed by March 15th, 1826. The work of putting up the logs was let to John L. Soule, for $79.00. The other contractors were Willard Keyes, $25.00; John Soule, stairways, etc., $32.00; Levi Hadley, chimneys, etc., $49.50. Some minor contracts called for the finishing work to be completed by May 15th, 1826.

The organization of the county, of necessity, developed and made mutually acquainted the scattered immigration that had slowly come in during the past two years.

The residents of Adams and Hancock Counties are almost completely embraced in the following list and their families:

Willard Keyes, Joshua Streeter, John Wood, Asa Tyrer, Earl Wilson, Daniel Whipple, Samuel Seward, Henry Jacobs, Jesse Cox, John L. Soule, Dr. Thos. Baker, John Dronlard, Ira Pierce, Hezekiah Spillman, Benjamin McNitt, H. H. Snow, Jeremiah Rose, from QUINCY and neighborhood; Samuel Stone, L. C. K. Hamilton, Peter Journey, Levi Wells, Fernando Slayton, Ebenezer Harkness, Abijah Cadwell, the two John Thomases, Rial Crandall, Levi Hadley, Amos Bancroft, Daniel Moore, Thos McCraney, Zepheniah Ames, David and Ames Beebe, Elias Adams, John Waggoner, Justus L. Perigo, Jesse Coxe, Daniel Lisle, from the southern part of the county; Luther Whitney, Peter Williams, Hiram R. Hawley, Lewis Kinney, Samuel Croshong, George Campbell, Richard Worley, from Hancock and the northern section; and Wm. Jashley, Jeremiah Hill, Benjamin Her, David Ray, Wm. Snow, James Adams, Silas Brooks, Jas. Green, Thomas Foreman, William Barritt, Cyrus Hibbard and Morrel Marston, from different localities. Most of these came into the county during this or the preceding year, and the names may be recognized as those of families now residing in the county.

CHAPTER VIII.

1826.

POLITICAL. FIRST LEGISLATIVE MENTION OF QUINCY. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' SALE OF LOTS. FIRST HOTEL AND HOTEL PRICES. FIRST GENERAL STORE. FREE AND EASY SOCIAL LIFE.

The second year (1826) of Quincy's existence as the county seat saw slight and slow changes in its appearance and population. The same may be said of the county, which, however, grew a little faster. Trade, that great quickener of prosperity, was, from lack of production and market, as yet almost altogether wanting.

The general political record for this year shows the election of Ninian Edwards, former territorial governor and first United States senator, as governor, and Wm. Kinney, a Baptist clergyman, as lieutenant governor. They were men of very different personal appearance and characteristics. Edwards was a gifted, polished, proud, self-conscious gentleman, while Kinney, a shrewd, aspiring politician, and adroit on the stump, had none of these qualities. Joseph Duncan of Morgan county, one of the best public men of the past, was elected representative to congress, (Illinois was then entitled to but one), over Daniel P. Cook, (a most able and popular man, the son-in-law of Gov. Edwards), who had held this office for several years.

The special session of the legislature of 1825-26, passed January 22nd, 1826, a state reappointment act, under which Pike, Adams, Schuyler, Fulton and Peoria counties and the region north, were constituted a representative district, which elected Levi Roberts and Henry J. Ross to the lower house of the general assembly. At the same session, a senatorial district was established, comprising the same counties, with the addition of Morgan. As this law changed the former senatorial districts, a singular proviso was added, to the effect that if in the new district thus constituted, the senator to be elected should be chosen from Morgan County, the then sitting senator (Carlin) should hold over and be considered as the senator for the old district of Adams. Archibald Job was elected from Morgan, and thus Carlin, who resided in Greene county, remained as the senator. It was charged that there was a job in this legislation, but what it may have been was of but temporary interest and soon forgotten.

The first legislative mention of "Quincy" was in that session of 1826, when commissioners were appointed to locate a State road from Quincy to Springfield. This was done, but for many years its line was only known by the "blazes" on the trees through the untraveled forest. A law passed January 27th, 1826, imposed a graded assessment upon the several counties of the Military Tract, for the State revenue. Under this act, the assessment against Adams county was fixed at $200 per annum. The Judiciary law, which had been operative for the past two years was remodeled at the session of 1826-27 and new appointments made of circuit judges. To the circuit composed of the Military Tract, with a few counties east of the Illinois river added, Samuel D. Lockwood, of Jacksonville, was assigned, succeeding John Yorcke Sawyer. Judge Lockwood, a most superior man, held this position until 1831.

The county commissioners this year were Levi Wells, John A. Wakefield and Luther Whitney,—the last named, a resident of what is now Hancock county. Whitney and Wakefield succeeded Keyes and Journey. Wakefield was a quaint character; he left Adams county soon after his term of office expired, and many years after came to the surface during the "Border Ruffian" times of Kansas. His title to immortality rests on his "History of the Black Hawk War," (written some forty-five or more years ago); an amusing publication, made up of the narration of some valuable facts, interspersed with whimsical expressions that Josh Billings or Mark Twain might envy. One of these we recall. He describes the army as moving "at a left angle."

Frequent meetings of the commissioners' court were necessarily held to provide for and protect the growing wants and interests of the new community. At their March meeting they appointed Levi Hadley county assessor, and at the same meeting, a sale (the second one) of town lots, was ordered to be held on the 18th of the following May. This sale, advertised, as had been the preceding one, in the St. Louis and Edwardsville papers, did not attract, as was hoped, purchasers from abroad, and the scale of prices does not appear to have materially changed. There was then, as now, much more land than money in Illinois, and the distance between the two factors was infinitely greater than at present. A portion of the supposed most desirable lots which had been reserved from the first sale, were now placed on the market, with what result we shall see. These prices may prove a curious study to speculators of the present day.

The corner of Fourth and Hampshire, running south on Fourth 196 feet, half way to Maine, sold for $35.50. On the north side of Hampshire, between Fourth and Fifth, the four

lots, Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, comprising all on the north side of the public square, sold respectively for $14.25, $18, $18.25 and $13; total $65.50. Lot 8, at the corner of Hampshire and Fifth, it will be seen brought the lowest figure. The reason was that it was cut by a ravine, and the front lay some feet lower than the street. West of Fourth street, on the north side of Hampshire, the entire frontage of three lots, Nos. 6, 7 and 8, 297 feet, running west to lot No. 5, which was reserved as the market lot, sold for $24. East of the square, speculation went more wild. 198 feet along the south side of Hampshire street, embracing the property afterward occupied by the Adamy, Peine and Dutcher buildings, was sold for $14.25. The entire front of Hampshire street on the north side between Fifth and Sixth streets, was knocked off at $28.25; the corner lot (northeast corner of Hampshire and Fifth (1886), 99 feet being a deep ravine), sold for $3.25. Corresponding prices ruled elsewhere, but the above were the choice lots. It will be noticed that most of these sales were of lots on or touching on Hampshire street. The reason for this was that thereon was almost the only level land. Fourth street was broken near Maine by a ravine which ran diagonally across the block, west of the square from southeast to northwest. Maine street on Sixth was impassible on account of a broad ravine some thirty feet in depth. Southeast of Maine and the square, the ground was greatly broken, north of Hampshire the same, while Hampshire street itself from Sixth to Eighth street, ran for some distance on an almost even ridge and gave the easiest access to the surrounding country.

At the same meeting the county commissioners issued the first tavern license to Rufus Brown, at the rate of $10 per annum, and established tavern rates also.

Brown opened his cabin hotel at the corner of Fourth and Maine streets, where the QUINCY (Newcomb) House now stands. Later in the year, George W. Hight opened a tavern under the hill, on Front street. This building still stands. The tavern rates as established by the commissioners were for

Single meal of victuals	$ .25
Lodging	.12½
½ pt. whiskey	.12½
½ pt. rum	.18¾
½ pt. gin	.18¾
½ pt. French brandy	.37½
½ pt. wine	.37½
Bottle of wine	1.00
Horse feed for night, fodder and grain	.25
Horse feed, single	.12½

On June 6th the ferry franchise was granted to Ira Pierce for ten years for the sum of $55. The courthouse was so far completed as to be ready for use during the spring of this year. It was occupied until its destruction by fire in the winter of 1835. At the 5th of September meeting a pound or stray pen was ordered to be built, near the courthouse, and at a later meeting the contract was assigned to James B. Petit for $51.

As stated in the preceding chapter at the meeting of the commissioners, on December 4th, it was ordered that the south half of block one (1) should be set off for a burial ground for the people of Adams County. This is the south half of what is now Jefferson Square, on which the courthouse now stands. It was used as a burying ground for about nine years, when the ground at the southeast corner of Maine and Twenty-fourth streets was purchased for that purpose, and no interments were afterwards made in the old cemetery. Many bodies were removed to the new grounds, but many graves could not be identified, and their contents were not disturbed. The remains of the ancestors of many of our present people, are there, along with the many transient and unknown travelers, who here died. Governor Hubbard, the second governor of the state, was there interred, but his place of burial can not be found.

Many years later, the north half of this block, which was a deep ravine, originally considered as almost worthless, was purchased from private parties. The ground was used for school purposes for some years. After much discussion and question of title between the city, county, etc., the imposing courthouse, alike our county convenience and pride, was erected thereon in 1876.

Sometime in the summer or fall of this year (1826) Asher Anderson, to whom belongs the distinction of having been the first merchant to locate in Quincy, opened a small stock of goods in the bar room of Rufus Brown's tavern. This was a pleasing event to the people and vicinity. One can scarcely conceive the thrill that ran through the little settlement when it was announced that "a store" was about to be started. Up to this time all trading had been done with and purchases made from transient trading boats.

These were either keel or flat or "mackinaw" boats, freighted at St. Louis with a miscellaneous assortment of such articles as were the most in demand and essential to the wants of new communities, cotton goods, shoes, hardware, crockery, tin utensils, groceries, etc. Laden with these, they would periodically appear at the various landings on the river, lying

at each for a week or two, and after satisfying the needs of the several localities by disposing of their stock at fabulous profits, drop down to St. Louis to replenish. They usually made three or four trips in a season. Sometimes, though rarely, one settler abler than the rest, would go to St. Louis, Louisiana or Palmyra, where purchases could be made at better rates.

It should be known that northwestern Missouri was much advanced beyond the adjacent section of Illinois in its period of settlement, owing to the fact that the public lands there were thrown early into market. Louisiana was, up to about the time of the location of QUINCY as the county seat, the general mail depot for the surrounding country. Each week a squad of soldiers from Fort Edwards (now Warsaw) were sent down the river to Louisiana to bring up the military mail that came to that point from St. Louis, Palmyra, from the government aid that it had received, was like its classic prototype of old, a minature "Queen of the Wilderness." Mr. Wood, relates that during this year, the day before his marriage, he walked down to opposite the mouth of the Fabius, canoed over the river, thence footed it to Palmyra to purchase a pair of shoes for his "bride to wear" at the ceremony of the following day, returning the same way that he went. It was a long, hard tramp, but undoubtedly the good man felt, especially on his return, that he was faithfully walking into his lady-love's affections.

It is pleasant to imagine the visions of painted calicoes, strong brogans, brilliant blue table-dishes, many-colored ribbons, household articles and all the shopping delights ready to hand, that filled the minds of the people of the little hamlet when Anderson announced and opened his budget of goods, and they felt that at last they had a store of their own. The stock, of course, was small, of less than one thousand dollars in value, of a miscellaneous nature, but suited to the simple needs of the plain people.

For the two following years Anderson retained the monopoly of trade. He was enterprising, generous in his dealings and prospered, except that at one time, almost his entire accumulation of profits was stolen by a runaway and defaulting county official. Soon after he came, he established his store on the northeast corner of Third and Maine streets, where he continued his business until his death from cholora in 1833.

An amusing and truthful story is told of a piece of luck that befell him, and which at first, seemed to be a sad disaster. The second year after his removal, encouraged by his success and desirous of enjoying his monopoly while the day lasted, he purchased a stock amounting to over $3,000. The steamboat on which he had shipped his goods, sunk some distance below, but after being under water for some time, was raised, and came with the damaged freight to QUINCY. A large portion of the goods consisted of colored prints, muslins, shawls, handkerchiefs, ribbons, etc., the hues of which, after so long soaking in the water, had all "run together," making a most brilliant blending of indechipherable figures and designs. Anderson was in dismay, but, with a wild hope of saving something from his wrecked fortune, he offered the goods at public auctions, and to his great surprise, and satisfaction, so strongly did these hotch-pot-colored goods catch the fancy of the settlers, that he realized a profit from their sale which enabled him to lay in a larger stock than before. This demonstrates that in crude, as in more pretentious communities, an absurdity most easily becomes a fashion, and that auction fevers were then as epidemic as now.

These times contrast strangely with the appearances of to-day. It is not easy to imagine, looking from within our present surroundings, our queen-like city, proud, active, solid, planted with massive structures,—abiding tokens of industry and wealth; and the full-peopled county, with the well reaped rewards of toil and thrift treasures gathered from its willing soil, these past scenes of but little over fifty years ago; when every habitation was built of logs, every floor (where floor there was) made from puncheons, every chimney and fire-place either raised with rough stones "chinked" with mud, or constructed of sticks and mud, when not a brick had been moulded or laid in the county, and mortar, laths, shingles, and paint, and all such articles were as yet unknown.

Still, all these deprivations of that which belongs to higher social comfort were scarcely then felt, because they were universal. The course of life in those days was enjoyable and good. Most of the people were young and the novel, wild life, suited their careless adventurous natures. Their needs were few and were easily provided for. Food came almost spontaneously. The forests were full of game; the ponds and rivers swarmed with fish; their cattle had unlimited pasture; in their little farm enclosures, the rich, ripe soil returned a generous yield of domestic vegetables, grain and fruits. But little surplus was raised as there was no market of consequence. Jeans and linsey woolsey answered for outer clothing. Those who could, indulged in calico and shoes, those who could not did without.

The people were all alike; they all knew each

other; they were as social as distances would permit, and their abundant leisure allowed the cultivation of this sociality. Their partial seclusion from the busier world promoted social habits, thrown as they were upon their own resources and each other's aid. No dress distinctions existed; no "society sets" were known. Hospitality was the universal rule. Every man's house was a free resort for the neighbor or traveler, though the latter be a stranger. News from abroad was common property. Newspapers passed from hand to hand, and their fortunate recipient was generally required to read to a surrounding company. Each traveler or new settler, must unfold his budget of news, all that he had seen or known or had "hear'n tell" in his distant former home, or learned on his way to the West.

The week days were periods of steady, but easy labor. Sundays were hours of quiet rest for some, of whole family visits for others, where a natural exchange was made of all that either had learned during the week, and for others less reverential or less social, they were good days for hunting and fishing. The monotony was varied by the arrival of the scant weekly mail or the occasional landing of steamers, which passed rarely, at irregular times, and sometimes did not stop, and again by the advent of the new settler, which was always a sensation—either the "mover," as the better to do immigrant was called, who came with his family and household goods in a covered one or two horse wagon, or the poorer "packer," who trudged along with his worldly possessions strapped upon a horse's back, each of the travelers being accompanied by a few cattle and one or two dogs. They would stay at the village a few days, while the head of the household, if a land-owner, would, under the guidance of some earlier settler, seek out the corners of his land, marked as they would be by blazed trees in the timber and small earth mounds, stone piles or half-charred stakes set up on the prairies. Almost any of the older settlers were thoroughly posted in the finding of those survey marks. The land found, the settler would select and clear off his building spot, usually near a brook or spring, if possible, then with the aid of a few of his nearest neighbors, erect his humble cabin, plant his family therein and settle down to the development and improvement of his future home.

The poor packer, usually having no land of his own to look up, would disappear after a few days, and might later be seen or heard of as having "squatted" in the brush near a spring, on some vacant land belonging either to Uncle Sam or to some eastern non-resident. Most of this class, as civilization advanced and settlements thickened, pulled up their stakes (usually they had little else to pull up) and struck out for a still farther West, where they could find "more room."

There was occasional preaching by itinerant preachers of various sects and all shades of character. Some of these were good and earnest men, others, and most of them, however, were men whose toughness of cheek and volume of voice were the only atonements for their lack of mental capacity. The coming of these clergymen was generally known well in advance throughout the community, and as a general rule, everybody attended.

Election day, county court meetings and circuit court week, of course, brought quite a general attendance of the country folks, and the village was then well enlivened by horse and foot races, jumping matches and target shooting for turkeys or beef, the day almost invariably ending off with more than one "rough and tumble" fight.

There were often pleasant social gatherings, the picnic, the quilting, the wedding, and if at these, dress, polish or manner and fashion were missing, substantial profusion and innocent, hearty jollity and zest more than made amends. But these primitive times, with their wild fascinations and easily endured toils and cares have gone, like the clouds of their accompanying years, and have left no like, and never can there be their like again. The footprints made and the lines then drawn have been swept away by the resistless wave of change, and no similar field now awaits the entrance of young and eager adventurers. Pioneerism and civilization now move side by side. As was well said by an old pioneer who thirty years ago visited the El Dorado of the Pacific Coast (then just open to the wondrous rush of the gold seekers) and again, twenty years later, repeated his trip, "I have seen three great Wests in my life time; one in western New York, one in Illinois and one in California, but there is not now and can never be a West like the past.

CHAPTER IX.

1827.

SLOW GROWTH. FIRST SCHOOL. FIRST PREACHING. SCARCITY OF SCHOOL BOOKS. ILLINOISANS CALLED "SUCKERS."

Quincy was two years old in 1827, but little occurred during the year worthy of record. The eye teeth of the future "Gem City" cut

very slowly. It had very few people, none with capital, and the inducements to settle here were not tempting. It had not many enterprising men, such as usually take the lead in enterprising cities. Quincy, like Topsy, had to "come to herself," and "just grow."

Trade was trifling; money was a curiosity. Beeswax and coonskins were the readiest and most general circulating media; the limited agricultural production from the country adjacent, utterly failing as yet to make it, even incipiently, the generous and well known mart, for which it was so well fitted by situation, and which it has since become.

True, it would boast at the commencement of the year, of a courthouse, hotel and store, saddle, shoemaker and blacksmith shop, in or just on the edge of town, and a doctor only a mile or two away. Its morals were presumably good, as neither preacher nor lawyer had settled within it. It has some half dozen "first settlers" in the country about it, yet there were only about a dozen families in the town, and most of these had but just begun to be established, and were as new as the town. There were, however, during the year, added to the above, a school house and a grocery; at one or the other of which, mental or physical satisfaction could be imbibed, though the inhibitions of the latter institution were the more favorite and general.

The school was opened late in the year in the recently finished courthouse, the teacher being Rev. Jabez Porter, a Presbyterian clergyman, from Abingdon, Mass., a man of much more than ordinary culture, a graduate of a New England college. He was in feeble health, and came West in hope of restoration. He lived for several years, and in the year 1828, commenced the first regular preaching known in Quincy (at the courthouse). He died in 1831 or '32. His school was very select as to quantity, if not as to quality. Among the half score of new families in Quincy and the vicinity, children were a rare and somewhat curious luxury, and a few of the scholars were as old as himself, young men and women who had had no educational opportunities and sought this opportunity to learn how to read and write.

It is touching to think of the difficulties in the way of those who desired education in those days. Of course, spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic were the four corner stones, but the trouble was, that no text books could be obtained, and pupils had to furnish their own. Spelling was comparatively the easiest, because there were spelling books and primers. Grammar was ruled by the way the school master talked. True, an occasional Lindley Murray might turn up, and there was no great difficulty as to writing, that, of course was a mechanical study, which could take care of itself. Geography was somewhat easily taught, as maps will find their way everywhere, and more or less of geographical information is in all families; but when it came to reading, which, is instinctively and properly, the first thought and desire of all, there were no "Readers" to be obtained; each one must furnish his or her own reading book.

The writer recalls the scene, when but a year or two later than the date of this chapter, a school was started by Mr. "Pedagogue Seymour," as he was called, we, the writer and his relatives, presented ourselves with Olney's geography, Kirkham's grammar, and Worcester's readers. Of some forty scholars, all but, say half a dozen, were equipped with readers, most of them Testaments, two or three the old Methodist green, paper covered little hymn book, one or two with an old novel or history, and three of the boys had an outfit unique. One had a French volume of Voltaire's life of Charles the XII, which neither he, nor his parents, nor perhaps the teacher could read, another had a congressional pamphlet, which probably had been sent to his father on the "propriety of running the mails on the Sabbath." The last one, who, by the way, figured afterward briefly in congress, had a huge book (as a reader) nearly as big as himself, which in some way had fallen into his family's hands. It was the translation of an enormous volume of the life of Napoleon Bonaparte. We can never forget his reading of the first lines of the book, "Napoleon Bonaparte was born August 15th, 1779, at Ajacio, in Corsica." His voice always cracked at Ajacio, and broke at "Corseeker," as he could not help calling it.

The school business was neither very extensive, nor profitable during these days, for the reason, that, there were but few "young ideas to shoot," and also that the older ideas shot mostly after another fashion. For some years the log cabin court house was the only building where "school was kept." It was also the "church" and was made use of for all general purposes, since it was the only structure in the place big enough for such uses, or that could be spared. As has been before said, the business and social features of the place exhibited but little noticeable change since 1826, but there did, during this year, sweep over the West a most memorable wave of excitement, which, while it retarded rather than advanced the prospects of Quincy for a time, is worthy of a passing mention.

This was the "lead fever" at Galena, equal

(taking into account the difference in the conditions of the country) to that later furore which, in 1848, spurred westward that countless swarm of eager seekers, crazed by the glitter of California's yellow treasures. Strange it is with what an universal and electric grasp, the mining mania will take possession of a people. Let but the rumor start that there has been found in a "hole in the ground," something shining and new, and there is at once, "down with the shovel and the hoe," away with the yardstick and pen, sell off the stock, shut up the shop, and all coat tails point horizontally, straight backwards as men frantically rush to where they hope to get rich in a minute. For one lucky blunderer who returns with a better suit of clothes than he wore away, there are a thousand who do not.

Out of the hundreds who left Quincy in 1848 for the Pacific Coast, we cannot remember one who came back with fortunes bettered. They had, however, acquired "experience."

This "lead fever" was a hot—yes a melting one. The tide of northern travel was wonderfully increased in volume. Why it should then have become so, one cannot divine. Lead had been known to exist, and had been worked for in that section for many years, by the Indians long ago, but this year on a sudden, all "went for it." The creeping keel boat which until this time, had controlled almost the entire transportation of the river, was now outdone by rapid steamers. These, the Shamrock, and Indiana, and perhaps another which heretofore had two or three times during the season, made trips from St. Louis to "the mines," were now in constant motion, their decks swarming with people. One-third, probably of the residents of Quincy, (many of them with their families) moved up "ter Galeny," as the expression went, and made temporary settlement there.

It was from this streaming northwest of southern and central Illinoisians (soon to return) that our State patronymic "Sucker," came. There is a clumsy, hubberly fish in our Mississippi waters, shaped much like the catfish and occasionally nearly as large, known as the "Sucker" or "Round-mouth," which swims mostly in the deep water near the bottom and rarely takes the hook.

It was once quite numerous, but now is rarely seen. Its habit was to migrate northward early in the spring, there spawn, and descend in the fall. It was remarked that many of the families went up at the same time and returned at the same time, with an increased family, like the "Suckers." Hence the name. Most of the emigrants from one section, soon discovered that a surer source of substantial wealth, with less coarse toil, and more comforts, was in the rich lap of the prairie earth, of the lower sections of the State, and this fever gradually abated, though continuing for some years. Among those of our early settlers who moved with their families to the mines and spent the season there, were the late Levi Wells and John Wood.

Daniel Lisle, who was the first settler in Adams county, was this year elected County Commissioner. He first located not far from the present town of Liberty. Wesley Williams, brother of the well known Archie Williams, was appointed county treasurer.

At the March term of the county commissioners' court, it was ordered that a jail be built at an expense of not over $150.50, on lot 6, block 11, with very detailed and precise specifications. The upper story of the courthouse was ordered to be raised "two logs higher." Our fathers were evidently getting their heads up.

CHAPTER X.

1828.

THE "LEAD FEVER" HELPED QUINCY. JUDGE LOCKWOOD AND JUDGE YOUNG. NEW JAIL. FIRST CLERGYMAN. HOLMES OPENS A STORE. THE SECOND IN QUINCY. GOODS FREIGHTED ON KEEL BOATS. GENERAL APPEARANCE OF THE TOWN. ADVANCE IN PRICES OF LOTS. HIGH PRICE OF GOODS. STYLE OF DRESS. FASHIONS. THE LOG CABIN COOKING UTENSILS AND FURNITURE.

Quincy was now three years of age, and still growing—or perhaps we should say growing still, for its growth was very modest and still. There were, however, some influences in operation during this year, that tended materially to promote its future welfare. Most of the "Suckers" by this time had returned, satiated, from Galena. The attention that had been attracted to Illinois by the "lead fever" excitement was productive of some valuable results. It left stranded on our western or northwestern border, men of enterprise and activity whose industry and energy greatly aided the growth of the State.

Now, as before, and for some years, the county progressed in population more steadily than the town. Some political and business changes appear upon the record. The circuit court was still presided over by Judge Lockwood, who was regularly accompanied on his periodic semi-annual visit by a bevy of from a half-dozen to a dozen of lawyers. A. W. Caverly, of Greene county, was the prosecuting attor-

ney. Judge Caverly died in 1875 at Ottawa, Ill. He was at the time of his death, the oldest practicing lawyer of Illinois; second only in legal seniority to Judge Sidney Breeze, who also passed into death soon after his life-long friend, Judge Caverly. Judge Breeze's legal life from 1818, had been mainly passed upon the bench, while Caverly practiced as a lawyer. How these circuit riding lawyers managed to live was phenomenal, but they did and the like live yet, and that same mystery exists today. Perhaps they lived off of each other like Sam Slick's two boys, whom he described as being "so smart that, if shut up together in a room, they would make two dollars a day each by swopping jack knives."

The precision, dignity and decorum which the personal character and recognized capacity of Judge Lockwood, and also his successor Judge Young, impressed upon the administration of law in this section, contrasting greatly with the laxaties in propriety that too much defaced the western forum, were of strong and long effect in early establishing the marked pre-eminence of the Quincy bench and bar, which had been since so well maintained.

Judge H. H. Snow continued to be the general office holder of the county and probate judge, county and circuit clerk and recorder and kept singing school beside. Ira Pierce was re-elected sheriff, an office which he held for ten years, until he left for Texas. Hugh White was surveyor, and Wesley Williams treasurer. Herman Wallace succeeded Asa Tyrer as coroner at the August election. The county commissioners were James White and George Frazier. H. J. Ross, of Pike county, succeeded Carlin to the State senate; and A. W. Caverly of Greene, John Turney of Peoria, and John Austin of Jo Daviess county, were elected State representatives.

One can obtain an idea of the sparseness of population by noting the extent of this representative district, and the distance between the residences of the members. Joseph Duncan, of Morgan county, was re-chosen representative to congress. His district embraced all that portion of the State north of and including Morgan county. His unsuccessful opponent was George Forquier of Sangamon county. The presidential vote of the State and of Adams county, was cast for Andrew Jackson over John Quincy Adams.

The county commissioners on September 3, 1828, ordered that lot 4, block 11, should be reserved "for the sole and only purpose of erecting thereon a school house or school houses, or an academy or seminary of learning," for the people of Adams county, and that the same should be exempted from taxation. It will be remembered that in the platting of the town in 1825, the west half of block 11 was "reserved for public purposes." On this ground were erected the first two courthouses and jails.

Lot 4, set apart as above, is that part of this reserved ground, on which stood the north half of the lately burned courthouse, the line running thence northward along Fifth street some sixty or seventy feet. It does not appear that this order of the court was permanently complied with, nor were the other reservations, but the land was gradually disposed of, there remaining only in the possession of the county that central portion on which the old courthouse and jail stood and this, after the destructive fire of 1875, and the erection of the present courthouse on Jefferson Square, passed at public sale in private possession.

At their meeting on December 4th, the county commissioners ordered that a clerk's office should be built and also a jail. These orders were carried out after a fashion, and completed some years later. The second story of the courthouse, which was then the office of the county, the circuit clerk, recorder, and of Judge Snow generally, as he was the official "Omnium" of the county, was afterward the law office of the late Senator Browning, and yet later, when the courthouse was burned in 1835, was occupied as a carpenter shop. The jail now ordered and finished a year or two later, was a quaint contrivance in the dungeon style; the cell or place of confinement being in the lower story which had grated windows, but no entrance opening except through a trap door from the second story floor. The moral impressions entertained by culprits when being sent down to punishment might, perhaps, be of value to the present time theologians in their controversies over what should be the most forcible and significant version of the word "Hades."

The building was constructed of large logs, square hewn, and laid double thick in the wall.

Jabez Porter has been mentioned as the first minister to hold regular services. There were other clergymen who appeared from time to time of various denominations and equally various qualifications and characteristics. Some were excellent, intelligent men and some otherwise, with a graduated scale of fitness, running between the two extremes of qualifications and otherwise. There was a Mr. Bogard from a neighboring county, a very worthy, well-seeming, quiet man on the street, but when in the pulpit he stamped and roared almost so as to be heard in Morgan county, his home. There

was the Rev. Mr. Roberts, who was much given to "damn those sins he had no mind to and follow those he felt inclined to." He dropped into one of Mr. Porter's meetings one Sunday at the courthouse, and when Judge Snow commenced tuning at his bass viol to lead the singing, he left in holy horror and went a fishing in the bay. There was also old uncle Johnnie Kirkpatrick, one of the best men that ever lived and who always drew a full cabin when he preached. His style was not patterned on Princeton or Harvard rules, but it was peculiar and effective. I remember one of his sermons. "Christians," he said, "don't go through the world blindfolded; they know jist whar thaire bound; that they are on the right track to heaven. Supposin', my brethren, you was going to Atlas, you wouldn't strike out back in the prairie, and take round the corner of Keyes' fence. No, that would take you to Fort Edward, but you'd take down the river and be sure you was on the right road, because you'd see three notches on the trees, and it's jist so with the Christian. He knows he's on the straight road to heaven, and there's notches all along the way."

He was a worthy man and did much of good, and was better than the usual type of most of the wandering preachers of the time.

Additional to the other favorable influences operating this year, was the establishment of a store by Charles Holmes and Robert Tillson. Up to this time Asher Anderson was the only merchant and held the monopoly of the trade. His "store," on the northeast corner of Maine and Third streets was the only regular trading place in the village. There were the occasional groceries, where the ownership of a barrel or more of whiskey and nothing else, christened as "grocery," the cabin where the said whiskey was peddled out by the drink, but no varied stock of goods had until now appeared to contest with Anderson for a share of the general trade. The story of Mr. Holmes, who preceded his partner in settlement, may be worth recital as picturing the primitive condition of things in those early days.

He had a store in St. Louis at that time, and happening to stop over at Quincy, while on a trip to Galena, liked the prospects of the place and concluded to settle here. He found much difficulty and delay in getting his goods from St. Louis. Steamboats ran only occasionally and it was late in the season when several of them had been up for the year. The owners of the keel boats were unwilling to start unless fully freighted, and always charged the same for way freight that they did for what was to be transported to the end of their route. The reason for this was, that these boats rarely obtained many passengers or much freight after leaving port, either on the passage up or the return. Hence the keel boats often laid long in port. It was also somewhat the same with the steamboats. Old settlers can remember how steamboats, partially laden, would lie at the St. Louis wharf for days in succession, with steam up and wheels moving, and in apparent instant readiness to move, while the captain would vigorously ring the bell about every fifteen minutes, constantly declaring that he would "leave right away." "He can lie like a steamboat captain," was the phrase which expressed the "ultima thule" of falsehood.

Becoming wearied with waiting for a steamer, Mr. Holmes, in connection with two other young men, one of whom had a stock for Hannibal and the other for Palmyra, chartered a keel boat on which he shipped his goods, about four thousand dollars' worth of miscellaneous merchandise.

The boat reached Alton on the fourth day out. This seemed almost as slow as being at St. Louis. Meeting there a descending steamer, the Black Rover, and finding that it would return in a day or two on its last trip up (this was November), Mr. Holmes took passage, reaching Quincy in advance of his goods, which came along safely after a twenty days' trip from St. Louis. Keel boats which were then the most usual mediums of transportation (as steamers were few and irregular as well as expensive) were propelled up stream sometimes by poling; but generally by "cordelling," that is, by passing long lines ahead, fastening them to trees on the bank, and drawing the boat up thereby. This slow and monotonous process gave an average daily progress of about eight miles. Sometimes a favoring south wind brisk enough to overcome the current sprang up, and by spreading a large square sail, the speed would be greatly increased, with also much saving of labor.

The first salutation that Mr. Holmes received when his goods were landed was from Elam S. Freeman, who died at Basco, Hancock county, about a year and a half ago. Freeman was a substantial, excellent man, who acquired the title of major from service in the Black Hawk war in 1832-3. He was a blacksmith of herculean frame, and used a voice in full keeping with his size. "Young man," said he, "have you brought any vises with you." "No," said Mr. Holmes with a characteristic touch of humor, "but from the looks of things here I expect to get some soon."

The town was indeed a forlorn looking place. The bluffs were nearly barren of timber and

seamed with ragged gullies; along the river's brink was strung a scanty fringe of feeble trees. A few cabins lay along Front street looking as if they might have tumbled down the hill and were too feeble to return. These were mostly north of Hampshire street, and extending in a broken string as far up as the little cove in the bluff, where Spring street comes through. Among these was the cabin of Willard Keyes, about the corner of Vermont street, and just south of this, with some houses between, was a little larger double cabin than the others, which was George W. Hight's "Steamboat Hotel." Three or four of the buildings were groceries, of the style spoken of heretofore, and patronized mostly by boatmen and Indians. Thence southward on Front street was the cabin of John Wood at the foot of Delaware street. Between these two points was the cabin of Levi Wells, half way up the hill near State street, and farther north three or four more such structures hung against the hillside. The steamboat landing was at the foot of Vermont street. There, the rock from under the bluff cropped out at the river's edge, so as to be visible at an ordinary stage of water. Three or four ragged looking trees grew near the bank, convenient for the boats to tie to. These appearances continued for many years, even until the small landing was made at the foot of Hampshire in 1839.

There were but two routes by which wagons could ascend the hill; one, south of the village along the Minor creek and where now is Delaware street; the other, by a very steep and circuitous track, which, wandering upward from near the corner of Front and Vermont streets, finally reached the level of the public square at Hampshire street, between Third and Fourth. On the hill the main settlements lay. Around the square on the north, west and south, were scattered cabins, about half a dozen on each side. Near the corner of Maine was the courthouse. South and southwest of the public square and east along Hampshire street, or "Pucker Street" as it was nicknamed, for two or three hundred yards were similar structures, with here and there a cabin located farther east. The square was cut diagonally from northeast to southwest by a wagon road, running across it, such as no ravine, but the wagon road made. It boasted a luxuriant growth of hazel brush, intersected by footpaths, and also supported three or four small trees and one large white oak.

And this was Quincy. There were then the store and three hotels, one under the hill, one at the southwest and the other at the northeast corners of the square. They made no pretense to aristocratic elegance or sumptuous gastronomy, yet the "big bugs" frequented them in profusion and force. All of these buildings were of logs, mostly round or unhewn. Brick, plaster, laths and weather boarding were factors yet to come, as they did in the following year.

Continuing the reminiscences of Mr. Holmes —as giving a good insight to the appearance of those pristine days and as affording personal information in regard to Quincy, it appears that his, the second store of the place, was first established in a small shanty on Hampshire street, west of and near Fifth, adjacent to what was then the "Log Cabin," afterwards the "Land Office Hotel," owned and kept by Barzillai Clark.

Requiring larger and safer accommodations for his business than his leaky cabin afforded, Mr. Holmes soon after bought of Col. Wheelock 196 feet, fronting, both on Maine and Fourth streets, being lots 6 and 7, of block 13, diagonally across from the Quincy House, long afterwards known as the post office corner.

For this he paid $175, one half cash, the remainder in goods or "store truck," as it was called. He was the recipient of a good deal of quizzing for having paid such a price for lots that had been sold two or three years earlier for about $30, but he consoled himself and satisfied his partner Tillson, who arrived in the following spring, by the comfortable fact that the $175 of "store pay" was a very pliable sum, taking into account the margins between eastern purchases and western prices.

Prices of goods ruled very strangely, and were as unfixed on many articles as are mining stock quotations to-day. The arrival of two or more boats at the same time; the receipt of a stock of eastern or southern goods after a long delay, or earlier than was expected, gave them a very elastic value, in one direction or the other. It is true that a few of the more needed and more easily obtained staples were held at nearly the same relative cost at all times, but the profit on these was high. Eastern goods especially sold dear. The cost, risk and time involved in their transportation by sea to New Orleans, thence the slow travel up the Mississippi, and re-shipment of St. Louis, and their weighty or bulky and damageable nature caused the selling figure when they arrived to be well set up.

Prints ranged from 30 to 40 cents; hardware was quite costly; axes, for instance, brought from $2.25 to $2.50, and all other agricultural and mechanical implements were priced in like proportion. Boots and shoes were rated high. Good crockery was scarce and sold at a high

figure. Ordinary and plain ware was far cheaper, for the reason that the quantity of household utensils was very limited, and the needs in this direction were made up by the use of gourds and domestic "earthen ware." Flour, which brought from $8 to $10 per barrel, as also bacon and all salted provision, was almost entirely imported at this time, and afterward, until about the year 1832. Sugar, coffee, rice and southern products generally ruled lower.

Clothing was mostly home made. Jeans, blue as the best looking, yellow or butternut, the most common, was the almost universal male garb. Sometimes Buckskin was used, which, when carefully dressed, dyed and fitted, made a handsome, indeed often an elegant suit, with wonderful durability of wear. Women generally wore homespun, the linsey-woolsey, with the printed muslin, or calico, to be donned on Sunday, and on the head the huge horn comb, covered by the universal sun bonnet, worn at all times, indoors and out. Shoes were a dress article, used by all who could afford them, and carefully hoarded up by all for winter needs.

It was not uncommon for women walking to meeting or to a gathering of any kind, to take their shoes in hand and put them on just before they reached the place of assemblage, taking them off again while on their return. The least used article of what we deem necessary apparel, was the stocking. This garment, the most modern invention of all our useful clothing, utterly unknown in ancient times, was almost equally unknown in the early times of our West. Stockings were of wool, home knit, generally, white or gray, except when taste or coquetry would give them a walnut, grape, or some other modest dark vegetable dye. Flashy colors were unknown. The exhibition of a pair of the flamingo-hued longitudinals worn at the present day would have made a decided sensation.

Fashion is Protean—limitlessly so- and is mostly itself when extreme. It is equally worshiped and intolerant in the Modoc wigwam and the Paris salon. The London snob or the French dandy, and their ludicrous imitators here, are not more obects of reverential admiration and imitation than was the aspiring savage, who, to do honor to his white brothers, presented himself at an Indian council clothed only with an old military chapeau and plume —exhibiting, as Washington Irving humorously tells us, the general officer on top and big Indian at bottom. The passion for finery prevails among all classes without regard to "age, race, color or previous condition," and it often has eminently amusing features. The "height of the style," as now seen, will well pass for a patent scarecrow forty or fifty years hence, just as a street or party exhibition of the full-dress garb of a generation past, would cause the fair fashionables of to-day, with an "oh! mercy!" shock and shudder, to pull back and train out yet further in very defense.

A brief description of a handsome, conscious rustic Adams county belle, as she appeared when dashing up to the meetin'-house door on horseback, some fifty odd years ago, is thus told by a lady observer. She had been a belle also in the rural region from which she came to the West, and brought with her some remnants of her former finery, styles, even then passed out of fashion. Dark grey woolen stockings, cowhide brogans, with leather shoestrings, a very short, sky-blue silk skirt, somewhat faded; a black silk waist or sleeveless jacket, also much worn and furnishing its own fringe in the fray of its edges; enormous white puffed leg-of-mutton sleeves; a square muslin cape, with a broad, unstarched ruffle, a huge white leghorn, sugar scoop bonnet, with a long black feather and parti-colored ribbons promiscuously bestowed thereon. Would not such an apparition now-a-days induce our neatly dressed church-goers to say "oh, Moses?"

Equally primitive with the dress and personale of our "old settlers" was the contracted and most home made furnishings of their homes. As the succeeding year marked the commencement of more pretentious constructions, with their natural accompaniments of increased comfort and style, it is worth the while to look briefly into these old-time households which depicted modes of life and usage, the same throughout the entire community, such as just then were about to begin passing away, and such as this section will never behold again. The houses, as has been stated, were all built of logs, generally the round log with the bark left on, the interstices "chinked" with strips of wood driven between the logs and then mortared with clay, making thus a thick, warm wall, impervious to wind or damp. The door was fastened by a large, wooden latch on the inside; the latch raised by a string which passed to the outside through a hole in the door, the string being pulled in at night; it turned on wooden hinges, which were of two kinds- either a huge imitation of the great gate hinges of to-day, or more commonly a straight upright stick, the height of the door, fastened to its back end, having dull pointed ends above and below to revolve in a hole in the floor and one in the frame above.

The floor was carpetless, and why? First,

because there were no carpets to be had, and next for the reason that carpets would have had a short existence on the puncheon floor. These puncheons were made by splitting through the center, logs of from eight to ten feet in length and from twenty to thirty inches in diameter, and laying them along side each other, the flat side up and the lower or round side partially imbedded in the ground. Such floors were often convenient to the housewife when sweeping, since part of the dirt would drop through the interstices, and so much less remained to be swept out of the door. Bedsteads were easily made in the corners of the room; the walls constituting the head and one side, the other side and the foot being supported by a single leg or post. Wooden pegs were driven into the walls, on which hung clothing. Near the fireplace, a half dozen rough shelves for holding dishes, these usually covered by a cloth in place of a door. A broad, long board was above the great fire-place, on which would be placed all sorts of things, rarely omitting the bottle of bitters (roots or "yarbs" in whiskey), the universal panacea to keep off the periodical "shake." It is very surprising to know how broadly prevalent in those days was the "fever-an-ager." Indeed, not to be subject to it, was the sanitary exception rather than the rule.

Additional to the furnishings above named was the table, home-manufactured, heavy and strong, about three feet square (more often less) for the two-fold reason that there was but little spare space for it and that there were not enough dishes to go around on a larger one; also three or four stools, a bench and sometimes a couple of split-bottomed chairs; the water bucket, or in its place the piggin, these were the sum total of the cabinet ware of the house. Cloths suspended from the rafters by strings, sometimes surrounded the beds, making them more private; but this was not usual.

For the needs of cooking and eating, no great variety was required. It will be remembered that all cooking was then done either in the fireplace or over coals on the hearth. Cook stoves had not yet come into use; even the inventions so prized, which immediately preceded the introduction of the stove, these were the tin roaster and tin baker—had not made their appearance. The spider, a utensil now comparatively little used, was then of universal use for baking purposes. It was a large, flat iron skillet with four short legs, an iron cover, concave on the top. This, when filled with dough was placed on a bed of coals, the top profusely filled with the same, and most excellent was the bake. Boiling was done in a large iron kettle, suspended over the fire by a hook which hung in the huge chimney. Occasionally, an iron crane, turning on a hinge and attached to one side of the chimney, took place of the hook, but these were not common.

These two articles were the necessities and answered most of the needs of all. A small amount of crockery was sometimes seen, but limited in quantity. Tinware was common and applied generally to all sorts of uses. The great chimney and its broad, cheerful fire-place, whether open and clean-swept in summer, or bright with the blaze of its huge crackling logs in winter, was an essential feature of the house; giving ventilation at one season and warmth and light during the other. Occupying with the fire-place usually half of one end of the house, it was built up outside of and against it. It was mostly made of sticks, completely covered and imbedded in clay. This would after awhile sometimes burn out, but with attention it was very durable. Now and then the lower part of the chimney and the inside hearth were made of flat stones mortared with clay.

These houses, though small, usually about sixteen feet, rarely over twenty, square and seemingly cramped, had a singular capacity for accommodating many, and if constructed with ordinary care, were very comfortable and healthy at all seasons.

The brief descriptions above apply to the more crude and earlier structures, and more especially to those in the country, yet it was such as these that were still by far the most common. There were a few more spacious and pretentious habitations built according to the means and tastes of their owners with greater care and regard to appearance. The frames of such were of square hewn logs, the four corners of the house sawed off evenly, the heighth sometimes sufficient to have a sort of half story attic above, with a clapboard flooring. The ascent to this attic was by a ladder from the corner of the room below. In these better built cabins occasionally would be seen a floor of split boards, and perhaps a breadth or two of rag carpeting, and a small cupboard, bureau, or rocking chair brought from the former home, or other articles of similar kind. The families who first settled here encumbered themselves on their long journey with as little weighty or bulky furniture as possible, and the younger families made up in the West could as yet find neither the articles nor the wherewith to buy.

The best of the houses were the double cabins, joined by a common roof, with the intervening space usually about fifteen or twenty feet in width, left unenclosed at one end, with

doors opening on opposite sides into either house. As more room came to be required an additional cabin would be attached wherever it appeared most handy, without any anxiety about architectural rules so that in the course of time, the group of buildings presented as irregular and as rough an appearance as a cluster of oysters. Thus looked Quincy from outside and within over a half century ago. The survivors of those times to whom it is a personal remembrance are but two, Mrs. Levi Wells, whose husband was one of the first three county commissioners elected in 1825, and who came to the county in 1824, and a few years later moved into the village, and Mr. Robert Tillson, who arrived here early in 1829, are the only living residents now here who were of matured years and can recall the appearance of the place prior to 1830.

The oldest living person now residing here, who was born in Quincy, and was born before 1830, is Mr. Daniel C. Wood, eldest son of the late, Gov. Wood.

The descriptions above given may seem needless on account of their being not unfamiliar appearances to many at the present day, but they form an essential part of these current sketches and must somewhere have a place therein.

CHAPTER XI.

1829.

SLOW PROGRESS. FIRST MECHANICS. FREEING SLAVES. THE ROWDY.

There was little to attract settlement in the aspect of a ragged looking hamlet containing less than two hundred people, and composed of about a dozen log cabins strung along the river shore, uninviting in appearance, with the exception of the Keyes' cabin at the foot of Vermont. This was improved in the fall of this year by a little frame addition, a ten or twelve foot square room, being the second frame structure in the place. Wood's cabin at the foot of Delaware, the first one built, now, however, had received some log extensions. There were also on the hill, scattered irregular around, and near the public square, about a score of similar cabins.

As yet no frame or brick house had been built, and lath and plaster were yet to come. The place was little more than a steamboat landing for the boats that passed occasionally, on their trips to and from Galena and St. Louis. Often these passed by without having occasion to stop, having neither passengers nor freight to deliver, and not being signalled to receive either. It was these occasional appearances of steamers, of which three or four plied between the two points named, making a trip once in three weeks, which, whether they landed or not, gave a temporary life and stir to the village and caused the only break in its every day monotony.

There were two stores, those of Anderson and of Tillson & Holmes, which sold everything that was needed, and took as pay anything in trade, and there were some half a dozen groceries which dealt in one single staple article, and did therein a more inspiring, if not a more lucrative business than did the general stores, and were far more popular.

This year came the second physician, S. W. Rogers, and the first lawyer, Archibald Williams. There were several mechanical occupations represented, each singly, thus having the entire monopoly of the town trade in their own line. There was the saddler, L. B. Allen, with his shop on the south side of Maine, nearly on the highest point of the bluff; east of him, on the same side of the street were Michael Mast's tailor and Justus Ensign's hatter shops, and nearly opposite, the store of Asher Anderson. On Front, near York, was the tannery of Ira Pierce and Jeptha Lambkin's pottery. Col. Freeman, blacksmith, was northwest of the square, and Asa Tyrer and Samuel Seward had a blacksmith and wagon shop southeast of the town. Droulard's shoemaker's shop was at his cabin near where the gas works now are. These cover most of the mechanical occupations which were here at the commencement, though others came during the year. Strange it may seem, and yet not so, because there was nothing yet for them to do, there was neither a carpenter nor a mason in the place.

The circuit clerk at this time was H. H. Snow, who held this and nearly every other clerical local office in the county—probate judge, county clerk, surveyor, etc.—for nearly ten years, from the date of its organization. Another long lived official at this period, was Earl Pierce, who held the office of sheriff by successive election, six terms, from 1826 to 1836; the last term, however, being broken by his sudden departure for Texas in 1837—faithfully, it is said, adhering to the charge and possession of a goodly amount of the county funds, which he probably thought it unsafe to leave behind him. Offices did not change hands so frequently in those days as since, probably for the two reasons that they paid but little, and there were but com-

paratively few who were qualified by education to fill them. The county commissioners, who were until 1834 (when Quincy was incorporated as a town) its sole authorities, were George Frazier, Samuel Stone and James White. Descendants of all these are now residents in the county or city. Philip W. Martin, long a prominent citizen of the county and a captain in the Black Hawk war, was elected County Commissioner in the place of James White in September, and at the same time Charles Holmes, who died in St. Louis in June '89, from whose recollections much of these sketches is derived, was chosen county treasurer. An auction of a portion of the unsold town lots which had not been offered at previous sales, and of such as had been sold and the purchaser failed to pay for, was had on March 4th, with but small success, and no seeming advance on former prices. The village settlement was still very slow, although county immigration was pouring in fast, especially towards the eastern section in the Clayton and Camp Point neighborhood.

Among the well known old time settlers of the city and county who were here before, and who came in this year were Nathaniel Summers, Robert Tillson, W. P. Harrison, George Chapman, Archibald Williams, Dr. S. W. Rogers of Quincy, S. S. Meachan, Thaddeus Pond and Samuel Ferguson of Burton, Reuben Doty, Peter Felt, Obediah Waddell, Jacob Wagner of Melrose, J. H. Anderson, Thos. Crank, Wm. M. Kirkpatrick, W. H. Wade, Peter Orr, Wm. Pryor of Lima, James Thomas, John Thomas, John Lierle of Columbus, John P. Robbins, and Lewis, Duncan, Sterne of Ellington; Wigle, Yeargain, White and Walby of Gilmer.

A jail was contracted for to be erected at a cost of $200. Ferry rates were established the same as the year before, and the exclusive ferry license was given to Hugh White for the nominal sum of $2 a year. Among the public notices of the time was what would appear singular at this later day, the manumission of some slaves by John W. Stern and James Anderson. These had been brought from Kentucky by their masters, and under the existing laws of the state, it was requisite that if freed the master must give bonds for their conduct and that they should not become dependent on the public for support, and must make official announcement of this, which was done by handbills and posters, there being no paper here then published.

The social and business aspect of the place had now but little changed from what it presented in 1825—changed it may be said in no real respect except that there was more of it. Quincy was as yet but little more than the trading point for this section, business made up from its two stores and two or three groggeries and the visit of an occasional trading boat, such as formerly had been common on the upper Mississippi and Illinois rivers, but now had disappeared. The stocks in these stores were neither large nor various. Merchandizing consisted mainly in the retailing at round profits of a few dry goods and groceries with farmer's tools, powder and lead. These were generally paid for in money, of which there was but little in the country—most of it being brought in by the immigrants, and soon passed into the possession of the merchants and by them soon taken away in payment for their goods, thus keeping but little money in general circulation. Few articles of farm production were taken in exchange for goods, these exchanges consisted almost solely of peltries, tallow and beeswax. The latter was especially a choice substitute for cash.

Barter of farm products, which some years later became the main feature of mercantile business in the west, had not as yet come into vogue for the reason that there was but little comparatively raised beyond the home wants of the farmer, and also that the outside markets were few and distant, and would not warrant the merchant in the risks and delay attending the return of his investment in such lines. But a small portion of the sales were on credit, but these, however, with the 100 per cent profit on eastern bought articles and 25 per cent on groceries, and a 12 per cent interest allowable and customary on notes and accounts at the time gave a handsome margin of certain profit for traders who waited for their pay. The financial situation of the country was as bad as could be. The times were hard. The state was going through one of its many experiences of State Bank money. The issues of the State Bank, chartered in 1820, passed at 25 cents on the dollar. Yet with all this, the people got along in comfort and cheer, as the wants and wishes were simple and few. If the business bearings appeared hard, the social showings were very much harder. The place was thoroughly frontierish on its surface.

Society was not highly refined, but not tame. Court met twice a year, there was the annual August election, the occasional preachings, periodically, brought in a large representation of the country people, others were drawn in by business postponed for these occasions, by legal demands, curiosity and all sorts of personal inducements, proper and not so proper. These were the stirring seasons of the year, rare, brief but full of action. Trades were made, property

changed hands by swop. Equine excellence on the hoof and human superiority in the run, jump, wrestle or fist was settled with as much interest and attraction (though on a minor scale) as the race at present for the Derby. A redeeming feature of these old-time petty contests was that they were honest and unferocious. Each locality was supposed to have its best man or rather its best fighters, each of them ambitious to extend their fame and whip the neighboring boss or bully, and the public days were the occasion for settling all this.

Between these times the village enlivement depended mainly on itself, and upon the quaint characters who strayed in from the country, or were always loafing about the stores and groggeries. There were enough of these oddities — the old-time "half horse, half aligator" stock, which was so numerous sixty years since all along the Mississippi and which is to a partial degree exemplified now in the southwestern "cowboy."

They, especially those from the country, were a class of, not exactly rowdies, but, either periodical or constant carousers, who, without often making much of mischief in serious disturbances, always succeeded whenever they chose in giving a carminal tint to the town of the most original and ruddy hue. A development of a few nights later of the peculiarities of the place is told by Mr. Holmes.

A week or two after his arrival, he was roused after midnight from sleep by a racket in the street, and looking out saw some of the "true breed of dogs" as they were headed by two men, one of whom he had a few days before become acquainted with, as one of the leading county officials, parading about the square with a candle box and in it several pieces of lighted candles, shouting: "Rouse ye neighbors, behold us, we are the lights of the world." There were those from the south part of the county, who invariably when they came to town, left it in more if not better spirits than when they came in. They were good fellows, queer fellows, such as are not seen nowadays, each with his eccentricities. There was one, John Thomas, a very worthy, kind-hearted man, who invariably when he became full enough to go home, made it his final point to invite everybody to "keam eont and see me. I'll treat ye keindly if ye come and shoe ye the suy keartie."

Another witty oddity, used to periodically parade on his big horse Boleway, and announce his set speech, which was "I'm Mike Dodd—in a minute. I'm built from the ground up like a muskrat house, and I don't beg potatoes of a negro." These, and such as these were the types of a general and common character, and they and such as they, gave an early coarse and gross coloring to the social showing of the place, but they were slowly passing away and their peculiarities with them.

CHAPTER XII.

1835.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS. SKETCH OF THE TOWN. COURT HOUSE BURNED. LORD'S BARN. POLITICAL ATTRACTIONS OF THE MILITARY TRACT. FIRST NEWSPAPER. VARIOUS CHURCHES ORGANIZED. MAIL FACILITIES. CURRENCY. UNSOUND MONEY AND INFLATION. LAWYERS OF QUINCY. PHYSICIANS. STEAM MILL. D. G. WHITNEY. HOLMES FAMILY. JOHN W. MEADON. JOHN TILLSON. BUILDING OF THE QUINCY HOUSE. SOCIAL LIFE. ALEXANDER. CONTESTS FOR COUNTY SEAT. ADAMSBURGH. LA FAYETTE. COATSBURG. COST OF LIVING. RISE OF THE RAILROAD MANIA. ROLL CALL OF NEW SETTLERS.

Our sketch of Quincy now passes over an interval of about five years.

How did the little town look in 1834-5? It cannot better be pictured than has been done by a tourist of those days, from whose journal we quote: "There it is, sir," said to us that model captain and thorough gentleman (two unusually united characteristics in those days), Capt. James Whitney, of the elegant, commodious, swift-running passenger steamer Orion. "That's it; you'll get off in time for supper, but you'll do better if you don't. Stay and take supper on board." Steamboat fare was not then always attractive, usually quite the reverse, but the Orion was an exception, and our next day's gastronomic experience on the hill convinced us that the Quincy taverns and the steamboats, in the item of table luxuries (?) about paralyzed each other, as a quaint old settler used to say about his store goods in comparison with those of his neighbors, and we found that we had done wisely in accepting the worthy captain's proposition and securing a square meal on the Orion. There lay before us, as our hoarse-breathing craft tore sturdily through the yellow 'spring rise' flood of the untamed 'Meche seepe,' great water (not father of waters, as popular language has translated its name). Meche is the Algonquin word for great, as, for instance, mechegan (Michigan), which means great fishtrap, the outline of the lake suggesting a weir or trap for fish. Also mechlemackinak or Mackinaw means great turtle, as the island of Mackinaw resembles a turtle in shape. Again, the Indian word

seepe, from which comes the English or rather American word seep, signifies water or flow. Thus taken together we find mecheseepe—great flow or great water.

"But we are stopping our steamer all this time, while before us lies under the rays of the declining sun, the heavy grass-green bluff dotted here and there with cabin or tree.

"Sprinkled along the river bank, as if somebody had let them fall and thought it not worth the while to pick them up, were what were called improvements. A little steam mill at the foot of what is now Delaware street, was wheezing away, as if in constant expectation of medical aid or immediate collapse. Near by it lay a couple of somewhat clean looking cabins; south thereof was a tangled mass of unbroken tree and brush and vine vegetation; above, along the water's edge, stood some tumbledown looking structures as far up as Maine street, some used, some used up, and some useless.

"Yet farther on, a rambling row of log, frame and loose stone building between Maine and Broadway,—and was Quincy. We land at the foot of Vermont street.

"Here, the rock crops out close to the water's edge. A few dead beat trees dolefully linger as hitching posts for the landing steamer. Right before us stare the sign 'Steamboat Hotel,' at the corner of Front and Vermont. Shall we stop there? Again comes in our good captain's advice. 'Better not; I see a friend on shore who will take you on the hill in his buggy. If you go to the Steamboat Hotel it'll be buggy all night with you, and not much better on the hill, only that you'll get clear of mosquitoes and may not be roused by a street row.' We take our good captain's advice and again profit. Many a grateful and sad memory will often stray towards the name of this noble gentleman, who afterwards, drawn by the pride of high adventure, threw a rising fortune into the stirring strifes of the Pacific Coast, and earned there as popular a name as he wore when with us.

"No street was then graded to the top of the hill from the river, and we ascend by a winding road, starting from about the present corner of Front and Vermont. We cross Hampshire, between Second and Third, and land at last on level ground near the store of Asher Anderson, the first merchant, at the corner of Third and Maine. 'Well,' we say, 'Where is the town?' Leaving, very gladly, what we saw of it under the hill, we see first, on the south side of Hampshire, between what is now Second and Third, a schoolhouse, then further east along Hampshire, crossing a huge ravine about where the City Hall now stands, we find nothing until at the corner of Fourth. At this time here stood a two-story frame house owned by Henry B. Berry, perhaps the most imposing edifice in town. Continuing from Fourth street east, first comes the log boarding house of 'Widow Wheat,' where afterward the First National Bank stood; now (1901) occupied by the Quincy National Bank. There the 'elite' of the town boarded. Then comes the red grocery of Tom King; next Wm. P. Reeder's frame one-story grocery, his frame house alongside, and still smaller than either, if possible, is his brick kitchen in the rear, and the first brick kitchen erected on the square, and the second in the place; next, we see the small frame storehouse owned by Dr. S. W. Rogers; then John W. McFadon's one-story frame storehouse, where is now Montgomery's drug store; farther east comes the long two-story frame 'Land Office Hotel,' with an unrivaled state reputation for the liveliness of its beds and the luxuriant soil deposits on its floors. There the big bugs stopped and stayed. In the east end of the same was the law office of O. H. Browning, then the rising, as, for fifty years, he was the leading representative man of the Quincy bar. A little farther on, at the corner of Fifth, was Robert Tillson's one and a half story log dwelling house, some five feet below grade.

"North of Hampshire, on Third, Fourth and Fifth streets, there were scattered dwellings, and all north of Broadway, was the 'Keyes farm,' extending from Twelfth to Front street, and from Broadway to Chestnut. The original cost to Mr. Keyes of that splendid property was about eleven dollars, with an addition in the way of a bonus for the privilege of securing the tax title to this half section. He afterward obtained, at a much increased figure, the patentee's title, thus protecting his claim to the whole. Two winding ravines tending northwesterly, wound through this section between Hampshire and Broadway, and occupied most of the area, leaving but here and there a place for a few cabins. The 'Burial Ground' (the south half of what is now Jefferson Park, where the courthouse stands) was a higher and more even piece of ground, unenclosed, with a few trees on it, and a rail pen or pile of brush here and there, indicating the existence of a grave.

"The north half of this square was a deep ravine. Between Fifth and Sixth, on the north side of Hampshire, were two cabins (a portion of this ground being badly cut up by ravines. The two-story brick house of Judge Young, on the ground where the Tremont House stands, came later. On the south side of Hampshire,

being built by Loring H. Reynolds, the two-story frame, which many may remember in later years as being the tavern kept by Joel Emery, whose musical 'Never Drink a Drop Again,' was a daily town melody. Farther on, looking east along the south side of Hampshire, were several small structures, some log, some frame, some on the street, others back; among the latter the cooper shop of Wells & Morgan, in the rear of the present Rogers' building, which was, we believe, the first important cooperage establishment in the place.

"East of Sixth street was the government land office, a one-story frame, then Guth's cabin; next three or four more residences of like appearance. Across Seventh, on the ground where the old Browning mansion is now, and the Catholic schoolhouse stands, extending beyond Eighth, were several log residences, one a double cabin, occupied by Jesse Summers, another, by Henry Kemp. Thence on to Twelfth, there was a succession of hazel rough, then forest, and the whole area cut by half a dozen ravines running south. Hampshire, or 'Pucker' street, as it was in town slang, called, was the only outlet from the public square to the north and east. It ran along a ridge as far as Eighth, where the road turned northeast, cutting across vacant ground until it reached the Alstyne prairie.

"On the north side of Hampshire where the Episcopal Church stands, was a corn field, in which stood David Karnes' blacksmith shop; the only house on that side of the street was Droulard's second house, a double cabin, where the Bushnell residence now stands. Droulard was the owner of this entire quarter section, but it was all whittled out of his hands, and he died, as he lived, a poor 'French schentelman.' A cabin at the corner of Twelfth and Maine was for a short time, we believe, occupied by Mike Dodd, a rare humorist and eccentric man, whose descendants now reside in Concord township. He died in 1857, was one of the earliest settlers, and tradition is laden with his quaint sayings and acts. About where the Webster schoolhouse stands the ground was quite heavily wooded. With the exception of the cabin above-named, there was nothing in the way of what was called 'improvement' in this section. Out on Maine street, east of the square, there were one or two cabins on the south side, between Fifth and Sixth, but beyond that, nothing. The great ravine that crossed the street at Sixth, ended in that direction.

"Looking south from Hampshire street, along the east side of the public square, after passing the Emery tavern at the corner, were a couple of cabins, one of which had been used as a schoolroom. Also the two brick buildings of Dunsmore and Carlin, in process of erection. These were built on the ground originally reserved for 'school purposes.' Next, about half way along the block, and back from the street, was the log jail of that day, the terror of great criminals and small boys. Its design was both ingenious and economical. It had no doors to the first story where rogues were confined, and the prisoners were taken upstairs to the second story and let down through a hole in the floor to the cell below. The tendency of all which was, undoubtedly, to the cultivation of better thought and more Christian disposition, since the prisoners could only hope and look for sustenance and deliverance from above.

"Yet farther south, near the corner of Maine, was the first courthouse; the primeval log temple where, as the town wag used to say, 'justice was dispensed with.' It was built in 1826 and burned in the winter of the year which we are describing (1835). It was, like its successor, a fortunate structure. Rejoicing at its birth were repeated at its death. The following obituary from the Illinois Bounty Land Register, the first and then the only paper published in Quincy, in its issue of December 11, 1835, prototypes what was thought, felt and said when a like event occurred on the 9th of January, 1875, forty years later:

"'FIRE.—Our courthouse went the way of sublunary things amidst this devouring element on Wednesday evening last. There were many present to witness the splendid spectacle exhibited by the columns of smoke and flame which shot up to a considerable distance as the conflagration increased, but if any regrets were expressed for the accident, they did not reach our ears.'

"Back of the courthouse there was a grove of hazel and small trees. The square itself was a rough hazel patch. Near its southeast corner, in the street in front of the courthouse, was a big stump, from which political speeches, legal sales, out-of-door sermons, etc., were made. At the southwest corner of Fifth and Maine, was the two-story frame dwelling and store of Levi Wells; then came towards the west two or three small one-story clapboard structures, attached and belonging to the Wells building.

"West of the Wells building, after an interval of vacant ground that long thus remained, there stood, about the middle of the block, the little frame shop of Montanden, the first jeweler, afterwards occupied by W. H. Gage, whose two-story residence was in the rear. Then came two or three small one-story frame

law offices, used for such purposes for many years by Ralston, Warren, Logan, Wheat, Gilman and successively by many of the early lawyers. Here also was the office of Drs. Nichols & Eels. One of the earliest of these, was a log cabin, clapboarded, which had been the office of 'Squire Logan.' He came to Quincy a little later than Archibald Williams, and was a leading lawyer, during his brief life, in a variety of attainments, brilliant resource and promise. He was, as Mr. Williams said, 'the brightest young lawyer of his day in Illinois, next to Ben Mills, that I ever met.' Logan died of the all prevading fever, which with the cholera in 1832 and 1833, almost decimated the place. Next, still looking west, was Rufus Brown's home cabin, and last, at the corner where now stands the Newcomb Hotel, was the half log, half frame tavern of Brown, the brag hotel of the place. On the corner of Fourth and Maine was the unfinished two-story frame house of Peter Felt, purchased and occupied by Capt. Burns, and subsequently used by the Illinois State Bank. Across the way, going north, at the corner of Fourth and Maine, was the two-story frame long known as 'the old postoffice building,' the first frame structure of the town, built in 1829, containing also in its chimney the first bricks burned, the first of which that was laid, being yet preserved in the wall of the large four-story house that now occupies the spot. Here a ravine running northeast and southwest crossed the street. Beyond that, further north, was the little frame tailor shop of Michael Mast, the pioneer knight of the shears. Next D. G. Whitney's two-story frame store about the center of the block, and between that and Hampshire a frame and a log building, one used by Gruel as a grocery, the other by the Pearsons as a store.

"Thus appeared the public square, rifted by cross paths and roads and with still an occasional patch of hazel rough. There were, westward down Hampshire street, a few small buildings, and around the square, besides those named above, perhaps half a dozen tumble-down structures, sprinkled here and there, too unsubstantial to be noticed or remembered.

"South and southwest of the public square, lay the most thickly settled residence section of the place. Along Fifth street south for three or four blocks, on either side of the ridge, were several small houses. On Jersey, near where the German Methodist church now stands, on the south side, between Fifth and Sixth, was the residence of Mrs. Marshall, the widow of an early settler, who died some years earlier, and the mother of ex-Gov. Wm. Marshall, of Minnesota; and further along Jersey, westward, there were other cabins, with an occasional small frame.

"On Maine, west of Fourth, on both sides, were houses as far as Mount Pisgah on Second street, among them Anderson's store, on the corner of Third, Peabody's wool-carding factory, midway between Third and Fourth. South of the square, on Fourth street, on the west side, was the church—'God's barn,' as a long, low frame building (which was the earliest, and at the time, the only structure devoted to religious purposes) was called.

"Associated with the remembrance of that ugly, clapboarded shed (for it was but little better than a shed) are many eventful associations that should be put on record. Familiar to the memory of the few surviving of the period, they should be preserved for their descendents. In that unpretentious 'manger' was first born and organized the religious sentiment of the village. There was sown the seed whence have grown and flowered the various branches of protestant belief by which our city is now advantaged and adorned. Almost every church in Quincy, every shape of sectarian organization is an outshoot of 'God's barn.'

"It was fostered in its earlier days by the faithful fervor of the lamented Turner, and made influential by the learning of Nelson and the originality of Foote. It had another and a higher mission. It was freedom's fortress when here 'freedom's battle first began,' when the 'Nelson riots' arose, when humanity's duty to shield an innocent and eminent fugitive from pro-slavery barbarism was disputed, when that highest of American privileges, the right of free thought and free expression of thought was denied and assailed with threatened violence by men from abroad and men at home, among them, officials who should have been the guardians as they were the nominal representatives of good government and law. Then and there rallied from out the excited and divided community, true and fearless men (fearless because of their being right) and there organized in defense of free speech and quelled the threatened lawlessness. This was a turning period in Quincy's history. The old church was the place of rendezvous. It was prepared for defense, and beneath the platform of the rough pulpit, were hidden the arms of every sort, including hickory clubs, ready for instant use if needed. Religion and freedom will alike keep green the grateful memory of 'God's barn.'

"At the northwest corner of Jersey and Fourth, where the Baptist church now stands, was Judge Snow's double weather-boarded cabin, where all the county offices were located, and several cabins lay farther south and west.

About the corner of Second and Kentucky, on the side of the hill, was a frame house occupied by Archibald Williams, and on Fourth street, near York, was the two-story frame building of the Rev. Asa Turner, the first settled clergyman of the place."

Such was the place as recalled after the lapse of many years, though crude, rude and rough is the picture that appears from beneath the gathered dust of nearly half a century, strange in its humble contrast with the stir and springing life and luxury of to-day; yet there is a fadeless charm in the memorial thoughts, and there is hardly one of these now vanished landmarks that we have named, to which even yet some recollection does not reach back with mingled sentiments of pleasure, in the progress which had been made, and regret that the charm of simple frontier life has passed forever away.

The preceding picture, while it correctly portrays and general aspect of Quincy early in 1835, is necessarily defective in detail, for the reason that it is a transcript from the tablet of a long-after recollection, and while precise as to what it does delineate, naturally has many omissions. It is observable also that this was a year of rapid and numerous transitions, and that the exhibit of the spring became a thoroughly altered appearance at the close of the year. These changes, or some of them, will be noted as we pass on.

The political representation of the town and county was but little varied. John M. Robinson and Wm. L. D. Ewing were the U. S. senators (the latter a very gifted man elected to fill the place of Elias Kent Kane, deceased). Col. Wm. L. May, of Springfield, was the representative in congress, his district embracing all of the state north of this line of latitude; Joseph Duncan was governor; Young was still on the bench; Wm. A. Richardson was state's attorney, elected by the legislature. The legislative representation was unchanged. The county officials were those of the year before, except that at the August election, H. H. Snow, who had held the office of county recorder since 1825, was defeated at the polls by C. W. Billington, a jolly good fellow, whose good nature and lameness (he was a cripple) gave him a popular success over the "old judge." This did not matter greatly, since Snow still held the three other leading county offices.

The town authorities were changed at the June election. A. Williams, S. W. Rogers, J. T. Holmes, O. H. Browning and H. B. Berry were chosen trustees; J. T. Holmes was elected president and O. H. Browning clerk of the board, R. R. Williams, treasurer, and Thos. C. King, collector. The town ordinances were revised and published. The omission of the year before, to define the boundaries in the first section, was corrected, and we give the same as they were made, they being the first town boundaries, and so continued until enlarged after Quincy became a city. The section reads: "Commencing at the termination of Delaware street, in John Wood's addition to Quincy, two rods west of low-water mark in the Mississippi river, thence running east one mile, thence north one mile, thence west one mile, thence south one mile to the place of beginning. This embraces the area now bounded by the river, Payson avenue, Twelfth and Oak streets.

Until this time all of the corporation action had been against rowdyism, lawlessness, nuisances, etc., but on the 17th of August the commencement of internal improvement legislation occurs. This was the appointment of Rogers, Berry and Snow (who had been appointed clerk in the place of Browning, resigned) to fix the grade of Hampshire street, and an appropriation of $125 was made for the improvement of Hampshire and an equal amount for improving Maine, also $2 was allowed E. Morrill for removing a snag in the Mississippi river opposite Quincy.

The winter of 1834-5 had been one of unusual severity—more injurious than any before known. There was much loss of cattle and killing of fruit trees throughout this section. Navigation, however, opened as early as the 23d of January and an early business and immigration commenced, surpassing that of all preceding periods, and which, although ever since continued, has never been so especially stirring and noticeable as it was then. Many influences contributed to these conditions. Quincy, from various causes, became a center to which and through which, flowed a large portion of that current of immigration both native and foreign, which streamed "westward ho," in search of location and home. It was, so to speak, the entrepot for farming lands, the "El Dorado" of promised settlement; the only place where could be secured by private purchase or by government entry, an ownership in the rich soil of the Military Tract, or, as it was more commonly called, the "bounty lands."

Congress, shortly after the second war with England, reserved that portion of Illinois territory lying between the Mississippi and Illinois rivers and south of the southern line of what is now Rock Island county, as bounty to the soldiers in the war of 1812, one hundred and sixty acres, or a quarter section was to be patented to every soldier of the war. This was then, as now, one of the choicest sections of the state. It measures one hundred and sixty-nine miles

in length from north to south, ninety miles across in its broadest part, with an average width of somewhat less than sixty miles. It comprises two hundred and seven complete townships of six miles square, and sixty-one fractional townships, or such as are irregular in their boundaries from bordering on one or the other of the two rivers. The entire tract contained, as per survey, about 5,360,000 acres, of which 3,500,000 acres were reserved or set apart for the bestowment of the soldiers' bounties above mentioned, and no lands could be entered or bought from the government until the soldiers' bounties were paid—indeed, as it happened, not until long after that time. The survey of the tract was made in 1815 and 1816, and immediately after patents were issued to the soldiers. The lands thus patented were invariably chosen from the evenly measured quarter sections of one hundred and sixty acres each, neither more nor less, and all fractional surveys, such as contained more or less than the above-fixed standard, as well as all the lands left after the bounty payment had been completed, were retained by the government and subsequently sold, many years later, at the price first of two dollars and after that, of one dollar and a quarter an acre.

About half of the tract was thus given in bounties, and the lands so given were almost wholly purchased from the soldiers by eastern capitalists, and at the first sale of lands for state taxes in 1823, nearly all of them were bought in by speculators. Thus the title to all these unoccupied lands, some 1,400,000 acres, was in the ownership of non-residents, and had been since 1823 in the charge of the agency of John Tillson, afterward and at this time, Tillson, Moore & Co., which was located at Quincy. Most of these lands were for sale and at very low rates, the prices ranging from fifty cents or less an acre, up to two, three or five dollars, according to title, location, etc., but sales at the last named figures were very rare.

The unpatented land, which was commonly called government or congress land, was very gradually placed on market. Indeed, it was not until five or six years after the establishment of Quincy as the county seat that all the public lands in Adams county were thrown open to purchasers. They were subject to entry, however, at this time (1835), and the government land offices were here located. Hence all who desired to purchase land, either by private sale or government entry, must come to Quincy to complete their dealings, so it may be readily conceived what an influx of travel and business was thus drawn to the place. Population flowed in from every quarter, from the slave-worn south, from sterile New England, from the overcrowded old world, attracted by the low price of the lands and the not greatly exaggerated tales of their wondrous fertility. Here they stopped, bought their lands and left their money; some settling near, some going to more distant locations.

Aiding these influences was also the great abundance of bank money, a condition that two years later was sadly reversed. The steps taken towards establishing a branch of the state bank, to which $120,000 (on paper) was subscribed here, the prospective Northern Cross railroad (now the Wabash) also contributed to give life, vigor and apparent prosperity. Travel greatly increased. Up to April 17th, twenty-six steamers had arrived; later in the season and late in the fall, the arrivals were almost daily, two packets claiming to run semi-weekly from St. Louis to Keokuk. The first steam ferry was started by Merrill & Co., about July 10th; who advertised that they would cross every hour and oftener if desired, and claimed they would cross in five minutes' time. The health of the town was greatly improved, as compared with previous years. The cholera which had so severely scourged it two years earlier, made a slight visitation, two persons only (strangers) dying of that disease.

A notable event was the establishment of the first newspaper, which was issued as a weekly, on April 17th, by C. M. Woods. The editorial and chief ownership was in Judge R. M. Young. It was styled the Bounty Land Register. The following year it changed hands and added to itself the name of Argus, by which title it was known for some time and about five years after became the Herald. It is probably, next to the Journal and Register of Springfield, the oldest journal in Illinois. Its appearance for the first two years contrasts strongly with the present day journals. It was printed on a sheet 16x20 inches, of coarse, dingy paper, and with the heaviest and blackest of ink. Its political character was "Jackson" or "Republican," the names Whig and Democrat of later years having not then been fully assumed. This paper, which gives the earliest continued record of public affairs in Quincy, was well managed, but it was largely made up of selections and news from abroad, containing comparatively little of local information. People then wished to learn about the outside world, and personal gossips answered in the place of local editors. Among the items was one that would look strange now. It was the advertising by Judge Young for his runaway slave, George, and an offer of $50 for his apprehension. There were at that time quite a number of slaves in

the state, the owners of whom had been guaranteed their property by the treaty, ceding to the United States, the Louisiana territory.

Initial movements were made during this year for the formation of the Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal and Unitarian churches. Members of these new societies had been either members of or were attendant on the First Congregational Church. The Methodist Church organized in June and the Baptist Church in August, the other two a year or so later.

What we now call mail facilities were anything but facile during this period. Twice a week the eastern mail was expected to be delivered in Quincy, and usually it came, sometimes it didn't. There were two stage lines, one through Carrollton and Rushville, arriving on Thursday, and one through Springfield and Jacksonville, coming in on Friday of each week. There was also a weekly mail northward to Peoria and westward to Palmyra, and farther on each route. The eastern mails and passengers were, when the roads permitted, brought in by the old-fashioned "Troy coach" stage, but during no small portion of the time the means of conveyance was the "mud wagon," or, with equal appropriateness, called the "bonebreaker," which was a huge square box fastened with no springs, upon two wheels, into which said box mail and passengers were promiscuously piled, and the conjoint and constant prayer of the insensate mail and of the confused passengers was "good Lord, deliver us." The earliest, most copious and most sought for news, was that gleaned from the St. Louis papers which were brought up on the boats and privately circulated.

Correspondence by mail was an expensive luxury. Postage rates were, for a single letter or one piece of paper not exceeding 30 miles, 6 cents; not exceeding 80 miles, 10 cents; 150 miles, $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents; 400 miles, $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents, and on all over 400 miles, the single letter postage was 25 cents, and if the letter was written on two, three or more pieces of paper the postage was doubled or trebled, etc., accordingly. This postage was not then, as now, paid in advance, but at the time of delivery, and had to be paid in silver.

It will be noticed that these rates are graded on a different currency system from that which now exists. Although the present decimal system of currency was then the only legitimate national coinage, yet the great preponderance in circulation of English, Colonial, Spanish and Mexican silver, compelled the law to be accommodated to the specie grades that were current, and alike with this, trade and business of every kind were governed; goods were bought, marked and sold by this foreign standard of money rates.

Mail matter came leisurely. Letters from the seaboard cities and from Washington were generally about two weeks in transit. There were four postoffices in the county outside of Quincy —Liberty, Bear Creek, in the north part of the county, Ashton in the south, and Walnut Point in the east.

Postage being so high and required to be paid in silver, it was not unusual for letters to lie in the postoffice for a long time before the needed "rhino" could be secured with which to obtain their deliverance. The same consideration affected also the selection of the postmaster. As the receipt of his own letters free and the franking privilege were the perquisites and part of the postmaster's salary, the office generally fell into the hands of some responsible and respected leading business man, to whom the saving of this excessive cost of correspondence was a large economic factor, thus giving the office a prima facie repute, to which in modern days it is too much a stranger. As an illustration of the prominent part that postage played in those days we know of a case (and there were others similar) where for many years, the office was held by a party, who, having an extensive distant correspondence, gave all the emoluments to an assistant, who personally attended to its business. The weekly and semi-weekly mail would bring and take away a basket full of personal letters for the postmaster and contain about one-tenth as many for the general distribution, the postmaster realizing an ample reward in having an untaxed correspondence.

It was the scarcity of small silver and its necessary use in trade, entering lands and paying postage, that led to the use of "cut money." A Mexican or Spanish dollar would be cut into eight pieces, each of these little silver wedges representing twelve and a half cents, and their circulation was general. It was shrewdly understood, however, that if all the pieces of any one dollar could come together again there would be discovered nine-eighths—the coiner thus paying himself for the labor of manufacture.

This "cut money" above described, quite current since territorial times, especially in the interior of the state, gradually disappeared. It gave way before the advance of the legal federal coin which profusely accompanied eastern emigration. Where these silver pieces went to and what became of them is a query as unanswerable as "what becomes of the pins?" Some of the stuff undoubtedly yet exists, but most probably greatly changed from its original

form. In the writer's family a portion of it is thus preserved. His father, had, as postmaster, for many years received it in large amounts and substituted legitimate coin therefor on settlement with the department. From the handfuls of silver wedges thus left in his possession he caused to be manufactured a "tea set" consisting of sugar bowl, cream cup, etc., which have since often socially, circulated with as much satisfaction as they formerly did in their particular cuneal form. This set is still preserved, special in its attractiveness alike from being a family heirloom, more than half a century old, and also from the oddity of its origin. Much more has undoubtedly been saved in a similar way.

Following this adroit device for the creation of a small coin circulation and at the same time speculating therein by obtaining nine-eights from each divided dollar, there came another specie speculation in small coins, somewhat more profitable and decidedly more legitimate. At this time almost the only small silver coins in use were the Mexican and Spanish Picayune ($6\frac{1}{4}$ cents) and bits ($12\frac{1}{2}$ cents), and by these all trade prices and values were scaled.

The federal half dimes and dimes, of which there were but few, passed current from hand to hand, equal severally with the picayune and the bit, so that whoever in the eastern states exchanged dollars for dimes, receiving ten dimes for each dollar, and brought his bags of dimes to the west, made twenty-five per cent by the operation. With eight of these ten-cent pieces he could buy a dollar's worth of anything, and have two dimes remaining, equal in purchasing power to twenty-five cents. This, as may be imagined, was an exchange factor of no light weight.

The moneyed condition of the country (if paper is money) superficially viewed, was wondrously flush and favorable to the settlement and development of the west, but was intrinsically fictitious and rotten. The veto of the national bank, by which step the government assumed the vicious policy of refunding to protect its people by guarding the legal promises to pay, which are the indispensable needs of all civilized communities, and of refusing to establish a circulating medium uniform, staple, safe everywhere, since the resources and stability of the people and of each one of the people who used it would be pledged to its validity, this unwise movement opened the floodgates of banking irresponsibility, and the land was made to teem with "shoddy" and "wildcat" bank notes. With this profusion of engraved paper, miscalled money, came that delusion which appears to periodically affect each generation, making men, as says America's most eminent writer, to "mistake the multiplication of money for the multiplication of wealth, not understanding that it is a mere agent or instrument in the interchange of traffic, to represent the value of the various productions of industry, and that an increased circulation of coin or bank bills, in the shape of currency, only adds a proportionately increased and fictitious value to such productions."

This wild inflation affected the whole country, especially pervading the west, so inviting at that time to speculative chances, and Quincy and its surroundings shared in the mania. Land had then as now, and as always, its fixed relative productive value, but money was cheap, common, plenty, "thick as autumnal leaves, that strew the forests of Valambrosa," and ultimately about as valueless. It passed as freely from hand to hand as a candidate's "shake" on election day.

As illustrative of this speculative whirl and of the great fall and deep depression in prices that inevitably succeeds these unnatural conditions, we cite the sale of what is now Nevins' addition. This tract, containing one hundred and twenty acres, comprised within Twelfth, Jersey, Eighteenth and Broadway, was bought at this time by an eastern company for thirty thousand dollars. Five years later the purchasers sought to sell for five thousand but could not, and it was not until 1850, fifteen years after the above-named purchase, when it had been divided among the owners and was platted into sixty lots of about two acres each, that it could be put upon the market. The lots then sold at prices running from three to eight hundred dollars—a few bringing more, but the average was, aside from the fifteen years' taxes, money interest, etc., hardly to the original buyers a return of their purchase money. Yet these unnatural money conditions, with their certain future relapse, gave for the time, a brisk prosperity to the place, and, it must be admitted, developed conditions which resulted in permanent growth.

Its business situation is fairly represented in the following statement, prepared at the time by one of Quincy's earliest settlers, and one himself peculiarly a part of its early history. Some omissions and inaccuracies occur, slightly characteristic of the compiler, but in the main it is a correct and comprehensive schedule, as no one then but Judge Snow could have made. It somewhat varies the appearance of the town as pictured in a previous paper, for the reason that this was made up at a later period in the year.

"There are in Quincy," says this report, "ten stores, one land agency, one silversmith, three cooper shops, six lawyers, six physicians, three blacksmiths, one printing office, two bakers, one coachmaker, four tailors, two wagon makers, three plasterers, two drug shops, one bonnet store, two masons, four groceries, two warehouses, twenty-one merchants, five carpenter shops, two shoemakers, two butchers, one gunsmith, one government land office, one milliner and mantua maker, three taverns, one pork merchant, four saddlers, two stonemasons, one wheelwright, one chairmaker, one steam mill, one woolcarding machine, two regular steam packets to St. Louis."

Some of these occupations existed prior to this period, some dated with the year, while still others were established subsequent to the time when the foregoing schedule was compiled, and of course do not appear. Here follows as a proper and pleasant touch to recollection brief mention of a few of these then representative business men, who now have almost entirely passed from life and taken their names with them into partial forgetfulness. Such notice, at this dim distance of time, naturally can be but scant and without pretension to full accuracy or precision.

The lawyers alluded to by Judge Snow were O. H. Browning, Archibald and Robert R. Williams, J. H. Ralston, J. W. Whitney (Lord Coke) and Louis Masqueier. Several of them have been heretofore sketched. The first two carried conspicuous names. O. H. Browning, who, as a young lawyer from Kentucky, settled here in 1831, almost immediately acquired, and maintained for nearly fifty years, the recognized leadership at the Quincy bar. Excelled as he may have been in some one line of capacity or attainment by this or that professional compeer, yet in industry, experience, sagacity, knowledge of men, self-possession, grasp alike of comprehensive principles and of detail; indeed in the general aggregate of excelling qualities needful to the symmetrical mold of a great legal mind, he had no equal here or superior in the northwest. He possessed, to a rare degree, one most especially valuable legal attribute; a natural lucidity of expression through which to transfer his own thoughts with equal clearness and force to every member of a mixed and miscellaneous audience, composed as it might be of all grades of intellect and intelligence, and to do this in such a way that each listener received what he heard as seeming to himself to be the self-flattering elaborations of his own brain. He retained these splendid mental traits unclouded, and his physical faculties equally preserved, throughout his eminent half-century career, down almost to the day of his life's close in 1881. Archibald Williams, heretofore spoken of as the first lawyer to settle in Quincy, coming here in 1829, filled for thirty-two years a foremost position at the bar and earned a reputation more extensive than the state.

While not possessing some of the varied mental adornments peculiar to Mr. Browning, and not so educationally advantaged in youth, yet in native muscularity of intellect he was at least his equal. His force of thought was singularly strong, and his comprehensive and concise analytical power would most strikingly appear when, before a court, he would in the briefest of terms unfold, apply and enforce a legal principle. It was the mutual good fortune of these eminent men to be for thirty years in almost constant professional collision, they severally being the especial legal representatives of the opposite positions in the contested and unsettled tax laws of the state. What benefit it must have been to two such minds to be so opposed in a struggle over such great interests, involving the profoundest principles of human law, may be well imagined.

Louis Masquerier was a notable man in his day; a man of many varied qualities; a ready speaker and writer, of much information, always ambitious, but always failing from his caprices and lack of judgment. A wag described him as graduating from an institution "for the promotion of useless knowledge and the general confusion of the human understanding." He was a clever fellow and generally liked. Soon after this time he moved to Southern Illinois and there died.

The physicians were Drs. Eels & Nichols (partners), S. W. Rogers, Hornsby, Ralston & H. Rogers (partners). Some of these have been previously sketched. Dr. Hiram Rogers was a physician of education and skill. He came to Quincy in 1843, from New York, and first engaged in the drug business with Dr. Ralston. He was register of the public land office from 1845 to 1849. He died several years since, leaving liberal charitable bequests. His widow, the daughter of Capt. Pease, yet resides here.

Dr. Samuel W. Rogers, the elder brother, was the first physician who settled in the place (1829). Outside of his professional position, which was high, he was a man of much force and leadership in public affairs. He was prominent in town councils, and equally so in his party; was city postmaster during the administration of President Polk. He died about four years since at his daughter's residence in New Hampshire.

All of these men ranked high in public estimation. Indeed, both the medical and legal

profession then aggregated at home and abroad, a fairer standard of success and respect than is common in later years. While lacking the advances of science and experience, they were for that period, equal to the responsibilities which they ware called to meet, and if there were fewer men of eminence, there were fewer charlatans. This cannot as well be said of the clerical profession. With the exception of the faithful "Parson" Turner, there were few if any among the frequent floating preachers who would instinctively be called a "divine."

The two "drug shops" cited by Judge Snow were those of Rogers & Ralston and Wells & Morey, who kept a small stock of drugs, chemicals, etc., although most of the physicians sold medicines.

The steam mill at the foot of Delaware street was operated by J. T. Holmes & Co. Capt. Nathaniel Pease, located on Front street near Vermont, was the only pork merchant.

The one printing office was that of the Bounty Land Register, now the Quincy Herald, established this year by C. M. Woods.

Three taverns graced, some say disgraced the town. They were Rufus Brown's, the first in the place, where now stands the Newcomb Hotel; the Land Office Hotel, kept by W. S. Walton, on the north side of the square, just west of Fifth street, and George W. Hight's Steamboat Hotel on Front street, about opposite the present railroad depot, better then known as "Catfish Hotel." No special delineation of these need be given. Their reputation was long preserved in the expressive vernacular, current in those days, which we cannot exhume without offending the tastes of our readers and also drawing too strongly against the third commandment.

The bonnet store and milliner and mantuamaker's shop was kept by Mrs. Dr. Nicholas and Mrs. Burns, on the west side of Fourth street, near Maine, afterwards immediately opposite. Fortunately, forty-seven years ago "boughten goods" were not so prevalent, nor was "style" thought to be so indispensable as now, home-made truck meeting the general want, so that these ladies had little difficulty in keeping up with the fashionable demands on their tastes and time.

D. G. Whitney was then, as before and after, the leading merchant, who had associated with him, successively, Richard Green, and his own brothers, Ben and William. Mr. Whitney was from Marietta, Ohio, and came westward early. He possessed unusual mercantile enterprise and skill, carrying on several branches of business at the same time; an extensive store on the west side of the square, a distillery some two miles below the town, a grist mill in the south part of the county, and a warehouse near by on the river bank, also having interests in several country stores. All these made him the most extensive, as he was the most popular business man of the county. He built the mansion afterward owned by Gen. Singleton ("Boscobel") east of the city, which then was the most palatial residence in this part of the country. His failure in business, was to himself and to the general public, the most hurtful of any that ever occurred here. Mr. Whitney removed to California in 1849, and there partially restored his fortunes. He finally died about ten years (1886) since, crushed by a railroad car collision.

The Pearson brothers, E. L. and Albert, were merchants from near Philadelphia. They owned and resided on fine farms, of 160 acres each, immediately east of Twenty-fourth street, at the southeast side of the city. Their store was on the west side of the public square, near the center of the block. After retiring from mercantile life, the elder, Edward L., removed to California, and there died. Albert engaged for a time in banking at Warsaw, Ill., afterward returned east and died in 1881, at his home in New Jersey. They were men of mind, of more than ordinary originality and vigor of thought, influential and respected for their intelligence and hospitality, and possessed of some marked eccentricities. Albert, the second brother, held it to be the sacred and bounden duty of every American citizen to denounce Andrew Jackson, an obligation which he patriotically performed to the last day of his life.

Matthews & Co., from Ohio, were like Whitney and the Pearsons, early settlers. Their store was on Maine, corner of Third. Subsequently they opened a store at Carthage, and later at Warsaw, to which latter place they moved, and finally left for the east. There were three brothers, of whom only one (James) we believe is living at this date (1886).

Rogers & Dutcher were a prominent mercantile and commission firm. Samuel C. Rogers, the senior member, was a very superior business man. He passed quite a portion of his time in New Orleans. He was quite an ardent and liberal Catholic, and that church owes much to him and to his gifted wife. Thos. B. Dutcher, also a man of good business habits, after his failure in Quincy, engaged in the commission business at St. Louis, and latterly in New Orleans. Both of these gentlemen have long been dead.

Stephen and Samuel Holmes were brothers of J. T. Holmes, several times mentioned. The

Holmes family was from Connecticut, and possessed of Yankee enterprise to the amplest extent. Stephen died a few years after this time. Samuel, one of the most enterprising, rapid-minded men of the town, was prominent in many public matters, especially devoted to political affairs, holding various offices in the town and city, mayor several times, register of the government land office, representative to the general assembly and speaker of the House, etc. He died in 1868. The store of the Holmes', who kept the same under several changes of firm name, was at the southwest corner of Maine and Fifth. Later in the year Geo. W. Brown, a brother-in-law, was associated in the business, and finally assumed it.

John Burns, Jr., a former sea captain, came from Massachusetts in 1834, to remain. He had visited Quincy the year previous. His store was at southwest corner of Maine and Fourth. Capt. Burns afterward moved to Payson, and retiring from business, returned to Quincy, where he died at an advanced age. The family is extensively represented here and in the Pacific states. Their homestead for many years was the "Burns place," now owned by Lewis Kendall, one mile north of the city, on Twelfth street. This was a large family of active and enterprising people.

Joel Rice, who died several years ago, was a Kentuckian by birth, but came to Quincy in 1835, from Cincinnati and began business on Front street, as a general dealer and shipping merchant, afterward engaging in grain and pork packing. A lucky event a few years later closed his speculative ventures, which were really foreign to his cautious, prudent nature. The river froze quite unexpectedly and continued closed for some time, holding in its grasp a steamboat on which Mr. Rice had shipped the product of his entire winter's work, indeed, almost all that he was worth was invested in the enterprise. He had to ship in the face of declining prices and of a certain loss, to what extent, he could not know. He had made his negotiations with the Illinois State Bank, and his payments were to be made to the bank and in its paper. The bank failed while the steamer lay locked in its icy fetters. The depreciation of its paper saved him from the apprehended loss. He quit speculation to any extent after this experience, as he said, he "didn't think a bank would fail and the river freeze up at the same time again." Mr. Rice subsequently engaged in the iron business, retiring several years ago. He died about 1878. Mr. Rice was an earnest public worker, especially during the earlier period of the city's history. He was of somewhat quaint manner, methodical habits, and precise in expression. He left a reputation for straightforward integrity such as few men obtain.

John W. McFadon, located on Hampshire, not far from Fourth, was one of the early merchants. He was a native of Baltimore, a man of broad information, derived from unusual opportunities of foreign travel and business as a ship supercargo, which occupation carried him almost over the world. He was for some years engaged in business at Rio Janeiro. He brought west a snug sum of money, opened a store at Marcelline, and later at Quincy, he invested sagaciously in lands and town lots, and handling his business prudently and living frugally, left at his death, in 1864, one of the largest estates in the county, and a name of honor. Mr. McFadon was very averse to political notoriety, although possessing most positive political attachments and prejudices; his likes were with the Whig party, especially on account of its commercial and financial policy, and his dislikes were for the Democratic and Abolition parties, although, like most of the Whigs, he was anti-slavery in principle. When asked once why he never got into public life, "By Jupiter," said he, his favorite expression, "I'm too much of a Whig and a gentleman to be anything but postmaster at Bear Creek, where they have to have some such man to read the directions on the letters."

John A. Pierce's store was on Maine street, north side, near Fourth; later removed to Fourth, just south of D. G. Whitney & Co. He had been a sea captain and had all the bluff, frank and genialty and general intelligence that usually attaches to that pursuit, but totally unskilled as a merchant. He returned to New York the following year, having disposed of his business to I. O. Woodruff.

S. R. M. Leroy for a short time kept a store adjoining the Land Office Hotel; he died during the year, leaving an extensive family connection, now represented by the Sullivan, Richardson, Dunlap and Lane families of Quincy and the Reeds and Belknaps of Keokuk, Iowa.

Levi Wells, mentioned in a former chapter, one of the very earliest of the pioneer settlers, was at this time engaged in merchandizing in his own building, near the southwest corner of Fifth and Maine, part of which he occupied as a residence. To his general store he and a Mr. Morey, added what was, perhaps (though small), the largest assortment of druggist stock in the place.

Tillson & Pitkin, at the old postoffice, corner of Fourth and Maine, represented the oldest then existing mercantile house of the town, that of Tillson & Holmes, founded in 1828. Seth

L. Pitkin, the junior partner, was a Connecticut man, of excellent character and business qualifications, but, like many such men, seemed to labor under misfortune. Mr. Pitkin was a relative of F. S. Penfield, and Mr. Penfield and Thomas Pope also were clerks in this store at a somewhat later date.

The firm of Berry & Parker, changed during the year to Berry & Skinner, transacted a lively business at the corner of Fourth and Hampshire. They were brothers-in-law. They were not successful in business and have long since passed away, not far distant in the dates of their death.

Among the merchants who are yet (1866) alive and residing here, are Samuel Jackson, from Charlestown, Mass., who opened a store this year on Hampshire street, about opposite the Tremont House, and Samuel P. and Clark B. Church, New Englanders, but from Pittsburg here, who located on Fourth street, on the west side, near Jersey. George Huntingdon, long since deceased, opened the first exclusively commission house. Montandon & Kimball late in the year began business immediately east of where the Newcomb Hotel stands. This was Deacon Kimball and H. L. Montandon, the silversmith (of whom hereafter). A tin store kept by A. Maddock, from Cincinnati, on Front, at the corner of Vermont, was perhaps the first store of this kind.

The grocers, as such, were Thos. C. and Wm. King and Wm. P. Reeder, on Hampshire street, near Fourth, and Wm. Curtis & Co. on the same street, near Sixth. We say "as such" because these professed to be solely grocers, while the fact was, that nearly all of the stores kept more or less of an assortment of groceries, hardware and everything besides that was saleable.

The names above given comprehend almost the entire "class mercantile" of the place. There doubtless are some omissions, but not many.

C. Brown, on Maine street, west of the bonnet store, and May and Robidoux, on Front, or Water street, as it was then called, between Maine and Hampshire, operated small bakeries. Conrad Broscal, the early baker does not appear to have been in business at this time.

Of the blacksmiths who had shops, Harrison Dills, who came in 1834, from Virginia, and located at the corner of Hampshire and Sixth, and Jos. Galbraith, a Pennsylvanian, and David Karnes were about all. The last two, with their families, are gone. Asa Tyrer, the pioneer blacksmith, of 1825, was not then (1835) working. Mr. A. C. Lightfoot and a Mr. Sykes, were the leading stone masons. The first named was a man of considerable influence and energy in public affairs. Wagonmakers, wheelwrights and coachmakers may be classed together. Of these A. C. Root and Carter & Walker appear to be the only parties who had shops. Sam Seward, the first wagonmaker of 1826, had long since disappeared. There were several carpenter shops and plenty of carpenters, though many were but temporary residents, drawn hither from the neighborhood by the opening opportunities for work, and many of these were but rough workmen. Nathaniel Summers, from Kentucky, who settled in 1829, was the earliest of the boss carpenters. There were also T. C. King, from Virginia; J. C. Sprague, a New Yorker,—Purnell, the Winters, Charles Green, Amos W. Harris and others.

Mr. Harris may be called the pioneer in the lumber trade which forms so great a factor in our present prosperity, since in addition to his carpenter's shop he established the first lumber yard of any extent. The only gunsmith was Joseph Musser, whose shop stood about where the Occidental hotel now is. He died a few years since at La Grange, Mo. James McQuoid, Walby and Albright were butchers. James H. Luce, who had for some years kept a chairmaker's shop, on Fourth near Jersey, was still so engaged. Mr. Luce, accidentally shot himself while hunting at Lima lake. During this year there came Wm. Townley from New York, who added to his cabinet making business that of carriage and ornamental painting. This was an advance on whitewash. Whitewash, to use a solecism, was the chief coloring material in general use. Paint as yet, was not in general use. Even "God's Barn" was unpainted, remaining so for many years, until it became somebody else's barn.

George Wood, from New York, on the north side of the public square, who later in the year associated with himself S. Halsey, and R. B. Wilmoth were cabinet makers also. Among the saddlers and harness makers, Levi B. Allen, before named as the first of the trade in 1825, was still in business on Maine, west of Fourth. There were also Lytle Griffin, who soon moved to Columbus, and Cornelius Conley. B. Peabody carried on a wool-carding business on the north side of Maine, about midway between Third and Fourth; he died during the year. The only livery stable, which, also, was the first to be established in the city, was that of John B. Young and Martin Ladner, on the north side of Hampshire, west of Third, just where the winding road from the river reached the main town level. There were three or four cooper shops; one was that of George W. Chapman, at the southwest corner of Third and Hampshire. A

right good fellow was Chapman; he was very round shouldered, for which he cared little, perhaps enjoyed it, as he used to tell with much glee, how Thomson, a big, noisy harum scarum painter, once said to him, "George, what a splendid, full chested man you would be if your head was turned the other way." He left here a few years later for Texas, where he died, and few men had more friends.

Wells & Morgan (E. Wells and J. D. Morgan) had also a cooperage establishment in a log cabin on the northwest corner of the Public Square, and a shop run by John Watts, we think in connection with the steam mill, was at the foot of Delaware street. There were four tailor shops: that of J. P. Bert, father of the present well known Bert family, on Fourth street, opposite God's barn, of Louis Cosson, who had bought out Michael Mast, and was as eccentric a Gaul as Mr. Mast was a Teuton, and H. B. Swartz, both on the west side of the public square, and S. Leachman's, on Hampshire near Sixth. Mr. Bert died in 1860, regretted as he had been respected in life. Mr. Cosson, leaving a prosperous tailoring business engaged in other pursuits, steamboating, at the last, and died in St. Louis.

H. L. Montanden was the first, and for a long time, the only silversmith and jeweler. His shop was at the corner of Maine and Fifth, over Holmes' store, afterward moved immediately east of Brown's hotel, where he engaged in merchandise with Deacon E. B. Kimball. The latter, with Mr. White, soon after took the steam mill of J. T. Holmes & Co., and ran the same for many years. Montanden, who moved to Iowa some years later, was a worthy kind of a man and something of a character. Gov. Wood used to tell, with his well known zest, of his calling on Montanden with a gentleman who desired to have his watch repaired. M., after examining, declined to touch it, saying, "I can do good blacksmith work on all the watches about here, but yours, Mr. T., is too fine a watch for me to meddle with." "Well," said the would-be-customer, "I thank you, and must say that you are too honest a man to be working at what you can't do." Whether this had any effect in influencing his subsequent change in business can't be known, perhaps it had.

QUINCY AS A TOWN—LAND BUSINESS—THE QUINCY HOUSE.

Continuing and completing these references to the various business occupations of this year, as summarized by Judge Snow, and mention of the men who conducted them, we come to what were the principal factors in the promising prospects of the place. These were the Government Land Office (of which hereafter) and the "land agency" before named, and the Quincy House, which latter, although built during the two following years, was projected this year and was born of the land agency and hence may be properly mentioned in this connection. The "land agency" was that of Tillson, Moore & Co., John Tillson, Jr., F. C. Moore, Lloyd Morton, B. F. Willis, and succeeding him on his death about this time, S. C. Sherman, partners therein. It had been established by Mr. Tillson, at Hamilton, now Hillsboro, in 1820, and in 1834-5 the other parties above named were associated in the firm and the office was transferred to Quincy.

It was a fortunate circumstance that brought it to this place. Had Peoria been selected as the state capital instead of Springfield it would have been taken there, and our rival city would then have reaped the advantage of being the great land center and of having the big hotel.

Few men were as extensively known throughout this section of the state as these agents, both because of their personal dealings with so many of the incoming settlers and their frequent periodical trips into all the counties of the tract.

John Tillson came to the west from Massachusetts in 1819, landing at Shawneetown on the same day with Gov. Wood. Spending the following winter in Edwardsville, recording deeds and looking into land business of his own and others, forseeing what fruitful business prospects lay in the lands of the then unsettled Military Tract, he established an agency, as above stated, near the state capital, for the reason, that, then and for some years after, the tax on non-resident lands (which paid state tax only) was paid at the state capital and not in the counties as now. This business grew so rapidly that in two years from that time it comprehended the agency of almost all the non-resident land in the state. So much so that we have letters from the state auditor saying, "We have our books now ready, please come and pay the state tax." Later, when the taxes by law were paid in the counties, and the general interests of the business required a location near the lands, Mr. Tillson removed with his office to and resided at Quincy until his death. He was found dead in his bed at the Peoria house in 1853, having died instantly, as did his father and grandfather, of heart disease. Business perplexities shortened a life that otherwise might have reached, as has those of many of his family before him, to nearly a century. He

was a large man, of unusually rapid and powerful action, both muscular and mental; thought but little of rising early and walking from his home to Vandalia (the capital) twenty-eight miles distant, in time for breakfast and to attend to business for the day. His philanthropy and sagacious public spirit were part of our early state history. A modest and unostentatious man, he contributed to the welfare of society in many and substantial ways. In the town of his first residence, which he founded, fostered and beautified, making it one of the most attractive villages in the state, he would not permit even a street to be named after him. Many of the earlier beneficial enterprises of the state received from him origin or aid. To one of our oldest educational institutions he privately gave a large subscription, conditioned that another should also contribute and that it should bear the name of the latter. We heard Gov. Wood say to him, "If you had come here when I did there would be twice as many people here by this time."

Francis C. Moore, whom almost everybody from Calhoun county to Rock Island used to know, was a polished, graceful gentleman of small stature, singularly alert in thought and action. He was born in New York, brought up with a mercantile education, came west in 1834, entered into the land office at Hillsboro, came to Quincy the following year. He was the leading partner in the firm of Moore, Morton & Co. for some thirty years, when it went out of existence. He was a very attractive man; industrious, precise in business, kindly, social, jovial as a boy; a most earnest member of the Episcopal church, of which he may almost be called the father and founder, in this city. He was twice married, leaving a family of eight children, three of whom were John L. Moore, Mrs. J. T. Baker and Mrs. J. G. Rowland. He died in Omaha, at the residence of one of his children in 1874.

Lloyd Morton, "Old Uncle Morton," as all called him, for he was one of those slow-mannered men who seem old when young, was a Massachusetts man, a brother-in-law of Mr. Tillson. He came west in 1829, clerked in the office until 1834, when he became a partner and later brought his family to Quincy. He was an odd man, with a slow, drawling speech, much intelligence and quaint wit. He bore through life a proverbial reputation for strong, good judgment and integrity, a special distinction which few gain who work for it, but which the public instinct confers upon some men, and rarely bestows it wrongly. He had singularly cool courage and determination; qualities needed and tested among the rough scenes of earlier days. An odd story is told of him, which is "ower true." It is said that at the time of the Nelson riots, he came in from his home, the present Buckley place, on Broadway and Twenty-fourth, with a gun loaded to the muzzle with shot, slugs, etc., and answered all queries by saying the he meant to point his gun towards the left of the enemy and pull trigger and swing it round to make a swathe through them. Fortunately for all hands, no fight came off, otherwise the story would have been too mournful to be told. He died in 1862, leaving three children, John T. for many years a circuit judge in Kansas; the late Col. Charley Morton, and one daughter, Joanna.

Seth C. Sherman, whose somewhat recent death and burial on the same day with his wife, is still fresh in memory, was a Vermonter, well educated and of unusual literary tastes and attainments. His library was one of the largest and best selected in the place. He moved to the west about 1830, located at Vandalia, was editor and lawyer while there, thence came to Quincy with the other partners and remained in the business for many years. He, with F. C. and Ebenezer Moore, engaged for a time in banking about 1856. He was the first collector of internal revenue for this district. He died in 1879.

Connected with the locating of the land business in Quincy was the erection of the Quincy House. It was, and yet is, a puzzle to some why so large and expensive a building should have been built at such a time in the little town of Quincy. Its anomalous appearance may be conceived when we note that there were not a dozen brick buildings in town, only two or three about the square, no building existing over two stories high, and but few such; that no street was graded to the river, the old winding track from about the foot of Vermont to the vicinity of the present City Hall, being the only road from the landing to the square; that there was no Maine street east of Sixth; that on Hampshire all was open country beyond Eighth, that north of Broadway were woods and cornfields, that the same appeared three blocks south of Maine, and the contrasted size and elegance of such a structure may be fairly imagined. It had been the original intention of Mr. Tillson, who built it, to erect a hotel costing about twenty thousand dollars. Deacon E. B. Kimball, who had owned part of the land on which the house was built, was interested in the enterprise, but the whole was finally taken by Mr. Tillson and the project enlarged with the following design. A stock company had been formed, composed of eastern men who owned most of the non-resident land in the Military

Tract, of which Mr. Tillson was made general agent and superintendent.

A large portion of the lands were held by the tax title, under which, indeed, most of the land in this section was originally settled and improved. It was exceedingly desirable to secure favorable legislation so as to quiet the contests over titles. The state legislature was not particularly zealous to guard the interests of foreign land owners, none the more because these owners were mostly from the east, and it was suggested that if the company owned a substantial improvement and interest their claims and those of persons who bought from them, would be more highly regarded and secure. With this object, Mr. Tillson, built the house at a cost, when furnished, of one hundred and six thousand dollars. It was transferred to the company, which then became the Quincy House Company. The objects were partially accomplished, favorable legislation as to time and place of recording deeds, the "possession law," etc., being the fruit of this plan; but the beneficial results were brief. Between 1835 and 1838 financial reverses came. "Hard times" such as have never since been felt, stagnated the business of the country, and the Quincy House Company and all connected with it went down, but the benefits to Quincy from its construction were not only immediate, but permanent.

Charles Howland, from Middleborough, Mass., was the architect. When built, and for some years afterward, the house stood with its lower floor even with the street, but a decline grade on Maine street and the lowering of Fourth street left the cellar wall on that side about half exposed, and many were the prophecies that the wall would fall. But houses in those days were built to stay, and this has stood and shown a strength under a test such as few structures could bear. It was most thoroughly built; cost was nothing as against completeness. The stone work was extra solid for those days, the bricks were pressed, the rafters of best seasoned hard wood; the pine flooring and finishing wood was brought by boat from Pittsburg; the upholstering, furniture, etc., were made in Boston.

Its construction furnished work for more mechanics than then lived in Quincy. It was opened in 1838, by Wm. Monroe, formerly of the Bloomfield house, Boston. Many will pleasantly remember that prince of genial, jovial landlords, the stately, substantial landlady, and their three active, attractive daughters. They are all dead. Mr. Monroe, after leaving here with his son-in-law, Charley Andrews, kept the Monroe house in St. Louis, and later the Newhall house at Milwaukee. It is a little singular that the Quincy house, the finest hotel of its time in the west, and the Newhall house, twenty years later the leading western hotel of its day, should have been kept by the same parties, and been destroyed almost at the same time. The house has been operated almost constantly from the first. It was closed in the winter of 1845-6 and 1850-51 for repairs, and once or twice for a brief period, has been since tenantless. Its landlords after Mr. Monroe have been Miller & Guttery, D. W. Miller, O. M. Sheldon, Floyd & Kidder, Boon & Blossom and one or two others whose names we do not recall, E. S. Morehouse, and lastly Geo. P. Fay.

It was a leading social institution in its early days, a sort of society headquarters. Gaiety gathered in its halls, and whatever was done by the "Quincy House ladies" and the many young men who boarded there was society ex cathedra. Those were generous, joyous times. Everybody knew everybody, himself and family, horse and dog. If you met some one whom you did not know, the first friend you saw could tell you who he was. Quincy was a kind of Rus in urbe. Its scant area and its palatial hotel, combined pastoral freedom with town luxury. Refinement and rurality intertwined. It was but a few moments' walk from a city hotel to a forest seclusion. Game and fish were within hand reach and plenty as blackberries. All this made it an attractive and familiar summer resort from St. Louis and the south.

The impression made on a stranger by such a contrasted condition of things was well told us by Dr. Bartlett, one of the keenest of the old time sportsmen: "I came to Quincy," said he, "knowing nothing of it and nobody in the place, but looking for a place to settle. I got in late at night and only noticed with surprise the size and style of the hotel, which seemed better than in St. Louis. The next morning I looked out of my third story windows but couldn't see much town. It was country all around. I went down stairs and found Mr. Monroe buying a saddle of venison for fifty cents, and just then (it was before breakfast) Capt. Phillips came in with his gun and dog and a back load of quails which he had shot in Keyes' cornfield. I went upstairs and told my wife that I had found the place to stay."

It was the center for news from abroad and at home. There were no daily papers then, no telegraphic news. It came through the St. Louis papers, or was brought by returning citizens. The big reading room was the place for concourse in summer and winter evenings, and though the day of the old house is over and its like will come never again, there are not a

few lingering grey heads of the place who will pleasantly recall those gossip gatherings in the old office and halls; and the toes of some now stately silvered dames will yet tingle at the sometime recollection of those cadenced foot tappings on the parlor carpets when Taylor and Baker and Bert and Chick, and the "Monroe girls," and the "Merend girls" et id genus omne, struck out fun from joy's freshest fountain as they did in old times, and as only old times knew how to do, with the great landlady seated in her cozy whist corner, and her much lesser half, the mirth eyed landlord, rubbing his generous palms and looking smilingly on.

The government land office for the public land district which comprised the Military Tract had been located at Quincy in 1831. The office was on the south side of Hampshire street near Sixth, where it remained for a number of years. But little business was then transacted for some time, there being only seventeen entries during the first year (1831), the reason for this being that at that time no lands north of Adams county were subject to entry. For some reason, to the writer unknown, the government periodically placed only portions of its surveyed land in the market, and although the entire Military Tract had been surveyed in 1815 and '16, it was not until this year that all of the district was thrown open to the public.

The first sale at auction, as lands were then from time to time offered, took place June 15th of this year. From thence until 1857-8, when most of the lands being entered, the office was transferred to Springfield, this business added largely to the growth of the place. The first Register and Receiver were severally, Samuel Alexander (father of Perry Alexander) and Thomas Carlin. They were succeeded in 1837-8 by Wm. G. Flood and Samuel Leech, after whom came, in 1845, Samuel Holmes and Hiram Rogers; in 1849, Henry Asbury and H. V. Sullivan, and in 1853, A. C. Marsh and Damon Hauser, at the expiration of whose term the office was removed.

Of Thomas Carlin mention has been made. Samuel Alexander, the first Register, was a man of much force of character, very rough in manner, extremely earnest and ultra in politics and wielding much influence with his party. Gov. Wood, whose oft-told old stories have in them always a local relish, was wont to tell of his first and second meeting with Alexander. In 1824 political feeling, fanned by the anti-slavery agitation, was at a fever heat. The question of "convention" or "no convention" was voted upon. Convention meant a new pro slavery constitution. No convention meant a free state. To Gov. Edward Coles are we indebted for the blessing that Illinois was not then made a slave-holding state. Mr. Wood, immediately after the election, went east and on his way took to Edwardsville, the then state capital, the returns from this section. When the boat on which he traveled stopped at Shawneetown, a crowd came on board and asked to learn how the state had voted. The captain said, "here's a young man just from Edwardsville, perhaps he can tell you." Wood, thus referred to said that "it was thought at Edwardsville that 'convention' was beaten by about 1,500." "It's a d—d lie!" said one of the parties, answering more from his wish than his knowledge. Wood picked up a chair and but for the interposition of the captain a small civil war was imminent.

Nine years after, as John Wood tells it, "a man, all alone, in a canoe, paddled up to opposite my cabin at the foot of Delaware street, landed and staid with me over night. He told me that his name was Alexander, that he had come to open the land office of which he had been appointed Register." While at supper he said, "I think I've seen you before." Mr. Wood then told him that he was the man who at Shawneetown gave him the lie for reporting the result of the election of 1824. "Oh, no," says Alexander, "it must have been some other d—d fool," and although Wood on every convenient occasion hinted at this story of the first meeting, Alexander's memory could only be refreshed by the statement that "it was some other d—d fool."

The census, taken this year, showed a population in the county of 7,042, subject to military duty 1,319; in the town the population was 753, and 270 subject to military duty—about 18 per cent in the county and about 36 per cent in the town. This is a singular contrast, but it indicates how much more rapidly during the last ten years the county had been settled up, and also that the town population was largely made up of young and single men. It indicates another curious fact in connection with the contests for the removal of the county seat, which first became a contested question during this year.

It will be remembered that in 1825, as has been stated in a former chapter, the commissioners appointed by the legislature to select the county seat came here with the intention of locating the same at the geographical center of the county—a somewhat natural notion that often prevailed in those days. It is also known that needing a pilot for that purpose they engaged Mr. Willard Keyes, an experienced early pioneer, as a guide, and that Mr. K. proved

himself to be guide, philosopher and friend, and guided the commissioners back to Quincy after a toilsome day's search for the center of the county among the Mill creek swamps, where they more nearly reached its bottom; philosopher enough to know where the county seat ought to be, and that the best use of knowledge is often to not use it at all, and friend enough to his own views and to the then and future interests of town and county to thus bring about the selection which the wearied commissioners made on the following day, and the living gratitude of Quincy will never forget the judicious blindness and far foreseeing forgetfulness of this experienced pioneer Keyes on this pregnant occasion. No objection was made to the selection then nor for years after.

During the year 1834-5 however, a movement was originated to compel the change of the county seat from Quincy to a "geographical center." This was the commencement of that nonsense which nurtured a sectional strife between city and county, altogether baseless, but renewed at two later periods. The designation of "geographical center" was geographically incorrect —a matter of no consequence now, but one that cut quite a figure then and more so in the contest of some six years later. At the August election the vote stood for Quincy 618, "for commissioners' stake" 492; Quincy at the time casting 390 votes—of these 320 were for itself and 70 against. Later, in 1841, when the contest lay between Quincy and Columbus, the vote, as declared, was 1,545 for the former and 1,636 for the latter. Still later, on Nov. 18, 1875, there were given for Quincy 7,283 votes, and for Coatsburg 3,109.

This strife is now settled forever. These elections are referred to as showing how slight was the sectional feeling in 1835, when, as it will be noted, Quincy contained but about one-third of the voting population of the county and was successful; while in later years, when demagogne influences had roused up prejudice the city stood about five to six in voting strength, still it won.

The "commissioners' stake," which was voted for, as purporting to be the precise geographical centre of Adams county, and therefore the proper place at which to locate the county seat, was not (as before said) the exact centre of the county. Connected with the history of this county seat contest, and as showing also that the all prevalent central idea for a county "seat of justice" was not daunted by its decided defeat in 1835, but still smouldered, ready to be raked up and revived, as it was in 1841 and again in 1875, meeting at each period the same crushing fate. As pertinent to this, we reproduce (anticipating sequent dates by a year) the following from the Bounty Land Register of May 27, 1836:

"SALE OF LOTS IN ADAMSBURG, THE GEOGRAPHICAL CENTRE OF ADAMS COUNTY, ON TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 1836.

"Adamsburg is beautifully situated on a high, gently rolling prairie, in the geographical centre of Adams county, said to be on the quarter section designated by the commissioners appointed under a late act of the legislature as the most central, eligible and convenient point for the permanent location of the seat of justice for said county, but the gentlemen then owning it not being in the state the commissioners fixed

He is a proper subject for mention for the upon a location about two and one-half miles east. A vote of the people being taken the latter location of the commissioners was rejected by a very small majority, because of its not being sufficiently central; so that a permanent site for the seat of justice has yet to be selected, and but little doubt remains that Adamsburg will be the place. Its commanding location," etc., etc.

So ran the notice. The intended town above named was on the southwest quarter of section 10, 1 south, 7 west, which is now in Gilmer township, and has been for many years a most excellent farm. It was one of the thousand like speculative towns which dotted the state all over and had no existence beyond that of a paper and a plat and stakes driven in the ground. There existed at this time the maddest of manias among farmers and speculators who happened to own a handsomely situated quarter section of land, to survey and lay out the same, stake it out into streets, blocks and lots, give the place some pretentious name, advertise it for sale, and then lie back on the lazy dignity of having become a "town founder," and it usually happened that within the two or three succeeding years the founded town and the "town founder" were alike found to be foundered. Special mention is here made of this town for the local reasons above given, and as it so well illustrates the town speculative craze of the day, and also because some notable names were affiliated with the county seat project. Stephen A. Douglas, James Berdan, Dennis Rockwell, leading lawyers and business men of Jacksonville; S. S. Brooks, a well known printer and managing politician of this state, afterward recorder of Adams county, and J. H. Petit, editor at one time of the Quincy

Argus (now Herald) and some others nearly as well known, were the incubators of this scheme—proprietors of the property which they supposed might eventually become, through this geographical idea, the seat of justice of Adams county. The project ended almost as soon as it commenced, and the town of Adamsburg is among the "things that were" not.

The county commissioners in September invited proposals for the construction of a new courthouse, to be built "of brick of the best quality and in the neatest manner, the carpenters and joiners work to be of the best materials and finished in the most fashionable style." This was the well remembered building, completed in 1838, and destroyed by fire in 1875. Three months after this, its predecessor, the superannuated old log courthouse which had stood since 1825, went up in flames. As much justice was done to the public wish when it went up as had ever emanated from within its log walls.

Two notable departures from life occurred late in this year, the death of the first two permanent settlers of the county, Daniel Lisle and Justus Perigo, who had resided here since about 1819 or '20. They were both of the rough stamp of character common in those days, but good men in their way. Lisle was one of the early county commissioners and his name appears on the earliest of the quaint court records in connection with a controversy with John Wood. Some of his family still live in the southeastern part of the county.

Heretofore there had been no other public burial ground than the south half of the block on which the courthouse stands, now known as Jefferson square, which had been reserved for cemetery uses when the town was platted in 1825. A meeting of citizens was called on June 26th, to initiate measures for the establishment of another cemetery, which resulted two years later, in 1837, in the purchase by the town from E. B. Kimball, of eight and 56-100 acres at the southeast corner of Maine and Twenty-fourth streets, now Madison park. The price paid was $642. There had probably been three hundred or more burials in the first named cemetery up to the time of its discontinuance. Some of the bodies buried were those of strangers, nameless and unknown; other graves contained the bodies of those who, through neglect of friends to mark them, could not be identified. Most of them were transferred to the other cemetery, and many of these again, at a later period were buried in Woodland cemetery. Yet there still lie and will forever lie, many undistinguished and unclaimed bones, rotten and forgotten, as was noted, when a few years since, the grading of the ground for the new courthouse exhumed much of this old sepulchral soil.

There rests, with other honored dust, the ashes of A. F. Hubbard, lieutenant-governor of Illinois from 1822 to 1826, a queer character, whose claim to fame lies more on what he was not, than what he was, and who by this accident of an undiscovered grave obtains a more widely published notoriety than anything his merits or public service could have secured.
of its navigable streams, the Mississippi, Ohio, reason that he was the first Quincy man who filled, or rather in his case it may be better said, occupied, a prominent state position.

His residence here was brief and his public career marked only by his absurd and futile attempts to supplant Gov. Coles during the latter's temporary absence from the state. He sought the governorship in 1826 but failed. The following slice from one of his speeches illustrates his capacity and character:

"Fellow citizens, I'm a candidate for governor; I don't pretend to be a man of extraordinary talents, nor claim to be equal to Julius Caesar or Napoleon Bonaparte, and I ain't as great a man as my opponent, Gov. Edwards. Yet I think I can govern you pretty well. I don't think it will require a very extra smart man to govern you; for to tell the truth fellow citizens, I don't think you'll be hard to govern, no how."

He was well described by Gov. Coles as a "historic oddity." A well enough meaning man, of shallow bearings, but inordinate aspirations, type of a class which we to-day see still survives. Men, whom the shrewd and sarcastic Judge Purple used to speak of as "fellows who forced themselves on the public, claiming that they have a mission to fill, which they most always fool-fill."

The cost of living at this period was in some respects light and again in others heavy. Home products were easily and cheaply obtained at low prices; imported stuffs were exceptionally dear. The rapidly rising population, the accelerating business and the growing plentitude of money caused these somewhat contrary conditions. Labor prices and the business situation is pictured in the following from the Register in November of this year:

"Business is brisk, boats being crowded to excess with freight and passengers; great complaints are made for the want of mechanics to construct buildings to shelter the emigrants and their goods. At present carpenters are getting from $1.50 to $2.00 per day and found. Masons $2.00, and other mechanics in proportion. Common laborers are getting $1.00 and $1.25. Hands

on a farm get $15.00 to $18.00 per month; 75c per cord paid for cutting wood. It is found very difficult indeed to obtain help at these prices. The arrival of a number of industrious hands would be hailed with joy by a large number of our citizens."

Values in these days cannot be easily or accurately stated. An imperfect price current for the year shows the following averages: Hams, 8@10c; beef, 4c; best butter, 16c; coffee, 20c; brown sugar, 12c; loaf sugar, 20c; whisky, 30@50c per gallon; cheese, 10c; coal, 20c per bushel; flour varying much but averaging through the year about $4 per barrel; beeswax which had been a cash staple, 16c; of grass seed (which appears to have been very scarce), clover $8, timothy $3, blue grass, $2; hides 9c, green hides 4½c; cut nails 10c; wrought nails 20c; salt $1.00@$1.50; wheat sold for about 50c; potatoes ranged during the year from 25c to $1—showing then as now the uncertainty of this climate for the growing of the potato, as significantly told by the southern darkey, "dars no mediocrity 'bout de tater, his head is down in the ground, he's invariably good or inebitably bad; you can't bet on the tater."

About this time importations of staples, such as flour and bacon, ceased; the home productions being sufficient. There had been from four to five thousand dollars' worth of these and such articles brought in annually since 1831, but during the last half of 1834 and the first six months of 1835 about $40,000 worth of these staples were home-produced much more than meeting the local demand.

From this time Quincy lived mostly on the products of local industries. During these past two half years there had been about 25,000 bushels of wheat ground, 3,500 hogs killed and packed, at an average of $3.75, also, for the first time, 40 head of cattle slaughtered, at $3 per cwt.; 900 bbls. of beef and pork put up, about 180,000 pounds of bacon, 1300 kegs of lard and 2,000 pounds of tallow. Pork sold at about $11 per barrel.

The above gives, as near as it is possible to obtain it, the current business transacted at this period. The season was favorable for traffic and travel. Navigation opened as early as January 23rd and closed November 25th, holding good throughout the rest of the year.

With this period awoke that wild railroad mania which, shaping itself into the "internal improvement system" and running to a most extreme excess, fastened upon the state an enormous debt, burdening its progress for many years, until now after nearly half a century of struggle, the incumbrance is happily wiped out forever. There was a valid excuse for this seemingly reckless sentiment and action.

Our great unopened state had thus far only been reached by the water courses. The banks Illinois, Wabash, and even the Kaskaskia (or Okaw, the old Indian name,) were fringed with settlements, but the back country was still a grass wilderness, and the instinct of enterprise craved to reach and reap the richness of this untamed prairie soil. Only by the divining touch of the railroad wand could this unbounded fertility be aroused and developed. A rapid ardor for improvement spread over the state. It pulsated here. With the knowledge that the legislature would adopt a comprehensive project of railroad building (called "internal improvement," the first organized movement of Quincy was made on December 11th of this year, when after some weeks of previous notice, the first railroad meeting was held at the Land Office hotel, which was largely attended and very earnest. It met in connection with similar movements at Clayton, Beardstown, Jacksonville and eastward through the state, and also still farther east on the present Wabash parallel in Indiana. J. T. Holmes was chairman, and C. M. Woods secretary. Most of the representative men of the place were present and acting. Judge Young was the chief adviser. The action of the meeting was that,

WHEREAS, The subject of internal improvement by means of canals and railroads has justly excited much public attention throughout the state, etc.

Resolved, That the legislature be respectfully requested to incorporate a company to construct a railroad from Quincy by way of Clayton and Rushville to Beardstown; or from Quincy by way of Clayton and Mt. Sterling to Meredosia on the Illinois river, etc.

This was the initial movement from which came in legislative action afterward the Northern Cross railroad, out of which the Wabash and C., B. & Q. have grown.

This road was built, (we can hardly say completed) and operated from Springfield to the Illinois, on the present line of the Wabash. It is the oldest railroad in the state and the only one that under the internal improvement system had even a partial finish; and on its charter the two roads above named have been based and extended.

Patriotism was vigorous in these primitive days. On the 4th of July, Browning made the speech and Snow read the declaration at "the church," there was but one church then, piety being as much concentrated as it is now scattered, and the exercises of the day ended with a banquet at the Land Office hotel. This hotel,

where the railroad meeting above alluded to was held, was a notable place in its day—a long, white, two-story frame structure on the north side of Hampshire, a short distance west of Fifth. There were two other taverns, and they were duplicates of this one and the story might be applied to all. It is told that one of the travelers in the semi-weekly stage coach just leaving for Springfield (evidently a stranger), asked a fellow passenger, "why do they call this the Land Office hotel?" "Because," was the reply, "this is the town where all the land offices are located, and land is entered and sold. All this splendid soil that you see around us is for sale there." "Aye, aye," said the other, in a tone that a traveler uses who has just had a bad breakfast, "I understand; it is well named, the land there is two inches above board (a sailor's expression) all over the floor, and you can sample the soil in any of the rooms."

The cost of learning may be estimated from the advertisement of a "select school for young ladies," by a teacher of more than ordinary qualification. The terms, per quarter, were: Reading, writing, arithmetic and geography, $2.00; higher English branches, $2.50; drawing, painting, etc., $4.00. Probably the pupils got their money's worth full as well as they do now.

In February of this year was chartered the State Bank of Illinois, with some singular provisions. The capital stock was to be $1,500,000 of which $1,400,000 must be subscribed by individuals, and $100,000 to be taken by the state whenever the legislature chose to do so. The stock shares were $100 each. It was provided that the main bank should be at Springfield, with a branch at Vandalia, and that six other branches might be located at discretion. A subscription of $250,000 was demanded as a basis for the location of each branch bank. There was subscribed on the 10th of April from Quincy and vicinity $120,100. It was not, however, until the following year that the branch was located here.

This was a somewhat marked year for settlement. The earlier "old settlers" prior to 1830 were but few, and of these now at this date, (1883) all but two have passed away. Immigration subsequent to that period until 1834, was not great; much of it was transitory, and three successive years of blighting sickliness had told heavily against the population. With 1834, however, and the few following years, the tide of settlement rapidly swelled. During the year 1834, there had come to stay, the Burns, Brown and Cleveland families, George and Ed. Bond, Edward Wells, J. D. Morgan, H. Dills, Adam Schmidt, Kaltz, Herleman, John Schell, Delebar, F. C. Moore, N. Pease (who had visited the town before), the McDades and a few other of well known names. At the same time came to the county, families yet here and more or less known to the city, the Sykes and Robinsons, of Beverly; A. H. D. Butz, of Liberty; Scarborough and the Bernards, of Payson; the Turners, of Ellington, and Ursa; the late Obediah Waddell, of Melrose, who had seen the place twenty years before and might properly be called its first visitor. He passed over the spot where Quincy now is with the Howard expedition after the war of 1812, when there then stood only the remains of a few scattered wigwams, but no evidences of a permanent settlement.

His story, with other evidence, dissipates the idea that this was the site of an important old Indian town. There was probably but one large Indian village in the county, in the northern part near Bear Creek, evidences of which long existed. Another also, long abandoned, was situated on the edge of Pike county, on the Sny Ecarte (or lost wandering channel, now known as the Sny Carte Slough or Sny), but all this section south of the Des Moines rapids and above the mouth of the Illinois was debatable ground between the Sacs and Foxes, the Pottowatamies, the Iowas of the north, and their hereditary foes, the Piasaws, Kaskaskias, the Illini, the Shawnees and other hostile tribes of the south and east.

With the year of 1835, of which we are writing, there was a decided increase in permanent population. Among the well known settlers of this date were Major J. H. Holton, Capt. Pitman, Joel Rice, Lloyd Morton, J. P. Bert, the Churches, Mitchells, Stobies, Grimms, McClintocks, A. Konantz, Phelps and many others, also Castle, for a time at Columbus, the Blacks and Wallaces, of Clayton; Richardsons and Cutters, of Beverly; Bliven, Prince and Pottle, of Payson; the Shinns, of Melrose; Bartholemew, of Mendon, or Fairfield, as it was then called, and many others whose names are identified with the city and county history.

The French named this slough Chenal ecarte or "narrow channel." This was first abbreviated and called Sny Carte, and now is called the Sny.

CHAPTER XIII.

1836.

NEW SETTLERS. NEW WELL ORDERED. EARL PIERCE. MILITIA. MARION CITY. RAILROAD SCHEMES. LOCATION OF MARKET HOUSE. THE ONLY NEWSPAPER.

Coming with this year was a large number of "old settlers," men, whose names are well known, and some of them are living at this date, (1886).

Among them there were F. W. Jansen, the Glasses, Diekhuts, Binkerts, Stewarts, Wm. Gerry, W. H. Gage, Amos Green, S. E. Seger, C. A. Warren, L. Kingman, H. V. Sullivan, J. T. Baker, George Miller, Wilson Lane, A. E. Drain, and many beside whose names cannot be given. The foreign immigration, mostly German, began largely with this year.

The political action of the town fathers was relatively of as much importance and created as fair a proportion of interest and criticism as do the intellectual wrestlings among the city fathers of to-day.

The board meetings were not frequent. At the April and again at the May session, the clerk was ordered to notify the road supervisors specifically of their duties, etc., which shows that supervisors could be as lazy in those days as now.

An ordinance was passed on May 21st, which reads somewhat strangely: "Be it ordained by the president and trustees of the town of Quincy, that all buildings now erected or that shall hereafter be erected on any of the public grounds in the limits of this corporation are hereby declared a public nuisance." As the old courthouse had just been burned and another was in process of erection, this looked like a wrathful thrust at local architects. The "meaning meant well"—as C. A. Warren was wont to say—of this sort of a boomerang ordinance, and its true intent can be understood, yet it is not certain that a similar one might with truth and propriety be placed on most of the corporation records of the country.

At the June election G. W. Chapman, Joel Rice, Wm. Skinner, E. L. Pearson and J. T. Holmes were elected as trustees. Holmes was made president and Pearson secretary. The report of Treasurer Williams for the past year gives an insight into the financial affairs of the town, besides exhibiting another unusual feature. His report showed as collected on taxes $249.82, and $5.00 paid in for show license, making $254.82, of receipts; that he had paid out $258, and hence was a creditor of the town to the amount of $3.18.

As Mr. Williams was again chosen treasurer by the board and accepted the office, it would appear that the right of the town to owe its treasurer was recognized and approved by both parties. It does not appear that the treasurer required the town to make to him a bond.

The prominent public improvements at this time were the public wells, two of which were ordered to "be sunk on the public square, of suitable dimensions as soon as practicable." These proved to be well-springs of trouble and contest, running through several years, contracts thrown up, work abandoned, committees of examination, etc., before they were completed, making the same proportionate stir that a similar question does now. (An allusion to the agitation of the question of ownership by the city of the water works. Ed.)

It seems as if the average town and city father has always been more or less afflicted by "water on the brain." A strange remissness in regard to the public business of the town both in meeting and recording the same appears. Although monthly meetings of the board were prescribed, the record of July 5th adjourns to "next Monday, July 11th," but no record again appears until the next February. Either the board had nothing to do or it was ashamed to tell of it.

At the August election (and it may be stated that until after 1848, all the general elections, except the presidential in November, were held on the first Monday in August), Earl Pierce was elected sheriff for the sixth and last time, as before his term expired he "between two days" suddenly took a trip, and some other things, that did not belong to him to Texas. Pierce had been sheriff since 1826, and was a specimen politician of the times.

A frank, generous, rollicking manner, and an active, adroit, aspiring nature, long made perhaps the most popular and influential man of the county, but constant office holding spoiled him. He was brigadier general of the state militia (cornstalk) as it was then termed, of which, the 37th Adams County regiment was a part, officered by Col. P. W. Martin, Maj. Wm. G. Flood, Paymaster O. H. Browning, Adjutant Dr. S. W. Rogers, all of the Black Hawk war eminence. Thos. C. King was elected coroner, A. W. Shinn, Geo. Taylor and John B. Young were county commissioners. No other change was made in the other county officers; Wren, Snow and Frazier remaining in office.

The legislative apportionment made at the session of 1835-6 entitled Adams county to one senator and two representatives, under which O. H. Browning was elected senator, and George Galbraith and J. H. Ralston representatives. Joseph Duncan was governor; Wm. L. May representative, and John M. Robinson and W. L. D. Ewing senators in congress, the latter being succeeded by Judge Richard M. Young, who was chosen at the session of 1836-7 for the full term, being the first member of either house of congress from Quincy.

Navigation opened March 18th and continued good until about December 1st. Time, especially in port, was not economized as now. The Wyoming left Quincy on the evening of May 1st for St. Louis and got back on the evening

of the 4th, being out seventy-two and a half hours, claimed to be the quickest trip yet made. Two regular packets, the Quincy and O'Connell, plied between St. Louis and the rapids. The river was very high early in the season, flooding the low lands and laying a fatal wet blanket over the prospects of many of the expectant cities which had been born from the speculative frenzy of the last two years and located in the bottom land.

Marion City, or Green's landing as it had been known, ten miles below Quincy, and announced as its future rival, where some $400,000 were said to have been invested in lots in 1835, was almost completely covered by the irreverent Mississippi and its inflated pretensions hopelessly dissolved.

Work was begun on the Quincy House and courthouse, both of which were finished in 1838. Several other brick, among them the Methodist church, and a large number of frame buildings were erected, "averaging a new dwelling for a family, for every day between the first of April and the last of August," and it was estimated and recorded that over two hundred non-resident mechanics and laborers found here steady employment. Prices ran higher than in the previous year. Flour sold at $7.25, wheat 87 cents, potatoes 40 to 50 cents, butter 20 cents, bacon 12½ cents, beef $7.00 per hundred.

Another hoped for county seat was laid off and advertised as the town of Lafayette, on the S. W. 14, 1 S. 7 W. at the real geographical centre of the county. (I think that this name should be Adamsburg, L. B.) The proprietor of the town was very liberal in his offers, proposing to give every other lot to the county, and also if it became the county seat to give half the balance of the land, and to the first merchant and first mechanic who should settle and build a house worth one hundred dollars any lot that he might choose. It was then and yet is a very good farm.

The railroad movements of the preceding year brought about at the session of 1835-6 one of the first railroad charters granted in the state which blended afterward with the internal improvement system, and is now the Wabash. Being a pioneer enterprise of its kind and containing some singular features, the charter is worthy of a summarized statement of its provisions. It empowers John Williams, James Bell, Wm. Carpenter and Wm. Craig, of Sangamon; John W. Murphy, Samuel McRoberts and G. W. Cassidy, of Vermilion; Matthew Stacy, James Tilton and J. J. Hardin, of Morgan, and J. T. Holmes, E. L. Pearson and J. W. McFaden, of Adams, "to construct a road from some point on the line between this state and Indiana, thence to Danville, Decatur, Springfield, Jacksonville, Meredosia, Mt. Sterling, Clayton and Quincy—provided they make arrangements with a company already chartered to make a road from Jacksonville to Meredosia." If they could not agree on terms with this intermediate incorporation "the judge of the Morgan court" should decide. The first named company, the "Wabash & Mississippi," not to build from Jacksonville to Meredosia until terms were arranged with the other company. The company was required to expend $20,000 within four years, or to operate within ten years, or forfeit the charter. The capital stock was fixed at $3,000,000, with the privilege of increasing the same to $5,000,000.

All the town lots in the original town of Quincy remaining unsold were offered at auction by the county commissioners, on April 11. The prices given are of relative interest and curiosity now. The north half of what is now the courthouse block, facing Broadway, sold for $541; the north half of the block next on the west sold for $736; the two lots of block 10, on Vermont street, between Fifth and the alley, facing the courthouse, brought better figures, $1,398; that part of block 11 on Fifth street facing Washington Square, excepting about one hundred feet at the corner of Hampshire and one hundred feet in the middle, where the late courthouse stood, was sold for $11,657, being an average value of about $58 per foot; the ground on the east side of Sixth, between Vermont and Broadway, opposite the present court house, was struck off at $488; lot 1, block 21, at the corner of Jersey and Sixth, brought $200, while lots 6, 7 and 8, on the south side of the same block, were bought for $957 — about $3 per foot. Lots on York street, between Second and Sixth, realized from $1 to $6 per foot—the last a high figure, the average being a little over $2. This section contained at that time the most desirable selections for residence lots. Lot 1, block 26, at the corner of York, sold for $450.

Property at private sale changed hands often some standing improvements. The first large and at rapidly rising rates. The highest price previously paid for any piece of property in the town had been for the Quincy House corner, being about $80 per foot, but this included sale above that figure was made in this year, being that of lot 7, block 8, on the north side of Hampshire, one hundred feet west of Fourth, at the rate of $100 per front foot.

The sales above described as being made by the county commissioners were only of unimproved property, and completed the transfer into private hands of all of the original town of

Quincy, except such as was reserved for public purposes, similar sales having been held from time to time since 1825. Almost all of this land was purchased by residents.

John Yoreke Sawyer, a prominent official figure in the infancy of Quincy, having been the first circuit judge, and holding the first court in the county, in 1825, in Keyes' cabin on Front street, died this year, March 13th, at Vandalia. He was then the editor of the Vandalia Advocate. He was better educated than the average of the profession in his time, and was an excellent lawyer, as with perhaps a single exception, have been all the judges upon this circuit bench.

Judge Sawyer was legislated out of office two years after the formation of this county, and was succeeded in 1827 by Samuel D. Lockwood, one of the purest and clearest minded men that ever adorned the bench. In 1831 an additional circuit was made, comprised almost entirely of the Military Tract. To this Richard M. Young was appointed and sustained the office with dignity and credit until his election to the United States senate, which took place this year. As before stated, up to this period, the Adams county bench had been exceptionally well filled.

A discordant public question broke out about this time, and several years elapsed before its final settlement. It was as to where the market should be located. A portion of the community had been accustomed and wished still to see buildings, such as courthouse, market house, etc., built on the public grounds and the ground to be left unenclosed, while another portion desired to have such grounds, as far as practicable, enclosed for park purposes, and that public buildings should be erected elsewhere. This struggle had been made over the courthouse location the year before. That being decided, it now came up over the market house. It was at one time concluded to double the width of Maine street east of Fifth, and half way to Sixth, and build the market house therein. This project of course, fell through, but the contest was kept up, to be told more of hereafter.

There also now awoke the aspiration to become a city, a natural notion in a growing town, no matter how young the town may be. This is a feeling that is fostered by many interests, but it is a question of serious doubt whether many of the little cities which throng the state, instead of being what they are now, with a form of government entailing increased expense, political strife and all its bad consequences, would not have been benefited by a longer adherence to the town system, which is the simplest, fairest, though not always the strongest system for corporate rule. It is also the equalized and consistent basis of our general institutions. It was four years later that Quincy became a city, and it was undoubtedly needful that it should do so.

The Bounty Land Register, still the only paper in the place, was purchased in July by John H. Petit, and took the additional name of Argus. The year following this, it became the Quincy Argus, and a few years later the Herald, its present title. It was now slightly enlarged, having five 21-inch, instead of four 3-inch columns, as before—on nearly the same sized sheet 21½x14, but with a gain of reading matter of an inch on the top and half an inch on the side margin. The color and texture of the paper and style of type were unchanged, and such as are never seen nowadays. It now assumed what it had not during its ownership by Mr. Woods, a decided and avowed position as a democratic journal, which, under its various names, it has always maintained.

CHAPTER XIV.

BANKS AND BANKING IN QUINCY.

The opening branch of the State Bank of Illinois during this year was the commencement of banking in Quincy. The brief story of this institution will be hereafter told, but a skeleton sketch of the Illinois banking abortions prior to this period will not be amiss here, since it will show the financial movements and moneyless condition of the state generally, in which Quincy of course had its share.

There is a world of financial philosophy to be gathered from the banking history of Illinois.

A bank at Shawneetown was authorized by the territorial legislature of 1816, and at the next session two others were ordered to be located at Kaskaskia and Edwardsville. These had a brief existence, and in three years' time suspended. In the meantime, however, their circulation had been redundant. Profuse supply of money, known to be worthless, stimulated speculation of the wildest kind. Everybody was anxious to get and to get clear of these "rag promises," and the result was that when the collapse came in 1820 everybody owed everybody. The first state legislature in 1819,

seeing the need of some financial action, but, understanding their business, less, if possible, than all legislatures generally do, chartered a bank with a capital of $2,000,000 to run for twenty-seven years, the charter, however, being afflicted with so many absurd features, that although books were opened by law throughout the state, not a dollar of stock was subscribed.

At the following session, 1820-1, the Illinois State Bank was established with a charter to run ten years and a capital of $500,000 based upon the credit of the state alone. This bank was born with some most extraordinary features, which readily foreshadowed its fate. It was in violation of the United States constitution, its bills bearing two per cent annual interest, and being redeemable in ten years. Three hundred thousand dollars in bills not above $20 were ordered to be issued, loaned out on personal security for amounts of $100, and security on real estate at double valuation for sums between $100 and $1,000. Of course everybody borrowed and nobody ever thought of paying back the amount borrowed. This $300,000 was all that was issued, the notes falling in value almost immediately to twenty-five cents on the dollar, and the bank became so discredited that the subsequent legislatures did not dare to order the full circulation authorized by the charter. With many other weakening elements in its organization, the bank staggered through its chartered existence of ten years, and when in 1831, it was wound up, it appeared that although only $300,000 had been issued, the loss to the state had been more than $500,000.

The wiping out of this worthless circulation did not still the popular call for more money, and the legislature of 1834-5 took hold of the question with commendable zeal, but with judgment that showed but little gain from late experience. That the state needed financial legislation was evident, for while the old bank issues had been cleared off by an increased debt (the famous Wiggins loan of $100,000, which made such bitter acrimony, though it saved the state's credit), yet foreign rag paper took the place of our own. In February, 1835, the Territorial Bank of Shawneetown, which had been dead for twelve years, was exhumed and another State Bank was chartered, with a capital of $1,500,000 and allowed an increase of $1,000,000 more. Six branches of this were authorized to be located wherever and when as a requirement precedent, $250,000 had been locally subscribed. In April of that year somewhat more than half this sum was subscribed towards the establishment of a branch at Quincy. At the special session of 1835-6 some changes in the law were made and there were more branch banks authorized. The pre-requisite conditions having been complied with, a branch bank was located in Quincy during the latter part of this current year, but it hardly was in complete operation until early in the succeeding season.

The life of this bank was very brief, since it suspended specie payments, as did almost all the banks in the country under the financial crash of 1837. The suspensions were legalized by the legislature, and, two years later, in 1839, still farther extended in time, and the State Bank and its branches continued a feeble existence until their general dissolution in 1842. For the first year and a half of its existence before suspension this branch bank was a valuable aid to the business of the place, and was such also to a limited extent, however, afterward until it "wound up." The institution was located on the southwest corner of Fourth and Maine, in the two-story frame building built by Peter Felt, and afterward owned and occupied by the Burns family. Joseph T. Holmes was its president, although as a branch bank its business was managed by the cashier, that prince of good fellows, most jolly sportsman and finished gentlemen, Capt. E. J. Phillips. The clerks were, first, John Martin Holmes, the wittiest man in the West, who, everybody that used to laugh in Quincy yet remembers, and whose brilliancies would fill volumes, after him C. B. Church, and later and lastly, Quincy's late mayor, J. K. Webster, who came in 1840 from Galena, where he had been similarly employed, and clerked until the bank closed. The record of this bank, like that of its predecessors, was a checkered one. Its stock at first stood at thirteen per cent premium, but a rapid decline within two years found its notes at from fifteen to twenty cents discount, and later scarcely quotable at all. Its business was broadly extended, and it was not until about 1870, nearly thirty years after its failure, that the settlement of its affairs was concluded.

The banking history of Illinois contains a most instructive and suggestive lesson in its experiences from territorial times to the present, and its final record may be properly here given, since like the general financial situation of the state was necessarily that of Quincy. Following the failure, before mentioned, of the state bank of 1835, after its three or four years of sickly existence, there came a dull decade of financial uncertainty and business depression. The poverty shifts of those days cannot be appreciated now, especially by the modern shod-

dyite, but as everybody was poor, few felt the worse for it. Money, such as it was, was far from scarce. Therein, indeed lay a great trouble. Illinois was flooded with issues of banks from other states, many, indeed most of which, were of doubtful or unknown condition, and counterfeits were countless. So evident was the want for a steadier, safer money currency that the legislature in 1861 passed over the governor's veto, the "free banking law," which, having been submitted to the people, was approved by a decided popular majority. Experience had taught our legislative solons some wisdom, as was evidenced in this law, which was a step in the right direction; a movement nearly up to the present stable system of a reliable national circulation. Banks were legalized whose notes should be secured by the deposit of United States or state stocks. Had the former only been allowed as securities, the present well-recognized principles would have been reached; that no lasting circulation can be created which will harmonize business, represent values, inspire national confidence in its current stability and future redemption except that which is based on the national credit and to which the industry of the whole people stands pledged. Little matters it whether the paper so authorized and so secured floats under the name of "United States Bank Notes," "Sub-Treasury notes," "National Bank notes," or "Greenbacks"—these all mean the same—a moneyed assurance guaranteed by the nation.

Naturally enough it happened that most of the one hundred and ten banks, organized under the law of 1851, fortified their circulation by the deposit of Southern State Stocks, these rating the lowest in the market and being the easiest procured. They were, however, but a straw dependence, and with the too certain foreshadowings of the civil war all such securities began to decline, and when finally twelve states seceeded, all these stocks waxed worthless and of course, the banks went down. The loss, however, compared with previous bank failures, was relatively light, and fell upon individuals and not on the state. The few banks that remained in 1863, those with their circulation based on United States or Illinois stocks, generally became national banks under the provisions of the law of Congress of that year. The preceding is a scant but correct sketch of early monetary conditions in Illinois and Quincy as well.

Resuming the local banking record and bringing it down to the present, it appears that the death of the State Bank of 1835 suspended all banking operations in Quincy for ten or more years.

Subsequent business of this character has been conducted by private parties. Business here and generally in the state, for several succeeding years, was very light, especially such as would naturally depend upon banking conveniences. These were "hard times," dull, slow times, and yet endurable and not unenjoyable, perhaps the more enjoyable from the deprivations. Auditor's warrants, county orders, city scrip (almost the only moneyed material with which state, county or city could pay their way along, and the only paper that had a seemingly sure value) were at a vexationsly varying discount, passing at ten, twenty or thirty per cent below their face value and of course the public "paid the loss." People worked and lived, but all business beyond home living and labor was greatly cramped. The mercantile need for exchange with which to remit eastern payments was embarrassing, though this was largely relieved by the land agencies. Most (it might almost be said all) of the unsettled land in Illinois, not still held by the general government, belonged to non-residents who paid their annual taxes through these Quincy agencies, and their checks on eastern banks, or authority given the agents to draw upon them for the amount of their taxes afforded an exchange facility to Quincy merchants such as other sections of the state did not possess.

The later and continuous record of Quincy banking begins with 1850 when Flagg & Savage opened their banking house on the south side of Maine, about four buildings west of Fifth, removing in 1857 to the corner of Fifth and Maine. These two, Newton Flagg and Charles A. Savage, with whom was associated I. O. Woodruff, who became a partner in 1857, were the pioneer bankers of Quincy. For some time previous Mr. Flagg and Lorenzo and Charles H. Bull had dealt in exchange, the former through Page & Bacon and the latter through Clarke & Brothers, bankers of St. Louis, but the above was the earliest regular banking house. Its business immediately became large and lucrative. It suspended in the fall of 1857, reopened a few months after, and the next year finally failed. Later in this same year (1850) Jonathan H. Smith and A. C. Marsh started, under the Quincy house, a bank styled the "Farmers and Merchants' Exchange Co." It discontinued within less than two years' time. About 1853 Ebenezer Moore, J. R. Hollowbush and E. F. Hoffman began business as Moore, Hollowbush & Co. Their location was on the north side of the public square, about midway in the block. This house, like that of F. & S., went down in 1857, both failures being mainly caused by the failure of S. & W. B. Thayer's

distillery and mercantile business, which was then the most extensive business of the place. The "Bank of Quincy," owned by J. R. Matteson and D. Boon, opened in 1856, at the southwest corner of the square under the Quincy house, continuing business there for four or five years.

In 1857 was started the Quincy Savings and Insurance Co., an incorporated institution, now the "First National Bank," which for three or four years was located at the northwest corner of Hampshire and Fifth, thence removed to its present place, on the northeast corner of Hampshire and Fourth. This is the oldest banking institution in the city. It became a National bank in 1865. This bank was consolidated with the State Savings Loan & Trust Company, which had been founded on the business of L. & C. H. Bull. Moore, Sherman & Co.—Ebenezer and F. C. Moore and S. C. Sherman—revived the old bank of Moore, Hollowbush & Co., and for about two years transacted business at the same place in 1859-60. H. F. J. Ricker began business in 1860 on the south side of Hampshire near Fifth, removing about six years since to his present place, one block west, where Moore, Hollowbush & Co., had formerly been. "John Wood & Son" commenced banking about 1862 at the southeast corner of Maine and Fifth. Their business was transferred in 1864 to Flachs, Jansen & Co., who discontinued two years later. L. & C. H. Bull's bank was opened in 1861 at its present location on the corner of Maine and Fifth in the building first occupied by Flagg & Savage. E. J. Parker & Co., operated as bankers at the same corner from 1874 to 1879, when the firm merged with that of L. & C. H. Bull. From 1866 there was connected with and owned by this firm, the "Farmers and Merchants' (2nd National) Bank," which discontinued in 1872. T. T. Woodruff for some two years, about 1869-70, did a banking business on the west side of the public square, where also in 1875 the "German American Bank," an incorporated institution, opened and operated for about two years. In 1869 the Union Bank (chartered) commenced on the east side of Washington Square, removing in 1875 to the corner of Fifth and Hampshire; the building which it had left, being again occupied as a bank from 1876 to 1879 by Henry Geise.

The foregoing list comprises all the banking institutions of Quincy throughout the past thirty-five years. The business of some of them has been very large. Of those that have gone out of existence but two can be said to have failed. The others were discontinued, with their affairs evenly wound up. The average annual deposits in the four banking institutions in operation at this time (1883) is about $2,500,000, which will afford some idea of the general business of the city.

CHAPTER XV.

1837-8.

DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS ORGANIZE. PERSECUTION OF DR. NELSON. THE ABOLITIONISTS.

About this period commences the religious denominational history of Quincy. The different elements of protestant belief which from numerical feebleness, had for the past five or six years united in the one church, "God's Barn," on Fourth street between Maine and Jersey, began gradually to separate and form the several societies which now represent their religious creeds.

This church, the Congregational, the first founded, was also for nearly a half a dozen years, the only place of regular worship, with a permanent pastorate and formal church organization. It was founded December 4th, 1830, by the Rev. Asa Turner, Jr., who continued its pastor for about eight years, with the exception of a year's intermission in 1832, when the Rev. Mr. Hardy, officiated. Its first organization was as a Presbyterian church, and as such it continued until October 10th, 1833, when it was reorganized under the Congregational system, the reason for this change probably having been the diversity of creed among its members who could more easily harmonize under the Congregational form of government than any other.

When founded in 1830 it had fifteen members, four of them Presbyterians, three Congregationalists, three Baptists, and five "from the world" which probably meant of miscellaneous beliefs. During the next eighteen months the membership ran up to thirty-nine. These figures declined in 1832 to thirty-three members. This was the most depressing year in every way that Quincy ever knew: the Indian war anxieties, the decimating diseases of fever and cholera having a prostrating effect upon every interest and the church suffered as well as the rest. Out of a population of about 300 in 1833, 33 died of cholera alone, all within a few days after the first outbreak. During the latter part of 1833, and throughout 1834 and 1835, the membership steadily increased,

amounting at the beginning of 1836 to one hundred and sixty-eight. These figures indicate the proportion of religious sentiment and influence during the six years following after 1830, and some idea of what was the social condition of the place. It should be remembered, however, that quite a proportion of the church membership and attendance was from outside the town. In 1835 the Methodist church being the second in the place, was organized, in 1835, the Baptist; followed in 1837 by the Episcopal, and by the Unitarian and Presbyterian in 1840, all of them having had originally more or less of association with the early church in 1830.

An event occurred in the early part of this year, which, though entirely local in its personal relations, assumed, from the principle involved, a matter of national interest, and became historic. It was one of the incipient shadowings of that fierce war cloud which broke upon the nation, twenty-five years later, leaving it with human slavery swept away; this being the one redeeming feature amidst the debt and death and desolation that its madness had made. The issues involved were freedom of speech, the sacredness of law and its protection to person; rights which now stand supreme throughout the nation, and that then reigned undisputed in all cases except where slavery was concerned.

The state of Missouri, opposite Quincy, was slaveholding, and had been settled, largely from Kentucky, much earlier than the land on the Illinois side. Slaves could easily escape from Missouri, but the chief means of preventing them from doing so was the willingness of the population in Illinois to aid in returning those who were fugitive.

With the feeling on one side of the river that the slavery question must not be discussed, that whoever spoke of it condemningly was dangerous to society, and that the property rights which they held at home, should be equally respected everywhere; and the feeling on the east side of the river that men might say what they pleased, that slavery was wrong and injurious, and must stay at home, and that whenever a black man got away from slave soil, and came under free laws, he became free, there had been gradually growing a distrust between the neighboring sections.

Some time in May of this year two persons resident in Marion county, a few miles west of Quincy, Garrett and Williams, were found to have in their possession some anti-slavery papers, pamphlets and periodicals said to be of a very "inflammatory" character, though what they were was not stated. These papers were seized and burned and the parties with their families ordered out of the state. A few days later, on Sunday, the 22nd, at a camp meeting in the same county, Dr. David Nelson, a resident clergyman preached. Dr. Nelson was an exemplary and able man, has left an eminent name. He, though simple in many matters as a child, plain and undistinguished in appearance, was a strong and original thinker.

At the conclusion of his sermon a Mr. Muldrow handed him a paper with a request that it should be read. It was an article in advocacy of the colonization scheme. Dr. Nelson was a southern man and a colonizationist, and while thinking this to be injudicious and ill-timed, yet at his friend's request, he commenced to read, when a Dr. Bosely rose and ordered him to stop. Muldrow interposed and an altercation rose, during which Dr. Bosely was severely, and it was at first thought, fatally stabbed. Intense excitement followed. Nelson was accused of the assault and his life threatened.

He escaped on foot to Quincy, where he arrived in the night, wet and wearied, followed and almost caught at the river side by some excited and lawless roughs, who doubtless would have given him harsh treatment had they captured him. On the following day a number of persons from Quincy, with some from Missouri, notified the friends of Dr. Nelson that he must be given up. This was refused. There had been no legal claim made for him that he had committed no offense and he was protected. The determination was shown that a demand for the surrender of a man innocent of any wrong should and would be, as it was, resisted. After a day or two of vaporing the excitement died away, and although feeling still existed and sentiment on the slavery issue crystalized itself into opposition, no outbreak or violation of law occurred until the following year.

There is a mistaken impression that the "Nelson riots," as they were termed, occurred at the time of Dr. Nelson's exodus from Missouri. This is not so.

The first excitement, in 1836, was when Missourians and others strove to take Dr. Nelson prisoner. The second, 1837, was when a portion of the Quincy people tried to put down free discussion on the slavery question. These two events, though connected in sentiment, are distinct in point of time and in question at issue, and Dr. Nelson had no especial connection with the threatened lawlessness in 1837.

An event occurred during the latter part of this year which created an intense excitement,

and gave a decided influence in shaping the future sentiments and character of the place and has since been looked back to as an epoch in its early history. It was what is often mistakenly spoken of as the Nelson riots, being erroneously associated in date with the flight of Dr. Nelson from Missouri and the attempts to kidnap him, which occurred during the preceding year.

The error is somewhat natural, since the same causes operated in both cases. It was the feeling in regard to slavery which was stirring the nation generally, and especially along the borders of the free and slave states, resulting in the killing of Lovejoy at Alton, and the destruction of his newspaper and other lawless and violent acts.

Anti-slavery or abolition societies were organized in many of the northern cities, and their formation was almost invariably attended wtih excitement and often with violence. Such a society had been organized in Quincy. Several meetings had been held and a good deal of feeling aroused upon the subject.

The abolitionists here were few in number, but a very decided class of men. A very large portion of the people were anti-slavery men, but who did not agree with the abolitionists as to their manner of action. When, however, another large element of the population, composed of men indifferent to or favorable towards slavery, and strongly hostile to abolitionism and personally so to its advocates, and who regarded the discussion of the subject as hateful, gave out that there should be no meetings held and that these anti-slavery societies should be broken up, the better class of citizens united with the abolitionists in the determination to vindicate the freedom of speech at all hazards. Organization was completely made; arms of all kinds were procured, from the musket and shot gun to the hatchet and club. These were carefully stored where they could be readily used, under the pulpit of the "God's Barn." Watch by day and night was constantly kept by both parties. So closely were the chances counted that a committee from each of the opposing forces passed a night on the river bank, waiting, so as to first secure the services of one influential and very effective man who had been absent at Galena. It was Capt. N. Pease, a noted early settler, who died a year or two after. The free-speech men naturally got him.

The anti-abolitionists who had held several public meetings denouncing the formation of anti-slavery societies and the discussion of slavery as a "political and social firebrand," etc., finally gave out word that a meeting which had been called to be held in the Congregational church, the old "God's Barn," under the pulpit of which had been secreted a portion of the weapons prepared for defense—should not be held and that they would break it up. With this idea and its threatened intention circulars were sent out through the county to call in the attendance of their sympathizers to help clean out the abolitionists. At this meeting two clergymen, Mr. Fisher and Mr. Borien, men somewhat locally noted for ability and influence, were to speak, attracting of course a more than usual interest. It was for this reason that the meeting became the occasion of a struggle.

The representative men among the abolitionists were some still well remembered parties, Willard Keyes, Rufus Brown, Deacon Kimball, Dr. Eels, and a few others not needful to name. Sustaining them in the determination that freedom of speech should be protected were John Wood, N. Pease, Lloyd Morton, J. T. Holmes, H. Snow, Dr. Ralston and scores of others who were not abolitionists, but were rock-based friends of free discussion.

On the other side it is needless to name those who, from political prejudice, or love of rowdyism, sought to lead on the bad elements of lawlessness. They are now mostly dead, and those who live are ashamed of, and disapprove, the actions of that time. The moral force of the community was gathered in for the protection of "God's Barn." In numbers they may have been inferior. Parties from Missouri and the county came in. The meeting was held at the church, well protected. Some brick-bats were thrown, a few yells heard, a demonstration was made by the church guardians, there was a scattering of the attacking crowd, and a not small and amusing number of notables were found hiding in alleys and fence corners, all of them next day hoping that nothing would be known about the affair.

CHAPTER XVI.

1839.

PROGRESS. LAST YEAR OF TOWN GOVERNMENT. HAMPSHIRE MADE PASSABLE FROM 8TH TO 12TH STREET. FIRE ENGINE PURCHASED AND CISTERNS BUILT. THE LICENSE QUESTION. THE FIRST MACADAM. THE CITY CHARTER GRANTED. MORMONS. POLITICS.

Although "hard times" held on unabated, with not the slightest sign of softening during the year 1839, money, scarce and scarcely to be

obtained, and even when secured, at a shylock shave—all the banks of the country, except some half-dozen, having "suspended specie payments," and their paper, of course, a discountable quantity in trade; business necessarily running light, values low and uncertain; producers finding it to be safer to try and consume, thus utilizing their staples, than to sell off at skeleton figures—with all these drawbacks Quincy steadily progressed in population and improved in appearance, owing infinitely less to its people than it did to its natural situation and advantages. The winter of 1838-9 had been unusually mild, and the health of the place in consequence during these two years was exceptionally good. The number of deaths in 1838 was, according to an estimate made with probable correctness, one hundred, and during the first eight months of 1839, counted from the same estimate, forty-eight. This, nearly correct schedule, while not so favorable a record as compared with the mortality tables of later times, was a decided improvement on the showing of the five or six years preceding. With assured health business prospered in a corresponding degree and all the interests of the town surely and regularly rose.

Weather also favored. The river opened as early as January 17th and though iced up for a few days about the 17th of February, continued open until its final closing on the 21st of December. This was the longest term of navigation known for many years before or since, embarrassed only by a most unprecedented low stage of water through the summer months.

This was a very busy year with the town authorities, and it is due to say, as reference to records will prove, that this was, nevertheless, a time when there fell upon the public guardians a grave weight of labor and responsibility, and which was by them faithfully and judiciously attended to. It was known to be the last year of the town existence. A city was soon to be made, and the preparations to be made for improvements of various kinds. To meet the rising needs, grades, culverts opening streets, ferry and fire questions were with their future importance most earnestly met and provided for. There is no city council for the whole forty-four years of city life, which could not take valuable lessons from the action of the last board of trustees of the Town of Quincy, who were neither influenced by political, selfish, sectarian, nor any personal interest in their actions for the general interests. The responsibilities resting upon these officials were greatly more comprehensive than ever before, demanding important attention, labor and time. As an evidence of this, the board at its first meeting in January, 1839, fixed the pay of the secretary at $150. For the several first years the services of the secretary had been gratuitous, and only in the year preceding (1838) had there been made any allowance. Then $50 was granted, but now the greatly increasing duties and work of the board which called upon the secretary for so large a portion of his time made this remuneration proper, and a few months after this salary was advanced by resolution of the board to $250, still a light pay for the services of such officers and of such clerical experts, as were I. O. Woodruff and S. P. Church. A report demanded by the board in the early part of the year, evidenced that the finances of the town were in sound condition, there being a balance of $2,580.29 in the town treasury.

The grading of Hampshire street to the river having been now done and paid for, movements were made for opening "either Maine or Hampshire east from the square." Maine street then, at the intersection of Sixth, was crossed by a gully some twenty feet in depth which made it practically impassable, and farther east from Eighth to Twelfth it was cut across by similar ravines and ridges. Hampshire street east of Ninth was similarly broken and all of this ground was open. There was really no good fixed outlet from the square towards the east and north.

The settled section of the town, considering its population, was not extensive, most of the improvements being along the river bank, or around the square and the streets nearly adjoining thereto. The greater part of travel passed in and out on the level ridge of Hampshire street, diverging near Seventh street by a road running northeasterly across vacant ground to about the corner of Broadway and Twelfth. It appeared necessary, as one of the trustees expressed it, that, "as we now have a street made for the people to get to the town from the river, we ought to give them a way to get out to or in from the country." It was ordered that a Hampshire street should be made passable from Eighth to Twelfth, and several hundred dollars were appropriated from time to time for that purpose, but it was long before the full benefit accrued from this work. The improvement of Maine street east was ignored for the present, but later in the year it was partially graded as far as Eighth street. Mr. Redmond, whose name for the following forty years appears prominent in Quincy history, was the contractor. This was his first public connection with the affairs of the city.

From that time he probably superintended more work and had a more ready familiarity with the city grades and streets than any other man. Beyond this line the street long lay unimproved. From this it may be seen that east of Seventh and Eighth scarce anything that could be called settlement existed. It was a stretch of open, broken land, seamed by ravines and mostly covered with hazel bushes, having on it a few cabins and large corn fields.

Much interest and action was taken about this time in regard to protection from fire. A purchase had been made the year before of ladders, buckets, etc., which led to the formation of a hook and ladder company. An ordinance was passed requiring the removal of all piles of hay, straw, etc., from within fifty feet of any house, store or shop, and prohibiting the stacking of any such material within the limits of the town, except in "extraordinary cases and by special permission." Later in the year a fire engine was purchased at a cost of $1,124.58; an engine house built adjoining the courthouse on the north side, and a cistern constructed in front of the same—the latter costing $546 and having a capacity of 300 hogsheads of water. Some of those improvements were not completed until early in the following year.

This purchase of the engine was an event, and the company formed for it became an institution. It was composed of most of the young men of that day. Wells, Bull, Morgan, Stone, McDade and other now (1886) "gray and reverend seniors," whose veteran muscles would scarce qualify them to make a creditable run with the machine as they did forty years ago to the town's admiration, were among its members. A fire engine then was as great a curiosity to the rural people of the west, as the first steamboat was to the Indians, and we believe that this engine was the first one brought into the state, unless Chicago was so provided earlier.

The expense attending all this fell heavily upon the resources of the town, but it was a good investment. One hundred dollars of it was contributed by the Quincy Insurance company, a home institution that went into operation during this year. Its stockholders were all local men—D. G. Whitney was president and S. P. Church secretary. Its business was never large and its existence of but few years' duration.

Previous to this year the government of the town had been through its organization under the general incorporation laws of the state, but the act for a special charter, prepared by the trustees in November, 1838, passed the legislature, and was approved February 21, 1839. This was a much needed and well devised change; the new charter vesting in the authorities much more ample power than they had heretofore possessed.

Pursuant to this law an election for seven trustees was held April 17, 1839, when E. Conyers, Samuel Holmes, Robert Tillson, Samuel Leech and I. O. Woodruff, and at a second election a few days later, John B. Young, were chosen.

It will be seen from these names that political feeling at this period had no bearing, as indeed, it never had, in the town elections.

The board organized by the election of Mr. Holmes as president and Mr. Woodruff secretary.

An excellent and comprehensive series of ordinances was passed which with some slight subsequent revision, continued in operation until the next year, when almost unaltered, they were adopted as the ordinances of the new city. The tax on real estate was fixed at one and a half per cent, and a street tax of three dollars (per capita) or in lieu thereof three days' work on the streets, was imposed upon "every citizen entitled to vote for trustees," an obligation that promised a handsome addition to the needed revenue, but which then and since, has been rarely enforced.

The public mind and the policies of the board were greatly exercised for many weeks by the appearance for the first time in Quincy history of the prohibition "Banquo" in a shape similar to that which it now presents, and with the same zealous faculty for exciting public passion and smashing political slates. Heretofore the liquor trade had been only regarded in legislation as a proper and accustomed source of revenue, and as such, subject to special tavern or grocery taxation. The moral or expedient features of the matter had never yet been officially considered. These now came before the board with the question of issuing grocery licenses for the year, and the record is amusing, both as being the first contest of the kind, and the prototype also of many subsequent efforts on the part of our authorities upon the same subject, in seeking the best way "how not to do it."

Three petitions were presented to the board on May 6th, against the issuing of any grocery license, one having 225 signers, who represented themselves as "legal voters," a second with 40 names signed as "residents, not voters," and a third with 146 signatures of "ladies," and the next week these were supplemented by a petition of 280 names asking for license. All these petitions were referred to a committee for report. This committee reported

that there had been at the last election 427 votes recorded, that in comparing these petitions with the poll books, they found that of the 225 names signed as being legal voters in opposition to license, only 145 of those names could be found on the poll books, that there were ninety-five names signed to the petition which were not on the poll books, and fifteen which could not be read; that of the 280 names affixed to the petition for the granting of licenses, only 126 appeared on the pool books, that about fifty names they could not read, and it was impossible to say positively which petition had the greater number of legal voters, and the committee's suggestion that all the petitions be laid upon the table, was agreed to. The board adopted a resolution that they could not find that a majority of the legal voters of Quincy had opposed the issuance of grocery license, and licenses were thence issued without any more delay or question.

The grocery or liquor license was fixed at $100 per annum, and the license for general merchandise at three-fourths of one per cent on the value of the stock. There were, according to an examination made October 9th, forty-five stores of all sorts transacting business in the town. Much was done during this year in the matter of establishing the grades, with a regard to an extended and permanent system. In addition to the opening and grading of many of the central and most important streets, the first macadamizing work was now done, it being a strip of twenty-five feet in width, down the centre of Hampshire street, from Third to Front, leaving the sides of the street so "that the wash from the rains might carry the dirt from the banks down to the river." This strip of macadam was for some time the only work of the kind in town.

Mr. Redmond again appears as the first contractor for macadamizing, the price given being $3.62½ per running foot and $1.00 extra for curbing. Still more careful legislation was had in reference to the prevention of fires, and the office of Fire Warden was created, Edward Wells being the first appointee. This office was continued for a number of years.

Stringent ordinances were passed requiring groceries to be closed on Sunday and prohibiting "loud talking," etc., that might disturb religious congregations on that day, with severe penalties for their violation.

Looking with natural ambition and proper judgment to the necessity of soon becoming a city, the trustees, late in November, appointed Samuel Holmes, General Leech and J. E. Jones a committee to examine the city charters of Alton, Chicago and St. Louis, and to draft a city charter for Quincy, the same to be submitted to the board and if then approved, to be presented to a meeting of the citizens and if approved likewise by them a copy to be sent to the legislature at the special session. A special session of the general assembly had been called to meet on the 9th of December. The charter as prepared was presented to the trustees and approved on the 30th of November, and on the following week was approved by the citizens, some slight alterations being made.

But although a city charter had been prepared and approved both by the board and the people, all was not yet smooth sailing. Faction had still its part to play, and there were now stirred up the same elements which, existing then, today and forever, did, do and always will, thrust themselves into the van of every public movement, and either destroy the measure by reason of the disgust which their association creates, or after being ignored in their wished for prominence, seek to annoy and embarrass its success.

The story is almost ludicrous. At a meeting held on the 13th of December, by the malcontents, it was resolved that the proposed charter was "anti-republican in its features, oppressive in its tendencies and premature in its object and design." A protest was made to the legislature against its adoption, unless it should "be first shorn of its anti-republican features, to-wit — First, a property qualification to the right of holding office. Second, unconstitutional restriction on the right of suffrage. Third, exorbitant power in the council to control and affect (?) the interest of the people in relation to ferries," etc.

The trustees were greatly exercised by the rumored action of this meeting, and appointed a committee to call upon the secretary and obtain a copy of the resolutions. This committee, after much delay, reported that the secretary had twice refused to give them a copy, but that after calling upon him a third time they obtained what they desired "by offer and payment of two bits." Thereupon the trustees resolved that "in the opinion of this board the proceedings of the meeting are disrespectful to this body, both in the getting up resolutions, as two previous meetings of the citizens had sanctioned the actions of the board (with some minor amendments) among whom were some of the main leaders and officers of the last meeting."

This amusing account of the struggle over the charter concludes the record of opposition to the city organization. The charter became a law during the current winter, without op-

position in the legislature, and was almost unanimously ratified by the people in the following March (1840).

A financial report covering the period from July 1, 1838, to April 15, 1839, the time when the second town charter went into operation, showed the expenses to have been $3,460.38, and the receipts $4,338.76.

Thirty steamboats arrived during the last ten days of April. A number of new business enterprises were begun. Whipple and Wycke started a woolen mill, just north of the town on what is now Cedar creek, and Bond, Morgan & Co., a bakery, these two being the earliest to any extent in the town.

Skillman's circulating library was commenced in connection with his book store.

The slavery question was still an issue. An anti-slavery and a Colonization society were formed.

Several large meetings were held to consider the Mormon matter, at which strong sympathy was expressed for them, and a denunciation of the conduct of the Missourians, a sentiment which, a few years later greatly changed.

This Mormon immigration, which had so suddenly commenced in 1838, continued during the early part of this year, but later in the year it began to flow away towards their new purchase at Nauvoo, and before the next winter had set in most of these strange people had left the city. The story of their persecution had given an impetus to their proselytism, and beside those who came from Missouri and the eastern states, there were large foreign accessions.

These last, like the others, naturally came to Quincy, where Joe Smith, their prophet, temporarily resided. Early in April, of this year, Smith (who was a sort of town notoriety), with four other Mormons, fell into the hands of a party of Missourians, who, under some form or pretext of legal process, were taking them to the Boone county jail, but, while on the route, Smith and his friends got away, leaving the guards all sound asleep. Smith heralded it forth that the "spirit of the Lord had put blindness over his captors' eyes," but the better believed story was that another sort of spirit had been temptingly applied to their lips. However this escape may have occurred, whether by a miracle or not, it was a most telling card to be thus played for the benefit of the sect. The condition of these people was very deplorable at this time. They crowded together in the barns, outhouses and sheds and many in huts and tents throughout the town. Some of them were almost entirely destitute. They kept up their religious services and observances, and were for a time much more numerous than any other religious or ecclesiastical society, in the place.

There were many varieties of religious organizations here, but as yet, very few church structures. Until this year the old Congregational "God's barn," on Fourth, was the only finished church. During this year, however, the Baptist church on Fourth also, north of Hampshire, and the old Methodist church, on Vermont south of the courthouse, was nearly finished. Also the Episcopalians finished and occupied their first church, a little long frame building on Sixth, north of Hampshire, which they occupied for many years.

Relative to this, as showing how much it then cost both to build a church and to attend church, we learn that Bishop Chase, then the Bishop of Illinois, writes that he found in Quincy a neat, small Episcopal church, erected at a cost of $400, and that all the pews were taken at a total rental of $200. The good Bishop in the same letter says that he passed through the flourishing town of Columbus, where there was being built a railroad to each river, east and west, and being in the centre of Adams county, this place would, from these causes, become the county seat, an opinion which leaves to us the conclusion that he was much more to be relied upon as a prelate than a prophet. In November the first German Protestant church was dedicated. This is the brick building still standing on Seventh street, between York and Kentucky, which is at the present time the oldest church edifice in Quincy that is still used for religious purposes.

The election of Thomas Carlin in 1838 to the governorship of the state caused several changes among the political officials of Quincy and this section. Carlin, who had been receiver in the public land office, was succeeded on the 8th of January, 1839, by Samuel Leech, who had been Register, and on the same date, Wm. G. Flood, then member of the legislature, was made Register. These were then here and everywhere in the west very important offices, and it is a fact that through all the changes of political interest in the country, these land offices have been well filled, and especially were they so filled in this land district. The register had to record all applications for public lands, and the receiver to take and receipt for the money deposited to secure the applicant the patent and the future ownership of the land which he desired.

It can be easily seen that with incompetent officials in charge of such trusts, how much of vexations trouble might ensue, and with dishonest and scheming men in control of these

offices and acting together, how plumply they could pad their own pockets and defraud the applicants for land, by knowing as they must and did know from having the surveys in their own possession, the character and estimate value of unentered lands.

It was fortunate that the holders of these offices in the bounty land district were men equally of capacity and integrity, and it is well known also that after this land district, which, for fifteen years from its establishment was the most important one in the state, was abolished, because most of the public land within its limits had been sold or given to the state as "swamp lands," the transferred records showed a clearer face and less has come up against them for re-examination than any other of the old land districts of the state. There was a notable line of trustworthy men who occupied these offices and faithfully filled their trusts—Carlin, Alexander, Leech, Flood, Sullivan, Asbury, Rogers, Holmes, Marsh and Hauser were successively in charge until about 1859 or 1860, when the offices were transferred to Springfield.

The vacancy in the legislature, caused by Flood's appointment as register, was filled at a special election in November by Richard W. Starr, whig, who was chosen over Jacob Smith, democrat, by a majority of 100 in the county. There were 646 votes cast in the town at this election, while at the regular election in August preceding, there were 671, from which some estimate may be made of the probable population.

The political figures show that the whig ticket was successful in the town at this August election. Ebenezer Moore—who the next and the then following year was chosen as the first mayor of Quincy, a very excellent business man and a lawyer of moderate ability; Henry Asbury, now (1886) living and known to every one in Quincy; J. R. Randolph, an old-time lawyer of the town who might have been one of the first had he not been too lazy and who is now a judge in Rhode Island, and Charles McKee (all whigs) were elected as magistrates. This was the first real political issue that had been brought forward to test the relative strength of parties in the town, and it foreshadowed a decided predominance of power resting with the whigs, which they secured the next year at the first city election and for several years after, whenever they properly exerted themselves.

The entire vote of the county, including that of the town, was 1,742, a falling off of 300 from the vote given at the regular election the year before, and this year's vote was most curiously cut up and distributed. For instance, Wm. Richards, democrat, was elected county commissioner by 398 majority, over J. H. Driskell, whig; while Andrew Miller, whig, beat J. D. Morgan, democrat, for county judge, 436 votes, and again J. H. Holton and Enoch Conyers, democratic candidates respectively, for recorder and treasurer, were elected, the first by 130 and the second by 269 majority over their whig opponents and again J. Williams, the whig candidate for county surveyor, ran in by a majority of 55, over a much more skilled man on the opposite ticket.

This was an evidence not infrequent in those days, but more rare in latter times, of indifference to partisan lines, and of how much more personal merit or popularity than party domination controlled local elections.

J. H. Ralston, having resigned the office of circuit judge in August, the governor appointed Peter Lott as his successor, which appointment was ratified by the legislature in December. Lott made a most satisfactory judge during the short time that he was on the bench. While somewhat too indolent and pleasure loving to be a deeply learned lawyer, he had singularly strong common sense, a very ready and candid intellect and much dignity and courtesy of manner. He was legislated out of office in February, 1841, by the law which made five additional supreme judges, and imposed upon these nine judges circuit duty, and repealed out of office the then circuit judges. Judge Lott's place on the bench of this circuit was taken by Stephen A. Douglas.

The immigration to Quincy was relatively not as large as during the few preceding years, so far as it numbers the names of men who in the past have been prominent and are now remembered. Among these were D. W. Miller, E. K. Stone, Robert McComb, C. A. Savage, N. Pinkham, A. Wheat, P. A. Goodwin, H. S. Cooley, all familiar names to Quincy history.

CHAPTER XVII.

1837.

POLITICAL. THE TWO WELLS AND THE MARKET HOUSE. PURCHASE OF MADISON PARK. ESTABLISHMENT OF STREET GRADES. FIXING THE "DATUM." PUBLIC LIBRARY STARTED. ROLL CALL OF NEWCOMERS. FIRE DEPARTMENT. GRADING HAMPSHIRE STREET. COUNTY LAND REGISTER. QUINCY WHIG. QUINCY "GRAYS." RAILROAD WORK. QUINCY FINANCES. FIRST BOOK STORE. PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

Few changes occurred during the year 1837 affecting the political representation of Quincy. The national, state and local officials mostly re-

mained in their places. The exceptions being that Judge Richard M. Young, who had acceptably filled the position of circuit judge for many years, having been elected to the U. S. Senate, was succeeded by J. H. Ralston. Judge Young was the first Quincy man promoted to a place in the national councils. He was a conspicuous figure in our early local and state annals, having occupied more various important public trusts than any other Illinoisian. Like his two predecessors, Sawyer and Lockwood, he was a lawyer of ability and learning, which his successor lacked. He was a Kentuckian by birth, early known in public life—having been the first practicing lawyer in the state, a member of the legislature in 1820, serving through several judicial terms, and always securing popular respect and confidence. His mental qualities were solid, not brilliant, but his judgment was especially regarded and his personal integrity never questioned. Removing to Washington he became clerk of the house of representatives and also commissioner of the general land office. His later years were sadly clouded and finally closed in insanity. His election induced some other official changes. Ralston's vacancy in the legislature was filled by the election of Archibald Williams, and C. M. Woods was appointed circuit clerk in the place of H. H. Snow, who had occupied that office from the foundation of the county in 1825. Snow also in February was supplanted as probate judge, which he had been for the same length of time by Wm. G. Flood, and at a later period Earl Pierce, having personally and financially disappeared in the supposed direction of Texas, was succeeded as sheriff by Wm. H. Tandy, elected in November, for the unexpired term.

The town proceedings grow in interest and importance. On the 20th of February the trustees adopted an elaborate revision of the town ordinances, rearranging the same and correcting former errors. Oddly enough, they partially repeated a previous blunder by omitting in the first section (on limits) to give any boundary line on the west. This, however, was not so bad as the blunder in the ordinances of 1824, where the boundaries were altogether omitted. It would almost appear that our old town Solons were either infected with the prevalent pioneer prejudice against inclosures, or that they feared to confine the bursting aspirations of the budding young community. This error was corrected in a subsequent revision made in the following September, when a much broader and better revision of the ordinances was made, especially regarding taxation and revenue. Street improvements now began to be considered. Commercial alley was opened, this being the first corporation movement, affecting permanently the original surveys. The smallpox being quite prevalent, a pest house was established and the necessary sanitary regulations ordered.

The tax assessment for this year was $1,219.75, of which $475.11 was reported as collected by the middle of June. At the annual election in June, John Wood, W. P. Reeder, Joel Rice, J. T. Holmes and I. O. Woodruff were chosen as trustees. Holmes became president, Woodruff secretary, W. Williams treasurer, and John McDade collector.

With this period began the trouble about the public wells and the location of the market, which were themes for town action and town talk for many an after month. The water question, which was comprehended in the project to have a couple of wells dug at the corners of the public square, is with its attendant strifes, an amusing affair to look back at now; but it was then a matter of as much relative importance and serious discord in public councils and private controversy as the water works question is to our good people today. A well had been ordered to be sunk at the northwest corner of the square and a party had contracted to dig it. He began to dig and all the thirsty souls adjacent with hopeful interest saw the well gradually sink, but the workmen also sank from sight; work ceased, and water had not come. At the June meeting the board determined to curb the independence of this well digger if they couldn't curb the well, and appointed a committee to "ascertain whether he intended to finish it or not." The committee reported that he said not. Another man was engaged, but the result was the same. He proved to be, though a well digger, not a well doer. The job was again thrown up. Finally, after a year's travail, at the first meeting in January, 1838, it was ordered that the well be filled up and another dug at the southwest corner of the square, which was done successfully. Other wells were made, which remained for several years, latterly used chiefly as feline cemeteries.

The market house question was a much more serious source of strife. A part of the community wished to have the market house built on the public square. An equal or larger portion objected. After several meetings and much discussion it was ordered that Maine street should be the place in which to erect a market house, that the street should be widened west of Sixth street, on the north side, as far as the alley, twenty-five feet, and on the south side "as much as possible." This proposition, after several sessions of the board had acted and reacted, resulted in a report from the last

committee appointed, at the meeting on December 30th, that they could not buy the land wanted on Maine street, and so ended the market house war for this year, while another committee consisting of I. O. Woodruff and John Wood was appointed to worry over the question during the coming year.

The negotiations which had been long pending in regard to having a new burial ground were concluded at the June meeting of the board by the purchase from E. B. Kimball, at the rate of $75 per acre, of the 8 56-100 acres, now known as Madison Park, at the southeast corner of Maine and Twenty-fourth streets. This ground was platted and laid off in lots, valued at $10 each. The first sale was made October 10th, and quite an amount was at once realized, nearly one hundred lots being bought. From this date the old burial ground on the south half of the block where the present courthouse stands (Jefferson Park) which had been used since 1825, was abandoned, and the greatest portion of the bodies there interred were removed to the new cemetery. Much interest at first was taken in the new cemetery, partly from dissatisfaction with the old one; but it soon became evident that the new location was equally undesirable, the ground being too flat and wet. To remedy this, it was ordered that on three sides the cemetery should be surrounded by a ditch. Ten years later, when Woodland cemetery was laid out, on so much more beautiful and appropriate ground, interments ceased at this Maine street cemetery, and most of the bodies buried there were gradually transferred to the "Woodland"—it being in many cases the second removal. Still not a few lie on both of the old grounds.

Contract was made by the board with the Quincy Argus during the latter part of this year to print their proceedings for five dollars a year. Considering the fact that the Argus was the only paper published in the place, and of course must have a monopoly of the prices, this arrangement indicated either a marvelous streak of liberality on the printer's part peculiarly difficult to appreciate nowadays—or showed that these proceedings were not considered as amounting to much. At the meeting on September 4th, the board established the grade of Hampshire street from the public square to the river, and therewith the grade of Front street.

The order for the above is curiously worth publication, both because this was the first definite recorded movement towards a uniform system of grades, with an initial point, at the corner of Hampshire and Fourth, and also from the oddity of its language and provisions. It reads thus: "Ordered, that the grade of Hampshire street be fixed as follows: The summit at the corner of Hampshire and Fourth parallel with the top of the stone foundation at Messrs. Skinner and Berry's store, then descend on a grade of seven feet to Third street, then, on leaving Third, to descend on a regular grade to Front street, and terminate with the doorsill of the warehouse of Mr. Holmes."

What "Mr. Holmes" is meant one cannot know, but as all the Mr. Holmes' of that day are dead (and Messrs. Skinner and Berry also) and their houses have long since been destroyed, one must search here or elsewhere for a Holmes doorsill and a Skinner and Berry foundation to ascertain the precise grade of Hampshire and Front. It is of course to be presumed that Mr. Holmes did not elevate or lower his doorsill while the grading was going on.

The population of the place was reported as 1,653—a liberal estimate, not far out of the way, but from which ten per cent or more might safely be deducted. The courthouse on the east side of the square, midway between Maine and Hampshire, was completed, but not fully occupied until the following year; the first court being held there in 1838. This was the brick building which was burned in 1875—as was its log predecessor in 1836—it being the second courthouse of the county; the present superb stone structure wherein "justice is dispensed with"—as the wags express it—being the third. Talk was had about grading and enclosing the public square, but this was not done until three or four years later.

The first German Lutheran and the first Catholic (St. Boniface) churches were organized during this year, also the first Episcopal church (St. John's) which for many years was on the east side of Sixth, between Vermont and Hampshire, later removed to the corner of Hampshire and Seventh, now the Cathedral.

A public library was instituted about this time, based chiefly on individual contributions of books. Its career was short; the reading taste of the town being not yet sufficiently general to sustain it; and after it died, and the books—what were left of them—were returned to the original donors, no such permanent institution existed until the present Quincy Library was established in 1841.

A movement towards the formation of a military company was agitated, resulting as a success during this and the following year in the formation of the "Quincy Grays," a most model military organization, which in its drill, perfection and esprit de corps, and attractive associations, has never been excelled by any of the

excellent Quincy companies of later times.

During the winter of 1836-7 Anton Delabar built the first Quincy brewery on Fifth street, between York and Kentucky. It was destroyed by fire. It was for several years the only brewery in the place. The branch bank of the State Bank of Illinois, was formally opened here on the 4th of December, at the southwest corner of Maine and Fourth streets.

This year, like the two preceding and two following years, was an advent period for "old settlers." We take the arbitrary dictum of calling those old settlers who settled here before 1840, for the reason that of the living and remembered men of Quincy, who have seen and been part of its growth, an especially large proportion of them came here, young men, between 1835 and 1840—a few earlier than the former date—and there are now, or until lately were living, still vigorous after nearly half a century of active Quincy life and laden with the weight of years over three score and ten. A temporary line must somewhere be lain, and in ten or twenty years the chalk mark may be moved forward to another decade.

Among the well known old settlers who came this year were Nehemiah Bushnell, from Connecticut, who steadily grew in legal recognition, to be considered at the time of his death in 1873, as the most erudite lawyer of the state, and Andrew Johnston, of Richmond, Va., where he now resides, long a leading lawyer here. These two, in the following year—1838—were the first editors of the Quincy Whig.

Capt. Joseph Artus, from Kentucky, an old time Ohio river steamboatman, came this year, to remain until his death, some forty years later. He was known and noticeable everywhere as a quaint, earnest man, with an about evenly balanced reputation for oddity and shrewdness. He was a most inveterate "old line whig," tying his faith with unfaltering devotion to Henry Clay. It must have almost made the jolly old man's bones to have turned in their coffin when published as he was after his death, by ignorance, as a "lifelong abolitionist," a political distinction which he held in especial dislike, although a decided anti-slavery man, as were most of the whigs.

Capt. C. J. Swarthout, from New York, settled here this year, and was a marked and active character for some years. Who that once saw and knew can ever forget the form and features of that keen, shrewd, stern old cynic, his crushing comment and scathing satire on whatever aroused his merciless wit to seize and worry; also Thomas Jasper, from Kentucky, who became popular, prosperous and prominent as sheriff, mayor and representative in the legislature, his latter years being clouded by pecuniary troubles and mental decay; G. B. Dimock, a most thorough type of the unsmoothed practical yankee, for many years a prominent merchant and manufacturer; S. M. Bartlett, the well known cabinet maker, a Massachusetts man, associated with town and city matters almost throughout his life; Thomas Redmond, a man of much native ability, who rapidly grew into being the most powerful political factor in the city, filling with marked sagacity and success many municipal positions and also achieving legislative honors; Timothy Kelly, the earliest representative man of that Irish element which flowed so rapidly hither at this period, in connection with the railroad then being built, a much respected man whose brave life ended in the Mexican war at the battle of Buena Vista.

Besides these, came Wm. Shanahan, R. S. and T. C. Benneson, Edward Miller, C. M. Pomeroy, Allen Comstock, and to the county yet later associated and identified with the city the families of Clement Nance, T. H. Castle, T. Durant, Andrew Redmond, F. Collins, of Columbus; Henry Kent, John Sharp, the Berrians and Arrowsmiths, of Ellington, Thomas Payne, of Marcelline, and others.

The town board in 1838 at its first meeting in January appointed John Wood and Joel Rice a committee "to report the most beneficial and suitable places for improvements, as well as some plan to protect the community against the ravages of fire." This committee recommended the purchase of four ladders of 15, 20, 25 and 30 feet in length; six fire hooks, and twelve buckets, "as the commencement of a system which may be extended and improved with the growth and experience of the place in connection with the increase of its resources, so as the more fully and perfectly to protect our citizens and their property against the ravages of fire." These purchases were made and became the initial of our present fire department. This committee also, in the matter of improvements, recommended "that $200 be appropriated for the improvement of Delaware street, whenever $300 is furnished by private donation," and that $1,000 be appropriated towards the grading of a street from the public square to the river, this first to be offered to those who preferred the grading of Maine street, conditioned that they would give bonds to ensure the subscription and payment of whatever said grading would cost exceeding the $1,000 appropriation. Should, however, the Maine street people not accede to the proposition, it was to be offered to those who desired to have Hampshire street opened. The maine street people

declining and the Hampshire street folks accepting and complying with the conditions, the grading of that street from Fourth to Front was ordered and begun in March.

This was the first important public improvemen that the town had undertaken. It was the first straight line communication between the village on the hill and the business on the river bank; the only route before this time having been by a devious road which cork screwed around among the hills and ravines from near the foot of Vermont street up to about where the market house now stands on Hampshire. The grade level at Hampshire and Fourth had already been established. That on Front, which depended so much on where Mr. Holmes' doorsill might happen to be was now definitely fixed by Mr. Parker and some civil engineers employed on the Northern Cross railroad, the work on which had begun here a few months before.

At the June election, John Wood, I. O. Woodruff, Samuel C. Rogers, Samuel Holmes and J. B. Matthews were chosen as trustees; on organization John Wood was made president; I. O. Woodruff, secretary; Andrew Johnston, attorney, and Robert R. Williams, treasurer.

The market house strife, which had been vexing the community so long, came to a close during this year. The board endeavored to buy one hundred feet on the west side of Third, extending from Maine to Hampshire, for market uses, but could not get it, and then proposed to purchase lot 5, in block 8, at the corner of Hampshire and Third, which trade being made at last, allayed this old fester. There had been an election held in June at which the people by a vote of 207 to 101 decided against building the market house on the public square.

The public wells business, which was an equally vexing and deeper trouble, did not as yet dry up, though one of them did, so it was ordered to be filled up and another one ordered to be dug at the northwest corner of the square.

A census of the town taken in November showed a population of 1,850; males 1,020; females 830; over 14 years of age, 1,230; under 14 years, 620.

At the November meeting the board directed the attorney, Johnston, to draw up a petition to be circulated for signatures in the town, and presented to the legislature for incorporation as a city. This was completed, and on December 17th prepared by the trustees, to be offered to the legislature, the boundaries being the same as those with which the city was incorporated a year later.

The political representation, national and state, was somewhat changed during this year. R. M. Young and J. M. Robinson were yet the U. S. Senators. Col. Wm. L. May, of Springfield, was the member of congress, but he was succeeded by John T. Stuart, who was elected by 16 majority over Stephen A. Douglas, out of nearly 40,000 votes in a most closely canvassed district, which comprised all of the state north of the latitude of the mouth of the Illinois river. This was the first year when party lines between the whig and democratic parties were distinctively drawn. Thomas Carlin, long a state senator from this section, later and at this time receiver of the land office at Quincy, was elected governor on the democratic ticket by about 300 majority over his whig opponent. O. H. Browning held over as state senator. At the August election "Archy" Williams and Wm. G. Flood, the first a whig, and the other a democrat, were chosen to the legislature. Williams had been in the previous legislatures as successor to Galbraith who had died. Wm. H. Tandy was elected sheriff over Tom King, in rather a singular contest. Tandy, a very superior man, had been elected sheriff to fill the vacancy made by the defalcation and exodus to Texas of Sheriff Pierce. Now when the regular election came up he was pitted against King, one of the most popular and well known men of the county. Then, and until 1848, voting could be made in any part of the county, and each party would secretly agree to mass their votes and take possession of certain precincts. King's friends had a most glorious jollification over the first election returns, but the next two or three days brought in the figures from the outside precincts, and Mr. Tandy was elected. J. M. Hatton was elected coroner; Ralston was yet judge; C. M. Woods, circuit clerk; Billington, recorder, and Frazier, school commissioner.

Prior to 1838, the only newspaper in Quincy, or the section of county adjoining, was the Illinois Bounty Land Register, founded in 1835, with name changed in 1837 to the Quincy Argus, and a few years later rechristened as the existent Quincy Herald. The first paper of any place becomes proscriptively historic. The original title of this journal, though now perhaps peculiar, had a then local significance. Congress had, as has been before told, devoted 3,500,000 acres of the public land, in that section of Illinois, lying between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers and extending northward 198 miles from their junction, to the payment of bounties (160 acres to each) to the soldiers of the war of 1812. This comprehended about three-fifths of the entire tract, and it also was provided that no land should be sold by the government therein until all the bounties to the

soldiers were paid. Thus this part of the state became everywhere known as the "Bounty Lands." Later the government land office, and the private land agencies, representing together all the unsold and unimproved land in the tract, were located at Quincy.

This paper properly proposed to represent and to make known to the world the values of the fair region whose resources were as yet unregistered and undeveloped. Mainly was it at first given to descriptions of the territory, its history, that of the several counties, notices of all kinds connected with the lands and the land business, and its circulation became greatly extended from this cause. The periodical advertisements of delinquent land sales in Knox, Fulton, Hancock and most of the counties of the tract were printed in its columns. Hence it was well entitled the Bounty Land Register. Later, of course, with more general settlements and the establishment of newspapers in the adjacent counties, the character of the Register became changed and its sphere contracted. During this and the immediately adjoining years, the Register and Argus underwent a kaleidoscopic change in its ownership and management. Young, Woods, Aldrich, Bassett, Bradley, Morris, Pettitt, Karnes and Booth were off and on its owners and editors. It had a feeble existence until about the time that it came under the editorial charge of Austin Brooks, whose powerful partisan pen, aided as he was by some vigorous financial backing, invested the paper with an attractiveness and political power such as few journals have, and which up to that time, it did not possess.

There came in now the second paper of the place, the Quincy Whig, the first number of which was issued May 5, 1838 -H. V. Sullivan, proprietor; N. Bushnell and A. Johnson, two young lawyers, as editors. A few months later, S. M. Bartlett, who had been previously editing a paper at Galena, came in as a partner of Mr. Sullivan, taking the editorial control, which association continued with but a brief interruption, until Mr. Bartlett's death in 1852. Mr. Bartlett was a man of unusual aptitude for his chosen profession, was everywhere recognized as one of the foremost journalists of the state, and under the prudent pilotage of himself and partner, the Whig rapidly rose to a position of influence and success which for many years it maintained. This mention of these pioneer journals, and of their origin during the town's infancy; the one commencing as non-partisan but finally becoming a democratic organ; the other, starting out as a representative of the whig beliefs, and the two traveling since for nearly half a century on parallel lines, is essential because they mark an epoch in Quincy history. It is from them that the annals of the place subsequent to the date of their establishment must be largely learned. There was no river mail as yet, and none for some years later. A weekly mail by land from St. Louis and one also from Springfield gave the eastern news twice a week. The earliest eastern news, however, "in advance of the mail," as they used to call it, was from eastern or St. Louis papers, which passengers and the steamboat officers were expected to provide themselves with and for which they had calls at every landing. Many improvements of a substantial nature were now made; a special committee, informally appointed by the town board to look after the business transactions of the town, reported on December 12, that there had been to that date, during the year, 33 brick, and 170 frame houses erected, at a cost of $188,500; $425,000 worth of merchandise imported; $200,000 worth of beef and pork exported; $215,000 worth of flour and grain exported. The report was a fair estimate except in placing the cost of the buildings too low. A map of the town, the first one made, and a very good one, was gotten up by I. O. Woodruff. A military company, projected during the preceding year, now perfected its organization. This was the noted Quincy Greys, Captain E. J. Phillips, which in all the elements that combine to make that most attractive of organizations, a volunteer militia company stood and stayed while it lasted. A No. 1, and has never been excelled by any of the fine Quincy companies of later times.

Navigation opened early and continued fair and long; the river closing about the 10th of December.

Work on the railroad in the county and town created much bustle and added to business.

This railroad, projected by the state, as a member of its grand "international railroad system," intended to run from Quincy eastward through Springfield to the Indiana line, was, or rather that portion of it between Quincy and Columbus was—placed under contract April 23, 1838 and active work upon it at once begun. As originally surveyed and partially graded it was to enter the town near what is now the corner of Broadway and Twenty-fourth street. Traces of this old track remain. From there the line ran on Broadway directly west to the river bank. The intention then was to place a stationary power on the hill near Twelfth street, with an "inclined plane" therefrom down the river. Some fifteen years later, when the road had passed out of state possession, and work upon it was renewed, the

line was changed by a cut being made deflecting northwest from Broadway near Fourteenth, thence winding its way through the bluffs and meeting Front street about at its intersection with Cedar. Most of the grading on this absurd piece of work was done, but not all. Better judgment and more skillful engineering foresight found that this measure only about one-half obviated the objections to the stationary power with its "incline," and it was wisely concluded that it would ultimately be more economical in every way to abandon a grade which demanded a double locomotive strength to drag from the river to Fourteenth street such a train as could be hauled by a single engine thence through to Chicago, and, better to tap the original survey some five miles east, and reach that point by a little longer line, but a much easier ascending scale. This was done, but was quite generally thought then, as events have proven, that it would have been far better both for the road and the public if when the line was swung away from the old impracticable surveys, the company had adopted a southeasterly route and entered the city from the south. This would have not materially increased the distance, would have afforded an easy passage through the bluffs, secured more ample land room for future expansion; shortened the length of the future bridge by one-half, and avoided much of collision with corporation interests. The influences governing at that time however decided differently and adopted the present northern route.

It had been provided in the general law that this road should be specially pushed forward in advance of other public works. It was commenced in 1837, and by the time the international system collapsed, perhaps two-thirds of its grading had been completed, in the state. The first rail, and also the first in Illinois, was laid May 9th, 1838, and on the 8th of November of the same year the first locomotive in the state, and probably the first that ever traveled west of Pittsburg, ran over the eight miles of track, immediately east of Meredosia, which by that time had been put in passable condition. Within a year and a half after the road was put in running order from Meredosia to Springfield at a cost of $1,000,000 it was run, or rather it crept, after a fashion for several years between these two points.

The track, though up to the standard, was cheap in contrast with what is known nowadays. Instead of the chaired T rail there were wooden stringers crossing the sleepers (or ties as they are now called) and spiked down upon the stringers were flat bars of iron about sixteen or eighteen feet long. These were then and are yet known as the "flat rail," fit now only for light local use, but at that time generally used. The ends of the flat bars were constantly curling up and received the appropriate name of "snake heads" looking like a prairie snake with the fore part of his body erect. The pressure and weight of the train on the central part of the rails bent them and forced the ends to fly up, loosening the spikes, and not a week, indeed hardly a trip passed, when the train was not snagged and stopped by the "snake heads" passing up between the wheels, or was checked up while the engineer and firemen went ahead to spike down the rails. And the truth is, because we were there and know (boys were boys then as much as they are now), it was a very attractive occupation for youthful energy with its contempt for the whizzing "loco" that consumed the entire day in its travel from Springfield to the river, and with the natural juvenile sympathy for what is pounded down as constantly as those flat bars were, it was we say very attractive work for the boys all along the road, to rival each other in loosening those battered spikes and allowing the flattened snake heads to again assume an upright position. Such was the road, a mere fragment of the great "improvement" scheme. It was run by the state for some years at a constant loss.

In 1848-9 that portion of the road between Springfield and Quincy was sold by the state for $100,000 in state securities. The section lying east of the Illinois river was taken by the Springfield and Jacksonville company. Parties in Adams and Brown counties formed a company and were incorporated and organized as the Northern Cross Railroad company, being possessors of all the franchises covering that part of the old state road between Quincy and the Illinois river. They obtained with their charter the right to make a branch of their road northward under certain conditions. This company securing large local subscriptions, diverting the line northward at Camp Point, completed it to Galesburg, where it met the Chicago-Burlington road, and was finally merged therewith, under the present name of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad. That portion of the original road east of Camp Point was at a later date constructed in similar manner, and by some of the same parties, and finally became part of what is now the Wabash railroad.

This slice of old-time railroad history, well known to parties in the past, is not so generally known at present, and is told in connection with this joint railroad story, although the story

runs into events belonging to a twenty years' later time.

As one enterprise suggests another, so did this project of a railroad, to run through the central and upper portion of the county, led to a rival movement which resulted in the incorporation and organization of the "Quincy, Griggsville, Jacksonville and Springfield Turnpike company." More than this was not done, and it is to be regretted; for it was many a year before the railroad communication was complete, and during the time of its non-completion, for many a year the "mud wagon" and the "bone breaker," held undisputed sway over the route.

The year 1838 was a steady progressive year despite the hard times. Considering the limited means that the town possessed, a great deal was effected, and was done with judgment and economy. The grade on several of the principal streets was established; Hampshire street was made passable from the public square to the river; a bridge was built over the creek on Delaware near Front; a fire department was organized; the cemetery enclosed, and a systematic plan of action and improvement instituted, exceeding what had been done in any previous year. A summary of the receipts and expenditures during the year ending June 9, 1838, exhibits as received, from taxes, $1,775.49; show license, $25.00; subscriptions to grade Hampshire street, $370; sale of cemetery lots, $255, which with $206.49, on hand at the commencement of the year, gave a revenue of $2,631.98. There was expended during this time, for the cemetery, $956.11; public wells, $109; hooks and ladders, $56; streets and bridges, $1,070; fees, commissions and sundries, $379.59, leaving a balance in the treasury of $61.28. The liabilities of the town were reported as amounting to about $2,700, much of which was on the Hampshire street improvement account, and was amply offset by notes given for the same, unpaid taxes, and amounts due on the cemetery lots which had been sold. The current expenses of the town were very light. No salary was given to any of the officers. The collector and treasurer were paid by commissions on what passed through their hands. This year for the first time, an allowance of $50 was voted to the secretary. It was proper. The board paid no office rent. They met regularly at Mr. Woodruff's (the secretary) office, had his services, used his furniture, firewood and probably his stationery, and there was justice in their act of making this allowance. All the work of the town was done on the cheapest of systems. As an illustration: Jerome A. Swazey was appointed to take the census of the town; he was also directed to present the petition for incorporation as a city, to all the voters. He was allowed $10 for his quite lengthy and responsible work.

During this, or late in the preceding year, the first regular book store made its appearance. It was opened by Wm. D. Skillman, of Lexington, Kentucky. This business was purchased a few years after by Newton Flagg, who had been clerk with Skillman. Some ten or twelve years later, it was transferred to J. R. Dayton, and is now, (1883) with changed proprietors and name, probably the oldest continuous mercantile business of the city. An earnest meeting was held on the 13th of December, for the purpose of founding an academy or high school. A great deal of interest was manifested in this movement by all classes. Articles of incorporation had been previously obtained, but the project moved no farther. The wrong parties sought to father it and it was a failure.

This failure was unfortunate and long regretted. Such an institution could have been had and was needed. This was long before the establishment of the present public school system. There were a number of private schools. Bradley, Hollowbush, Safford, Miss Katurah Wood, the Misses De Krafft and others kept good schools, but like all individual enterprises of this nature, the facilities were not broad and the standard of scholarship not of the highest.

Political feeling during the summer canvass of 1838, swelled higher than it had ever ran before. It will be remembered that then, and until 1848, all elections, other than the presidential, came off in August, and hence most of the political canvassing ran through, and ran out during, the spring and summer months.

Presidential strifes were not nearly so important then as now, and occurring only once in four years, the November elections excited less interest and usually called out only about two-thirds of the vote.

The elections in 1836 had not definitely declared the political status of Illinois, while that of Adams county remained equally uncertain and did not become a fixed condition until 1844. The whig and democratic nominations at this time were made with the particular intent to develop the strength of their respective parties, and there appeared but two candidates for the governorship. This was unusual. In Adams county also a local bitterness attached to the struggle from the fact that it was the residence of Thomas Carlin, the democratic candidate for governor, who had also been an extreme partisan, and as such roused much local opposition as well as support. He was elected over Cyrus Edwards by a majority in the state

of 5,947 out of a total vote of 63,502, carrying the county also by 284 majority in a vote of 2,014. These figures, both in the state and county more than doubled the aggregate vote cast at the governor's election in 1834, indicating a proportionate increase of population during this four years. At this same election, Stephen A. Douglas, candidate for congress, received 131 majority in the county over John T. Stuart, 153 less than that given to Carlin, while Archibald Williams, whig, and Wm. G. Flood, democrat, were elected to the legislature, beating P. W. Martin and Jacob Smith, the other whig and democratic candidates, showing as before stated that the political complexion of the county was as yet uncertain.

This, like the preceding and several subsequent years, was a season of extreme financial depression. No one now, who was not conversant with that period, can realize the conditions of the "hard times" of 1836 and '37 and the few following years.

Among the early comers to the town and vicinity during this year were Wm. B. Powers, Timothy Rogers, Jared Blansett, John and Samuel Hutton, N. Flagg, C. S. Penfield, Dr. W. D. Rood, Paul Konantz, E. Littlefield, G. Walthouse, J. R. Hilborn, I. N. Morris, J. H. Best, F. W. Jansen, Oliver Gerry, George Banghman, Philip Schwabel, Vandorn, Miller, Higgins, Hazlewood, Abel, George Folkrod, O. H. Bishop, Jacob Wagner, Henry Kent, Bycwater, Bradbury, W. H. Cather, J. Schinn, C. Powell and others.

CHAPTER XVIII.

1840.

PROSPEROUS SEASON. DIVISION OF CITY INTO THREE WARDS. FINANCIAL STATEMENT. FIRST CITY ELECTION EBENEZER MOORE, FIRST MAYOR. "WHIG," THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY. PUBLIC SCHOOL QUESTION. CORNER STONE OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LAID BY DR. NELSON. FIRST MEDICAL SOCIETY. FIRST THEATRE. JOE JEFFERSON. BEAR KILLED AT LIMA LAKE.

Eighteen hundred and forty was an ambitious year for Quincy. Fifteen years earlier, the place had been chosen and christened as the county seat of Adams county; having then a population of three families, comprising in all, perhaps fifteen residents of all ages.

Throughout the nine years following from 1825, its government had been in the hands of the county commissioners, and during this period, with all the drawbacks of isolation; a thin and poor country population to support it; little capital of its own; notoriously and truly reputed as being "unhealthy," sadly scourged for several successive years by fever and cholera, and having a large, rough and reckless element in its scant population, it managed to struggle along to an incorporated existence as a town in 1834, with an estimated population of 700. It was less than that figure, however, since a somewhat carefully taken census in 1835, gave 735 as the correct number. Then, for the six succeeding years, it was controlled by its board of town trustees, with steadily increasing numbers and wealth in 1840, it outgrows its youthful character and becomes the third in the state in age and the second in population.

An estimate of its population at this period (1840) placed it at 1,850, but a statement published some years later by the Northern Cross Railroad Company, made it 2,310 in 1840. The first named figures, however, are probably nearly correct. The valuation of property in the city at this period was $912,823.

The winter of 1839-40 was short but severe. Navigation was completely suspended from December 21st, 1839, to February 20th, 1840, but during this period, the flow of ice was unusually heavy, and extended below the Ohio, much farther than usual, proportionately impeding navigation in the lower river. The prosperity of the town, however, considering the general hard times, was less affected by these ice blockades than formerly, for there had been gradually growing up winter business, which afforded employment for labor. The flouring mills and the provision packing houses had now assumed good and permanent standing, being the beginning of large local industries, which during twenty and thirty later years swelled into large proportions. The ice business, for which the location of Quincy is so excellently adapted and which has since become so extensive, was not begun until some fifteen years after this date.

The town authorities were much busied by their increased duties and their preparation for the transfer of authority to the succeeding corporation.

In February a plan for a market house was prepared and its construction, at the corner of Hampshire and Third, ordered. At the same time, an election was ordered to be held on the third Wednesday of March, for a vote on the adoption of the city charter, which had passed the legislature this same month. The future city was divided into three wards; all north of Hampshire forming the first; all south of Hampshire and between Hampshire, and Maine from the river east to Fifth, then south of Fifth to York, thence north of York to the eastern boundary of the city being the second, and all south of the second making the third. These

divisions continued for sixteen years, when under a new city charter, the number of wards in 1857 was increased to six. At this election held over the adoption of the city charter the vote stood 228 for, to 12 against.

On the 18th of March the trustees ordered an election for city officers to be held on the 20th of April, the three voting places being, the Baptist church on Fourth, the courthouse and the Congregational church on Fourth, which places long continued to be used as such.

With the winding up of the affairs of the town corporation, preparatory to its becoming a city, reports were ordered and made to the trustees, covering its past year's business and present financial condition. These reports were made by the treasurer and clerk of the final meetings of April 20 and 21, 1840. That of the treasurer, Enoch Conyers, who was afterward three times made mayor of the city (dying while in office in 1849) showed that he had during the past twelve months, received $6,483.90, and paid out $6,137.76, leaving a balance in his hands of $364.14. This sum, which was all in county orders, he was directed to pay over to the treasurer of the incoming administration. This at the proper time was done, and the above amount was the "pin money" with which the young city started upon its career, before taxes, licenses and the usual sources of revenue could commence bringing funds into the city treasury. A detailed fiscal statement was prepared by the clerk, I. O. Woodruff, who was one of the most accurate of clerical men, and who then and since in such positions proved himself to be of peculiar public value. This report, agreeing with that of the treasurer, is as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Balance from late treasurer	$ 956.88
Subscriptions to Hampshire Street	80.00
Theatre and circus license	105.00
Grocery	912.50
Store	767.88
Real estate taxes	3,276.64
Cemetery sales	385.00
Total	$6,483.90

EXPENDITURES.

Streets	$3,222.47
Fire department and engine	2,003.13
Salaries, etc.	443.99
Sundries	324.86
Cemetery	143.31
Total	$6,137.76
Balance	346.14
	$6,483.90

These reports are suggestive, since they contrast the necessary expenses of the growing town with what they had been a few years earlier. Four years before, in June, 1836, the second year of the town incorporation, it appears from the town treasurer's report, that he had within the twelve months, preceding, received $254.82, and had during that time expended $258—quite a contrast this with the later conditions. These reports are also still more suggestive in their exhibition of the sources of revenue upon which the town did then and the coming city must rely; as also the proportionate degree of expenditure that should be provided for. These receipts and expenses, as will be seen, graded at the time very much as now, though it will be noted that in the above statements two costly and necessary factors in a city's expenditures (pauper and police accounts) do not appear. And to these may be added the other now expenses of a growing city, such as light and water.

The first election for city officers, held on the 20th of April, was important and exciting. Beside the importance of the offices to be filled and the patronage connected therewith, this was the first occasion when the relative strength of political parties in Quincy was definitely determined, although a partial test had been made at the election for magistrates in the preceding year. Heretofore at all the elections any resident of the county, who was a qualified voter, could cast his vote at whatever precinct of the county he chose. The voting was then, and continued until 1848, viva voce. Party lines now became at once closely drawn. Excellent nominations were made by both parties. The whigs selected as their candidate for mayor, Ebenezer Moore, a much respected man, long known as a magistrate; a lawyer by profession, but more specially engaged in various business agencies. About thirteen years later, he engaged in banking in which he was unfortunate, and removed finally to Washington City, where he died.

The democrats nominated General Samuel Leech, a very worthy and well known "old citizen" who came to Quincy some years before as register of the public land office and was appointed receiver, which office he held at this time. Eight or ten years later, he moved to Minnesota, where he held a similar appointment. General Leech was at this time one of the town trustees.

The whigs nominated for aldermen—two in each ward—J. E. Jones, H. Asbury, R. R. Williams, F. W. Jansen, J. N. Ralston and John Wood; the democratic nominees were B. F. Osborne, W. P. Reeder, T. Munroe, E. Conyers

and A. Delabar, two of the seven trustees — Conyers and Jones — were nominated as candidates for aldermen.

The contest was earnest, but good-natured. Everybody engaged in it. Everybody knew everybody. There was a large proportion of active, jolly young men here then, and many of the most intimate friends found themselves fighting each other.

Fun, newspaper squibs and lampoons were the order of the day. One young man, who had been for many years past drawing upon other banks than that of Helicon, reaped quite a success as a poetic satirist, a vocation which he has long since abandoned. Perhaps his two years association in classic Europe, away from the "root of all evil," may tend to rekindle some portion of his former juvenile fire.

A not bad hit and repartee passed between two friends at the polls. Gen. Leech, as all who knew him will remember, was a stiff, awkward, ungainly man, walking as though he had no joints. Said a whig, pointing to Leech, "Look at that movement, do you call that a gait or a pair of bars? He can't run." "You'll find," retorted his democratic friend, "by the time the polls close that its a flight of steps."

But it did not so prove. Moore was elected by 43 majority, and the whigs secured all of the aldermen except Asbury in the first ward, who fell three votes short of success. All of these men then elected, the first of our city fathers, now dead, and of all the men who served as trustees during the six years of the town existence, only one, Robert Tillson, is (1886) now living.

As it may be supposed, there was now a busy time and much work before the authorities of the young city. For the first month or two the council meetings were frequent. Organization was made on the 23rd of April, when the six elected aldermen were by lot divided into two classes—Osborn, Jansen and Ralston drawing into the first class, to hold for one year, and Jones, Williams and Wood to the second class, whose term continued for two years. Later in the season—in October—Alderman Jones, of the First ward, resigned. An election was ordered to be held in November to fill the vacancy, but when the day came around the judges of the election forgot all about it, and another election was held on December 21st, when Charles McDonald was chosen. At the second and succeeding meetings the corps of officers allowed under the charter and necessary for the complete organization of the city government were chosen. Then, under the first city charter, only the mayor and aldermen were elected by a popular vote, all other officials being chosen by the council—a system far preferable to that which has succeeded.

S. P. Church was appointed clerk, with a salary of $200 and his bond fixed at $1,000. Andrew Johnston, treasurer, with a required bond of $4,000; Jacob Gruell, marshal and collector, with a bond of $200 for the first and $1,000 for the latter office; I. O. Woodruff, assessor; John R. Randolph, attorney; George Wood, sexton; J. D. Morgan, fire warden; Enoch Conyers, overseer of the poor, and Wm. King, Harrison Dills and John Odell, street supervisors.

These men completed and constituted the first year's city government, and, so being—the first city fathers—their names are entitled to be given and to receive such amount of immortality as their own merits and this mention may secure.

The council meetings were held at the courthouse until about the first of November, and after that time at the mayor's office. The town ordinances were continued until the 30th of May, when a system of city ordinances was adopted. A troublesome question of authority came up almost at the very first, which created some public embarrassment and aroused considerable feeling. Gov. Carlin, an honest but narrow-minded man, of strong partisan proclivities, refused to commission Mayor Moore as a justice of the peace, which he became under the charter by virtue of his election as mayor, and the case at once assumed a political hue. The council took the matter up; demanded of the governor his reasons; passed some pretty sharp resolutions in regard to his conduct; obtained decided legal opinions; commenced legal movements and for some months there seemed to be a small civil war on paper between the city and the state, or rather between the city council and the governor. It was finally settled in favor of the mayor.

The ordinances, proceedings and advertisements of the council were ordered to be printed in the Whig for $75 per annum. The many petitions against the issuing of "grocery" or "dram shop" licenses, which had been before the late town board and were there dismissed for the reason that they did not represent a majority of the legal voters, early came up again before the city council and were once more dismissed for the same reason as before. The grading of Maine street from the public square to the river and the extension southward of the public landing, which then was a narrow piece of new made ground at the foot of Hampshire, were ordered and contracted for in December, the landing to be extended with the earth taken from Maine street. Also at

the same time a contract was made for the fencing of the public square. All those improvements, then commenced, which met with much popular and some council opposition, were completed during the coming year.

The public school question, which had been here, as everywhere else in the west, a disputed issue between two conflicting ideas, received early and earnest attention from the people and the city authorities. The growth of this invaluable, inestimable interest against chilling and distrustful influences up to its present condition and strength is interesting. There was then a huge hostility to common schools, partly growing out of a sectional distrust of education, partly out of a feeling, which, to some extent, still exists, that public moneys should not be expended upon that which every one did not want, and that no one should be taxed to pay for what his neighbor thought to be needed and himself did not. This had to be met. At a public meeting held on the first of August, a call was made upon the city council to make an appropriation in behalf of a common school system. The council took the matter under advisement.

Dr. Ralston, one of the most excellent and exemplary men, both in public, and private life, that the city ever had, gave to this subject his special interest and attention, bringing the matter continually before the council, where, as with the public, his intelligence and integrity gave him more than an average influence. It was ordered in October, at his recommendation, that city public schools should be established; that "the surplus revenue of the city, after paying ordinary and contingent expenses," should be devoted to that purpose, and that a consultation should be had with the township school trustees in regard to buying ground and the building of two school houses. Later, after these conferences were had, the council, in December, ordered the building of a school house in the old cemetery lot, where the courthouse now stands, and the purchase of a lot on block 30, where now is the Franklin school house. From these plantings, which did not fully bear fruit until in the succeeding year, our present city school system has grown.

The building of a market house, which had been proposed in the town board in the preceding spring, was again brought forward and a proposition made to the county authorities to sell a portion of the market lot for a sufficient sum to build or partially build a market house on the remainder of the lot. This, however, laid over until the next year.

The matter of a market house and also that of a courthouse involved a vexatious question between the city and county concerning the ownership and control of public property lying within the city limits, which for a full half century later was the cause of much bitter and senseless strife, fostered by local demagogues so long as the county vote largely prepondered over that of the city. This has recently been resolved and settled, and it is to be hoped forever.

This jealous controversy delayed for many years much needed improvement, and to some extent also embarrassed for awhile the effective establishment of the public school system, before alluded to, which had been practically inaugurated during this year.

Mail facilities were not as yet what they should have been, considering the size and growing business importance of the place. The tri-weekly mail from Springfield, was still the main medium through which was received eastern news. Another tri-weekly mail from St. Louis alternated with the above. No river mail had as yet been established, although it was by private conveyance of newspapers on the daily arriving of steamers that the earliest special news from abroad was obtained. Navigation was long continued, and the river did not finally close until the 18th of December. This will be remembered as one of the longest known periods of open water in the Mississippi, which was surpassed by the yet longer continued navigation, free from ice, of the two following years, 1841-42, when the river remained open all winter.

This was notably an organizing period. Many of the present permanent associations, and some temporary ones which served their purpose, but have passed away, date their origin from this time.

A medical society was formed in March, which, though its existence lapsed at times, was the germ of the present institution of that character. A theatre, under the management of "Joe Jefferson," had been established during the preceding winter, and was operated with a good share of success and credit for nearly two years. An argricultural society was in existence, but with a feeble life, and it was not until some fifteen years later that such an institution became successfully organized. There was also formed a historical society, composed of very capable membership, which promised well at first, and gathered a good deal of the then fresh, crude material of infant history for future use, but it has unfortunately been allowed to dwindle out of existence. An institution of this kind is an essential of measureless value, and should be organized as early as possible in every young growing community; since with each

passing year more scant and uncertain become the sources from which after times can cull the curious and valuable traditions of old days.

The Presbyterian church, an offshoot, like most of the early religious societies, from the old Congregational, was organized at the courthouse on the 19th of January, and on the 31st of August the corner stone was laid of the brick church building on Maine street, which they occupied for nearly forty years. Dr. David Nelson conducted the ceremonies. This, when finished, was the most imposing church structure in the city. The Unitarian was formed about this time, under the pastorship of the Rev. George Moore, a most excellently educated and popular clergyman. This denomination, then small, now perhaps the wealthiest in the city, built a small frame church on the north side of Maine street, between Third and Fourth from which they moved a few years later to the corner of Jersey and Sixth, and thence to their present handsome home on Maine street between Sixth and Seventh.

This was a memorable, almost unprecedented year of party strife and excitement. Since 1828 no such wild wave of partisan enthusiasm had swept over the land, so sharply changing existing political conditions. As in 1826, this great upheaval occurred most conspicuously in the west, and its great coming was but partially foreshadowed by the summer state contests. Still the evident tendency of public sentiment shown in the August elections, gave increased strength and certainty to the almost unanimous national success of the whigs in the following November.

At the state election in August, J. H. Ralston to the senate, Wm. Laughlin and I. C. Humphreys to the house, and Thomas Jasper as sheriff, were elected by the democrats, over Archibald Williams, N. Bushnell and R. W. Starr, and Wm. H. Tandy (whigs) by majorities ranging from 20 to 100. These figures were more than reversed three months later, when the whigs carried the county by 265 and the city by 72 majority. The abolition party then first appeared as a factor in politics, poling 42 votes.

The August election was influenced and probably determined by the large Irish vote, which work upon the railroad had brought into the county. At this election was witnessed the first, and indeed the only political riot that has ever occurred in Quincy. The railroad hands took entire possession of the polls and the mob had to be dispersed by the calling out of the militia. Beyond there being many knock downs, bruises and bad scars, no great injury resulted, though some men of political prominence then and since made most astonishing runs at the point of the bayonet, or were carefully placed under military guard. The warfare of that day was long a subject of amusement.

A special session of the legislature was called in November. Why or what for it was difficult to know, since the session lasted but sixteen days and adjourned without passing any bills.

The gradual disappearance of some of the earlier species of game was noted by a bear being killed (probably the last one in the county) near Lima Lake, by Wilson Land and Swartout, which weighed three hundred pounds.

CHAPTER XIX.

1841.

POLITICAL. CUTTING A CANAL FROM WOOD SLOUGH TO RIVER. FERRY RATES ESTABLISHED. QUEER ORIGIN OF THE FIRST CITY SEAL. COUNTY SEAT STRUGGLE. LIBRARY. FIRST ENGRAVED BONDS. THE "YAGERS." FIRST GERMAN MILITARY COMPANY. A DAILY LINE OF STEAMBOATS. QUINCY HERALD. PROGRESS OF SCHOOLS.

At the session of 1840-41 a new legislative apportionment was made which gave Adams county one senator and five representatives. No elections, however, was held under this law until the summer of 1842. The judiciary system of the state, as organized under the constitution of 1818 and which had been legislatively changed in 1824, 1827, 1829 and 1835, was now radically recognized at this session by legislating out of office all the circuit judges and creating five supreme court justices, who, with the four life office judges, holding office under the constitution of 1813, should constitute a supreme court and each of them also required to perform circuit court duty. This act dismissed from the bench Judge Peter Lott, of this circuit, and his place was filled by the appointment of Stephen A. Douglas, Judge Douglas, who had previously presided in Jacksonville, became now a resident of Quincy. Here he lived, representing the district afterward three times in congress, until after his election to the U. S. senate, when he removed to Chicago some eight or ten years later.

The congressional election in August resulted in the success of the whig ticket, John T. Stuart having been rechosen to congress over J. H. Ralston, carrying the county by a majority of 136 in a total vote of 2,978. Ebenezer Moore was again elected mayor at the city elec-

tion in April over Daniel Atkinson and Robert Evans. J. H. Ralston and John Abbe were elected as aldermen and Samuel P. Church was reappointed clerk. In August of this year died Alderman R. R. Williams, one of the pioneer men who had been almost constantly connected with the town and city councils. He had an excellent professional standing as a lawyer and was equally regarded as an exemplary and useful citizen. His place in the board was filled by the election of H. V. Sullivan.

There had long been an apprehension that the steady encroachment of the tow-head bar might ultimately destroy the public landing, and to avert this danger the city appropriated $2,000, in connection with a public subscription, for the purpose of cutting a canal from the river into Wood slough so as to bring a constant current into the bay. This work was commenced in February and soon completed. Its value, however, was doubtful.

The receipts into the treasury up to the 1st of January, 1841, being the first eight months of the city government, were reported as amounting to $2,762.25. The salary of the mayor for the year ending April, 1841, was fixed at $250. The market house, so long a subject of controversy, was built after much trouble and delay in deciding upon the plan, at the corner of Hampshire and Third streets. Rates for the ferry, then owned by Carlin & Rogers, were established and a license fee of $60 imposed. The fencing of the public square was completed.

A novel excitement came up early during the year which aroused a good deal of feeling at the time and led to the selection of the singular design for the first city seal. John Wood had, at his own expense, with the concurrence of the council, transplanted to the center of the square a handsome elm tree about a foot in diameter. There had been an opposition to the enclosing of the public square and its adornment with shrubbery, which finally engendered some political bitterness. On the night of May 6th some graceless scamps girdled and thus killed the tree. In the next issue of the Argus, the democratic paper of the place, appeared a rough cut purporting to represent Mr. Wood resting upon his cane and mournfully gazing at the dead tree. The city council offered a reward of $100 for the detection of the rogues. They were soon discovered, but found to be not worth the trouble of punishing.

At their meeting on June 26th the council ordered that "the elm tree and flagstaff upon the public square, as represented in the Argus some time since, be adopted as the device of a seal for the city." This representation of a man standing alongside a dead tree was used as the "Quincy City seal" for some years, until a later council, composed of some of those whose wrong teachings were the indirect cause of this former vandalism, and who felt sensitive about it, changed it to the present more appropriate and tasteful design.

The fiscal statement of the city, made April 27th, 1841, is worthy of reference as showing its financial condition during the first year of its existence. Summarized it is as follows: It will be noticed that a considerable portion of the expenditure was upon the unsettled indebtedness of the town of Quincy, which had become the heritage of the city:

Quincy town debts paid	$1,100.36
Quincy city debts paid	4,528.08
Cash on hand	13.34
	$5,641.78
Received from town of Quincy	$ 355.99
Collected taxes, etc.	$4,392.30
Vouchers outstanding	893.49
	$5,641.78
Due on cemetery lots	$ 380.00
Due on other credits	235.72
Cash	13.34
Resources	$ 629.06

The cost of the fire department was $214.24; street supervisors' expenditures, $264.11; paupers, $335.79; surveying, platting, etc., $298.12; expense, salaries, etc., $1,059.46; the remainder, some $22 or $23, being expended on streets, mainly the completion of Hampshire and the commencement of work on Maine to Front, also the grading of Front and the public square.

The city ordinances which, like those of the town, had heretofore only seen the light occasionally through publication in the weekly papers, were now revised and issued in pamphlet form for the first time. A city poorhouse was also rented at the rate of $100 per annum, the pauper demands upon the young city having become then—as they ever since have increased to be—a most expensive factor. A city physician was employed. Dr. Eells was the first regular city physician, although Dr. Ralston had informally, through his position in the council, acted as such for a few months before. A question brought out the statement from the county clerk that the cost and expenses on the courthouse, commenced in 1836 and finished in 1836, and burned in 1875, amounted to $21,800, and those on the jail to $13,681.

There was a slight dissatisfaction in 1825 when the county seat was established at Quincy, because it had not been placed in the geographical centre of the county as was done in many other counties of the state. Ten years later, when the county vote greatly outnumbered that of the town, being nearly two to one, this issue was raised and it was emphatically decided in favor of retaining the county seat at Quincy. The dissatisfaction still smouldered, however, and resulted in the passage of a law, which was approved January 19, 1841, ordering an election to be held in Adams county on the question of removing the county seat from Quincy to Columbus. A most bitter sectional and personal conflict ensued. It was fostered by personal and political interests. The fierceness of the antagonism raised by this strife can scarcely be realized now.

State and county officials were to be chosen and a vote taken on the proposition for a convention to revise the state constitution, or to make a new one. This project was warmly supported in Quincy for the reason that some thought it pointed a way out of the county difficulties (which it did six years later) and was carried by a majority of 625 in the whole county, out of a total vote of 2,680. It failed in adoption by the state, however, on account of conditions with which it was burdened, and it was not until five years later that the general desire to change the original constitution of 1818 was pressed to a successful result.

The democratic candidate for governor, A. W. Snyder, of St. Clair county, died shortly after his nomination, and Judge Thomas Ford, a former resident of Quincy, was selected in his stead. Against him the whigs put up Joseph Duncan, who had been elected governor in 1834 and had served as a member of congress for several years earlier. There was also in the field an abolition state ticket. The whigs nominated for the legislature O. H. Browning, A. Jonas, R. P. Starr, Peter B. Garrett and Alex Fruit, all of whom, with the exception of Fruit, were elected by majorities ranging from 150 to 900, the feeling in regard to the county seat matter making this partly personal and causing a great latitude in the vote, although really none of the candidates on either side were publicly supported with reference to this issue. The democratic nominations were A. Wheat, Wm. Laughlin, Jacob Smith, J. Hendrickson and W. Sympson. Of these Mr. Wheat only was chosen. The whigs elected their full county ticket, W. H. Tandy as sheriff, over Thos. Jasper, and Jonas Grubb as governor, over J. J. Jones. Duncan, for governor, carried the county over Ford by a majority of 155 in a vote of 2,995, the abolition ticket receiving 75 votes. This was the last time up to this date (1886) that the county has given anything but a democratic majority on the state or presidential ticket.

The county seat question, which was still hanging unsettled in the courts, was a constant subject of irritating discussion among the people all through the year. A newspaper, the People's Organ, was started in Quincy, advocating the retention of the county seat here, and a paper was also published in Columbus, advocating the removal, yet the only distinct issue made at the polls on this question was in the election of Wm. Richards, who had been nominated for county commissioner as the Quincy candidate, by 180 majority over J. Turner, who represented the Columbus interest. Singularly enough, so far as the legislative candidates were concerned, although they were known to have diverse and decided views in regard to this issue, it was tacitly kept quiet, although it undoubtedly affected the votes that were cast for them.

This contest broke over the iron lines of party, split many personal friendships and shivered the popular power of not a few prominent men who became unfortunately misplaced in the struggle. Frequent meetings were held over the county and broad latitude of personal disputation was not uncommon. Newspapers were started especially devoted to this issue. Public and private crimination was frequent. It was an especially good time for the wags and satirists to shoot at their selected game. A hot controversy ensued over the validity of a bond of $75,000 given by the Columbus party to insure the erection of the necessary public buildings at that place.

On this question the two leading lawyers of the county differed widely. Browning pronounced the bond defective. Williams, who then lived in the southeast part of the county, said that it was good, or it might be made so. After a six months' canvass the election came off on the 2d of August and out of a vote of 3,181 Columbus claimed to have succeeded by 91 majority.

There were over two hundred more votes polled upon this question than at the same time were cast in the congressional contest.

The county commissioners recorded the result as above, and Quincy at once appealed. The commissioners, although they had declared the result of the election, did not, as the law required them to do, remove the offices to Columbus. A mandamus was applied for and Judge Douglas, who was then on the bench of the circuit court, ordered, on the 6th of September,

a compliance by the commissioners with the prescriptions of the law. The commissioners, however, who had each his own individual as well as official opinion and interest in the matter, found an easy way "how to do it." Two of them, Eli Seehorn and Wm. Richards, favored Quincy as the county seat, while the third one, George Smith, was a Columbus man. Consequently, at the several sessions of the board while Smith always attended, Seehorn and Richards only attended alternately and the consequence was that at each meeting there was a tie vote. The question was thus worried along during the season until in the following year it assumed a new shape which finally resulted in a temporary division of the county.

The present valuable and prospering Quincy Library dates its continuous existence from this year. A similar institution had been created in 1837-38, based mainly on the voluntary contribution of books by those who saw fit to spare them. This plan proved too weak to endure, and within a year or two the enterprise was abandoned, or perhaps, might be said to have suspended, since the same parties who composed it afterward united in forming the present organization. The books, etc., on hand were returned so far as could be to the donors.

In March, 1841, the project was revived and an association made which was perfected in October by being incorporated under an old state law of 1823, relating to public libraries. It opened on the 18th of April with but "a beggarly account of empty" shelves, and in very unpretentious quarters, but by the close of the year it reported an accumulation of 735 volumes, and these were very well selected for a foundation stock. Its subsequent growth, though slow, has been healthful and now in the forty-third year of its existence it contains over 7,000 well-chosen publications.

A course of winter lectures, under the management of the library, twelve during each season, was commenced in December and continued for many years. For the first few years the lectures were given by resident professional men and they constituted the special pleasant attraction of the winter during the period when, the river being closed, home resources had to be drawn upon for enjoyment and also added to the revenue of the association. There had been a small circulating library kept at the bookstore of W. D. Skillman for two or three years past.

Until this time the council meetings had been held either in the courthouse, or latterly, at the private office of the mayor or the clerk. A room was now rented on the west side of the public square, near the corner of Maine street, which was furnished and fitted up to be exclusively used as a clerk's office and council room, and for general city purposes.

The first meeting of the city council was held on the 23d of October, and the place continued to be thus occupied for several years.

In June of this year were ordered and issued the first "copper plate" engraved city bonds.

The work of macadamizing the public landing from Hampshire to Maine street was begun in November and finished in March, 1842. Hampshire street had already been macadamized from the public square to Front street and Maine street had been partially cut through the bluff.

A second military company, composed of Germans, the Yagers, made its appearance with a large organization, which continued for several years.

The first soda water fountain was started by Dr. Bartlett, who had then the leading drug store of the place.

Two semi-weekly packets regularly ran from St. Louis to Keokuk on alternate days and there was a daily line of packets between St. Louis and Galena, beside which two or three transient steamers passed each day on their way to Galena and Dubuque and occasionally to above those points.

The great mining industries in the northwestern corner of the state and in southern Wisconsin, which shipped all their lead product by river, railroads not yet having come into existence, caused a great demand for steamboat transportation by light draught boats on the upper Mississippi during the navigable season. There were then probably twice as many through steamboats plying on the upper Mississippi as there are at the present date. Eleven hundred arrivals of steamboats were reported for the year 1841, which is probably a nearly correct figure.

There was reported at the same time $326,000 sales of merchandise; 50,000 barrels of flour manufactured; 250,000 bushels of wheat; 95,000 of corn; 50,000 of oats; 5,000 of beans, shipped away, and 12,000 hogs and 900 beeves packed. At the same time there were reported to be four common schools, containing 687 scholars, and five private schools, with 200 scholars.

The Adams County Medical Society held its first annual meeting on the 12th of April. A colonization society, one of the many that had been formed throughout the country to encourage the emigration of blacks to Liberia, and as a partial foil to what was thought to be the injurious influence of the abolition societies, held a second meeting on the 4th of January. The society did not long exist. The Quincy

Argus, successor to Bounty Lane Register, the oldest paper in the place, founded in 1835, suspended on the 19th of June, and on the 23d of September was reissued with a change of name, as the Quincy Herald, under which name it has since been and is now published.

The foundation of our present admirable school system was laid during this year, not in 1842 as has been erroneously stated and supposed. It is a matter of regret that a complete history of the public schools of Quincy from their first inception has not been written. Such a record would be of exceeding interest now and to the future also be replete with value. It could delineate the difficulties that confronted these institutions at the very beginning and afterward, beset as they then were by an extensive and bitter prejudice, also utterly without moneyed means and having no corporate provision for their support. The free school system had not yet become a permanent public policy. Still less did it possess the facilities that it now happily enjoys. A compilation of this character, which would depict with more or less minuteness the varying fortunes of the city schools throughout the past forty-two years as they have been affected by state and local legislations; by public opinion, by management, sometimes competent and faithful and sometimes careless, and the gradual growth to the present proportions might be prepared. But all this would have to be gleaned from scattered fields, partly found in the brief proceedings of the council, but mainly from the records of the school board, which occasionally were scant, and the earlier portion of which were quite carelessly kept and sometimes yet more carelessly lost or destroyed, and also to a large extent from the recollections of those who were then personally associated or interested. Of these all the members of the council and most of the prominent citizens who favored the cause of the schools are dead (1886).

The first teacher in the male department, Mr. Dayton, and the first also in the female department, Mrs. Webster, are still living (1883) and resident here.

Prior to this period and for six years later the authority over the schools lay legally in the hands of the school commissioner of the county and the trustees of the districts adjoining and embracing the city, Quincy being made a separate school district in 1847. Fortunate it was that a thorough accord between these county officials and those of the city existed during this entire time, and while the nominal direction came from the school trustees, the actual support and influence came from the council, which appointed an annual visiting committee (which, however, had no real authority) and provided by appropriations, etc., for the school support. The initial steps in these matters had been taken by the council in the previous year, but they had but little to go on, and were groping almost in the dark. The public, however, were widely awaking to the importance of the subject and pressing it strongly forward. In these sketches can only be given a skeleton statement of the progress of this matter each year—just so much as it attaches to and becomes a part of the general current history of the city.

A proposition was passed by the council in July to rent the old Congregational church (God's Barn) on Fourth street, and the Methodist church on Vermont for school purposes. So far all was well, but it was found necessary to have the co-operation of the school authorities of the county and at a subsequent meeting in August a committee consisting of Dr. Ralston (whose special and earnest work in the cause entitle him to be called, if any one should, the father of our public schools) and Mr. Abbe were appointed to confer with the school trustees. An immediate conference was held and upon the report of this committee on the following week a resolution was passed by the council "that if the board of trustees would establish and maintain for one year from the 4th of November a system of common schools extensive enough to accommodate all the children of the city of Quincy, the city would appropriate for the rent of two rooms $165, payable quarterly; also any sum not over $300 to fit up such rooms; also for salary of teachers, $800, in semi-annual payments, and that it should be the policy of the city to appropriate from time to time what might be necessary to maintain these schools."

So inadequate, however, seemed the means and so much questioned was the authority for such action the part of both council and trustees that public sanction of their course was called for, and at a largely attended public meeting held at the courthouse on the 14th of September, where the whole matter was fully discussed, it was resolved that it was "prudence" and "justice" to establish a "permanent system of common schools immediately," and that the board of trustees for schools be instructed "to accept the proposition of the city council in which they propose to hire suitable rooms and to appropriate $800 and with the funds now in their hands to immediately establish a permanent system of common schools in this city." At another meeting on the 18th the same resolutions, slightly varied, were again adopted.

The board of school trustees, of township 2 south, 9 west, were somewhat slow to act, but on the 27th of November they accepted the propositions of the council and established three school districts, all north of Maine street being the first, all south of Maine extending so as to include sections 10, 11 and 12 comprising the second, and all south of that, the third, the east line of the township (what is now Twenty-fourth street) being the eastern boundary. The council was prepared to promptly act, and schools were ordered to be, and were opened on the 4th of December, one in the Methodist church "for large girls from all parts of the district," one in the basement of the Baptist church "for small girls and boys from district No. 1," one in the Congregational church "for large boys" and one in the Safford schoolroom on Fifth south of Jersey "for small girls and boys of district No. 2, all children residing in Quincy between five and twenty years of age free, but others in the township to pay tuition fees unless remitted by the council." They were all well crowded. The above gives, in brief, the action attending the founding of our public schools and the manner of their management when opened in December. They continued, as before stated, to be run in a sort of partnership between the city and county school officials for the following six years.

CHAPTER XX.

1842.

NAVIGATION OPENS EARLY. PUBLIC SCHOOL TAX. ENOCH CONYERS, MAYOR. BUSINESS STATEMENT. MAIL FACILITIES IMPROVE. AGITATION OF SLAVERY QUESTION. BURR, WORK AND THOMPSON SENT TO PENITENTIARY FOR ABDUCTING NEGROES FROM MISSOURI. ABOLITIONISTS ORGANIZE POLITICALLY. DR. EELLS. THE FOREIGN VOTE. STRUGGLE OVER THE COUNTY SEAT QUESTION. THE SILK WORK FEVER. GOOD SLEIGHING.

During the very mild winter of 1841-42 the river did not completely close at Quincy and navigation was practicable throughout the entire season. Open water—or "easy boating," as steamboat men were wont to term it whenever the river was even with its banks and free from ice obstruction—came now unusually early in the upper Mississippi. Indeed, it may be said to have come rather too early for the business interests of the place.

Twenty-nine steamboats, among them several of the great "New Orleans boats," were registered as arrivals during the two weeks, including March 21st and April 4th. This was an unprecedented token of business activity at so early a period and resulted in the early shipment of a large proportion of the packed provision and stored grain that had accumulated during the winter, making the after part of the season comparatively dull.

The cereal yield throughout this section and the west generally was above the average in quantity, so much so as to cause prices to grade very low. Wheat sold in July at from 37 to 40 cents per bushel and in September the price had fallen to 31 cents.

The public school system, which had been successfully inaugurated late in the preceding year, had worked well and been steadily growing in favor, yet the opposition to it was not as yet fully suppressed. The number of pupils, which was daily increasing, cannot be accurately given, but as an indication of their prosperity it may be stated that the leading and largest school, conducted by Mr. Dayton, with two assistants, had an average attendance of about 150 scholars, and the number of pupils at the other schools was proportionately large. The city was still cramped in means for full support of the schools. A deficiency of $630.77 was reported at the end of the first year, and to partially meet this an appropriation of $300 was ordered by the council and a bond for $1,400 from which this $300 should be deducted was issued as a provision for the support of the schools to run over and be applied to the expenses in 1843.

At the same time steps were taken to obtain such an amendment to the city charter or additional legislation that would provide for a separate tax, to be independently assessed and applied solely to school support.

The movement in this direction brought out an expression of sentiment from the German population, which was then and had been for a few years past greatly on the increase—that tended as much as any one thing could, to put down opposition to education and establish the permanence of the school system.

An application was prepared, sanctioned by the city council and the school trustees, for the assessment of a special tax for school purposes. A petition for the legislature was gotten up and circulated among the Germans in remonstrance against the above-named proposition and asking that Germans should be exempt from the imposition of a tax to support schools conducted in the English language. This evoked a public meeting of the Germans, with George Schultheis as chairman and Charles Maertz, secretary, which meeting resolved that naturalized

Germans were Americans and were fostered by, stood by and expected to sustain and be protected and pay for the same laws as native born citizens. This decided and proper position taken by the Germans stopped all demagoguing in that direction and fixed the future of the public schools. One or two public protests were made against this meeting, but they ended in nothing and the parties soon would gladly have them forgotten. It was not, however, until two or three years later, when, through the passage of a law authorizing the levy of a tax of one-eighth of one per cent on the hundred for school uses, that the system assumed an independent strength.

At the election in April the democrats elected all the city officers—Enoch Conyers as mayor, over H. Asbury, by 90 majority; and John B. Young, I. H. Holton and J. D. Morgan, aldermen, over H. V. Sullivan, George Chapman and G. B. Dimock. Later in the year John Abbe resigned. C. Swartout was chosen to succeed him as alderman from the First ward. The new council at its first meeting changed all the city officials. I. O. Woodruff succeeding S. P. Church as city clerk. Dr. J. B. Conyers was appointed city physician, with an annual salary of $100—"he agreeing to give the same to the schools." The salary of the mayor was fixed at $250, he also to attend to the duties of street superintendent, and that of the clerk at $200. The city was reported as owing, on the 1st of January, $22,380.

On the 16th of April, by ordinance, a complete system of grades of streets throughout the city was established, embracing all from Broadway to State, and in past farther south, and from Front to Twelfth (then called Wood street). This was the first comprehensive plan of action in regard to city grades that had been adopted, and though slightly changed occasionally, since on almost every street has been adhered to.

A carefully compiled special census of Quincy, taken during this year, reports the population to have been 2,686. The other data secured at this time are of peculiar value for the reason that they indicate the business condition of the place more in detail than appears in any similar schedule of earlier date.

The report shows that the city then contained 464 frame, 138 brick and two stone buildings—the committee not seeing fit, perhaps being too proud, to make mention of the more numerous log houses; there were also 20 dry goods, 19 groceries, 1 book, 1 hide and leather, 1 iron, 2 shoe, 2 milliner, 3 drug stores, 9 hotels, 8 boarding-houses, 9 churches (there were several societies without a church building), 1 reading-room, 20 lawyers, 12 physicians, 1 dentist, 1 government and 3 private land offices, 3 insurance offices or agencies, 2 commission houses, 6 pork houses, 2 bakeries, 2 bathhouses, 1 ropewalk, 1 tanyard, 4 brickyards, 1 iron foundry, 1 market house, 3 lumber yards, 3 breweries, 1 woolen mill, 1 castor oil and 2 soap factories, 1 shingle mill, 2 water mills, 3 steam flour and 2 steam sawmills, 2 hatters, 11 shoemakers, 4 watchmakers, 2 gunsmiths, 6 house and sign painters, 6 masons, 6 plasterers, 9 chair and cabinet, 12 carpenters, 10 wagon and coach, 12 blacksmiths, 4 saddle and harness, 3 barbers, 11 tailors, 7 butchers, 7 cooper shops, 2 printing offices.

There were two regular weekly newspapers, the Whig and the Herald, the latter also semi-weekly, and during the summer and fall there was issued a spicy paper, the People's Organ, advocating Quincy as the county seat or the division of the county.

The amount of provisions prepared was about the same as in the preceding year, 12,000 hogs being packed, and the milling business was also about the same; the mills shipped away nearly 25,000 barrels of flour.

Mail facilities had improved. The two eastern semi-weekly stages now came in as tri-weeklies on alternate days, making it practically a daily mail, although not always affording the earliest news. In addition to these there were two mails carried north, one south and one west into Missouri.

The "hard times" that had commenced with the financial crash in 1836-37 caused by the partisan destruction of the United States bank and the suspension of most of the other banks in the country, continued as before, and, indeed, it was not until three or four years later that business here or anywhere in the country came to a condition of assured confidence and prosperity. The debtor class was very numerous and still struggling under the prostration of half a dozen years. Money was fearfully scarce. State bank and Shawneetown bank paper, which had been the chief currency of the state in times past, was now at a discount of from 36 to 40 cents and most all other bank circulation was proportionately discredited. Economy such as would seem niggardly during the past thirty years was universally practiced, and under these there came a slow but substantial increase of population and advance of prosperity, both in the city and county.

There was more than the usual amount of local public excitement throughout the year, growing out of the agitation of the slavery question and also from the differences over the proposed division of the county, which last

issue had arisen as the natural sequent of the bitter and as yet unsettled county seat quarrel of the preceding year. These excitements entered into the elections and the courts, affected business and social relations and were productive of much and long-lasting acrimony and estrangement. The feverish feeling created at the time of the Nelson disturbances several years before, though somewhat suppressed still festered in the minds of the border people in the adjoining state and a similar sensitiveness pervaded to a considerable extent our own community. It was kept alive by its own distrustfulness and by the occasional escape of a slave, who was always suspected—with perhaps more or less of truth—of having been persuaded to run away, or afterward being harbored and hid by the abolitionists of Quincy.

In the previous year, 1841, three young men, Burr, Work and Thompson, students at Dr. Nelson's Mission institute, some two miles east of Quincy, crossed the river a short distance south of the city and had not long landed before they were arrested under the charge of abducting or attempting to abduct slaves. They were speedily tried, convicted and sentenced to the Missouri penitentiary for a term of twelve years each. That they went over there for that purpose is more than probable, but it is still more certain that legal proof was wanting to sustain the charge against them, and this fact, added to a general suspicion that they in their rather too verdant philanthropy had been decoyed across the river for the purpose of being caught, brought about their pardon and release from the prison when their periods had about one-third expired. This, however, with other like occasional actions, kept sentiment on the slavery subject constantly on the alert.

At a meeting held in Quincy on the 13th of June the abolitionists of the county resolved to organize politically and bring out a county ticket. They nominated for representatives to the legislature R. Sartle, Levi Stillman, Lewis Rowe, Wm. Wells and Richard Eels; county commissioner, H. H. Snow; sheriff, E. H. Fowler; coroner, Edward Turner. This, although the numerical strength at the polls was shown to be very small, yet drew the question into notice like the flaunt of a red flag to their foes, and their actions were closely scrutinized, both here and across the river. An anti-abolition meeting was held at the courthouse which denounced in vigorous language the enticing away of slaves or their concealment. Shortly after the election (sometime in October) a slave swam across the river, got into communication with some of his colored brethren and was taken under the protection of Dr. Richard Eels, a prominent physician of the city, living then on Jersey between Fourth and Fifth streets. The doctor took the fugitive in his buggy at night after giving him a change of clothing and started for the country. He was followed by the Missourians and others who had obtained traces of them and finally the doctor was pressed so hard that he dismissed his passenger and told him to make for the cornfields, which the poor fellow did, but was soon caught and carried back to slavery. The doctor got back safely, but unfortunately there were found two proofs against him in addition to the partial recognition of himself and his horse. There were in the buggy the still wet clothes in which the man had swam the river, and also the dry garments which the man had on when taken, the ownership of which was traced to the doctor. Eels was tried in the Adams county court under the then existing fugitive slave law of the state and was convicted and fined. This decision was sustained by the supreme court of the state and of the United States. This case commencing this year and continuing for several years, attracted much attention everywhere, from the importance of the issues involved, and was the cause of especial interest here from the prominence of the man who was under trial. This revived much of the former feeling of distrust between the neighboring sections, which only slowly wore away as all of the slaves here in northeastern Missouri who wanted to, gradually ran away, as they easily could, but was not fully allayed until the civil war put an end to it.

The political record of 1842 was of a very peculiar cast. It singularly illustrated the strong predominance of partisan feeling and old party associations over the demands of local duty and interest. The two parties—the whig and the democratic—were almost equally balanced in the city and in the county.

They had been so for many years past—the whigs having slightly the superiority, owing in a great measure to the higher relative standing and capacity of the men whom they placed before the public as their representatives and leaders. A reference to the politically prominent men of forty and more years ago will fully sustain this statement. Yet, usually any ordinary local issue, or as it more often happened, the personal popularity or otherwise of a candidate, would easily determine an election and overrule party action. The special strength of the democratic party lay almost exclusively for a number of years on what was known as the "foreign vote."

A curious exemplification of this was proven by Judge Lott and the writer in 1848 from an

examination of the poll books that had been used at the elections of that year. That was the last year of elections "viva voce." The ballot system of voting ordained in the later state constitutions was not in existence at that time, and first was used in the fall of 1848. Previous to that period all voting was done openly and aloud. A register was prepared by the judges containing the names of all supposed candidates under the head of the office to which they aspired and each voter as he came to the polls would give in his name, have it written down and then announce successively who he voted for. His vote thus given would be tallied on the line containing the name of the candidate for whom he voted. Thus the poll book was the final "return" and not only could it be known afterward how each man had voted, but also how the vote was progressing during the day. Judge Lott had said that "out of the one thousand and fifty votes that had been cast at that time it would be found that less than one-fourth of those who had voted the democratic ticket were native born, and that it had been nearly so in proportion for several years past." On examining the poll book it appeared that out of five hundred and sixty democratic voters less than one hundred had American names. The curious corollary to this is that through the earlier years of the city the foreign vote generally controlled; and it was especially strong for the reason that naturalization at that time was not a necessary qualification for a state voter, since under the old constitution and until 1848 any white male citizen over twenty-one years of age, and who had been in the state six months, was a qualified voter, whether naturalized or not. This fact is a worthy matter of record, as it has had a strong bearing upon the municipal fortunes of the city. The foreign immigration which poured so extensively after 1835-36 into Quincy, instinctively enlisted in the democratic ranks and constituted for many years its chief strength.

Recurring to the statement made above that political affairs during this year had a peculiar cast, it is somewhat strange that although there was before the people the most important and absorbing local issue that they have ever had—that of the removal of the county seat—yet party nominations were made and strife went on as usual without any special formation upon this question that affected the parties.

The vote, it will be remembered, in 1841 was declared to be in favor of Columbus. The county commissioners neglected to order the removal of the county records. A mandamus was applied for and granted, directing them to comply with the law, but they still evaded it and Quincy had appealed from the declared result.

Thus the sectional rivalry between the two claimants to the possession of the county seat had at this time become a legal issue—to be determined by the courts, and dependent upon the "glorious uncertainties of the law." By the delay thus secured Quincy was greatly the gainer. Columbus came into court fortified by the record of a legally ordered and formally held election and a certificate of a majority of the votes cast being in favor of removal, and that these figures and the formalities of the election were unquestioned. All beside this that was needed and demanded was that the county commissioners should transfer the records and offices. Quincy, on the other hand, stood solely upon the refusal of the commissioners to issue the necessary order for removal, but there was added to this an assertion of illegalities in the election. While these never came to be fully proven, they were so broadly charged and believed and were tinged with so much of plausibility as to greatly cloud the question and make a decision upon it difficult and doubtful.

It appeared, for instance, that at the August election in 1841, 2,978 votes were cast for members of congress, while at the same time the vote on the county seat question was 3,181—an excess of 203 votes. The well-known latitude that is usually allowed on a sectional vote, without question, in localities where the sentiment is all one way, gave credence to the suspicion and charge that this excess was illegal and that the majority of 91 obtained by Columbus was cast by unqualified voters. This suspicion was strengthened when, a year later, at the August election in 1842, there were but 3,069 votes polled for governor in a very warmly contested election, and on the same day 1,574 votes were given for Wm. Richards (who represented the Quincy interest and was its candidate for re-election as county commissioner), and 1,393 votes cast for J. Turner, the representative of Columbus, 30 votes being thrown away on the abolition candidate who was unpledged. Here was a falling off within a year of nearly two hundred votes on this local test question, when it would seem that natural causes and the continuing interest in the question would have increased the vote; and, significantly, as it was claimed, the falling off was from the former Columbus vote. All this tended to weaken the claims for its removal. So stood the issue at the end of the year 1841.

At their February meeting in 1842 the county commissioners' board had a full meeting, all were present and acted for the first time for

several months. Under the requirement of the mandamus issued by Judge Douglas in September, 1841, they "agreed to disagree." Two of the board (Richards and Seehorn, a majority) decided that the result of the election was so doubtful that they would not obey the writ of the circuit court. The other commissioner, Smith, said that he was ready and willing to order the removal of the records.

Thereupon Judge Douglas on the 4th of March, issued a peremptory mandamus to the commissioners ordering their immediate action. From this Quincy at once appealed to the supreme court, giving security, and the settlement of the case was, of course, still farther delayed. It was argued in the supreme court in the July following by George C. Dixon for the commissioners and Archibald Williams for the Columbus claimants, and the decision was ordered deferred until December.

Immediately after the August election of 1842 the contest took a new shape and a bombshell was thrown into the Columbus camp which broke its unity and resulted in the full defeat of all its aspirations. At a meeting held in Quincy on the 26th of October the proposition was agreed to that the legislature should be asked to divide the county by cutting off the ten townships on the eastern side of Adams, and therefrom form a new county. Columbus was asked to unite with this movement, but refused. In fact, Columbus could not safely agree to it for the reason that the town lies on the extreme western edge of the proposed new county—a part of it being in Gilmer township, and the village would thus be cut in two, and the same objection would then lie against Columbus as a county seat ("away at one side of the county") that had been before used against Quincy.

This project stirred into activity every local interest in the county and proved that the previous movement had not been based on a preference for Columbus merely, but for a county center. A half score of plans were started for outlining new counties, most of them not favoring a division of the county, but demanding, if a division of the county should be made, that it should be so outlined as to make a central point the county seat, most generally ignoring Columbus. Some of these proposed to take in part of Hancock, some part of Schuyler, and some part of Brown or Pike, and all seemed to have forgotten about Columbus. The end was not difficult to foresee.

This movement, adroitly originated for a division of the county, so as to compromise the differences between eastern and western sections, practically decided, at the very outset that the county seat ultimately would remain at Quincy. Time had been gained, and the issue transferred itself again to the state legislature, which then convened every two years on the first Monday in December.

As early as the 19th of December, at the session of 1842-43, Mr. Wheat, one of the representatives from Adams county, introduced a bill for the division of the county, based upon the proposition which had been made and adopted at the meeting in Quincy on the 26th of October.

Upon this there followed a flood of petitions for and remonstrances against the proposed action, coming from all parts of the county with every variety of project, proposition and suggestion. It was made a matter of long, bitter and doubtful discussion, and came to a final determination in the early part of 1843, resulting in a nominal division of the county, which separation stood as of a record which was never practically completed throughout the five following years.

Mr. Wheat's action in this matter was not in accord with that of the other four representatives, and was not in sympathy with the popularities of the period, the public generally sustaining those who were opposed to a division of the county, but it is a truth which no one now looking back to that contest can deny, that, however, it might have been operative upon the interests of Columbus or any other section of the county antagonistic to Quincy; so far as the city was concerned this movement which he drove through the legislature, to the peril of personal popularity, was that which clinched the continuance of the county seat at Quincy for all time to come. This story of the county seat difficulties and the temporary division of the county is a part of past history, upon which depended the future interests of Quincy. It could be told in far more amplified detail, because it was the absorbing idea of its time. It was settled during the winter of 1842-43, but it had kindled passion and prejudice which may claim consideration in a subsequent chapter.

Manufacturing interests during this year showed a steady and healthy progress not only in the enlargement and increase of a number of already existing industries, but also in the establishment of several new enterprises. An iron foundry was started by James Adams and Milton Worrell, on the east side of Front street, between Broadway and Spring. This was the first establishment of the kind, the pioneer in business of a special industry that has gradually grown to be one of the most extensive and substantial factors in the permanent prosperity of the place.

About the same time O. F. & G. A. Miller, who had as early as 1836 opened the first regular drug store in the place, built a castor and linseed oil factory on the west side of Front street, opposite the Adams & Worrell factory. This was a few years later changed into a steam flouring mill. At this time the castor bean mania was overspreading the west, as extensively as had not a long time before the "Morus Multicaulis" or silk work fever, and as a little later came up the beet sugar craze. These all had their day and it is curious now to revert to those times, when, for two or three years so many of our farmers set off and carefully planted four or five acres of the white mulberry or Morus Multicaulis, and after that sensation had fallen through, each one had next his acre or more of the handsome flowering castor bean; and still farther on, and but shortly afterward, all expectations were sweetened by the profuse cultivation of the sugar beet, which was to rival and exclude from use all tropical sugars, and all this unfortunately worked to the partial neglect of the cultivation of the great staple cereals which are adapted to our latitude, climate and soil.

The winter of 1842-43 was unusually severe. The snow fall began early, and continued longer and more in amount probably than in any season since the proverbial "big snow" winter of 1831. Business and travel throughout the central and northern part of the state was for a large part of the winter done on sleds and sleighs.

A sleighing pleasure party, for instance, left Quincy during this winter, visited Jacksonville and Springfield and returned safely on runners, after being gone nearly two weeks.

CHAPTER XXI.

1843.

EARTHQUAKE. POLITICAL STRUGGLES. DOUGLAS. BROWNING. MARQUETTE COUNTY. JUDGE BOTT. CAPT. KELLY. R. M. YOUNG. SIDNEY BREESE. DULL BUSINESS. JUDGE THOMAS. HIGHLAND COUNTY. NEW BUILDINGS. NEW SCHOOLS.

The river was unusually high during the winter of 1842-43, and continued so until late in the year. It had closed on the first of December, 1842, opened on the 24th of January following, and until about the middle of February there was some, though difficult navigation. It then firmly closed, opening again on the 6th of April, and did not close during the winter of 1843-44.

The rather unusual excitement of an earthquake shock occurred on the 4th of January, the heaviest that had been known for many years. The rumbling was distinctly heard and the shaking of the ground and buildings felt and seen throughout all central Illinois. With the exception of a general scare and an occasional break of crockery, no damage was done.

The city council early in the year, made an attempt to secure as a public landing, all of the river front lying south of Maine street, and west of a line parallel with Front street and eighty feet west. The consent of most of the owners of the property affected, to convey the same to the city was obtained, but some of them objected, and although the council on the 8th of July, declared the land in question a landing, yet this summary course was indecisive and was not eventually sustained.

The city election in 1843 resulted in the complete success of the democratic ticket. Enoch Conyers was re-chosen mayor over Capt. Joseph Artus, and Thomas Jasper, Samuel Holmes and R. S. Benneson, elected aldermen. Sam'l Leech was re-elected city clerk. An official statement made by the city clerk in September showed rather an unsatisfactory financial condition. It reported an indebtedness of $22,098.50, of which $5,746.48 would mature during the year, and that the tax assessment of $4,089.14, if all applied to this debt, would leave a deficit of $1,636.34. How the apprehended trouble was avoided, does not appear, probably, as in the later years, by postponement and hoping, Micawber like, that something would "turn up." The salary of the city clerk was fixed at $100, showing either a commendable spirit of economy, or that the duties of the office were not very heavy. H. S. Cooley, then a young lawyer not long a resident of this city, who afterwards became prominent politically, being secretary of state when he died, a few years later, was appointed city attorney. A special census taken by order of the council in November in reference to the school question, which was still in a very unsettled state, gave a total population of 3,148 and of children under twenty years of age, in the city and adjoining section, which formed with Quincy a school district, 1,357.

Some political feeling was temporarily roused by a change in the postoffice. Robert Tillson, a whig, who had held the office for ten or twelve years, was removed and a Mr. Clifford, a Tyler-ite from Alton, appointed in his place. Major Wm. G. Flood, and Samuel Leech were re-appointed respectively register and receiver of the public land office. Judge Douglas having been elected to congress, his place on the bench was filled by the appointment of Jesse B.

Thomas, Jr., a son of Jesse B. Thomas, who was one of the first two U. S. senators, from Illinois, and who is credited with being the author of the famous Missouri compromise. Judge Thomas held this position for about two years only, when he resigned and was succeeded by Norman H. Purple, whose term was ended by the new constitution in 1848.

This was in some measure a comparatively quiet and slow business year, yet it was marked with an unusual degree of local feeling and excitement. The old abolition and Mormon disturbances had been temporarily allayed, to reappear, however, in the near future, but there remained the unsettled public school question, the strife over the county seat and county division matter. To these the most stirring congressional contest was added, that up to that period this section, or, indeed, the state had ever witnessed.

The political record of Quincy and of Adams county in 1843 is an episode, which demands a more than ordinary detail. It was the era of an entrance into national influence by the state of Illinois. This was on account of not only the increased representation of the state from three to seven members of congress, but also because such a number of younger men, of only state repute heretofore, struck out for a more extended reputation, which many of them fairly won, and maintained to the exclusion of the older politicians, who had for the twenty-five years held the representation of Illinois in the national councils. Out of the fourteen candidates for congress in 1843 one only, Casey, had ever previously served, and only one other, Douglas, had even been a candidate for the honor. The political excitement was more intense than has ever attended any similar strife, scarcely excepting the famous discussion fifteen years later between Douglas and Lincoln. The interest in the election lay in the congressional contests, there being at the time neither state nor national ticket in the field. It may be well to state that this year (1843) was the last time that congressmen were elected in the odd numbered years.

The next election came off in 1844, and ever since, members of congress have been chosen in the even numbered years with state or presidential officials. Before this it sometimes happened that a state would not be represented in the lower house of congress in case that a called session was held during the spring or summer of the odd year. The term of a member begins on the 4th of March, although usually the session commences in December. Illinois was thus not represented at the early part of the called session of congress in 1841.

Unusual interest, of course, attached to an election which would determine who were to be the future "great men" of Illinois, and special attention was turned toward the Quincy district, which was of doubtful political complexion, and in which the two foremost of rising leaders in their respective parties were pitted in opposition. These were Stephen A. Douglas, the presiding judge on this circuit, and O. H. Browning, the admitted head of the bar in the western portion of the state, both residents of Quincy, as the contestants. Each enjoyed a prestige of almost unbroken political success, a most devoted party popularity and a personal reputation for consistency and integrity which was unassailable. They were nearly of the same age. Douglas had been a conspicuous politician from his first coming to the state. Browning, whose eminence was more definitely legal, held an equally prominent political reputation and his ambitions were then strongly in that direction. He was, and no doubt correctly, considered at the time as the most attractive and able debator of the two. Douglas, though strong on the stump, had not attained that peculiar position he studied for and afterward attained, of being, as he unquestionably ranked in later years, the most popular and powerful stump speaker of the day. Douglas was not the first choice of his party in convention, Judge Cavarly, of Greene, and Gov. Carlin preceeded him in the early ballots, but the nomination finally fell to him. Browning was nominated by his party without opposition. It is more than probable that had either of the two first named above received the democratic nomination, Browning's popularity would have won for himself the election, and it is equally sure that against any other candidate than Browning, Douglas' majority of about 400 would at least have been doubled. They canvassed the district together most exhaustively during the early summer months to within less than a week before the election in August, when both were taken down with sickness, which nearly proved fatal, and from the effect of which, it took many months to restore them. This was the most complete carrying out of the old "stump speaking" custom that could be imagined. The parties traveled together, sometimes slept together, spoke together almost daily at half a dozen or more places in each of the counties. Such exertion naturally brought out an extraordinarily large vote.

The result of this spirited contest, between two men whose names have since become national, was that Browning carried the city by a majority of 19 and the county by 410, but was beaten in the district by 409 votes. It is curious

to speculate how delayed might have been the growth to eminence of Judge Douglas had he failed at this election. That his great talents would have sooner or later made themselves controlling is true, but his advent to national notice at this peculiar time was several years gained in his movement to fame.

In the county, Marquette or the eastern part not counting, the democratic ticket generally was successful, re-electing J. H. Holton recorder, and Nicholas Wren, county clerk. J. C. Bernard contested the election of Wren without success, but four years later had the satisfaction of being elected over his former opponent.

At this August election of 1843, excepting for members of congress, political lines were somewhat disregarded. Peter Lott, Timothy Kelly, Ebenezer Moore and Henry Asbury were elected magistrates, all of them respected and capable men. The first two were democrats, the others whigs. Judge Lott was an able lawyer, who had creditably occupied the circuit bench, and was subsequently, in 1844, elected to the legislature, served as a captain in the Mexican war, was chosen circuit clerk in 1848, and at the end of his term receiving a federal appointment, removing to the Pacific Coast, where he died. Capt. Kelly was the most prominent Irishman of his day in Quincy, a man of enterprise and means. He built the "Kelly building" at the northeast corner of Maine and Fifth streets, where is now the Dodd Building, which was at the time of its erection next to the Quincy House, the most pretentious structure in the town. He enlisted in the Mexican war, became a lieutenant, and was killed while bravely fighting at Buena Vista, and his body was brought to Quincy, and buried with honor.

Mr. Moore, who had been twice chosen mayor and afterwards became a banker, was always among the leading men of the place. He removed to Washington some twenty years later and died there.

Henry Asbury, the only one of the four now (1883) living, was, for many years an especially efficient and popular magistrate, holding also at various times other important public trusts, and is the oldest living "Esquire" and probably the oldest licensed lawyer in the city.

At the same time, there were chosen as constables, Capt. J. Schwindler, an intelligent and influential German, J. M. Pitman, Wilson Land and Wm. P. Reeder. Of these "Billy" Reeder had been a constable from the earliest times, seeming to have a sort of sinecure claim to the place, like that of old Henry Jasper to the city marshalship. Pitman was afterward twice chosen sheriff, four times mayor and once elected to the legislature. Lane, yet living here, subsequently filled the office of sheriff and county treasurer. Mention is made of these officials to show the substantial character of the men to whom public trusts, however, subordinate, were given in those days. In the earliest times it necessarily happened in a sparse population, that officials would sometimes be chosen of limited attainments; later, qualification was much more carefully looked to, far more than it has been since, when partisan dictum furnishes the candidate, and varnishes over the defects of the public servants.

There was but little change in the federal representation of Quincy. Flood and Leech, as before stated, were reappointed receiver and register of the public land office. These were then highly important and responsible positions, and for them these two men were exceptionally well fitted. The local feeling over the removal of Mr. Tillson, a whig, from the post-office, was mainly because, both whigs and democrats, felt that, when the change in the office, which all had expected, occurred, some Quincy democrat should be the lucky recipient, and not an imported stranger, hence both parties united in condemning the appointment. Mr. Clifford's position as postmaster for a couple of years, was no "bed of roses." He was entirely alone. Vice-President Tyler, who succeeded on the death of President Harrison, had no supporters in Quincy, and like Vice-President Johnson, who came in after President Lincoln, he appeared to be attempting the construction of a political bridge which would carry himself and his administration over to the party that had not elected him, and although a temporary use was made of this bridge, yet at the end of the presidential term, both it and its projectors in both cases were ignored by the party they sought, as well as by the party they had abandoned.

Richard M. Young, who had served for many years as circuit judge, and during the past six as U. S. Senator, was succeeded in this last office by Sidney Breese, and with this his local connection with Quincy ceased. Most of his after life was spent in public positions at Washington, where he died. He had been, in his various capacities, for many years, the most prominent personage of the place. He was an industrious, exemplary, pure minded man, of more than average ability as a jurist, and greatly respected in private life. On leaving the senate he was elected by the legislature to one of the vacant supreme judgships in the northern part of the state, which he held for a brief period, until he went to Washington.

This was an exceptionally dull business year. Prices ranged very low, as told by figures in

the grain and provision market, which have been the general index to business. Wheat sold in June at 70 cents per bushel, in October at 50, and 65 cents about the middle of November. Flour during the year ranged from $3.75 to $4.25 per barrel. There was among the five or six mills a falling off in the manufacture of flour of several thousand barrels. The provision trade was similarly affected in prices, though the amount produced was somewhat increased. Pork opened at about $2.00, slightly increasing in price as the season advanced. By the middle of December 7,000 hogs had been packed, quite an increase in the product of the same period in the preceding year.

Winter began early, coming in with an unusually severe snowstorm on the 24th of October, but the weather for the first half of the season, was comparatively mild.

A slight ripple of the slumbering pro and anti-slavery feeling occurred during the fall, and a county "anti-abolition" was held at Mendon on the 29th of September, followed on the 3d of October by an abolition meeting. The abolition vote in the county at the August election was 137, and 230 in the congressional district.

The two contested election cases created at the August election, that of Barnard vs. Wren for county clerk, and of Conyers vs. Seehorn, for county commissioner, came up, on appeal, on the second of October in the circuit court, and were then and there exhaustively argued by the best talent of the Adams county bar. A very feverish feeling over these suits had everywhere arisen, partly because they blended somewhat with the county-seat strife, and also because they had unavoidably assumed a semi-political coloring. Judge Thomas, the immediate successor of Judge Douglas, on the latter's election to congress, before whom these issues were tried, finding this unexpected and awkward elephant in his path at the very threshold, prudently reserved his decision for three weeks, making a trip in the meantime to Springfield for the purpose, as it was ungenerously asserted, of ascertaining whether his decision, either way given, would be sustained by the supreme court in the event of an appeal being taken from his court. On his return the decision was given, on the 25th of October, in favor of the two democratic candidates, who had already received the certificates of election, to which they were probably entitled. It was scarcely fair to thus impugn the course of the big, easy-going judge, but his constitutional incertitude and decided partisanism gave plausibility to the charge. Whether his conclusion was right or wrong, its force was thus much weakened, and his own standing also. This decision, like that of Judge Douglas, (to the effect that Marquette, the new county, though as yet unorganized, remained as "attached to Adams for judicial purposes,") mixing with political interests, or being used by the politician, gave still more complications to the county-seat quarrel.

Judge Thomas was a very large, fat man, an extreme contrast to his recent predecessor, Douglas, and those unfriendly to him, said that the mental contrast was "invertedly equal." This was not just to the judge, who, though somewhat indolent and unstudious, was of respectable ability. As heretofore, with the exception of Douglas, our judges had been for many years, home men, the appointment of Judge Thomas was not cordially regarded by some, his judicial course was prejudicially viewed and he was soon transferred to another circuit.

Two "county seat question" campaign papers sprang up during the season, one published at Columbus, the other at Quincy. They ended life with the election. The Herald, the oldest newspaper in this section, suspended on the 19th of August, caused by that chronic complaint, indigenous to western journals, pecuniary inanition. It resumed on the 6th of October under the editorial control of E. A. Thompson, whose management during the following months of high political and local excitement was more amusing than satisfactory. The Whig was thus for a brief time the only regularly published newspaper in the county.

The bill for a division of Adams county became a law in February, after having passed through a most prolonged and exhaustive contest in both houses of the legislature. It created a county called Marquette, which subsequently was named Highland, formed from the ten townships on the eastern side of the county. The bill ordained that there should be an election held on the third day of April for county officers, so as to complete the organization. There had been at home as well as in the general assembly, a sectional strife over this matter during the entire winter. The whole eastern part of the county was averse to a separation, especially when, as in this case, it was made without the consent of the people who were to be thus expatriated. The western portion, on the other hand, the city included, was equally united in behalf of a division. Very large and earnest meetings were almost daily held in various parts of the county, wherein there was much crimination, and after denunciation of the county representatives at Springfield, wherever their action had not accorded, with the local wish. Especially severe was the popular stricture from the eastern part

of the county against the action which forced them to secede contrary to their desire, and it was personally leveled at those representatives who had refused to allow the question to be submitted to a popular vote. No small number of aspiring political reputations went to wreck before this sweeping storm. Browning, almost alone of the prominent public men, managed to come out unscathed. He delivered an address on the 27th of January to a very large meeting in Quincy, in which he vindicated his action in opposition to the division. He showed that though this course was in conflict with the wishes of his immediate neighbors and home friends, and also adverse to his own personal interests, yet that he was pledged thereto and was also bound by a remonstrance against a division containing 1,925 signatures, while all petitions in its favor footed up but 1,798 subscribers. This bold, frank position added much to Mr. Browning's popular strength, as was shown in the surprising majority by which he carried the county at the congressional election.

The election for county officers prescribed in the law creating Marquette county, to be held on the 3rd day of April, was less than a farce. It was a nullity. It did not come off. With a singular unanimity of sentiment, everybody agreed not to vote, and, of course, the county remained unorganized. There was thus presented the singular situation, for several years, of a community claiming all their political rights and exercising only such as they chose to, contesting and voting on state and national issues, but utterly refusing to act on county matters. This was comparatively easy to do for the reason that at that time votes under the viva voce system could be cast at any precinct in the county. The Marquette men on the day of the election would come over in crowds to Payson or Gilmer or anywhere across the line into Adams and there vote for president, congressmen and governor. This continued for some three years. The entire failure to have even the form of an election on the third of April as the law required was a point strongly urged to establish the nullity of the entire law, as it was claimed that an election and organization on that specially prescribed date was an essential, and that with a failure in this feature, the law failed.

Time brought along a partial accommodation to the condition of things, but not a wholly cordial acquiescence therein.

The two decisions heretofore referred to, were constant sources of irritation, since they inevitably came up to thought at every election and every session of the circuit court. They involved questions that had to be met and decided, as they were promptly perhaps correctly, yet they were continually striven over. The decision given by Judge Thomas, because it touched upon the election privileges of the people, the most sensitive of all public subjects, was the most criticised, and yet strictly under the law, looking back to it in later times, it appears more nearly correct than it then was felt to be.

The legislature had excluded the eastern portion of Adams county from any participation in the local affairs of what continued to be Adams county, and this was the law as upheld by Thomas. The other decision, that of Judge Douglas, to the effect that the citizens of what was called Marquette county, remained attached to Adams for all judicial purposes, seemed valid both in reason and necessity. The territory embraced within the bounds of the contemplated county, had been largely placed in this judicial circuit, and its political position only had been afterward ordered to be changed, leaving its judicial associations untouched. It stood in fact as did in former years, Hancock and some of the other counties of the state, which, though established by boundaries, were on account of scant population, temporarily attached to an organized county. The unreasoning prejudices of the time were so bitter, that Judge Douglas' course brought against him some partisan criticism, but it did him no injury and his conclusions were generally approved.

Building improvements were not relatively so extensive as they had been during the two or three previous years, yet much of it was of a permanent and substantial character. Some large brick structures were raised on Front street and elsewhere, adding greatly to the appearance of the place. Among others of the more pretentious kind, was the three story brick of A. T. Miller, at the corner of Fourth and Maine street, on the site of the old state bank building. This was, when erected, and for some time afterward, the largest store in the city, and quite notable for that reason. It was the Parker building in which the Herald office was long located and which was destroyed by fire in 1870.

Education received a beneficial advance in the establishment of three excellent private schools, a long felt need. One was the boys' school of C. A. Lord, which promised and did well for a year or two, but was then discontinued. Another was the boys' school of Messrs. Dayton and Cochrane, who had resigned their positions in the public schools. These two schools were opened in the fall and winter of 1843. That of Dayton and Cochrane

continued for a number of years, latterly under the management of Mr. Dayton alone.

A third enterprise of this kind was the female seminary of Miss Doty, which, though not up to what the place might properly have had, was yet in many respects, a superior institution, and for six or seven succeeding years afforded as ample and thorough instruction as the average of such institutions in the west. It was at first located on the west side of the public square and afterward in the brick building on the south side of Maine street, east of Sixth, erected specially for this purpose. This enterprise was much fostered by the personal efforts of Miss Catherine Beecher, of the noted Beecher family, who through her interest in the cause of education came to Quincy, and for a while took control of the institution.

The public schools "dragged their slow length along," embarrassed still, somewhat by opposition, but mainly by lack of funds. An effort had been made by petition, to the legislature, to have the German taxpayers exempted from the payment of the school tax. This movement was not countenanced generally by the Germans, and failed to succeed, but the agitation of such an issue was hurtful, and showed its effect unfortunately in the city council. The feeble and unsupported condition of the public had become such, that a public meeting of the people held on the 6th of September, called upon the council to make an appropriation of $300 per quarter, and pay up the salaries. The council said that they could not and would not do so, and that they would resign before so doing. The trustees of schools then directed the teachers to discontinue and the schools were suspended. Cooler councils, however, soon prevailed, and at a meeting of the council, September the 29th, provision was made by the issue of $300 in vouchers, to go as far as it would, and a bond for $1,200. This re-opened the schools, though in a crippled condition, and with the loss of their most valuable teachers.

CHAPTER XXII.

1844.

THE GREAT FLOOD. LIBRARY. HISTORICAL CLUB. MILITARY FEELING. SEVERAL MILITARY COMPANIES ORGANIZED. FIRST ODD FELLOWS LODGE. DEATH OF DR. NELSON. MOVEMENT TO EDUCATE COLORED CHILDREN. GREAT POLITICAL EXCITEMENT. MORMON WAR. MORMONS IN POLITICS. PRESUMPTION OF THE MORMONS. SMITH, THEIR LEADER, KILLED. COUNTY SEAT QUESTION SETTLED.

This was the year of the famous "great flood." An almost unprecedented rise at the same time in May and June, of the Missouri, Illinois and upper Mississippi rivers, spreading over the valleys from bluff to bluff, produced the most extensive and prolonged inundation that up to that period had been known. The injury arising from such a flood was of course very great, and the subsidence of the waters in the fall was followed by unusual sickness. Throughout the winter of 1843-4, the Mississippi had remained very high, being only closed by ice for a few days, from Feb. 14th to 17th, and after that time navigation continued uninterrupted until a temporary freeze on the 12th of December.

Business during the past winter had begun to improve and became more stirring and prosperous than in 1843. About twenty thousand hogs were packed, which was a large increase over the product of any former season. Manufacturing interests, which had been lately somewhat depressed, revived and continued active. Nearly thirty-five thousand barrels of flour were ground by the half dozen mills of the city and neighborhood, this being nearly fifty per cent advance on the preceding year's business. The times still were "hard" and money was scarce. The only paper in circulation not at a discount, was that of the Indiana and Missouri state banks.

A course of library lectures was the chief weekly enjoyment of the winter. These were a dozen in number, prepared by our own citizens, the professional men generally, and were quite popular. One very interesting lecture given by Judge Snow on the 14th of February, on the old times of Quincy, was the inciting cause of what then promised to save some valuable records of Quincy's infant history. The interest felt on the subject was such that the Historical Club, which had been rather inactive for some years, proposed to the city council to furnish free of expense, a manuscript of Quincy of which the club was to have sixty copies whenever the same was published. Bartlett and Sullivan, of the Whig, proposed to print the work and sell the same at twenty-five cents per volume, if the city would pay for publishing the sixty copies. The city council agreed to accept these proposals, as soon as a copy should be furnished and appointed a committee of three of its members to collect statistics and furnish them for the use of the club. This project, the first and only general effort to collate and preserve facts bearing upon our early history, seems to have quietly died. This is to be regretted, for that was a period when there was much of incident and legend fresh in recollection, now forever forgotten, and there were men then living who could have largely

contributed to such a work. This lecture of Judge Snow's, which is unfortunately lost, and an address on the same subject by Mr. Willard Keyes a few years later, were the only efforts made by any of our old pioneers to place our early history into print in a connected and permanent form. Beyond the scant writings of these two men, both specially familiar with what they might have written more about, and some more extended reminiscences from Mr. Charles Holmes, who resided here from 1828 to 1833, hardly a scrap of history or memoranda even exists from the pen of any of the old settlers who were here prior to 1830.

The military feeling was very prevalent at this period. It was so all over the country. The jarring relations with England over our Maine and Oregon boundaries, and the feeling that trouble was ahead in Texas and with Mexico, set men to thinking of war, and without any immediate thought of action in that way a military spirit was aroused. There had been a large and very good German company here for a year or two. The noted "Quincy Grays" had been disbanded some time before, but in 1843, partially from the membership of that company, the "Quincy Rifles," was organized. Also, now the "Montgomery Guards," a showy Irish company was formed, making its first parade on the 31st of May. These skilled companies proved to be of much needed importance a few months later when the state was suddenly required to call out its military force in this section on the occasion of the killing at Carthage of Joseph and Hiram Smith, and the consequent "Mormon War," as it was called, in Hancock county. Two companies, the "Rifles" and "Guards" were creditably represented three years later in the Mexican War, the captain (Kelly) of the Montgomery Guards being killed at Buena Vista.

The first Odd Fellows Lodge, the Quincy, No. 12, was organized during this year. Dr. David Nelson, the eminent theologian, whose name is associated with most of the early religious and philanthropic history of this section died in October. He had become mentally feeble some years before.

A somewhat singular movement, taking into account the feelings and prejudices of the people in those times, was the presentation to the city council of a strong petition, signed by Judge Richard M. Young, and one hundred and thirty others, asking that provision should be made for the education of colored children. The result was as singular as the application. A committee of the council, to whom the matter was referred, recommended that an appropriation should be made equal in proportion to that provided for the white children, and as there were eight hundred white children in the city, for whose education $1,200 had been appropriated, that for the thirty colored children there should be appropriated $45. This recommendation was adopted by the council, but resulted in nothing of practical value. It is, however, notable as being the first public and official action in the direction of schools for the colored race. It is also a little singular that this proposition was fathered by those who had been always counted as pro-slavery men. Judge Young long after his residence in Illinois, was a slaveholder, and had not a great while before this time advertised for the capture of runaway slaves. Almost every one living north of Mason and Dixon's line was anti-slavery in sentiment, south of that line many thought the same, but the majority there was attached to its home institution. A very few in the north were abolitionists, conscientiously so, and perhaps as many northern men sympathized with slavery and would be willing to see it generally established, but these two classes were small and uninfluential; yet so unreasoning were the prejudices of the day, that it was common to charge the northern man who objected to interference with the institution of slavery in the states where it existed, with being "pro-slavery," and alike also the southern man who said a word in opposition to slavery, was suspected and assailed as an "abolitionist." This was untrue and unjust all around. Neither of these small factions, represented the general sentiment of the north. The extension of slavery beyond its already prescribed limits was altogether another question, and when that issue arose, as subsequent political history has unmistakably proven, the north showed itself to be almost a unit.

Referring to the school question again, it appeared that an examination and report made a few months before this petition was presented on the 7th of February, as to the condition, cost, etc., of the public schools, did not fully agree with the report above named. Then the full statistics showed that there were five private schools in operation in the city, aggregating one hundred and six pupils, and four public schools with three hundred and ten scholars registered, and with an average daily attendance of two hundred and seventy-five. The expense of sustaining the public schools was stated to be $1,800 per annum, and the cost of each pupil per quarter $1.63, about $6.50 for the year. The general condition of the schools was at this time less satisfactory than it had been ever before.

Purchase was made by the city, or rather

cession made by the county to the city, of the south half of block one, in the original plat of Quincy, to be forever used for public purposes only. This was that portion of the block which in 1825 had been set apart as a "burial ground," and used as such until 1837. The city had been gradually obtaining possession of portions of the north half of the block, and finally secured it all. Later the land passed into the hands of the Board of Education and a large brick school house was there erected, which stood for many years. This arrangement between the city and county, which had been under consideration for some years was a judicious one, as it afterward proved, providing as it has a convenient place for the courthouse, which was erected in 1876, for which no other location could have been so easily secured. Not so satisfactory, however, was the result of another effort, long and quite persistently made, to have a poor house, constructed mutually by the county and city. After months of negotiation and committee conferences, this scheme, mainly from unwillingness on the part of the county authorities, fell through entirely.

The Quincy Herald made its periodical change of ownership, as it used to almost annually in those days. Louis M. Booth and R. B. Wallace succeeding E. A. Thompson in the possession and control of the paper, adding much to its credit and influence.

The political excitement which pervaded the country in 1844 to a degree rarely paralleled at any presidential election, (certainly never exceeded in the west) was felt with full intensity in Quincy. Its enthusiasm had here as everywhere else been preparing during the past four years, and its open activity began at the city election in April, constantly increasing until the close of the presidential battle in November. The whigs all over the land, mindful of their sweeping success under Harrison in 1840, and the treachery of Tyler, which had wasted all the fruits of their victory and rallied by their idolized leader, Clay, were all expectant of national success. This they would have undoubtedly secured but for the introduction of that "side issue" the "annexation of Texas," which broke the whig strength in several of the southern states.

On the other hand, the democratic party, anxious to redeem their great defeat of 1840, and to regain the ascendency which they had so easily maintained for three successive presidential terms, especially strong in the south and west, were active, earnest and aggressive. The whole country was in motion.

As an illustration of how all absorbing this contest became, a hundred men went from Quincy to Peoria to attend a whig convention, hiring a steamboat and being absent the entire week.

At the city election in April the whigs placed in nomination for mayor, John Wood, and H. V. Sullivan, F. W. Jansen and G. B. Dimock for aldermen; believing, as it was then thought that it is a party duty, by which only its repute and strength can be sustained, to allow no names to be offered as proper public servitors, save such as are fit and respected. The democrats re-nominated Enoch Conyers, who had held the office for the two years last for mayor, and B. F. Osborne, J. H. Holton and James H. Luce for aldermen. Both tickets were exceptionally strong. The whigs elected their mayor by a majority of 113 in a total vote of 793, and all of the aldermen except Jansen, who was beaten three votes by Holton.

This election was contested, but unsuccessfully, and the council, which was democratic, elected democrats to all subordinate city offices.

The mayor's salary, by a party vote, was fixed at $200 per annum, the clerk's at $150. At the state election in August for county officers, members of the legislature and member of congress, the democratic ticket was successful by unexpectedly large majorities, running in the county from 149 to 286. Judge Douglas was re-elected to congress over D. M. Woodson by 149 majority in the county, falling somewhat behind his ticket on account of dissatisfaction over his decision in the county division cases. Jacob Smith was chosen state senator over Abraham Jonas by 211 majority, and Peter Lott, Wm. Hendry and Warren Miller, representatives, over Geo. C. Dixon, W. B. Gooding and John Dunlap. J. M. Pitman was elected sheriff over W. H. Tandy. An abolition legislative and county ticket received from 133 to 166 votes. At the presidential election in November the democrats carried both city and county by a majority of 215, Birney, the abolition candidate, receiving 149 votes.

There were reported as being in the city at this time, 44 stores and 9 churches. Wheat rated at an average of 50 cents per bushel throughout the year, and the crop was unusually large.

The first Mormon war, which broke out in Hancock county during the summer of 1844, produced an excitement in Quincy, such as had not been since the time of the noted Nelson riots eight years before. A similar and almost equal excitement pervaded here two years later in 1846, when there came the second war, which resulted in the thorough expulsion of the Mormons from Nauvoo. These stormy troubles had so long been apprehended, that they

created no surprise, yet the final outbreak came in such a shape as to startle and shock the entire community.

About daylight on the morning of the 28th of June the city was roused by the clang of the church bells and a call for the people to assemble at once at the courthouse. Then and there appeared a delegation of well known citizens of Warsaw, headed by Wm. H. Roosevelt, who, with most exciting declamation and under an extreme evident alarm, which lent sincerity and drew sympathy to their appeals, announced that Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet, and his brother Hiram, had on the day preceding been killed in the Hancock county jail; that several thousand revengeful Mormons were marching upon Warsaw, which place was perhaps by that time sacked and burned. Also that Governor Ford, with his attendants had probably been killed, and they besought the assistance of the people of Quincy.

Following this were some equally exciting and intemperate speeches by two or three of our town talkers, who are always on hand on such occasion. While the position of these self-exiled runaways from the place where they should have remained for its defense was somewhat derisively viewed, yet the situation was, or was likely to become serious. It was well known that the Smiths were arrested and confined under guard in the Carthage jail, and that Governor Ford with a small escort had gone to Nauvoo on the day when the murders were committed. A committee of twelve citizens had been appointed at a meeting held here a few days before to mediate, if possible in the dissensions between the Mormons and their opponents in Hancock county. Now at once the full force of the city was promptly organized and sent to the scene of action. A special meeting of the city council appointed a vigilance committee consisting of one alderman and three citizens from each ward. But the most practical action taken was that of the mayor in detaining the steamer Boreas, about to leave for St. Louis and sending it back to Warsaw, near the middle of the day, with an improvised military battalion of about four hundred men. This was composed of the Quincy Rifles, the German and Irish companies, and a volunteer force of between one and two hundred citizens, variously armed, under the command of Andrew Johnston as captain, and James T. Baker as first lieutenant, the whole under the command of Major Wm. G. Flood, who had been conspicuous in the Black Hawk war twelve years before.

The city trembled with anxiety and the landing swarmed with spectators. This feverish feeling continued till greatly allayed when Boreas returned in the evening with the news that the Mormons, instead of rising to avenge the death of their prophet, were quiet and cowed by their apprehensions and these displays of military force; that no reprisals had occurred; that Governor Ford was unharmed; and that "order reigned in Warsaw." It is strange that it was so; strange that there was not one or more of the many reckless and desperate characters who infested Nauvoo to rouse, as easily might have been done, the feelings of these thousands of credulous fanatics into a wild wave of revenge, which, if it had been set in motion, would have swept destruction within twenty-four hours all over Hancock county. It was not done, however, and the Mormons were cowed and powerless for the time.

While there was much in these matters that appeared farcical, and in the conduct of some of the parties concerned even worse, yet there was much ground for apprehension, demanding the effective action so promptly assumed by our people. Quincy, from its position as the largest near neighboring city, was the first called upon to interpose and furnish force to put down these disturbances, and it became a sort of civil and military headquarters during this and the war of two years later, so much so as to connect its history permanently with both occasions.

A detailed account of the Mormon troubles would be too extended for space here. It will be remembered that five or six years before this date the "Latter-day Saints," as they were self-styled, when driven from Missouri, first found an asylum at Quincy, where their forlorn condition induced a sympathy, which for a long time continued. Settling shortly after in the town of Commerce, in Hancock county, at the head of the Des Moines rapids, they changed the name of the place to Nauvoo, said somewhat doubtfully, to be a word of Hebrew derivation, meaning either "city of beauty," or more probably "city of rest or repose," and here they rapidly increased. Thither flocked by thousands the devotees of this strange creed, most of them from England.

By the state census of 1845, out of a population of about 25,000 in Hancock county, the Mormons' portion was liberally estimated at from 16,000 to 17,000, giving to it the numerical predominance in the county. When they finally left in 1846 their numbers were yet fairly estimated at from 16,000 to 17,000.

Either the vanity of Smith, or more likely the needs of his situation, forced him and his people into a false position and ran them rap-

idly to ruin. They struck against that instinctive sentiment of public justice which will never allow violation. He, imagining that he might have control of the county, congressional, perhaps the state, possibly the national politics, assumed an independence above everything. He took the military rank of Lieutenant-General, claimed the pardoning power for criminal offenses, which is the highest attribute of sovereignity; presented himself as a candidate for the presidency; petitioned and claimed from congress for himself and church a separate state independence, and in all his actions repudiated every idea of subordination to state or federal supremacy.

This was the breaker on which was shattered his and his people's success in Illinois, the perversion of legal justice, of public rights. It was the "stocking" of the courts and juries, the subsidizing of officials and the open resistence to all magisterial authority whenever the tendency of such was "anti-Mormon" that brought about the crisis and ruin. The Mormons might fill all the county offices and pocket the fees; send members in their interest to the legislatures; dictate who should go to congress; but grievous as these assumptions were they were borne until the quiet fiat went out and was practically enforced that they owned the courts; that no Mormon was to be punished for any offense; or if he was convicted Joseph Smith would pardon him.

This was too much, and it brought about the civil war, when Hancock and the adjacent counties, hopeless of justice through the courts, turned out their military strength, on an unauthorized and illegal call, to put down and out of existence the Mormon rule in Illinois.

This gathering of troops in Hancock County, ostensibly to sustain and enforce law but really, as everybody knew, for the purpose of driving or scaring away the Mormons, had now forced the attention of Governor Ford to the pending troubles and brought him to the scene. He had been extremely anxious to evade any action. During the canvass of 1842, when he was elected, his opponent, Governor Duncan, crowded the Mormon question into an unpleasant political prominence; and it had now become, with the protection and broad principles which the dominant party in the state had too recklessly given to these people, a very sore subject for the state authorities to handle.

The Governor, when compelled to meet the matter face to face, tried no doubt to act faithfully, but his alternations of boldness and indecision were painfully apparent and did much to impair his future reputation as a public man. On reaching Carthage he found this large concourse of troops, several hundred in number, and at once assumed their command. A day or two later he disbanded the larger portion of them.

Smith, with several of his leading associates, on the arrival of the Governor, either from policy or fear, submitted to an arrest, voluntarily presenting themselves at Carthage, where they were put in confinement. Heretofore he had on several occasions defied, evaded or escaped from legal service. The original charge on which he now was arrested was "treason." This writ was dismissed and he was rearrested on the charge of rioting; the special offense being his order and action in suppressing the Nauvoo Expositor. This was a paper which had been started at Nauvoo especially opposing Mormonism. But one issue appeared when Smith decreed it to be a "nuisance" and the press and type were openly destroyed. On the 27th the jail where Smith, his brother Hiram and two others were confined, was attacked by an armed mob, the guards by agreement overpowered, and the Smiths were killed. From this came the excitement at Quincy of the next succeeding days. Governor Ford at the time when these events occurred was in Nauvoo. He heard of them just as he left the city on his return to Carthage, and from there on the 29th, with his staff, came to Quincy. People who have gone through the excitement and anxiety of a really great war may not know, yet it is a fact that a small war when people are not used to them is equally absorbing and exciting. The Governor's stay was of several days' duration and when he left early in July matters seemed to have quieted down. But they were far from being so. The death of the Smiths did not, as perhaps had been expected, break up the Mormon association. On the contrary, with the prestige of martyrdom now attaching to the prophet's name, their numbers increased more rapidly than ever before.

The Quincy companies that had gone to Warsaw at the time of Smith's death remained but a day or two, but three months later they were again called into the field. As the Mormons showed no disposition to leave the state, and their numbers were steadily increasing, a movement was again inaugurated to effect their removal.

A grand wolf hunt was advertised to take place in Hancock in September, which was well understood to mean a raid upon the Mormons. The Governor again came to Quincy, having called out from Sangamon and Mor-

gan counties and elsewhere a large force, and with them the Rifles and German company, who were again marched up to Hancock county on the 25th of September, and for a few days the city was filled with "war's alarms." After a week or ten days quiet was restored and the soldiery returned. An addition to these excitements was the bringing down to Quincy under military guard of William and Shappe, who had been arrested on the charge of having been connected with the murder of the Smiths. The guard was rather farcical since these men had voluntarily surrendered themselves. Still, this added to the excited feelings of the time. These men were examined here and bound over for trial. Subsequently, in 1845, trials were had in Hancock county of several men charged with the death of the Smiths, but though it probably was known who took part in that affair no convictions resulted.

The bitter strife between the city and county, which had commenced several years before, about the removal of the county seat, still "dragged its slow length along." It had, however, lost its special excitement for Quincy, for the reason that the issue had been now changed to a judicial contest over the division of the county, concerning which Quincy felt but a secondary interest. The Marquette people steadily refused to be thus cut away from Adams county, and they constantly voted at every general or special election, whenever this issue could come in, either against separate organization or for candidates for county offices, who were pledged not to qualify and assume office. These were invariably elected. The circuit and supreme court decisions had affirmed the law which established the new county, and ignored all recognition of the territory therein as being a constituent portion of Adams county. But so long as the people in the eastern section of the county revolted against this arbitrary expatriation and constantly refused to organize all these judicial decrees were but paper bullets and totally ineffective.

Consequently for a number of years Marquette remained politically parentless. Four years later than this period, however, under the operation of the new state constitution of 1847-48 this local trouble was cured.

A clause was introduced by Mr. Williams and secured by his special action that "all territory which has been or may be stricken off by legislative enactment from any organized county or counties for the purposes of forming a new county, and which shall remain unorganized after the period provided for its organization, shall be and remain a part of the county or counties from which it was originally taken, for all purposes of state and county.

CHAPTER XXIII.

1845.

POPULATION OF CITY AND COUNTY, 19,399. BUSINESS STATEMENT. JOHN WOOD, MAYOR. SPECIAL TAX FOR SCHOOLS. MORNING COURIER. FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER. COLONIZATION SOCIETY FORMED. MORMON TROUBLES CONTINUED. JUDGE C. L. HIGBEE. COUNTY SEAT QUESTION AGAIN.

The first constitution of Illinois prescribed, as a basis for the periodical legislative apportionments, that a census should be taken in 1820 and every fifth year thereafter. The returns as made by Capt. Kelly, who was the state enumerator for the year 1845, gave a population to Quincy of 4,007. First ward, 1,406; Second ward, 1,182; Third ward, 1,419; colored, 66; subject to military duty, 987. These figures taken in connection with the previous date, show that there had been an almost uniform doubling of the population during each five years since 1825. There are no certain figures for the first ten years. Quincy did not, then, find a place on either the state or national census of 1825 or 1830. In 1825, the year of its location, it had a dozen residents. In 1830 it is estimated that there were about 300. The first reliable figures are from the state census of 1835, which places the population of the town at 753. Following this there appears a census made by order of the town authorities in 1837-38 which reported a total of 1,653. In 1840 the national census reported a population of 1,850. A city census, quite carefully taken in 1842, showed an increase on this up to 2,686, and in 1845 there is reported 4,007, indicating an even, regular growth through twenty years. In later years this large regular percentage of periodical increase has much fallen off.

Adams county, including Quincy, at this census of 1845, had a population of 13,511, to which, adding 5,888 in Marquette, gave a total of 19,399, showing that the city had about one-fifth of the whole. The relative growth of city and county has been as follows: In 1825 the county, with perhaps 300 in Hancock, had 2,186; Quincy, probably by the end of the year, 50 or more. In 1830 the county population was 2,186, of which some 200, about one-tenth, were in the village. Five years later

by the state census the county has 7,042 and the town 753, still about one-tenth. Five years farther on, in 1840, the county contained 14,476, and the city 1,850, this being one-eighth of the whole. In 1845, as above stated, the city had a little over one-fifth; in 1850 the county had 26,508 and the city 6,902, over one-fourth; in 1860 the county figured 41,323 and the city 12,362, nearly one-third; in 1870 there were 56,362 in the county to 24,062 in the city, a proportion of three-sevenths, and in 1880 the county showed 59,148 and the city 27,268, almost one-half.

In connection with the census taken at this time a carefully compiled schedule of the business of the city reported, of stores, 29 dry goods, 21 grocery and provision, 1 book, 3 hardware, 2 wholesale grocers, 2 wholesale iron, 2 clothing, 4 druggist, 1 shoe, 2 leather; of shops, 21 shoe, 17 tailor, 9 wagon makers, 3 tin, 13 blacksmith, 9 paint, 6 saddle and harness, 4 turning, 2 barbers, 3 machine, 12 carpenters, 1 cigar; of factories, 4 chair, 1 threshing machine, 1 fanning mill, 1 bucket; 2 shingle machines, 1 carding machine, 2 lathe machines, 1 ropewalk; 7 hotels, 3 bakeries, 3 confectioneries, 5 pork houses, 4 livery stables, 6 steam flour mills, 3 steam sawmills, 1 distillery, 3 soap factories, 3 brickyards, 2 tanneries, 3 watch and jewelry stores, 6 butcher shops, 2 printing offices, 16 churches, 3 military companies, 52 licensed teams.

John Wood, the whig nominee, was rechosen mayor at the city election in April by a majority of 138 over J. H. Holton. The whigs at the same time elected two out of the three aldermen, Dr. J. B. Conyers in the First, Dr. J. N. Ralston in the Third ward; and the democrats elected Samuel Hutton in the Second ward. This result gave to the whigs for the first time since 1841 the political control of the council and they at once proceeded on the "lex talionis" principle to act up to the extreme extent of their power by making a clean sweep-out of all the former city officials. John L. Cochran was appointed city clerk as the successor of General Leech. Mr. Cochran resigned before his year term of office expired and was succeeded by Judge Snow, who continued to hold the office for two following years and so long as the whigs retained a majority in the city council. At that time and for some years later the office of the city clerk was more important than it is at present.

Its incumbent then was both clerk and comptroller combined, as the daily business of the city passed almost entirely through his hands he was expected to supply whatever was lacking of business education or qualification in the mayor. The first city mayor, E. Moore, chosen in 1840 and again in 1841, was a methodical, practical business man and had been selected for that position over other more popular and representative men for the reason that it was thought best to have such a man to handle the helm at the commencement of the young city's career. His two immediate successors were not practical business men, and their clerks, Woodruff, Leech, Cochran and Snow, were all men of more or less experience and mark in their time, and really ran the city machinery. The duties of the mayor were then very light, except on occasions, mostly confined to overlooking labor on the streets, he being ex-officio street superintendent. Mr. Cochran was an Englishman, a man of rather unusual acquirements, was by profession a civil engineer and teacher, had been prominently connected with the public schools and as a mathematician he had not then and probably has never had his equal in Quincy. He could do what not one in millions can—run up in his mind the addition of four figures and declare the result as accurately as others could add up a single column. He was one of the notable men of the place in his time. A few years later he removed to California.

The city council voted a salary to aldermen of two dollars for each regular and fifty cents for each special meeting; before this time they had been paid nothing. Urgent requests were made upon the city fathers to organize a "night watch," but they decided that the city did not need it and could not afford the expense. The city obtained from the legislature during the preceding winter the relinquishment of the railroad street (now Broadway) which seven years before had been graded from Twelfth street to the river, and also secured from the United States the title to what is known as the "Tow Head," the point of land lying between the bay and the river, measured then as containing 207 acres, which it probably greatly exceeds at present.

Judge Thomas resigned his position as judge of this circuit to take a similar place in the northern part of the state and his place was temporarily filled by Judge R. M. Young. In August N. H. Purple was appointed, who held the office for the three following years and until the new constitution of 1848 changed the judicial system. Judge Peter Lott, who had been elected to the legislature in 1844, resigned his seat in February just at the close of the session and was thereupon immediately appointed circuit clerk, displacing C. M. Woods, who had acceptably held the office for many years. At this time, and before 1848,

the judges possessed the power of appointment of clerks. An indignation meeting of the members of the bar was held at once to make objections to the removal. This movement was not so much aimed at Lott, who was personally popular and more capable than Mr. Woods, but it was intended as a protest against the summary style in which the latter's head was taken off.

Changes consequent on the election of the democratic presidential ticket in 1844 were made in the federal offices in Quincy. Dr. Samuel W. Rogers became postmaster; Samuel Holmes and Dr. Hiram Rogers respectively register and receiver of the public land office, and all continued in their respective offices until removed in 1840, when the whig administration came into power.

At the session of 1844-45 the General Assembly passed an act amendatory of the city charter authorizing the assessment of an annual tax which should be applied solely to the support of the city schools. This was conditioned on its approval by a popular vote of the city, and at a special election, held on the 11th of April, although the proposition was persistently and bitterly opposed by the faction which had always fought the free school system, it was adopted by a most decisive majority and thence became a permanent engraftment upon the city charter. This was a very important measure; indeed, it was the foundation stone of free school prosperity. There was in it, however, this one serious defect—that the money thus raised passed through the possession of the city council and its manner of appropriation rested in their control, and it was not until many years later, when this defect had become seriously apparent, that by the legislative enactment which created the Board of Education and decreed a complete severance of this fund from the other revenues of the city, the independent school system was completed and assured. The assessment of 1-8 of 1 per cent, as authorized by the law, was made.

With this moneyed reliance before them and the obvious need of school room facilities, the school trustees agreed to appropriate $300 towards the erection of a suitable and sufficient schoolhouse and the city council voted an issue of seven $100 bonds for the same purpose. Finding that the necessary cost of the building would be twelve hundred dollars the council increased its appropriation by two hundred dollars more. This was the first public school building in the city, erected on the ground where now stands the Franklin schoolhouse on South Fifth street.

The Morning Courier, the first daily newspaper of Quincy, made its appearance on the first of November. It was a small affair and died after a few weeks' sickly existence. The Whig commenced the issue of a tri-weekly which was kept up from time to time, with but little satisfactory result. The newspaper men were all anxious and were urged by the public to "branch out," and several attempts were made to meet this wish by the two old-time journals during this and the two succeeding years, but they invariably found that the time had not yet come and had to fall back to their previous weekly edition.

The summer was very sickly and said by some to be more so than any season since 1832 and 1834. Business fairly held its own, though not especially active. Wheat averaged through the year about sixty cents, running from about fifty cents in July to seventy-two early in December, and falling to sixty cents at the close of the year. Hogs sold during December at about three dollars. There were packed in the winter of 1844-45 a few more than the preceding one. Nearly forty thousand barrels of flour were claimed to have been manufactured during the year. The milling business had become very large. It was in the hands of men of means and experience and was rapidly extending. Navigation, which had been difficult during the latter part of the year, suspended on the first of December.

A fair amount of public improvement marked the progress of the year. This was specially shown on Front street, where several large brick warehouses were erected, adding much to the appearance of the city from the river. The landing was also completed in its extension to the foot of Maine street. Matters of temporary local interest were many. A very large and general demonstration was made on the fifth of July, when Judge Lott delivered an eulogy on General Jackson, who had died in the month preceding.

A colonization society was formed in April, with quite a large membership and much seeming earnestness. These societies used periodically to spring up immediately after each presidential election, intended to become a check upon the slavery excitement which always attended these struggles. Annual attempts were made by public meetings and pressure upon the city council for action by them to obtain a free ferry, but they failed, as usual, the ferry owners offering to transport "all Missourians and Quincyites (excepting wood wagons) for $400 per annum, but the council would not agree to the terms.

The two local troubles, which, like a public

dyspepsia, had periodically broken out during the past four or five years—the Mormon and the county seat matter—still stayed uncured; the first of these causing something like the former excitements. With the killing of Joseph Smith in 1844 it would have seemed as if the predominance of the Mormons in Hancock and their influence in the adjoining counties was broken. But it was not so. The scepter of the prophet fell into the hands of men of more determination and ability than he had possessed; men who for their own purposes clung to the control of the county, and thus, of course, a bitter feeling and disturbance continued. Men generally went armed and in groups, fearing strife. Fatal collisions and destruction of property still often occurred. Finally the killing of some prominent Mormons, also of Dr. Marshall by Sheriff Deming, and again of Frank Worrell by (as it was charged) Sheriff Backenstos, who had been elected as Deming's successor by the Mormon vote, and the taking possession of Carthage by Backenstos with an armed force from Nauvoo, causing another flight of the citizens of Carthage and Warsaw, compelled again the attention of the governor. He ordered out in September the volunteer militia from Springfield, Jacksonville, Quincy and other places, numbering several hundred men, under the command of Gen. John J. Hardin, and sent them to the scene of action. Quincy was thus once more "roused by war's alarms." The presence of this imposing force gave temporary quiet to the county. The rifle company from Quincy remained in Hancock county but a few days, but immediately after their return they were ordered back, and from late in October through the following six or seven months as a mounted company, they were stationed in and patrolled Hancock county, successfully preserving order.

The condition of affairs in Hancock was very deplorable and such as could only be controlled by bayonet rule. In the county the "Latter Day Saints," as they called themselves, possessed an overwhelming numerical strength, held all the offices and used their power with consistent boldness. In all the bordering counties, especially in Adams, feeling was intensified against them and frequent mass meetings were held denouncing the Mormons and demanding their expulsion from the state. The law seemed powerless. Judge Purple, the successor of Judge Thomas on this circuit, declined holding the usual fall term of court in Hancock.

Charges, countercharges and prosecutions were plentifully made by both parties, but punishments failed to follow. Jake Davis, state senator from Hancock, charged with complicity in the killing of the Smiths, was relieved from arrest by an order from the senate. Backenstos, indicted for the murder of Worrell, with which he was undoubtedly connected, had his trial moved to Peoria county in December and there obtained an acquittal. A strange career was that of this man—a shrewd, daring adventurer, with an almost repulsive, desperado bearing and look. He ran his course successfully here and shortly after obtained a commission as captain in the regular army, where he served for several years and until his death. What political or other service or merit secured for him such a sinecure, usually so difficult to attain, was a question much asked then and never yet answered. These neighboring troubles continued to be a source of interest and excitement in Quincy until the final forcible expulsion of the Mormons in the fall of 1846.

Judge Chauncy L. Higbee, whose sudden and lamented death is in the minds of all at this time, the most satisfactory and popular man who had presided in the courts of this section of the state since the time of Judge Purple, was singularly and specially connected with the movement that finally drove the Mormons from the state, a movement which began in 1844 and succeeded in 1846. He was the editor and proprietor of the Nauvoo Expositor; the paper which was destroyed and suppressed by Joseph Smith after the issue of its first number in 1844. Higbee had to run away to save himself from violence. This extreme attack upon the freedom of the press did more than anything else could have done to excite a hot prejudice against the Mormons far outside of where their local and personal bearings were felt and known.

The county seat (which had now become a county division) question made its periodical appearance. At the August election Marquette again voted not to organize; Judge Purple affirmed the decision of Judge Douglas (from which Judge Young, while temporarily holding court, had dissented) that Marquette was attached to Adams for judicial purposes and thus the eastern part of the county remained in that most anomalous position of being and yet not being; paying no taxes, having no representation and only known in the courts. As Warren waggishly said, "Marquette without any fault of her own had been several times punished. She was born against her wish and had been twice killed—once when she was decapitated from Adams and next when she was legally hung—to Adams."

CHAPTER XXIV.

1846.

BUSINESS INCREASING. WOODLAND CEMETERY. PROGRESS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY. "MISSION INSTITUTE." MEXICAN WAR. QUINCY SENDS SOLDIERS. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT. MORMONS DRIVEN FROM THE STATE.

The winter of 1845-46 was exceptionally cold, more so than winters had been for several years, yet the temperature, though low, was even and regular and the season throughout was unusually pleasant. Much snow fell early and late, giving a long continuance of good, smooth sleighing. The river, which had closed early in December, opened late in January, affording easy navigation until the 26th of February, when it again iced over; finally becoming free on the 7th of March, with a full-bank rise such as rarely occurs at so early a time in the year. Later, however, in August, the lowest stage of water in the upper Mississippi that is recorded during the twenty previous years was reached and the summer and fall navigation became difficult and uncertain. Business throughout this winter, owing to the cause above named, the opening of the river in midwinter, and also to the general high prices, was quite brisk; more so, probably, than it had been at any former corresponding period. About the same amount of pork was packed as had been during the winter before, but the prices ruled much higher and a larger circulation of money was the consequence.

The close of this year (1846) showed a decided increase in the stability and variety of all branches of business. The flour mills of the city, which had by this time become the most extensive in their manufacture of any of the river north of St. Louis, were estimated to have shipped away nearly seventy thousand barrels of flour during the year, being about double the manufacture of the previous year. The wheat crop of the county and vicinity was unusually large and fine in quality, though there was a good deal of fluctuation in its prices, ranging from 65 to 70 cents in the spring down to 38 and 40 in August, and again rising to the first-named figures later in the season. Real estate, which had been "a drug" for several years, began to show a fixed, uniform value commensurate with the steady condition of general business. Sales were not numerous and not at such figures as had ruled in the wild, speculative days of 1836, but they were stable. As a citation of the worth of property at that time, facing the public square, which has always determined the general value of land throughout the city, the old "Land Office Hotel," the "bedbugs' retreat" as it was quaintly and correctly called, was sold at auction. It was an old two-story frame structure of about one hundred feet front on Hampshire, near the corner of Fifth. The building was nearly worthless and the property was purchased only at its ground value. It sold for from $38 to $43 per foot. At the present date (1885) the ground value of the same property would be probably estimated at about four hundred dollars per lineal foot. The city purchased in July, for school uses, three-fourths of the north half of what is now Jefferson square, fronting on Broadway, for $512.50. A few years after the remaining fourth was obtained at about the same price. This secured to the city the entire ownership of the block. The south half had been bought from the county about two years before.

Woodland cemetery was laid off in April. It originally contained somewhat less than forty acres. At the following session of the legislature, by an act approved January 16th, 1847, authority was granted to Mr. Wood, who had established the cemetery, to make a permanent contract, under which after his death it should pass into the control and partial ownership of the city.

Eleven years after this time, in 1857, four and sixty-five one-hundredth acres were added, making the final total area of the cemetery a little over forty-three acres. An extensive sale of lots was immediately made and the record shows that by the 13th of May there had been three burials. Right after and during the succeeding fall and winter a great number of bodies were removed hither from the city cemetery at the corner of Twenty-fourth and Maine, and a few from the old burial ground on Jefferson Square. But few interments were from this time made in the former cemetery, now "Madison Square."

Quite a stirring sensation was created on the morning of the 18th of August, a good deal intensified from its blending with political feeling, when the good people of the city awoke to find that again some graceless vagabond had barked the large tree which stood in the center of the public square. This tree had replaced the handsome elm that had been destroyed in a similar manner six years before. Public feeling heated at once against this second exhibition of vandalism and the city council at a special meeting offered a reward of one hundred dollars for the detection of the parties who had committed this outrage. The affair was easily traceable, like the previous case, to a petty political spite, and the authors and actors were pretty well known, but the

difficulty of securing positive proof and shrewd manipulation of the matter by parties who were anxious to conceal their own indirect responsibility, caused it to gradually pass out of thought without any conclusive legal action or exposure.

The Quincy Library, now in the sixth year of its existence, reported the possession of eleven hundred volumes, showing its condition to be fairly prosperous. This was a much favored institution during the early days of the city. Its establishment and management was judicious. Generous donations of standard books, carefully selected, of money, and the earnest, personal care and attention of a number of thoughtful and intelligent men ensured to it a foundation of permanence. Its resources were, of course, limited, and for several years its main reliable income was derived from the winter course of lectures. These were altogether given by home lecturers, cost nothing, and were popularly attended, being the weekly interesting gatherings of the winter. Many of these lectures were of a high order of interest and value, such as few places in the West of equal population could produce. They were almost altogether given by our professional men, and the qualifications of the representatives of the three "learned professions" in Quincy at this time were very superior. Bushnell, Johnston, Lott, Browning, Warren, Dixon, Randolph, Gilman, among the lawyers; Giddings, Moore, Marks, Foote, Parr, of the clergy; Taylor, Nichols, Ralston, Rogers, from the medical ranks, and others were mostly men of education, culture and experience, and were also personally popular and attractive, hence their lectures were always creditably intellectual and fully relished. It was the fashion to go to the lectures and, of course, everybody went. The annual revenue from this source, although it was not large, proved sufficient to sustain the library outside of its current expenses during the first half a dozen or more years of its existence. The Tri-Weekly Whig, which had been started by Bartlett & Sullivan in October, 1845, suspended on the 21st of April. This was one among the many unsuccessful experiments made by the two permanent weeklies, the Herald and Whig, to establish daily or tri-weekly journals, each ambitious to be the first in the field, during the first two decades of our city history. They were all ushered into the world with hope and promise, but all died before teething time, and their many skeletons whiten out past times, like buffalo skulls on the plains, none of them lasting over a year. The period had not yet ripened for such enterprises. A fair degree of general and permanent improvement in building and business marks the record of this year. The first German Methodist Church, on Jersey Street, between Fifth and Sixth, was completed and dedicated on the 29th of March.

A large woolen factory was constructed by Dunsmoor & Miller, on the west side of Front street, just north of Spring, and immediately north of that Capt. T. J. Casey operated an extensive distillery. This was a large three-story brick, the third distillery that had been started in or near Quincy, and in about two years' time it shared the fate of its two predecessors—being destroyed by fire. The woolen factory also was burned not far from the same time in 1848.

The governor of Missouri pardoned from the penitentiary on the 29th of July, Thompson, one of the trio of "Quincy abolitionists," as they were then called, who were sentenced from Marion county in 1841 to twelve years' confinement for the attempted "abduction of slaves."

The other two, Work and Burr, had been freed from prison some time before. These three young men, above named, were students at the "Mission Institute," near Quincy, and had probably rendered themselves amenable to punishment for the violation of the laws of Missouri, but it was a generally recognized fact that the trial of these culprits had not been impartial and just. Indeed, in those exciting days, it was almost impossible for any one suspected of having the taint of abolitionism to get a fair trial in the slave states, or even in the border states. Suspicion was almost equivalent to conviction in all such cases, so general and so extreme was the popular prejudice on this subject.

A short allusion to the "Mission Institute," which had so much to do with the neighboring relations of Quincy and with its then and after reputation, is here a proper and essential portion of the past record of the city. The influence which this institution exercised was not the most fortunate for itself or for the city. The original design was to establish a school in the neighborhood of the city whose object should be to educate and qualify young people of both sexes for duty as Christian missionaries in foreign lands. No purer idea could have been generated and its philanthropic purpose, aided by the great prestige of Dr. Nelson's name as its founder and patron, gave great promise to its beginning, but it labored with limited means, its standard of scholarship was not of the highest and many of its students were deficient in rudimental acquirement. These causes operating upon the sensitive public sen-

timent of the times and of the locality, prevented it from obtaining the proper hold upon public sympathy and it finally died out after having accomplished some good in the line of its intention, but hardly anything commensurate with what was expected or the merit of its design. Gradually after this time the estrangement over the slavery question between the people on two sides of the river became allayed; was less talked about and less thought of.

With the breaking out of the Mexican War Governor Ford on the 25th of May issued a call for three regiments of infantry. Under this call a great number of companies were offered, and of the thirty which could be accepted, one and part of another was recognized from Quincy as being "in on time." These were the "Rifles," which, as before stated, had been doing state service in Hancock during the past winter, and a portion of the Irish Company. This company was commanded by Captain James D. Morgan, who in the civil war became a major-general. It was recruited up to the full standard and as such served throughout the war; the other, not filling its ranks, was afterward incorporated with a company from Kendall county in the second regiment, commanded by Colonel afterward, Governor Bissell. Three of the men from this company were killed at the bloody battle of Buena Vista, among them T. Kelly, the former captain of the company. The Rifles, numbering ninety-three men, were mustered into the first regiment, that of Col. John J. Hardin, who was killed at Buena Vista. This company had a high reputation for drill and efficiency, but did not take part in the battles of the war, and hence lost no men except from disease. Both of these organizations served their year's term of service and returned to Quincy in the summer of 1847. They rendezvoused in June, 1846, at Alton, the city paying the expenses of transportation by steamer to that point. Later in this year, during the war, and in 1847, in answer to subsequent calls, a few men were recruited in Quincy for the regular service and some joined the two additional state regiments, but no complete organization other than those above named went from Quincy to participate in the Mexican war.

Parties as usual were active in the spring election. The whigs again nominated John Wood for mayor and H. V. Sullivan, George Brown and Nat'l Summers for aldermen, who were opposed on the democratic side by Timothy Kelly for mayor and Joseph McClintock, Fred Johnson and Damon Hauser for aldermen. The election was active and close. Out of a total vote of 971 Wood received 27 majority, McClintock 6, Johnson 44 and Summers 21. The vote was the largest ever cast, being an increase of 169 over that of the pervious year. It will be observed that in all these earlier elections to the city council the political lines were geographically drawn almost as they have continued, not greatly or often changed throughout the following forty years. The southern part of the city was almost invariably whig; the central belt, with nearly the same certainty was democratic, and the northern section was always more or less debatable. The result of this election was to make the new council politically a tie, with the mayor having the casting vote. The whigs re-elected Snow as clerk and reappointed most of the old city officers. Johnson, of the second ward, gave dissatisfaction to some of his constituents by his course on the license question and resigned before his term expired, his vacancy being filled by H. L. Simmons. The mayor's salary was fixed at $200 and the clerk's $150 and fees.

The usual annual statement on the first of April showing its financial condition and records for the year past reported the bond indebtedness of the city as $20,640.00 and $700 out as vouchers. The bond debt on the first of April, 1845, was $20,888.38. The schedule of receipts and expenditures showed as during the year:

Received from wharfage	$1,152.33
Received from cemetery	381.32
Received from taxes	4,833.56
Received from market house	346.09
Received from license, grocery	686.05
Received from license, store	841.22
Received from license, wagon	203.17
Received from sundries	274.91
	$8,718.65

The expenses of the city during this period were $7,621.20, leaving, as the statement says, "a balance of $1,007.45 to apply on the debt." Reference to one item in the foregoing statement of the sources of revenue will give some idea of the increasing commercial business of the place. The receipts from wharfage were increased $306.35, about one-third over the same in the preceding year. The tax levy for the year 1846 was established at one-half of one per cent for city purposes and one-eighth of one per cent for school purposes.

The city again assumed the balance of the school debt and ordered the erection of a schoolhouse to be constructed in every respect like, and to be of equal capacity with that built

the year before. Water street, running south from the foot of Maine street, eighty feet west of and parallel to Front street, was by ordinance laid out. The first ordinance being faulty in description, a second was passed, but the measure met with hosts of opposition. Remonstrances and claims for damages from nearly every property holder along the river side poured into the council, but they were all disregarded and laid on the table. The street was never fully established and in time the tract was made a public landing. The ferry was free during the year, and an earnest attempt was made to have the city purchase or perpetually lease it, but without success, as no satisfactory terms could be made with the owners of the franchise.

At the August election here, as it was throughout the state, there was less than the usual political interest felt. The whigs had not yet recovered from their unexpected and crushing defeat of 1844. French and Wells, the democratic candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, carried the county by about 350 majority. Dr. Ellis, the abolition candidate, receiving 98 votes. Judge Douglas was re-elected to congress, beating Dr. Vandeventer, the whig candidate, 281 votes in Adams county. For the legislature I. N. Morris, Wm. Hendrix and A. M. Seehorn, democrats, were chosen over A. Williams, W. H. Tandy and Richard Starr, by majorities from 150 to 200. Hendrix died in December, shortly after he had taken his seat. There was no senatorial election, Smith holding over. E. H. Buckley and Mason Wallace were elected from Marquette county pledged to oppose the organization of the county. Buckley took his seat in the legislature, but Wallace did not, and W. H. Chapman, who had been a candidate, was admitted with Buckley and served during the session.

Buckley and Chapman, thus elected and admitted to the legislature, gave their attention to such course as would bring about the best correction of the county difficulties whereof Quincy, as the county seat, was the original bone of contention, and this was judiciously done. Chiefly through the influence of the former the name Marquette was changed to Highland; other boundaries were proposed, but the real action as arranged was to throw the whole issue forward for consideration in the constitutional convention, which was about to be called. In that convention, finally, in 1847, the matter came up and was settled at once and forever, by the engraftment in the new constitution of a comprehensive clause, presented and pressed to adoption by Mr. Williams, the delegate from Adams county, to the effect that all unorganized counties or parts of counties should with the new constitution revert to the county from which they had been incompletely detached.

Thus was ended this strife of half a dozen years, commenced for the purpose of removing the county seat from Quincy. It was a long, acrimonious, expensive struggle, and at last ended just where it began, with everything replaced in the old position. The city and county had been during the year constantly alive with meetings and excitements over this question and also over the Mormon matters, both of which vexatious troubles, happily for harmony, passed now out of existence.

The last year appeared to see the Mormon difficulties overcome, but it was only on the surface. They ripened again in the summer of 1847, and, of course, Quincy had to participate in the excitement. The determination of the people of Hancock county, outside of Nauvoo, which was shared by those of the adjacent counties, that the Mormons would leave the state was met by an equally dogged determination on the part of the "saints," that they would not go, and though many left, yet many remained, and a large portion of these were unable to leave. The military company from Quincy, which had been stationed at Nauvoo during the past winter to preserve order, was, with the exception of ten men, withdrawn in May. The idea that such a squad could enforce law and preserve peace was farcical. The bitter hostility grew stronger and stronger. Each act of lawlessness was followed or offset by another. Finally, in the latter part of August, Col. Chittenden, of Mendon, in Adams county, one of the most prominent men of the county, was taken prisoner by the Mormons. He was only detained one day and night, but his capture caused the anti-Mormon feeling to break out beyond repression. A large and excited meeting was held in Quincy, committees were appointed, soldiers enlisted and similar movements made elsewhere, resulting in the assemblage of about nine hundred men from Hancock, Adams, Brown and the vicinity, under the leadership of Colonels Chittenden and Singleton, finally organized with Tom Brockman, of Mt. Sterling, as commander. This force took position in camp about half way between Carthage and Nauvoo. On the other hand, the Mormons and those who were in sympathy with them in the city prepared for fight. The outcome was easily foreseen.

The population at this time of Nauvoo was mainly women, children and men, not all of the most reputable stamp. By the 13th of September, two weeks after Chittenden's cap-

ture, almost all of the residents of Nauvoo had crossed the Mississippi, and the Iowa bank of the river was swarming with these hapless, ragged exiles. The Mormon rule in Illinois was broken to all appearance and the sect dispersed, yet in October the governor had to make his approach for the third time, with an artillery force, to restore order and clear out the last of this misguided sect. And they left at last. A few settled in northern Illinois under the leadership of a son of their martyred prophet, another band established itself on one of the islands in the northern part of Lake Michigan, while the great body of them wended their way westward to Salt Lake.

CHAPTER XXV.

1847.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SALE OF N. C. R. R. AUTHORIZED. ATTEMPT TO BUY FERRY. CENSUS TAKEN. FINANCE. NEW BUILDINGS. DEATH OF NOTABLE MEN. DELEGATES TO CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. S. A. DOUGLAS. CITY BOUNDARY EXTENDED. NEVINS ADDITION. WHY NO. 13TH, 15TH AND 17TH STREETS.

Business during the winter of 1846-47 was not brisk as it had been in the preceding season. Prices ruled at about the same, but there was a falling off, both in the pork packing and in the milling manufacture, of nearly one-fifth in amount as compared with the same periods in 1845-46, and in the latter branch of business this decreased production continued throughout the year. About ten thousand barrels less of flour were manufactured by the mills in 1847 than in 1846.

The winter was not severe. The river long remained open, affording fair navigation. It first closed on the 8th of January, remained so until the 21st of February, when it opened and continued free to the 20th of December. It then closed to open again on the next new-year day.

At a special election on the 14th of January, John M. Ruddle was chosen to the legislature to fill the vacancy made by the death of Wm. Hendry. The city council on the 4th of January prepared an application to the legislature for an amendment to the city charter so as to organize the city into separate school districts. The bill for this purpose was passed and approved on the 27th of February. It created the "Quincy School District," and placed the entire care and superintendence of the common school under the control of the city council, authorizing also the appointment annually of a school superintendent, thus separating the schools from their previous association with the county officials. The law was made dependent on its being adopted by a majority of the legal voters of the city. This was done at the April election by an almost unanimous vote.

At this same session a bill passed the legislature authorizing a sale of the Northern Cross Railroad property, of which that part lying within the corporation limits from Twelfth street to the river had two years before been relinquished to the city. The portion of the road from Quincy to the Illinois river was, under the authority of the above law, purchased by parties in Adams and Brown counties and a company was organized as the Northern Cross railroad company. This company, with the aid of county, city and personal subscriptions, constructed the road from Quincy to Galesburg, which has since become the C., B. & Q., and at a later date, the same interest, somewhat changed, built the other portion from Camp Point to Meredosia, which has since fallen into possession of the Wabash. But a very small portion of the original line of survey was adopted by the new road as it is now completed.

Another of the many efforts made to place the city in possession of the ferry was attempted but without success. Carlin and Rogers offered to sell the entire franchise of the ferry, boat, lands and all for $10,000, or without the land for $8,000. This proposition was considered by the council on the 1st of February and rejected, but at the following meeting in March they offered to buy, for $4,000, the "boats, fixtures and privileges" until the expiration of the lease in 1853. This proposition was not accepted by the ferry owners.

A very thorough census of the city for school purposes was taken by J. H. Luce on the order of the city council, which showed that on July 14th, there was a population, of those under twenty years of age, of 2,638, thus distributed: South of Broadway, 2,254; north of that street, 339; colored in the whole city, 45. The entire population of the city was 5,401 whites, 77 blacks; total, 5,478. The tax assessment was fixed for the year as before, at $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent for public purposes and $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent for school purposes.

The fiscal statement made in April professes to show the financial condition of Quincy at the expiration of this, its seventh year of existence as a city. A comparison of this statement with that of 1841 and those of subsequent years, may show what progress had been made during this period and how much it had cost to make this progress. The manner in which these annual exhibits were made up then and often

since, has not always given the clearest idea of the situation, since no two appear to have been gotten up on the same form, each city clerk rendering his statement according to his own fancy or his accountant training, and sometimes, as it was unkindly asserted, willingly shaping it so as to bewilder and deceive. While this is not probable and figures are said to "never lie" yet there has been sometimes in our city history a good deal of difficulty in finding out the truths that the figures ought to tell. It was about this time that the city credit began to be clouded and its vouchers bear a discount value, a condition that continued for the following twenty years, swelling every expense that was incurred just in proportion to the depreciated value of the vouchers. The cause of this was the large number of vouchers issued and the size of the bonded debt, about $20,000, and yet seeming then as heavy as the nearly one hundred times larger burden that has since been borne.

In 1840 the city commenced its chartered existence with no liabilities other than the old town of Quincy indebtedness, which became its heritage, amounting to $1,100.36, less $355.99 cash received from the town treasurer. So it started out with this light debt of $744.37.

The fiscal statement April 1st, 1847, is as follows:

LIABILITIES.

Bills payable	$22,108.99
Treasury orders	246.92
Vouchers	7,311.63
Tax book	123.76
	$29,791.30

RESOURCES.

Less $1,511.43	$29,791.30

RECEIPTS.

Taxes were	$ 4,892.66
Wharfage	1,158.65
Licenses	2,229.27
Sundries	60.02
Balance deficiency	1,386.09
	$ 9,726.69

EXPENSES.

Fire department	$ 282.37
Cemeteries	215.69
Salaries, etc.	1,353.90
Volunteers	254.55
Tax titles	353.19
Free ferry	350.00
School, etc.	1,973.23
Nuisances	407.22
Interest	1,050.59
Cisterns	556.53
Poorhouse	628.74
Roads, etc.	2,242.59
Sundries	58.09
	$9,726.69

The greater portion of this bonded debt originated in the street grading and improvements absolutely necessary at the time. Quincy has been, on account of "the lay of the land," an expensive city to build up. Chicago, Peoria, Springfield and others lie leveled by nature for the settlers' use. Here, the grading plane had to be applied to almost every acre of our seamed and rugged city site. These improvements comprehended no very extended space. Our limits were small as compared with what they have since become, and the population was rather compact. The city boundaries were Vine street on the north, Twelfth on the east and Jefferson on the south, and it was within a small portion of this area that "improvements" work was done. The population was mostly confined to an area between Broadway and Ninth and Delaware streets. Less than one-seventh lived north of Broadway, a few houses were scattered between Ninth and Twelfth, while south of State and Delaware the land was all either under farm cultivation or was unenclosed forest. A considerable amount of substantial building improvement was done during this year, among the most notable of which was the erection of the four three-story brick stores on Hampshire street north of the square on the site of the old Land Office hotel. This was the largest and best block of buildings for store purposes that had yet been constructed in the city. These were still standing. They were immediately occupied and drew to Hampshire street the leading trade of the place, where it has largely remained. Before this time the buildings and business houses on the north side of the square were mostly inferior, but the convenience of the street, having the longest level of any in the city and the easiest ascent from the river and also the best road out to the country, made it from this time, the principal business thoroughfare.

Quite a number of notable deaths occurred during this year, among those who had been prominent in the past history of the place. Joseph T. Holmes, who, it may be fairly said, was the leading business spirit of the town in early days, died at Griggsville on the 13th of April. He was a native of Connecticut, came to Quincy in 1831, engaged in mercantile and milling pursuits, and was from the time of his arrival leadingly conspicuous in measures of enterprise and advancement. Afterwards he abandoned

secular business, studied for the ministry and was pastor of the Griggsville Congregational church at the time of his death.

The Rev. George Moore, who had been for over six years ministering for the Unitarian Church, died of consumption on the 11th of March. He was an eastern man of thorough education and scholarly tastes, with a gentleness and refinement of nature and manner that made him attractive in person and vocation, and greatly conduced to the future prosperity of the small society over which he presided.

The Reverend S. S. Parr, a somewhat eccentric but eloquent and forcible pulpit declaimer, who had been for some years preaching at the old Baptist church on Fourth street, in this city, where he always drew crowds to his evening sermons, died in August at Hannibal, Mo.

Timothy Kelly, also, the most prominent representative Irishman of early times, was killed at Buena Vista, on the 22nd of February. Much sympathy was aroused by his death, and public action was taken in regard to his memory, and provision for his family. It is a singular fact about Capt. Kelly, as has been before mentioned, that, owing probably to the careless manner in which military records were then kept, his name, although his service and death in battle are well known, does not appear in the Adjutant General's record of the Mexican war soldiers, on the roster of Company E of the Second Illinois infantry, to which he was attached. A rather unfortunate faux pas occurred when Capt. Kelly's remains reached Quincy, under the care of Capt. (Judge) Lott. The Quincy volunteers of the First regiment had got back on the 9th of July, all of the original number returning except six, who had died of disease.

A barbecue was given them on the 17th, which was intended to be a jovial affair. A good deal of preparation was made, and a large crowd gathered at the springs, immediately east of where now Dick's brewery buildings stand. Preparations had also been made for a general display at Capt. Kelly's funeral, when his body should arrive. The steamer came with the remains, while the barbecue was in the height of progress, just as Mr. Browning was about commencing his address, and the barbecue was abandoned. This clashing of the two occasions, one of jollity, and the other of sadness, was unfortunate, but accidental. The following of Capt. Kelly's funeral was very large. He was much respected in Quincy.

On the call of the Governor, issued May 5th, for additional volunteers, an attempt was made to raise a company at Quincy, but it did not succeed. Some twenty enlistments were made here, and one of the four mounted rifle companies commanded by Capt. W. B. Stapp, rendezvoused, and was mustered in at this place, on the 10th of August.

This and the preceding year were the "Mexican war times," and there prevailed here, as there did everywhere else, the excitement always attendant upon "war's alarms." Though the Mexican war was but a fire cracker event, contrasted with our late civil war, and there could have then been nothing equal to the intense interest which absorbed all public thought and action during this late freshly remembered struggle; yet a similar sentiment to a lighter degree existed, and "war talk" was the leading and foremost topic. Papers were eagerly scanned for news from Mexico and Taylor and Scott were constantly followed and formed the staple subjects of enquiry and conversation.

The first constitution of Illinois, formed in 1818, at the time of the state's admission, had proved, or was thought to be, after thirty years' of operation, inadequate to the vastly increased and varied needs of the state. The real sentiment, however, that induced the calling of the convention of 1847 to revise the constitution was the pressing need of creating an organic law more stringent, more economic than that at the time existing, one which might better avail in raising the state from its depressed condition, pave a path toward the restoration of its shattered credit, and invite an immigration which was now avoiding it. With a bonded debt, and defaulted interest thereon, the state securities rating at less than twenty cents on the dollar, and auditor's warrants selling at a discount, one can easily conceive the existing necessity for reformatory legislation. The convention of 1847 met the needs of the matter wisely and well, as the spring of prosperity that almost immediately followed after its action has abundantly proved. The legislature had, by an act of February 20, 1847, ordered an election to be held on the 19th of April, for delegates to frame a new state constitution. This election was held, as it happened in Quincy, at the same time with the regular city election. The whigs nominated as delegates to the convention, Archibald Williams, from Adams and Highland (formerly Marquette) against whom there was but little opposition, and from Adams county, B. D. Stevenson, J. T. Gilmer and Henry Newton; the democratic nominees were: Wm. B. Powers, Wm. Laughlin and J. Nichols. Messrs. Williams, Powers, Laugh-

lin and Nichols were elected. This convention met in the following June, and after nearly three months of session, framed a constitution to be submitted to a popular vote for ratification in March, 1848. Its general features may be noticed hereafter. The special bearing that its provisions had upon Quincy and Adams county, was the making of Adams and Pike, a senatorial district, and the final settlement of the county division quarrel, by prescribing in substance that all counties not yet organized, should be re-attached to the counties from which they had been taken. There had been, early in the year, the usual number of meetings and the average proportion of excitement over this vexatious old issue, but the constitutional provision above named, quieted it forever.

At the city election, in April, John Wood, whig, was re-elected Mayor, over John Abbe, democrat, and H. T. Ellis, Thomas Redmond, H. L. Simmons (successor to Fred Johnson, resigned) democrats, and G. B. Dimock, were elected Aldermen. This gave the control of the council to the democrats, but after a prolonged and somewhat personal contest, H. H. Snow, whig, was re-chosen clerk.

A native American ticket for the city offices polled about 50 votes. At this same election an anti-license vote was successful, and also the amendment to the school law, before referred to, which had been submitted for popular ratification.

The same rate of assessment as in the previous year—½ of 1 per cent for public purposes, and ⅛ of 1 per cent for schools, was ordered by the council.

Mail facilities were now better. Besides the daily stage mails from the east, and semi-weekly mails to and from the adjoining counties, there was the twice a week mail from St. Louis, by steamer. Newspaper enterprise was also on the increase. There were the two standard weeklies, the Herald and Whig, also on the 24th of November, a small daily was issued by Homer Parr, and James Sanderson. This was the second venture towards the establishment of a daily paper, and like its predecessor of the previous year, it lived not long. A German Catholic paper, also, the "Stern des Westen" (Star of the West) was started during the month of August. The foundation of the large Catholic Church, the St. Boniface, was laid on May 26th, with impressive ceremonies.

Judge Douglas, who had been a resident of Quincy since 1841, when he was appointed as one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and was assigned to duty on the Quincy Circuit, had been chosen by the legislature, during the preceding winter, to succeed General Semple, as United States Senator. He resigned the seat which he had held in the lower house of Congress by three successive elections, and Wm. A. Richardson was elected by the democratic convention to succeed him. Douglas was then the foremost man of his party in the state as he soon after this became equally its leader in the nation. He was a citizen of Quincy from 1841 until about 1852, when he removed to Chicago and was by far the most noted in his public career of any of the eminent men that Quincy has placed in political life. Although his state prominence had not been cradled in this section, it was from Quincy, as he expressed it, that he was "first placed upon a national career, where he was ever after kept." His five years' service, as a representative from this district, was ably followed by that of Col. Richardson, for the next nine years, with a subsequent election in 1860, and afterward an election to the United States Senate to fill out the unexpired period of Senator Douglas' term, after the death of the latter.

Col. Richardson was at the time of his election in 1847, a resident of Schuyler county, which he had represented almost continuously in the legislature, and had just now returned from the Mexican war with a well earned reputation for bravery and skill. As the successor and confidential associate of Judge Douglas, and from his own inherent force of character, his position and influence in the national councils was always high. At the August election, he carried Adams county over N. G. Wilcox, the whig candidate, by 819 majority. At the same election, P. A. Goodwin, democrat, was elected Probate Judge over Miller, whig, the former incumbent; J. C. Bernard, whig, over J. H. Luce, democrat, County Clerk, and J. H. Holton, Independent, Recorder, over Edward Pearson and J. D. Morgan, the whig and democratic nominees. The entire vote of the county was about 2,100. In the city, the local whig ticket, was successful.

There was but little political feeling manifested in this election, although, during the canvass, the merits of the constitution, which was to be voted on in the following spring, were much discussed. It was coldly received, generally, by the democratic party, and finally met with much opposition. Several of its features were greatly distrusted. The elective judiciary was an experiment about which many had doubts; the proposed change of the county court system was another innovation

that met with question, and that which locally operated upon it was the requirement of naturalization for the foreigner, before he could be allowed to vote.

Until now, under the constitution of 1818, a six-months' residence in the state was all that was required to vest one with the right to suffrage. A discussion of this question, brought about, among some parties, an examination of the poll lists, which resulted in an estimate, not of course accurate, but approximating thereto, of the probable proportion of the foreign-born population of the city which had, as yet, not been shown in any of the censuses taken. From this, taking the names as they were spelled, and as they appeared on the poll books, nearly two-fifths of the voters, even at that early day, were Germans. The great German immigration, to the city, which had commenced in 1835 and 1836 was now steadily increasing, and reached it's maximum during this and the two following years, being accelerated somewhat by the political troubles in Europe. Winter came in early, though in a mild form, heavy snows falling late in November, and lying on the ground through most of the season.

The seasons of 1847 were marked by the same peculiarity that has been observable during the last two years (unseasonable seasons they might well be called) variable and contradictory, hot when it should be cool, and cold when warm weather would seem to be the rule, totally defying the wisdom of the weather prophets and tasking the brains of the "oldest inhabitant" to remember the "likes of such weather," and along with this mutable weather, there were noticed changes among the spots on the sun, similar to those we have recently seen. Whether the new "sun spots" of 1847 had anything to do with the spotted weather of that year, and whether the new sun specks seen in 1884-85 connect in any way with the speckled seasons of these last two years, is a matter for scientific specs to examine into if it is worth the while, not for these sketches to determine; but the facts exist as above stated, and the coincidence is singular.

The most sensational even of its character that had ever occurred here before or since, occurred this year, and created all of the intense local interest that is apt to attend such transactions. It was the trial of Thurston J. Luckett, for the murder of Wm. Magnor. The killing was done in the spring. The trial came off at the October term. The two men were printers, and more than usually intimate. A jealous suspicion on the part of Luckett caused an estrangement, and finally a re-encounter and murder. They met in the Clay hotel, and Magnor was stabbed to death. The trial created more interest than any that ever took place in Quincy. The court house was crammed. Luckett had wealthy associations, and nothing that money could furnish was wanting to aid his defense. Browning & Bushnell defended him, aided more or less by almost the entire bar. The prosecution was feebly conducted by the district attorney, who even left the city while the case was progressing, and it was indiscreetly handled by Warren, who assisted him, and the result was Luckett's acquittal. The address of Browning to the jury, on this occasion, was a most masterly success, which can never be forgotten by those present.

From a partial mention made of a few of the operating manufacturing interests, it appears that there were at this time, eight flouring mills, with a daily full capacity of about eight hundred barrels; two saw mills; one planing mill which worked up, during the year, 550,000 feet of lumber; three distilleries, Osborne's, King's and Casey's, manufacturing about 60 barrels per day; one woolen factory, established the year before, and manufacturing during 1847 about 6,000 yards of flannel Kerseymere; one large tannery; three foundries; seven saddleries; twenty shoemaker shops. This, of course, names but a very few of the many industries of the city. Its improvements had slowly extended, mostly to the northeast and south. As far south as Delaware street, it was fairly built up, south of that and State street there were scarcely any buildings. North of Broadway, except immediately along the North side of the street, was almost no settlement whatever.

The improved portion of Quincy had not much expanded during the first eight years of the city's existence, and its scant proportions as it then appeared, contrasted greatly with the broad circling attractive area dotted with handsome homes and alive with populous movement that now gladdens the eye. The corporate limits continued nearly the same as those that had embraced the village at its city birth, in 1840, with but one change engrafted thereon. Vine, Jefferson and Twelfth, then called Wood street, were yet the boundaries. During this year, 1847, Nevins' Addition comprising the 120 acres lying between Twelfth, Broadway, Eighteenth and Jersey was attached.

This tract of land had been purchased during the wild speculative times of 1835 and 1836, by a wealthy eastern company for $30,-

000, $250 per acre, and it now was platted into lots, 60 in number, averaging two acres to each, and under the operation of a clause in the early city's charter, which prescribed that when any "land adjoining the city of Quincy shall have been laid off into town lots, and duly recorded as required by law, the same shall be annexed to and become a part of Quincy;" this, then open and unoccupied ground, now its most handsomely improved section, was, on the recording of the plat, in March, 1847, added to the city. The next material change in the shape of the city was made in 1857, when, by an amended charter, the northern boundary was moved three-fourths of a mile to Locust street, the southern half-mile, to Harrison street, and the dividing line between Townships Eight and Nine, with two rods additional taken off the west side of Township Eight, so as to include the whole of Twenty-fourth street, formed the eastern boundary. The legislative action which added to the city about twenty-five hundred acres of "farm land" was strenuously opposed by most of those whose land was thus captured, and many of whom were made citizens against their wish, but the project succeeded and became a law.

Again, what was was known as the Institute, or East Quincy, a tract of about 120 acres bounded by Twenty-fourth, Broadway, Thirtieth, and a line on the south about equidistant from Jersey and York extended, by a legislative addition to the charter was made a part of the city. These comprehend the present existing boundaries. The original city contained almost exactly 800 acres, 120 more with the Nevins Addition; and the enlargement, of 1857 and 1867, have swelled its area to somewhat more than thirty-five hundred acres, precision being impossible because of the irregular outline of the river boundary on the west. Such is the brief statement of our territorial changes and expansion during forty-five years.

A short sketch of the Nevins Addition, above mentioned, as having been the earliest extension, will show more clearly than any other section the advances that have been made in property values, and is also worthy of note from some bearing that it has had upon the subsequent shaping of the city. This tract of land had cost its owners, as before stated, $30,000. For years it remained on their hands, an expense and unsalable. They often tried to sell it, for less than one-third of its original cost, but could not.

Throughout the eight or ten years of "hard times," following after 1837-38, there was not to be found in Quincy any such sum of money to be invested in land for future speculation. Finally, on the suggestion of their agent, that, if divided into town lots, it might be sold off at such prices as would realize them the return of the original purchase, leaving out profit, interest, taxes, etc., they made and recorded a plat and authorized their agents to make sales in such proportion as would nearly recover to them the gross amount of the principal of their investment. This called for an average value of $500 to each of the 60 lots. The plat was prepared without properly conforming to the lines of the old city survey, and this neglect has been a source of much subsequent expense and trouble both to the city and to property owners. Some time passed before any sales were made, and then they commenced at very low figures, but such as will strangely contrast with the rates of this time.

Lot 1, measuring 567 feet, on Broadway, and 114 feet on Twelfth, was bought, in 1849, for $400. During the present month a portion of this lot, fronting on Broadway, has been sold at the rate of $25.00 per foot; making a total estimate value to the lot of over $14,000. Lot 38, also, 176 feet by 400, reaching from Maine to Hampshire, sold the same year for $475. The purchaser occupied and improved the lot at once, sold portions of it at increasing values from time to time and has now, within the last few weeks, sold out what he had remaining, being one-sixth of the entire lot, for $5,000. The other lots were sold generally in about the same proportion, gradually increasing during four or five years; the whole addition, thus sold, realizing to the ten stockholders of the company about $40,000, at prices varying from $3.50 to $7.50 per foot. These figures now seem small, but they are quite an advance on the first public sale of lots in Quincy twenty-five years before, when, for instance, the entire front on the south side of Maine street, between Fourth and Fifth, was sold at auction by the county commissioners for seventy-six dollars, or ten and three quarter cents per foot.

This was the first large tract of land belonging to non-residents that had been offered for sale, and it was all bought in by local purchasers, in most cases for their own use and occupancy. All the land in and adjacent to the south part of the city, was, and had long been, owned by John Wood, the Berrians, and S. B. Munn; that on the north by Willard Keyes and three or four other resident owners, and the Droulard quarter, lying immediately east of the "original" town had also

been parcelled out to several resident owners. The defects in the plat of the Nevins addition, were, that it provided no cross streets running north and south, and that neither Jersey nor Vermont street were aligned in conformity with the same streets as they lay in the city. The adjustment of these errors had been troublesome and expensive, and that in regard to Jersey street is not yet fully completed. It was on account of this trouble caused by this irregular survey that the now existing requirement was made that all plats of additions to the city shall be submitted to the council for approval before being placed on record.

Maine street, east of Twelfth, had been declared some time before; not running on a direct line east, but slightly deflecting about half its own width so as to clear the north line of the old cemetery at Twenty-fourth street.

The alternate street plan, or double block distance between the streets which run north and south, was thus brought about. It was evident that sooner or later some such streets would have to be made, and the owner of the property at the corner of Maine and Fourteenth, seeing that if they were opened consecutively, equidistant about 400 feet, as in the city west of Twelfth, his own ground would be cut in an undesirable shape. So, passing by Thirteenth, he secured the laying out of Fourteenth from Broadway to Jersey, alongside of his own property, and similar interests a few years later opened Sixteenth. The Moulton quarter was platted in the same manner, and the streets north and south of these additions have of necessity been made to conform. For the uses that are now made of the ground thus laid out, this system of double blocks east and west is not inconvenient, and in some respects is preferable, although not advisable for the older and more business sections of the city.

One can now hardly realize that at the time of which we write, 1847, there were between Twelfth and Twenty-fourth streets, but nine buildings; the residences of Mr. Moore and Mr. Sherman, and their land office near the corner of Chestnut and Twenty-fourth; the Morton cottage, now Buckley's, and the "Call and See" house, now White's, on Broadway, the Kingman house and Cooley's cottage, opposite, at the corner of Maine and Twelfth, and another near the corner of Jefferson and Twelfth. East of Twenty-fourth, at the Institute, there were a dozen or more dwellings. South of Jersey and between Ninth and Twelfth, there were only the houses of John Wood and Wm. Gerry, and a couple of cabins on the Berrian quarter, and north of Vine between Ninth and Twelfth, about the same number. So great has been the change in a generation's time.

CHAPTER XXVI.

1848.

"SKIDDY TRACT" SOLD. NEW STATE CONSTITUTION. JUDGE PURPLE. FIRST STEAMBOAT BUILT. TELEGRAPH INTRODUCED. FIRST DIRECTORY. RAIL ROAD MEETING. HARBOR IMPROVED. FIRE DEPARTMENT. WELLS, BULL, STONE, MORGAN AND GREEN "RUN WITH THE MACHINE." FISCAL FREE SOIL PAPER, THE TRIBUNE, STARTED. W. A. RICHARDSON ELECTED TO CONGRESS. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. FIRST FIREMAN PARADE.

Another sale of a large tract of land occurred during this year, the history of which better indicates the variations of value in real estate, such as have frequently been mentioned in these sketches, than does that of any other lands now embraced within the limits of the city. Its transfers were few until the time when five or six years later than this (1848) it became a platted addition to Quincy. This is the 160 acres in the northeastern section of Quincy, long known as the "Skiddy quarter," now Moulton's Addition. I have in my possession and before me the original patent for this quarter section (160 acres), granted by the United States in 1818, to Paul Bernard, for services as a soldier in the war of 1812. On the back of this parchment is the conveyance made by Bernard of this tract during the same year to John R. Skiddy, for the sum of fifty-three dollars. The Skiddys kept the land until 1848 when they sold it for $6,000. It was next platted in 1854 into eighty lots, averaging about two acres each, and sold at public auction for about $40,000, $250 per acre. What its present value is or would be without the improvements on it, any one may make his own estimate.

The new State Constitution, framed by the convention which met at Springfield the summer of 1847, was submitted to a popular vote for ratification or rejection, on the 6th of March. There was a good deal of uncertainty attending the result. Its merits had been thoroughly canvassed and discussed during the preceding six months, and a strong opposition had been developed in some sections of the state. This opposition generally came from the democratic press, but was not sufficient to create a partisan issue. The delegates from Adams County to the convention from both political parties stood by their action there and were sustained. The leading peculiar feature of the constitution was its

economic character, and the four points chiefly in discussion were the reduced rate of salaries; the elective judiciary; the clause prohibiting the advent to the state of free negroes, and the proposed tax of two mills on the dollar to be solely applied towards the reduction of the public debt. These last two propositions were voted upon separately. Strangely enough the heaviest opposition made, was to the two mill tax, really the best feature in the entire instrument. In Adams county, out of a total vote of 2,241, the majority for the constitution proper was 923, for the negro clause 571, and for the two mill tax 53. The vote was proportionally thus throughout the state; the constitution securing a majority of 44,028; the negro exclusion clause 28,182, and the two mill tax the much reduced majority of 10,431. Only one county (the adjoining county of Brown) cast a majority vote against it.

The new constitution having changed the judicial system of the state by the creation of a separate supreme court in place of the court composed of the several circuit judges, and prescribing that these officials would be chosen by a popular election, instead of appointed by the governor and senator, as heretofore, elections therefor were held on the first Monday in September. Judge Purple, who had most acceptably presided in the circuit court of this county, declined to continue in this position, assigning as the reason, that he could not live on the $1,000 fixed by the constitution, as the salary for the circuit judges. His retirement from the bench was much regretted. He had earned distinction of being the most able and satisfactory judge in the line of capable jurists who had hitherto adorned the Adams county bench.

It had been claimed and believed by many that the judicial elections would not become political, but they did at once. Wm. A. Minshall, whig, of Schuyler county, and Wm. R. Archer, democrat, of Pike, became candidates for the place. Minshall was successful, although beaten in Adams county by about the party majority, 223 votes. He presided over this circuit until 1851, when a new circuit was formed consisting of Adams, Hancock, Henderson and Mercer counties. At this same election R. S. Blackwell was elected prosecuting attorney over Elliott, who had formerly filled the office, and S. H. Treat was chosen without opposition to the supreme judgeship from this district.

At the city election, April 17th, John Abbe, democrat, was elected mayor by a vote of 545 to 506, over John Wood, whig, who had held the office successively through the past four years. The democrats carried the city, electing Amos Green and H. L. Simmons, aldermen in the First and Second wards, and the whigs securing George Bond, in the Third. With this complete control, the entire city organization was made democratic. At this time, under the first charter, only the mayor, aldermen and city marshal were elected by the people, the other officers being chosen by the council. W. H. Benneson was made city clerk, displacing that veteran official, Judge Snow, and I. N. Grover, selected as superintendent of public schools. To his intelligent interest and action during this early period of its history, the educational system of the city is greatly indebted.

A special census ordered by the city council, in connection with the public school matters, and very carefully taken by I. O. Woodruff, gave a total population on the 16th of May, of 5,896; white males, 2,953, white females, 2,841; blacks, males, 52, females, 49.

The winter of '47-48 was long, but mild. A great deal of snow fell early, often and late, affording almost uninterrupted good sleighing throughout the winter. There was as late as March 6th, the day of the election on the new constitution, a snow storm of unusual severity.

The first steamboat hull constructed in Quincy was during this year. It was set up at the foot of Delaware street, and was launched on the 18th of March. The advantages of Quincy, as a steamboat building point, with the convenient harbor of its "bay," had been in earlier times much dwelt upon, and hence this launch was quite an affair and attracted a large concourse of people. The hull was successfully set afloat, and towed down to St. Louis, to be completed and receive its machinery.

Telegraphic communication with the outside world was established in the summer of this year. It had been much delayed by a controversy between the O'Rielly, and the Kendall & Smith interests, which had extended all over the west. Quincy was called upon for a subscription of $10,000. At a public meeting held on the 26th of February, $7,200 was subscribed. Soon after the full amount was made up. On the 8th of July the wires were brought into Quincy. The first formal message transmitted was from Sylvester Emmons, at Beardstown, to the Quincy Whig, to which a reply was sent, as the Whig mentioned it, "Quick as lightning." On the 12th, the line was completed from Beardstown to Springfield, making a connection with St. Louis.

The Quincy Library, now in the seventh year of its existence, reported having on its shelves thirteen hundred volumes, and also the

possession of a valuable philosophical apparatus.

The first "directory" of the city now made its appearance. It was a crude affair, as contrasted with those of later days, but answered the wants of the time. It was gotten up by a Dr. Ware, also a stranger in the city. He was an eccentric man. He projected about this time, what he called a "Mutual Political Journal." It was to be a novelty in this way. One-half was to be edited by a Whig, and the other by a Democrat, so that the parties could fight their battles on the one field. The project died about the time that it was born. There had before this, been two attempts at making up a directory, but they were trifling, and this one of Ware's may be fairly called the first complete one, such as it was.

Quincy had as yet, no railroad facilities, or "railroad felicities," as it was ignorantly but felicitiously expressed by a blundering member of the Legislature, who did not realize his own apt perversion of language when he thus styled them. The only railroad in actual operation in the state at this time was that completed portion of the Northern Cross Road (now the Wabash) between Springfield and Naples, which was all that had cropped out from the great Internal Improvement system of 1836. This magnificent plan which was to have spider-webbed all Illinois with iron, and upon which millions of money had been wasted, was now dead, beyond all resurrection, and with it had sunk the credit of the state, but a feverish feeling was everywhere prevalent that the interior resources of the state outside the range of lake and river navigation should be reached after and developed. Railroad meetings had been held here in December, 1847, and in January and later in the year 1848. These movements culminated soon after in the buildings of the C. B. & Q., and afterward, the Wabash to Quincy and the commencement of our great railroad bond indebtedness. The state sold its unfinished railroads; and that portion of the "Northern Cross" west of the Illinois river, upon which some hundreds of thousands of dollars had been expended, was purchased by parties in Adams and Brown counties for $8,000. The company commenced work, but not very successfully, and finally merged their ownership and interests with the city by whose large subscription mainly the roads were constructed.

The city council with an eye, that it has always had, sometimes with more zeal than judgment, towards advancing the material general prosperity of the city, appropriated $500 towards the improvement of the harbor conditioned on the citizens subscribing an equal amount. The appropriation stood, but the individual subscriptions were laggard. At their May meeting the council, acceding to the request of the city council of Alton, passed resolutions of remonstrance against the action of the city of St. Louis in the building of a dyke from Bloody Island to the Illinois shore, thus forcing the Mississippi into the narrow channel that it now has between this island and the Missouri shore. This was the commencement of a controversy between Illinois and Missouri interests, which lasted, and controlled our legislature for the following fifteen years. The issue was, that all public improvements in Illinois should be for the benefit solely of points in Illinois, and not for places in either of the states on our eastern or western boundary. That is all forgotten now.

The fire department, which Quincy has always had reason to pride itself on, took its best start this year. Its inception was in 1838 when the town bought four ladders, twelve buckets and six firehooks, which led at once to the formation of a hook and ladder company. This was followed in 1839 by the purchase of a fire engine at a cost of $1,125, and the organization of Fire company No. 1. It would be amusing now to read the list of the now "grave and revered seniors," Wells, Bull, Stone, Morgan, Green and others, the young bucks of that time who "ran with the machine." Another engine, a second-hand one from St. Louis, the "Marion," was purchased by the city for the sum of $600, a company, No. 2, formed of similar men to those above named and from the emulation that sprang at once came the high efficiency and repute which this department of the city institutions has always maintained.

The annual fiscal statement for the year ending April, 1848, exhibited a much larger revenue than that of any of the preceding eight years, and also a corresponding increase of expenditure. The total expense record of the city was $15,794.05, and as showing how and where the money went, among the larger items of account were for salaries, $1,547.86; streets, $2,600; schools, $1,841.88; poorhouse and paupers, $1,142.46; public landing, $635.65; interest on debt, $1,498.90; fire department, $258.88. There was received from taxes, $6,271; wharfage, $1,147.31; licenses, $2,656.97.

The bonded debt at this time was comparatively small and the interest was regularly met. The credit of the city was good, vouchers generally passed at a little less than face value, and it was not until some years later that they declined to the ruinous rate of dis-

count under which they weakened for twenty years or more. It was a costly after-page in the city history, when for many years, its warrants and vouchers bore a depreciated value of from thirty to forty percent, causing an equivalent addition to the cost of every public improvement or expenditure and adding just so much more to the increasing pecuniary burden. The usual tax levy was ordered of $\frac{1}{2}$ of one per cent for general and $\frac{1}{8}$ of one per cent for school purposes. The schools were now in a prosperous and improving condition. An attempt was made by the colored citizens to obtain a separate public school. Several meetings were held and the council was petitioned in that behalf, but the matter was deferred and nothing came of it.

The past experiments of the city in running the ferry had never given satisfaction and it was now licensed to the charter owners for $61 per month.

The winter business of 1847-48 figured up fairly, the price of hogs ran from $1.75 to $2.15, and 19,906 were reported as packed, the largest number yet known. Wheat through the season averaged about 75 cents. The mills reported in the fall about 3,000 bushels ground daily. Quite a loss to the place occurred on the 18th of September in the destruction by fire of Miller's woolen factory, which had been well operated for the past two years. A severe tornado struck the city on the 21st of June, destroying several buildings and doing a good deal of general damage.

Another weekly newspaper made its appearance on the 13th of September. It was called the Quincy Tribune and Free Soil Banner, edited by an association of gentlemen. It was as its name indicated, an anti-slavery extension or "Wilmot proviso" journal and supported the Van Buren and Adams electoral tickets. It was spicily conducted during the campaign, but the publication ceased in the following year. On the first of December was issued the Western Law Journal, edited by Charles Gilman, reporter for the Illinois Supreme Court. It was the first legal journal of its kind in the state and continued in monthly publication until the death of its editor a year or two later.

At the August election, the last which was held in that month, the new constitution having changed the time to November, Wm. A. Richardson was re-elected to congress without opposition, and the democrats carried the county by majorities varying from 200 to 350. O. C. Skinner, J. Marritt and Jonathan Dearborn were elected to the house over B. D. Stevenson, J. Irwin and Hans Patten, the district embracing Adams and Brown counties; H. L. Sutphin was chosen state senator from Adams and Pike, beating Archibald Williams five votes in Adams and much more in Pike. There was a good deal of interest over the election of circuit clerk and recorder. It was the first time this office had become elective. Abraham Jonas was the whig candidate and Peter Lott, I. O. Woodruff and C. M. Woods were in the field as democratic candidates. The day before the election the latter two withdrew in favor of Lott, who was thus successful over Jonas by 323 majority.

The presidential election in 1848 was marked by the earnestness and excitement which always attends these contests, but it possessed a peculiar interest from the presence of a third factor in the field. This was the free soil party, with Martin Van Buren and Charles Francis Adams as its candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency. This movement operated powerfully in the northeastern states and to a lighter degree in the west, but it cut sufficiently into both of the two great parties everywhere to shadow the result with uncertainty. The close completeness of this canvass and the vote drawn out, is shown by the fact that at the state election in August the highest total vote cast in Adams county (now consolidated by reunion with Marquette) was 3,329; while three months later in November, at the presidential election, these figures rose to 4,488, out of which Cass, the democratic nominee, received 203 more than Taylor, the whig candidate. This majority was all made in the city, the county vote outside of Quincy being an exact tie between the two. Van Buren's vote was 261. The election lay undecided for several days, and it was not until late on the night of Friday after the day of election, that the telegraph brought the returns from three southern states assuring the victory to the whigs.

The city was made lively at once, but the result had been so long in doubt and each side was so hopeful that for awhile both parties were on the hurrah, and it took some time for them to unmix and the beaten ones to go to bed again. An odd little incident occurred in connection with this election. It was the first election by ballot that had been held in the state, and the writer, with another, started out the day before to distribute the printed whig tickets at several precincts in the county, and voted at one of them on the day following. It happened that there were no Van Buren tickets there, and several sturdy democrats were present who had long looked to Mr. Van Buren as their political leader, and were desirous of voting for him. No one knew the names of the free soil electors, and we

were called upon, but could only remember the two leading names. These we gave, and a ticket was written out, headed with Van Buren's name and these two electors only, which received some ten or fifteen votes. These were counted and canvassed, no exception being taken, a procedure that would not go through anywhere nowadays, unless in Chicago.

The first fireman's parade, of which the city has since had so many, came off on the 4th of July. It was a successful event. The two Quincy companies and a visiting company from St. Louis formed the procession and participated in the contests. A pleasant episode occurred on the 26th of October, on the occasion of the retirement of Judge Purple from the bench where he had so popularly presided for several years. It was the presentation of an address and resolution of regret to which the Judge feelingly responded, which was followed by a farewell banquet given by the members of the bar.

CHAPTER XXVII.

1849.

TAXATION OF CITY PROPERTY FOR COUNTY PURPOSES. PUBLIC READING ROOM. FEMALE SEMINARY ESTABLISHED ON MAINE STREET. FINANCIAL. CHOLERA. CALIFORNIA EMIGRATION. J. M. HOLMES. THESPIAN SOCIETY. PICKETT, THE FAMOUS CONFEDERATE GENERAL, AN AMATEUR ACTOR. POPULAR LECTURES. LIBRARY. SLANDER SUIT OF BROOKS AND BARTLETT. RAILROADS AGAIN. CHANGE IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

The vexed matter of the taxation of city property for county purposes became a matter of consideration and conference between committees of the city council and the county commissioners, but there was no result reached. At the November election the question of adopting township organization for the county was submitted and carried by a vote of 1754 to 453, every precinct in the county voting for the measure except Quincy, where the vote stood 228 for to 276 against, the Quincy vote being largely influenced by the belief of many that if the city became a township it would injure its chances of remaining as the county seat. This was unfortunate. Heretofore the estrangement between city and county had been caused by the county seat quarrel. Now, and for nearly forty years after, there was added to this the issue of unequal taxation. That the Quincy people had some foundation for their fears is shown by the fact that in December an effort was made to re-open the old county seat matter through an application to the county court to have the case reinstated. It did not, however, prevail.

The cause of most of the discordance between the city and county was an article in the first charter, passed by the Legislature, in 1840, exempting "the inhabitants of the city of Quincy * * * * from any tax for county purposes, except for the completion of the county jail, now being erected in said city." This puerile provision quietly interpolated into the charter with the thought perhaps that something might be gained thereby, attracted but little attention at first, but soon after proved to be a "Pandora's box" of evil and dissension. It was unnecessary, as subsequent history has shown, but it long served as a source from which prejudice, jealousy, personal interests, and political demagoguery could always make material for discord and strife. This is to a great degree now allayed, but it was throughout the lifetime of a generation and a half an ever festering sore.

A public reading room, which had been started late in the fall preceding, on quite an extensive scale, flourished well through the early part of this year. Its rooms were on Fourth street, between Maine and Jersey, and it announced as having on its files over 60 newspapers. It was popularly patronized for a brief time, but, like several other institutions of the same kind in the past, its life was brief, scarcely reaching into the second year.

Educational interests were roused by the coming to the city of Miss Catherine Beecher, of the well-known Beecher family, who had devoted herself to the establishment of female schools. Under the stimulus of Miss Beecher's prestige and presence much interest was awakened and at a public meeting on May 31 the project was set on foot to establish a first-class female seminary, many of the leading people giving favor to the enterprise. It contemplated an expenditure of $10,000 in ground, buildings, etc. The school was located on Maine, near the corner of Sixth street, and commenced with high expectations. It was superior to any that had preceded it, but it finally went the way of the others, after a duration measured more by months than by years.

The annual fiscal statement for the year ending April 1, 1849, gave a clearer idea in its detail and summary of the financial condition of the city, than had been usually made in these periodical exhibits. From that it appears that the receipts into the treasury, from all sources had been, during the year, $12,718.92; while the expenditures during the same period were $12,217.88. The liabilities of the city were placed at $35,834.65, a large portion of which was the outstanding vouchers. The debt of

The uncertainties that surrounded its stealthy coming gave it (aided by its chief agent, Fright,) a greatly increased fatality.

During the preceding year it had swept through the seaboard and lake cities and early in the spring developed itself in the Mississippi Valley, coming upon Quincy like a lightning stroke. On Saturday, March 17th, five cases were reported, all of which proved fatal during the night and Sunday. Two of them were four miles north in the country, at Miller's or Leonard's Mill. The other three were in the south part of the city. Only one more death occurred during this month, and none in April, thus giving hope that the blast had passed by, but with a like suddenness it reappeared on the 13th of May, when five deaths were reported, and before the end of the month seven additional fatal cases occurred; yet on the 1st of June and for the following ten days there were none. But, with a deadlier stroke it returned for the third time, on the 11th of June, and from that time continued to increase in the number of cases and malignancy, up to the 4th week in July, when it commenced abating. About the first week in September it finally disappeared.

How it affected public feeling and business is expressed by the Whig, which, in its issue of July 10th, says: "The sickness last week, and the increased number of deaths, seems to have spread a gloom over the city, visible in the countenances of all. It is indeed a trying time in the history of Quincy. All business in a measure is suspended. Our country friends seem to have deserted us, but few visit the city, and those only who are compelled to do so, to provide the necessaries for the harvest. Travel, to a great extent, on the river, is suspended for the present, and the packets now plying between this city and St. Louis are probably not paying expenses. How long this state of gloom and despondency is to last, the Great Disposer of events only knows."

Two hundred and thirty-six deaths from cholera were officially reported as late as the latter part of August, when the disease had nearly run its course, but this record is defective, since many burials were unreported. The distinction between deaths from "cholera" and "other causes" was for reasons that will be understood, usually made to discredit the extent of the epidemic so as to allay apprehension. An addition of at least one hundred to the above figures would be not far from correct. The heaviest mortality was in the last week in July, when 44 deaths were reported, the total number reported for this month being 142, and the most deaths on any one day being 15 on the 29th.

Beside its free ravage among the immigrants it found a field among the families which, because of the unusually high water, were driven from the bottom lands, near the city, and had crowded themselves together in temporary homes. Therein was a feast for the pest. In one house, thus occupied, on Vermont street, eight died within three days. In a German family, on the corner of Jefferson and Seventh, consisting of eight persons, all died save one, an infant. It destroyed entire families. The wife of a well-known Magistrate, Prentiss, was taken by it and died on Monday. On Thursday the grave was opened for the husband. Dr. Stahl, the earliest German physician, who had more to do with the disease than any other, lost his wife and child almost at the same time. Dr. Barlow rode out to visit a patient, a mile east of the city, was there caught by the cholera and died, and in a week his wife followed him. The Mayor of the city, Enoch Conyers, a man of rather unusual physical health and regularity of life, was suddenly cut down on the 21st of July. Rusk, a prominent Odd Fellow, died, "of cholera," and was buried by his lodge on the 23rd. Charles Gilman, a prominent lawyer, reporter for the Supreme Court, attended this funeral, officiated, and in the morning he was dead. No appreciation of the condition can be derived from description, nor can any words picture the general despondence of feeling. The morning enquiry was: "Who is dead?"

Singularly enough, during all this time, while twice the epidemic had apparently left the city, it continuously infected the steamboats plying the river. In early June, at a time when there were no cases in the city, a steamer—the Uncle Toby—passed up the river, landed here with three dead bodies on board and before it reached Rock Island there were twenty-four more added to the death list.

Public meetings were held to demand more complete sanitary measures, and the council ordered the examination of all strangers coming into the city, appointed inspectors of health for each ward, made free appropriations, established a pest house, etc., but the disease had its own way, and it was proven that no measures can ever drive away this fell destroyer when preventive precautions have been neglected.

It is a curious fact connected with the cholera record of Quincy, a fact that perhaps may be worth scientific investigation, that on its first and second brief visits the victims were almost wholly strangers. Five of the six who died here in March and nine out of the twelve reported in May, were non-residents or newcomers, but on the third appearance in June, it

struck equally at all classes of the community, although its ravages were more general among the German citizens. It then seemed to have thoroughly planted itself and pervaded the place so that neither vigorous health, regularity of life, careful precaution and avoidance of conditions which were supposed to invite the epidemic, were safeguards from attack. When it reappeared during the two following years of 1850 and 1851, though with far less fatal effect, the cases were isolated and in all ranks of society. This peculiarity led to the prediction, favored by some very high medical authority, that the cholera had or would become a permanent disease of the Mississippi valley, as much so as it is reckoned to be in the valley of the Ganges, a prophecy which was dissipated by after experiences, and now is no longer regarded. Fright was the plague's best ally, as it was in 1832.

It is said that a prominent lawyer, who was afterward a supreme judge and governor of the state, hearing, while at breakfast, that the "cholera had come," gathered his family and what of furniture he could hastily pack, and hurried away as fast as horseflesh could draw him, leaving his house open and the breakfast dishes still on the table. In many cases people fled in almost equal haste at this time, and it not infrequently happened that they took the disease with them. The spread of the epidemic was, however, slight in the adjacent portions of the county.

CALIFORNIA EMIGRATION.

California emigration was the great all absorbing event of this year. The gold discoveries on the Pacific coats in the preceding year aroused and fostered a fever of excitement and restlessness such as the country had never before known and can never know again; irresistible in its spread and permeating every class and condition of society. Though cupidity and gold getting was the primal incentive, and the basis of this great movement, yet the activity of almost every other restless passion gave to it an added stimulus. Curiosity, the spirit of adventure, love of novelty, the contagion of that feeling which makes men rush in wherever others are, so started a swarm of human wanderers, such as on this continent will never again be witnessed. Flowing from every section of the land, the united adventuresomeness of the east, south and north poured itself in an increasing stream, across the great grass plains, and through the lone gorges of the rough rock mountains on the pathway to the promised land of gold.

Every hamlet and nearly every home sent forth its wanderer, and with the earliest opening of spring the green prairies were whitened by the long caravans of wagons carrying with them hardy and adventurous gold seekers.

California was the common topic of thought and talk. The excitement of this unprecedented gold fever was universal, infecting all ages, classes and conditions and reaching into every avenue and recess of society, enlisting, not only the adventurers with nothing to lose, but also, making men who had secured permanent prospects and position, throw aside business and profession, and for the time being abandon home attachments and duties, at the alluring beck of the golden wand.

The first to start from Quincy was a party of nineteen, made up mostly of well-known citizens, who left on the 1st of February, going by the sea route and across the Panama isthmus, some two months before the land emigration across the plains began. The nineteen Avant Coureurs were: John Wood, D. C. Wood, John Wood, Jr., Dr. S. W. Rogers, George Rogers, I. H. Miller, D. M. Jourdan, Aaron Nash, W. B. Matlock, David Wood, John McClintock, John Mikesell, George Burns, J. Dorman, J. J. Kendrick, O. M. Sheldon, C. G. Ammon and Charles Brown. These familiar names are given, as they illustrate the varied character of these emigrators, some almost boys and led, or rather headed, as they were, by two of the veteran pioneers of the place. John Wood, its oldest settler, and Rogers, its oldest physician, who had both grown gray in Quincy, would seem to have been among the last to thus shake off the settled comforts of home, and assured position, won by so much of past toil, to, once more, in after-meridian age, venture upon a wandering more wild than that of their early days. But as an experienced "Sucker" dame pithily expressed it, "They've tuk the fever like onto the boys and the old uns allers catch it the wust."

A special interest attached to this party as being the earliest to depart; an interest heightened by the rumor of their shipwreck in the Mexican gulf, and their perilous adventures before they reached the Golden Gate, and because in their letters home, came their first personal reports of experiences in California. All but three of this party returned within the next two years.

By far the greater portion, nearly all, indeed, of the "Californians," as they were called, took the route across the plains. Their outfit and appearance was thus described by a local journal at the time "being usually composed of a train of half a dozen or more wagons with three or four persons to a wagon.

Several of the wagons were drawn by four mules, though the majority of them were drawn by three or four yoke of oxen. All of them were fitted out in a substantial manner, with every necessary required for the trip, and take the men as a body, they are all of the go-ahead class, and will go thro' or 'break a trace,' as the saying is."

Quite a number of those who left, with this complete equipment for the journey, met with misfortune by the way, from wagons breaking down, cattle dying, etc., and finally reached California, some on foot and some, a little better off, riding an ox or mule. How many went from here and about here, cannot be told, but the number was large. Over 200 were reported as having gone from Quincy, which is none too high a figure. From the Mill creek section a party of 26 formed a train; about 40 went from the Lima neighborhood and from all sections around there was the same proportionate number. Among these, both from the city and county, were many people of prominence. Singly and in small parties the greater portion of them gradually returned, and but a few adopted California as a permanent home.

Of those publicly known here who remained were D. G. Whitney, who for many years had been the leading merchant of Quincy; Dr. Wm. H. Taylor, one of the earliest and most successful physicians; John L. Cochrane, a prominent teacher and former city clerk and surveyor, and others who found fortune or attraction in the new country which most of the adventurers failed to realize. The interest that attended the departure of these Californians did not cease with their going, but long continued, general and intense, not unlike, though in a less degree, to that which attached to the movements of our soldiers during the Civil war, when the pulse quickened with every telegraph tick that told of news from the front. Every item of information was now caught at with avidity, each personal piece of news from the west was presumed to have some word for all, and a Californian's private letter to family or friend was considered to be and apt to become public property.

The winter of 1848-9 was uncommonly snowy and cold; the 17th of February being recorded as the coldest day remembered for many years. The river opened on the 4th of March and closed again on the 25th of December.

The resumption of navigation in the spring in those days, before the advent of the "iron horse," was the commencement of trade and the event of the year, and coming as it did at this time on the 4th of March, the same day that the whig administration stepped into power, it afforded a good deal of pleasant chaffing among the politicians over this coincident date of improvement and prosperity. It opened booming high, and the great flood continued until late in the summer, giving a good boating stage of water until nearly the close of the year.

Old steamboatmen state that never in their recollection had the Mississippi opened at such a high stage of water, and at the same time so full of running ice. Owing to the long continued overflow of the banks, the ferryboat was compelled to make its landing across the river at LaGrange, and for many weeks was kept running night and day to that point, conveying the hundreds of California teams that went from or passed through Quincy on their westward journey.

The running out of the ice with such an unusual "full banked" river was a peculiar and attractive sight, such as is not often seen, and brought with it two curious accidents. The steamer American Eagle, a Quincy boat, since it was owned and commanded by Louis Cosson, an old-time resident, had, with two or three other boats, just arrived from St. Louis and lay at the landing with "steam down." One of the other boats ran up the river, struck into the great gorge of ice which fettered the stream about four miles above, and having broken it, turned about and came back post haste, followed by the avenging ice, and rounded up into the bay for safety. The movement of the ice as it steadily swept along after the flying steamer, was witnessed by many, and was very imposing. It stretched in an unbroken sheet from shore to shore, advancing at a pace so gradual, still and slow, that it seemed as if a touch of the hand might check or turn it, and yet with momentum that was irresistible. Creeping on and on, it caught the luckless Eagle at the landing and lifted the large steamer as though it were a toy, shoving it high upon the bank with its outer side broken in. Pushing on yet farther down, the relentless ice found a small stern-wheel steamboat, the Champion, lying at the foot of Floyd's Island, just above the mouth of the Fabius. The captain, on seeing the ice on the way towards him, had moored his vessel at the south point of the island with a cable on each bow so as to draw up the boat on whichever side of the island the ice did not come. Unfortunate, it divided and came on both sides, crushing in the sides of his vessel and sinking her to the boiler deck.

A good story was told in this connection, of Capt. Louis Cosson, a jovial Frenchman. He was not on board of his boat at the time, having gone up the hill to see his old friends and have a good time generally. John Martin

Holmes, clerk of the boat, was asked why they happened to be caught in such a fix all unprepared, with steam down, his answer was that the captain was up town and had taken all the steam that the boat was allowed to carry.

These names of Cosson and Holmes suggest some pleasant memories of the personnel of our people in the past; of the individuality of those who composed the community; and whose daily doings shaped and colored social and public action. Each man, however he may be placed, is more or less a factor and feature in the general movement of all; contributing his portion of what furnishes the material of history, his seeming unimportant nothings aggregate "the sweeping surge of history." The life of the many individuals constitute the life of society itself. The life of an individual is often attractive and interesting in retrospect, and worthy of a place in local annals.

John Martin Holmes was one of the men who was, in his own way, an institution in Quincy from 1838 to 1850. He was a genius of high type; of infinite wit and humor, gifted with a rare poetic faculty. He was the soul of enjoyment in every social circle, and the brilliancies that he constantly uttered were the repeated quotations everywhere, as what "John Holmes said." He was of a name and stock of genius, "kith and kin" to the famed Senator John Holmes of Maine; to Oliver Wendell Holmes; to the South Carolina Holmes, and to all of the name, who carry, wherever it is borne, the same brilliant characteristics of refined intellect and unsurpassed humor. Their ancestry all hinges back to a gifted Scotch clergyman, one among the pilgrim fathers, and who is traditioned as having in his time startled the staid puritan consciences by his unseemly waggeries, as well as impressed them by his unquestioned piety.

Volumes could not record all of the ready brilliancies of John Holmes, but we call up one "yarn," suggested by the allusions to the cholera and to the accident of the Eagle, and, moreover, as it brings to mind the name of another patriarchal landmark, who now past the age of 90, still preserves the bright racy geniality of spirit and fun that has happily attached to his long consistent Christian career.

Mr. Foote was in Cincinnati in the summer or fall of 1849, and he met John Holmes, who offered him a free trip to Quincy on the Eagle, which Mr. Foote declined. Two years after this we saw a meeting of Mr. Foote and Mr. Holmes here in Quincy. Mr. Foote saluted the other with, "I am glad to meet you. Have you got any of that 'Moral Medicine' left that you recommended to me at Cincinnati?" Holmes' answer was in keeping, and after they parted we drew from him what was meant by the "Moral Medicine." He said that he had offered Mr. Foote a free pass from Cincinnati to Quincy on the Eagle, but that the parson said, "No, it's Saturday now, and I never travel on the Sabbath; I shall wait here until Monday." "Why," said Holmes, "I can fix all that; we've got left over a lot of cholera medicine that we used in the spring when we were down about New Orleans. It's got every ingredient necessary. It's as stringent as the Saybrook platform and can put you to sleep better than a Congregational sermon. I can give you a dose of that to-night and put you and your conscience asleep until the middle of next week—clear past Sunday." Mr. Foote, however, declined, and it was this proposed prescription which he afterward referred to as the "moral medicine."

The population of the place, so far as nationalities were represented, had by this time, in 1849, undergone a most marked change. Already the foreign born, by reason of the rapid immigration of the ten preceding years, had become in number at least equal to those who were "to the manor born." Among the earlier settlers there were more from Massachusetts, Connecticut and Kentucky, than from any other states or sections; the Kentuckians being more prominent, politically, as they were then and had been all over the state and the west, politics being the specialty of the Kentuckian, wherein he is only surpassed by the Irishman. Prior to the town organization, in 1834, there were scarcely a score of citizens of foreign birth. About that period a few German families made the place their home, and this immigration continued. Shortly after, with the commencement of work upon the state railroads, there was a very large influx of Irish, who permanently remained. For some years the Irish element of population outnumbered any of the other alien stock, but the steady flow since 1838, directly hither from the "faderland," had by this time made the Germans to outnumber those of all the other nationalities. Still, however, as before stated, notwithstanding the predominance of the alien element in the mingled population, the conditions had as yet been but little changed or affected. The city did not at all, as it now does, present the picture of a population more than half foreign in appearance and an ownership of property and transaction of business in a much larger ratio represented by citizens of foreign birth or extraction. This fact is evident not only from casual observation, but it is shown by the census statistics, which report Quincy as having in 1880, with a population of 27,268, 20,706 native born, and nearly one-

fourth, 6,562, foreign born; and also, in 1870, 7,733 foreign out of a total population of 24,052.

Such is the picture of Quincy as now (1886) exists, its dominating influences of sentiment, wealth and numbers. It was not thus thirty-seven years ago, although the popular elements were relatively almost the same. The home-born or native portion of the people remained in rule; foremost in social, in business representation and in all else except politics. That power had been taken away as early as 1840, and it has since been held by the naturalized citizens. This control was easily obtained for the reason that, until changed by the new constitution in 1848, a residence in the state of six months sufficed to give to any one, whether native born, or naturalized, or neither, the full exercise right of the elective franchise. And we know that there is no privilege for which men grasp more eagerly and cling to more pertinaciously than this.

At this time the people all knew each other; the interests of each were the interests of all; men mingled more together. Secluded during a large portion of the year, while frost fettered their communications with the outer world, hibernated, as it were, they were thrown upon their own resources for occupation and enjoyment. The winters had to be passed through, and there were then no opera houses, dime museums, skating rinks, traveling shows; nothing from outside, for they couldn't get here, and hence society had to fall back on itself, and there was then brought out, of course, "all the fun there was." The social assemblings, parties, tea drinkings, church gatherings, sleighrides, etc., passed away the time. Business was not as crowding and anybody could "shut up shop" for the day and go a-fishing or somewhere else. There had been, a few years before, a quite popular and successful Thespian Society, whose semi-monthly exhibits furnished entertainment to the good people. It comprised among its members nearly all the then young sparks of the place, nearly all now dead. Chickering, Taylor, Sam Seger, Hoffman, Grant, Dell Milnor and Pickett (the two last boys, who played the female parts), the later, Pickett, afterward the famed Confederate General. These were gay gatherings, attracting the attendance of all and vastly the more entertaining because of the intimate mutual acquaintance between the audience and actors. Of the buskined stars who paraded on the stage of mimic life and forced either applause or amusement from their friendly auditors, we believe, now remain Fes Hunt, T. H. Brougham and J. T. Baker. Wouldn't it be a rare occasion if these veteran relics of Quincy's former dramatic genius would once more consent to tread the histrionic stage?

But the chief and periodical attraction of the winters were the library lectures.

Brief mention may here again be made of these weekly lectures, since they present a picture of what was going on and being done during the days of winter seclusion forty years ago, and also on account of the contribution they gave to the construction and support of what has now become a fixed and valued institution of the city. They constituted almost the sole source of available revenue to the public library. The lectures were home-made, prepared by our own citizens, with an occasional, though very rare, addition by some neighboring clergyman or by one of the Illinois College professors. They were given gratis, and upon such subjects as the writers chose. Some of them were of much merit, and if all were not so, yet all were attractive and well attended, and they fully served a pleasant, social purpose, as also the financial need, which they were chiefly designed to meet. The expenses were next to nothing. The use of the court house was free, and only lights and fire had to be provided, so that the winter course usually netted two or three hundred dollars, about the amount that in later years has been often paid for a single address from some eminent professional lecturer. As a part of this reminiscence, herewith is given the lecture programme for the season of which we write, 1848-9, the list of lecturers and their themes, which will convey an idea of the character of the mental food provided and recall also some familiar names. These were: John C. Cox, subject, "Progress of Civilization Since the Christian Era"; A. Jonas, "The Future Exemplified by the Past"; Rev. Rollin Mears, "English Poets and Poetry in the 19th Century"; Dr. S. Willard, "Pneumatics"; Dr. R. Seeds, "Anatomy of the Eye"; T. Bronson, "Early Settlement of the Mississippi Valley"; Rev. J. J. Marks, "Earth as Made for Man"; John Tillson, Jr., "The Saracens in Spain"; O. H. Browning, "Our Duties and Obligations in Reference to American Slavery"; Rev. H. Foote, "Yankee Character"; Peter Loft, "The Upper Ten Thousand." All of these, except Dr. Seeds, a skilled Scotch physician, who spent an occasional season here, were well-known residents. The prices of tickets were as follows: For a gentleman, $1.00; a gentleman and lady, $1.50; for a family of four persons, $2.00; of six persons, $3.00; and from this was usually netted a few hundred dollars, which was devoted to the purchase of new books, and without which the library would

have stood still. This is shown by its ninth annual report on the 3rd of December. There were then, eight years after its establishment, but 86 shares sold, 78 stockholders, 1,574 volumes (of which 80 were circulating), valued at $2,123. Founded on donations and with a choice selection of books to begin with, it secured but little after-aid of this kind. Two hundred and fifty volumes were added during this year, almost all purchased with the net proceeds derived from the winter course of lectures. The slow, struggling growth of the Quincy Library has been the same as that of nearly every similar organization elsewhere. Of all the beneficent institutions which appeal to public spirit and generous philanthropy for their creation and maintenance the public library is that which labors under the most difficulty and has its claims last and least considered. Churches, colleges, hospitals, schools of science and art, secure benefactions from liberal living patrons, whose names are duly chronicled, or great bequests from departed millionaires, many of whom hope thus to atone for a life of greed by giving away that which they can no longer keep, but among these many objects of philanthropy the library profits the least. The reason for this is obvious. Interest, personal sympathies, conscience, custom and many another influence operates to point the direction of donations and bequests. But the library is exceptional. The lover of books, if his wealth will warrant, prefers to perfect his own home collection, while the great mass of those who use and benefit by the public library has not usually the means to contribute towards its increase. The Quincy Library has now passed through a forty-five-year career of this natural indifference, and only now, within the past year, has it recognized and assured position, by the provision of a tax levy, devoted to its support. The institution was projected at a meeting of some ten or a dozen persons on the 5th of March, 1841, a constitution was adopted on the 13th and organization perfected on the 20th of the same month. It was opened to subscribers on the 18th of April and incorporated on the 4th of October of the same year. At its first annual meeting, December 6, 1841, there was reported to be 735 volumes on the shelves, one-half of what it had now, eight and one-half years later.

Another weekly newspaper, the People's Journal, made its appearance during the summer of this year. It was published by Louis M. Booth, a veteran editor now residing in California, who had made several ventures of this kind, but never very successfully. The paper was short lived. It professed to be "independent in politics" and, of course, followed the usual fate of such journals. To be "of independent thought" is very apt to be considered independent of thought, and very uncertain is the career of that newspaper which has not a political influence in caucuses and conventions and reaching its limbs and blossoms towards the public offices.

Much interest existed during this season over the temperance cause, with nearly as much excitement as that which accompanied the Washingtonian movement of several years before. This last had gradually subsided, but was now successfully succeeded by the organization of the Sons of Temperance. Weekly and largely attended meetings were held, and the accessions were numerous. The cause became customary and popular, so much so that most of the politicians joined for awhile. The universal apprehension of the coming cholera conduced to the advance of this movement. The year was marked also by an unusual degree of religious feeling and revival, stimulated probably by the same cause as above named. It is a notable fact that men are more nearly ripe for reformation, most ready to abandon the follies and temptations of the visible world when within the threatening shadows of the unseen. Either a tendency like this or to the other extreme of despairing, unbridled recklessness has been the attendant moral feature of all the great plagues of the past.

The season was singularly backward; as much so as had ever been known. As late as the middle and latter part of April there were severe frosts and the ground was frozen for several days. Rather odd it was, however, that this late rasp of unreasonable cold left slight injury upon vegetation in contrast with what was naturally apprehended. Spring showed up slowly for several seasons. Planting was late and the acreage of the county fell off from that of former years. Not only was this caused partially by the varying weather in the early portion of the year, but labor was less plenty and the work on many farms was curtailed in extent by the California emigration. The withdrawal of so much of the agricultural force of the community could have no other result than this, since the larger portion of these emigrants were the young farmers of the country, and in some cases all the grown males of a family, father and sons alike, took the fever and went. Up to the first of June 4,350 California wagons had passed through St. Joseph, bound westward; and this was but one of the half dozen crossing places of the Missouri river, and was but single file in the broad column of travel that from the lakes to

the gulf was centering for the long march over the westward plains.

It may perhaps be best portrayed how things looked during this eventful year, chilled in its natural progress by the early and intermittent cold, dispirited by widespread sickness and death in high places, by quoting the lament of a veteran editor who blends his story of the season's slowness and the business depression, with his own personal mournings over the loss of all the pleasure that was "going to waste." He was one of the best of the good men of Quincy (now gone, all honor to his memory), and withal a most devoted disciple of Izaak Walton, having done as much in his way toward the capture of the "finny tribe" as his son, S. P. Bartlett, now armed with a state commission, is striving to do, to "balance the scales" and to restock our depleted streams and ponds, which the father so enthusiastically "went for."

Thus moralizes the veteran Editor and Piscator in his paper on the first of May: "The weather the past week has been anything but pleasant and agreeable." The season, indeed, has been very backward, cold, sickly, gloomy and without any fun. Last year at this time the trees were out in their full foliage, and we had participated in one or two fishing parties. But this spring, the "Father of Waters" continues to run out brim full and a little over. He is on an awful high; seems to have swallowed up all the bars between Galena and St. Louis. Well! so be it. It can't be helped, but we do long to make a visit to one of our old fishing haunts, where, with a choice friend or two, we may while away the day in "just nat'rally" coaxing the finny tribe. Talk of the enjoyments of the town! what are they compared with the pleasure when sitting on a shady bank, with well-baited hook and line, and rod in hand, and not a sound to disturb the stillness of the scene, save the "woodpecker tap'ning the hollow tree" or the chattering of the solitary king-fisher, to suddenly hear the quick sound of the cork as it plumps below the surface with a pop! as the minnow is seized by a voracious Pike, or Bass or Dogfish (the sneaking rascal). We imagine we feel him as we give him play! Now here—now there—down into deeper water; and as the "iron enters deeper into his" jaw, he lashes the water into foam with pain and vexation! Exhausted at last, he is drawn ashore!

"What say you, Pom & Co., C. M. Pomeroy, John Tillson, Geo. Bond and others. Dull show, isn't it? But we will assure our friends of the rod and line,

"There is a good time coming, boys,
A good time coming!

"The lakes and ponds are now full, and when old Mississippi withdraws within his banks, we may expect the sport to commence, and that sickness will yet abate and business hopes be restored."

Notwithstanding the unpromising aspects of the early part of this year, with its withering sickness and its late and light land tillage, the outcome was unexpectedly satisfactory. Production of all kinds, though not fairly up to the average increase of former years in quantity, was generally superior in quality, as is not uncommonly the result of a backward season and a lessened extent of farm cultivation. Fruit was abundant, the grain yield was good, and most of it was safely harvested, thus creating a brisk business for the fall, sufficient to compensate for the dullness of the spring and summer months.

The provision business of 1848-9 had been steady and active. More pork had been "put up" than had been packed in the preceding winter, the rates running quite regularly from about $2.70 to $3.00. Nearly an equal amount of provision was cured during the winter of 1849-50, although the packing season opened very late and rather dull, the first figures for pork being $2.25 and slowly raising afterward, but at no time equal to the prices of the previous winter.

Real estate rates varied but little during this year, and the changes of property ownership were not very many. It was reserved for the succeeding year, 1850, to exhibit the full commencement of a rapid advance in land and values of every kind, which continued for several years, almost equaling the great speculative periods of 1835 and 1836. The price given for one well-known piece of property, at the time considered to be among the most valuable and salable lots in the city, will convey an idea of how property rated at this time. Part of lot 1, block 18, at the southwest corner of Maine and Fourth streets, 28 by 100 feet, with a three-story brick storehouse on it, was sold for $4,035 cash. At the same time the ground adjoining on the south, 40 feet front on Fourth street, and 99 feet in depth, was purchased for $640, $16 per foot. The varying values which attended the transfers of this piece of property are curious.

At the original sale in 1831, the entire lot, 99 feet on Maine, by 190 on Fourth, was bought of the county commissioners for $18.25. It was early improved by Captain Pease and Burns, who successively owned it and erected on it what was about the best two-story frame dwelling house and store building in the place at the time, and it was half a dozen years later purchased and occupied by the Branch Bank

of the State of Illinois. When this institution failed, the property went to sale, and in 1843 the north portion of it was purchased by A. T. Miller, nominally for about $10,000; but as this consideration was in the shape of the depreciated state bank paper, which had no fixed value whatever, it would be difficult to determine what it really sold for. The old bank building was then removed to the south end of the lot, and Mr. Miller, an enterprising merchant from Baltimore, the brother of George A. and E. G. Miller, built on the corner what was then the largest store-room in the city, a three-story brick, 100 feet deep, twenty-five feet front width on Maine, being the building which was occupied by the Herald office, when destroyed by fire in 1870. On the death of Mr. Miller, the property was purchased as above stated, by S. & W. B. Thayer, for $4,035. Five years later, 1854, it was again sold for $15,000.

The telegraph line, which had been completed to Quincy, by way of Beardstown and Springfield during the preceding year, had not been under the O'Rielly management, operated to the satisfaction of all concerned. Of the local subscriptions on which the Illinois line was established, about $10,000 had been raised in Quincy and vicinity. A meeting of the stockholders was called and held, at Peoria on the 10th of April, and then there, under the state law, a new company was formed and organized, into which was merged the O'Rielly stock and interest, and a different management was assumed. This was what has since been known as the Caton and Western telegraph company, which soon became exceedingly prosperous, as its predecessor had not been. The Quincy interests at this meeting were represented by Newton Flagg and Lorenzo Bull, the latter of whom was made a director in the new company. On an assessment of 40 per cent being ordered, to relieve the company embarrassments and carry forward its business, a large portion of the Quincy stock was allowed to be forfeited. The few who paid up this assessment and retained their interests eventually found the investment very successful and remunerative.

A quite exciting trial came off at the June term of the circuit court, which aroused all the political and no small amount of the personal feeling of the place. This has now passed away under the shade of nearly forty years, but it was a stirring event at the time. It was a slander suit brought by S. M. Bartlett, editor of the Whig, against C. M. Woods, publisher of the Herald. Woods and Austin Brooks were the Herald proprietors, and Brooks was the editor who had written the articles complained of, but the suit was brought against Woods as being equally liable and more personally responsible. It assumed a yet more sharp partisan character from the fact that most of the whig lawyers of the city were engaged for the plaintiff, and the democratic lawyers as generally took part in the defense; and also because the court was presided over by Judge Minshall, who had just been elected to the bench, as the whig candidate, after a warm political contest at the first election when judges were chosen by a popular vote. His rulings, therefore, were often regarded on the one side as being the conclusion of party prejudice, and on the other sometimes thought to be timid from his fear that he might be suspected of too much leaning to the side of his own political faith. Judge Minshall was an able, honest and impartial man, but very slow of thought and new on the bench, which made him sometimes appear wavering and undecided. A quick-minded, prompt acting man like his predecessor, Judge Purple, would have been far better fitted to handle such a case at such a time, and escaped much of the unjust criticism that Judge Minshall received. The arguments of the lawyers, on the one side especially, were almost like political speeches. The result at the close of a contest running through several days was a nominal verdict for the plaintiff. This trial, while unimportant except as to local feeling, did, however, affect and illustrate some things well.

One result of this slander suit between Bartlett and Brooks was an improvement in journalism in its future assumption of a more courteous character, and more creditable and proper tone than it had previously exhibited, which, with occasional exceptions, it has since maintained. Editors discovered that the public regarded with no sympathy, but with positive aversion their parades of private griefs and personal abuse, which had become to be almost the sum total of editorial topic. Criticism and denunciation of the opposite party soon drifted into personal vilification of each other, and the result was that in such cases the character of each contestant was lowered not more by what was charged upon him by his opponent than by the display that he made of the worst side of himself.

The public estimate finally placed upon what was said by these belligerent "knights of the quill," is shown in the story of the Quincy lawyer, who counseled against a suit for slander being instituted. "Why," said the angry would-be client, "he has abused me outrageously; he has said ———" "Pshaw!" said the lawyer quietly, "What of it? Nothing that such a fellow says can slander any-

body, and more than that, my good fellow, don't you know between ourselves whatever anybody may say against you, no jury would think of considering slanderous?"

Bartlett and Brooks were unusually superior men in their vocation. Well versed in local political and general public information, ready and trenchant writers, and each popular and trusted as a leader in his party. They represented, in sentiment and in character, the extreme views of the two parties of that day—the whig and democratic.

The project of a railroad coming into Quincy from the east, which had for years past been talked about by the busybodies, thought of by the thoughtful, and about which so many public meetings had been held, came at last into a shape of certain advancement. The reckless and luckless experiment of the state originated in 1836, to cobweb itself all over with railroads, had resulted in only one thing observable, which was a huge debt that required fifty after years of exceptional taxation to pay, and nothing beside, except scattered over the state a great deal of incomplete and worthless work. These and the ownership of road beds and franchises was all the state and public had to show for the expenditures. The legislature wisely offered all these (except the debt) for sale. On the 6th of August, at Springfield, sale was made by the state to James W. Singleton, Samuel Holmes, C. A. Warren, J. M. Pitman, H. S. Cooley and I. N. Morris, of all that part of the Northern Cross railroad lying between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, terminating at Quincy, for $100,000 in state securities, which were then at so low a depreciation that the cash consideration of the sale was really but about $8,000. This sale carried with it the ownership of the roadbed, etc., and all the franchise rights contained in the original charter. Much heavy and expensive grading had been done by the state on several sections of the line, some of which was subsequently utilized, but in building the present road, a large portion of the old survey was abandoned, especially that part which lies in Adams County.

It was the original design of the parties who had purchased this railroad from the state to obtain local subscriptions from Quincy, and from Brown and Adams counties, and thus strengthened, to procure moneyed means from the east to carry on its construction. In furtherance of this plan, a meeting of citizens was called, and held at Quincy, on the 13th of October, and after some discussion which revealed the fact that there existed some dissatisfaction with the project in the shape in which it then stood, a committee was appointed to present the matter to "eastern capitalists," but from this nothing resulted.

On the 22d of October a company was formally organized, under the provisions of an act passed Feb. 10th, 1849, with I. N. Morris, as president; Samuel Holmes, secretary, and J. M. Pitman, treasurer. Work was immediately ordered, a competent engineer, Wm. T. Whipple, and a corps of assistants, were engaged, and surveys commenced, resulting in the early establishment of lines varying not very much from the original route. This organization did not, however, for some reason, meet the general sanction, and early in 1850, it was changed, and a year later changed again. A meeting, not largely attended, on the 30th of October, asked the county to vote a subscription of $100,000. Nothing came of this, however. This brief sketch is the history of the beginning of the connection of this city with railroads, for which enterprises it has furnished nearly a million of dollars. The successive steps in 1850 and in 1851, when the city for $20,000 purchased the road, became its chief owner and subscribed $100,000, the first installment of the great debt above alluded to, will be stated in their proper order.

There were several radical changes made during this year, in the system of county government—changes prescribed by the new state constitution, and by the legislature which followed its adoption, all of which affected the subsequent current of Quincy history. From 1825 to 1834, Quincy, though the county seat, was not more than any other hamlet or settlement (pronounced in ancient sucker vernacular with the heaviest kind of emphasis on the final syllable) and its local government, if it had any, was like that for the rest of the county, vested in the three commissioners, who exercised supervision and sway over all the corporate and internal interest of the county. The immediate local jurisdiction of Quincy, passed in 1834, when the town was incorporated, under the control of the board of town trustees; and six years later, in 1840, with the formation of the city, the municipal authority was vested in the city council, making the city somewhat peculiarly and almost entirely independent of the county authorities, and subsequent action made it more so. The new state constitution of 1847-48 abolished the county commissioners' court, and also the office of probate judge, providing in lieu thereof, for a county court, composed of one chief and two associate judges, clothed with full primary jurisdiction in all matters of probate, and "such other duties as the General Assembly may prescribe," connected with the administration of the county affairs. Here was

a much-improved advance from the old county commissioners' court system, and the chief and best features of which have been retained and engrafted into the later and present constitution of 1872. Following upon this constitutional change, came the adoption of the township system, authorized by law and now prevailing in most of the counties of the state. To Quincy and Adams county the action unfortunately taken at this time about the changes in the form of county government, both in the reconstruction of the county court and in the adoption of the township system, induced a Pandora's box of trouble, which a generation's patience has hardly yet healed. The constitution of 1847 had conferred a blessed local benefit in its arbitrary reunion of Adams county, and thus treading out the dispute over a division of the county, but sore sectional feeling showed itself in a strife over the elections above referred to. The old county court had so much been the nursery where county quarrels were nurtured that to some extent these distrusts and estrangements entered into the choice of the new court, each party apprehensive of what might be the action of the new tribunal, vested with so much more power, and on the township question almost a clear issue was made between the county and the city.

The township system for local home government originated in New England, and gradually became adopted in some of the other northern states. The county court system was the plan universally in use in the southern states, and Illinois, which was originally a county of Virginia, had engrafted it in its state constitution of 1818. The former system is much the most advantageous and satisfactory, as it is more in harmony with the democratic principle of our institutions. It brings the machinery of local government nearer to the knowledge and control of the voter, making each town, as it were a little republic, the unit factor in the general government, through which local interests can be more effectively promoted, and better guarded. Wherever it has been adopted, it has never been departed from and is gradually becoming the local system for the country.

It was optionally incorporated into our state constitution of 1848, and in April, 1849, a law was passed providing a plan and authorizing the counties to vote thereon. About half of the counties of the state, generally in the northern part, embraced the new plan, and since then a large number of others have done so, and in no case has a county gone back to the old system. Adams county was among the earliest to vote for township organization, but it was a long time before it was completely established, and its history in connection with the county and Quincy is peculiar. In compliance with the law above-named, the Adams county commissioners, rather unwillingly, it was said, at their September session, passed an order to "the judges of election in the several precincts in said county, to open polls for voting for or against Township Organization, as provided by the statute of Illinois, in force, April 16, A. D. 1849." The vote thus provided for was taken at the November election, and resulted in favor of township organization by the decisive majority of 1,301, in a vote of over 2,200, the significant fact being, that while every precinct in the county gave a majority for the measure, Quincy only, voted in opposition, more than half of all the minority votes thrown against it being cast in the city.

As authorized by the above mentioned vote, the commissioners, on the 6th of December, appointed a committee to divide the county into townships. This committee reported in the following March, 1850, the formation of twenty towns, with boundaries defined and names recommended, Quincy being one of them, having its limits the same as those fixed by the city charter. This report was adopted with the exception that in several instances, the names proposed by the committee were changed by the court at the request of the people of the township. Subsequently two additional towns, Mendon and McKee, were established, making the permanent sub-division of the county to consist, as it does at present, of twenty-two towns, inclusive of Quincy. The city, however, consistently with its vote of opposition, and to its own disadvantage, took no steps toward town organization, held no election for officers in April, and steadily refused to claim or have any representation in the Supervisors Board for twenty-five years, until 1874, when it came in with its representation of one Supervisor and Assistant Supervisors, to which by its population, it was entitled. It was a singular fact that during all this period, at any time a dozen citizens of Quincy could under the law, have compelled it to organize, or the Board could, on this default of the city, have appointed supervisors for it; but the wish of the city to keep out, was met by a willingness on the part of the county that it should stay out. Dignified diplomatic relations were maintained, however, between the two powers, and by formal treaty and agreement, Quincy, in consideration of its waiver of the right and responsibility of representation, annually paid in lieu thereof a stipulated sum towards the support of county expenses; at

first $300 per annum, afterwards increased to $800, and finally $3,000.

At the regular election in November, which was for county officers only, and also for the vote on the township question, party nominations were made and party lines were drawn. The political status of the county was uncertain. At the presidential election in the preceding year, Cass, democrat, carried the county over Taylor, whig, by 203 majority, but there was also a Van Buren, freesoil, vote of 261. It was the first election for officials of the new court, a judge and two assistant justices. The sensitive sectional distrusts before mentioned, and also some personal issues entered into the election and broke the unity of party action. The democrats elected their candidate for county judge, Philo A. Goodwin, by a large majority, the two associates and the school commissioner. The Whigs elected J. C. Bernard, county clerk, and also the county treasurer.

The chief and almost the only special political excitement of this year was confined to the democratic party.

It was over the election to the United States Senate, of a successor to Sidney Breese, whose term expired on the 4th of March. His opponent for the caucus nomination was James Shields, who died recently, after having been the recipient of more varied distinctions than almost any other man of his day. The position which Adams county, with its large and able delegation to the General Assembly, might assume was important and indeed, largely determined the result. Breese was the more learned, the abler and older public man, having a political record of prominence as old as the state history, but he was not possessed of popular manners or disposition and he had also fallen out with his junior colleague in the Senate, Douglas, then the rising man of the state, and already almost, as he afterward was, omnipotent in Illinois. Shields was a genial, magnetic man, of fair talent, and he presented himself to the people with the fresh prestige of Mexican war wounds and honors.

The two aspirants visited all sections of the state and Quincy with the rest. Breese here obtained an instruction in his favor to the legislative delegation from this county, but after the legislature had convened, a democratic public meeting, held at the court house, passed reverse resolutions which instructed for Shields. The latter was elected, but on taking his seat at Washington was confronted with the charge that he had not been nine years a citizen of the United States, which he really lacked by several months. This fact was well known at the time of his election, but it did not prevent his being chosen, although his rejection was a certain consequence. On failing to maintain his senatorial seat he appealed to the legislature at its special session in October, and was easily re-elected. Time had now cured his disability. It is a singular fact that a strong factor among the many influences which conduced to Shields' success at this time, was his well-known opposition to slavery extension (a question that had now begun to permeate all the politics of the land) and that it was his faithful adherence to his friend Douglas in 1854 on the passage of the Nebraska bill (reluctantly given, for he disapproved its policy), that prevented his renomination and threw him out of the line of political promotion in Illinois.

Among the exciting local events of the time was the murder of Major Prentiss, who was found dead in the street near the court house on Christmas eve, evidently killed. He was a well-known citizen, who had mingled much in local politics, and his violent death created a great sensation. Murders were infrequent in those days, and whenever they did occur, the murderers rarely escaped detection and punishment, a marked contrast with the record of crime in later years. In this case, West, who was charged with the offence, was, in the following year, tried and sentenced to a three-year term of service in the penitentiary.

With its period of wilting sickness and depression; the depletion from emigration; the doubtful early prospects of crops and dull seasons of business, latterly revived; the radical changes in public relations, this was one of the most eventful years of Quincy history; the more also it may so be considered because with the latter part of the year began a "boom" of prosperity; an advance in real estate values, in population, in business activity, which, rapidly developing in the following year, continued unabated for the next ten years.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

1850.

CALIFORNIA EMIGRATION. CHOLERA. FIRST SUCCESSFUL MEDICAL SOCIETY. CENSUS TAKEN. POPULATION OF COUNTY AND CITY 26,508. PRIVATE BANKING BEGUN. TEMPERANCE AGITATION. FISCAL STATEMENT OF CITY. PERIOD OF PROSPERITY. LOSSES BY FIRE. TWO GERMAN NEWSPAPERS. FALL ELECTIONS. STEADY GROWTH. PROPERTY VALUATIONS.

The ice blockade of the winter of 1849-50 was of brief continuance. The river closed in 1849, on Christmas day, and opened on January 29th.

giving good average navigation throughout the year, and not closing at all during the winter of 1850-51. The dreaded cholera which had so fearfully scourged the city in the previous year, returned, but its ravages were comparatively light. About fifty was the estimate of the total number of deaths. The exodus to California continued, notwithstanding that the returning pilgrims of the year before brought but little to show for their venture, and generally gave dissuasive advice to those who were smitten with the gold fever; but the report of a single case of success in the mines, no matter how doubtful its credit, would outweigh all else, and the stream of treasure-seeking adventurers still unbrokenly flowed westward.

It was an observable and somewhat curious fact that of the hundreds who went from this section to California in 1849 and 1850, many more of the second-year emigrants made there their permanent home than of those who were of the year preceding, and that among the number who have thus remained, the larger proportion came from the emigration of the county outside of the city. The second emigration was made up of a more stable element, and men moved away from their former homes with more fixed intentions and better arrangements, and a great many took along their families.

The public excitement was still at the full and the interest as rose-colored as ever, with that novelty and hope which even at this long later day attaches to every idea of California. Time had not at all tamed the early eagerness of adventure, and all reports from the few who had as yet returned were accepted just as the hearer wished. In one respect the interest had changed. Danger was no longer dreaded as attendant on the trip across the desolate, trackless, savage-haunted plains, or over the long tortuous ocean route, but an equal apprehension arose from the attested rumors that cholera had waylaid and was doing fell ravage among the traveling trains.

Sickness and pestilence are the saddest of inflictions at home, but when they reach after the far-off wanderer, away from care and sympathy and resources, they bring tenfold terrors, magnified by wild rumor and fancy. The cholera was fearfully fatal in places on the plains, though the stories of its progress were naturally much exaggerated. A special anxiety was felt in Quincy, for the reason that with the earliest reports that the disease had broken out among the emigrants, came also the news of the death of Charles Steinagel, one of the most active and prominent German citizens of this place. Quite a number of Quincy and Adams county people died of this disease, but the conditions of the climate, the pure air and the altitude of the country were repellants to the pestilence, which otherwise might have reaped a fearful harvest.

Among the now fixed institutions of the place, the Adams County Medical Society, as at present constituted, dates its origin in this year. Several attempts had been made by the resident physicians during the preceding ten or twelve years to form a local medical association, but the efforts were short-lived, and this was the only successful organization. It commenced with a membership of ten. Drs. Ralston, S. W. Rogers, Roeschlaub, Hollowbush, Wilson, Watson, Shepherd, Leach, Chapman and Elliott; all familiar names for many years in the past. Of these, all but three (Chapman, Elliott and Shepherd) were from the city, and now, thirty-six years after its formation, two only of the original members of the society survive, Dr. L. T. Wilson, of Quincy, and Dr. L. Watson, of Ellis, Kan.

The seventh national census was taken this year by E. H. Buckley and W. R. Lockwood, Deputy United States Marshals, appointed for that purpose. Prior to this time, as prescribed by the constitution of 1818, a state census had been taken every ten years, intermediate to the time of the national census, for the purpose of apportioning the representation in the state legislature, which is established every five years; the framers of this first constitution, rightly foreseeing that with the rapidly increasing population of the state, this representation would soon become unequal and uncertain if dependent for its accuracy on the decennial federal census. This state census was taken in 1825-35 and 45, but the provision therefor, under the economic influences of the time, was omitted in the state constitution of 1847, and also, unfortunately, left out of the constitution of 1873, so that every alternate readjustment of representation in the state legislature is now based largely on guess work.

The returns of this census, which was quickly and correctly taken, gave a population of 16,901 to Quincy, and to the entire county, the city included, 25,508. This placed Adams county after Cook and Quincy next to Chicago on the record as the most populous county and city in the state, a relative position which they maintained during the twenty succeeding years.

The private banking business of Quincy began with this year. After the suspension of the State Bank of Illinois, with its branch in Quincy, in 1842, there was for some years much difficulty in conveniently obtaining eastern exchange. This was an especial embarrassment to the mercantile business of the place. At

certain seasons of the year, during tax-paying time, some relief was afforded by the land agencies who at that period were drawing upon their eastern clients, and it was not an infrequent custom for the merchants to send to St. Louis, or even to the branch bank of the State of Missouri at Palmyra and there purchase drafts by which to remit and make their periodical payments to their eastern creditors. For a year or two before this time, Mr. Newton Flagg had been engaged in selling exchange in a quiet way, and his business grew so greatly that in the fall of 1850, in partnership with Charles A. Savage, with whom afterward I. O. Woodruff was associated, the banking house of Flagg & Savage was opened on the south side of Maine street, between Fourth and Fifth, afterwards removed to the corner of Maine and Fifth, where for years was transacted a large and lucrative business. The house suspended in 1857, and resumed a few months later, but after a hard struggle of one or two years, finally closed in 1860. It was the first permanently established private bank of the place. The earliest in date, however, was that of J. H. Smith and A. C. Marsh, who opened, on the 5th of March, near the corner of Maine and Fourth, under the Quincy House, the "Farmers' and Merchants' Exchange Company." It was not strong, however, and its existence was brief.

The temperance sentiment, which at this time was all pervading throughout the country, took possession of Quincy with a force unknown before or since. Many and large petitions were presented to the council protesting against the liquor traffic, and the granting of licenses therefor. In deference to these an election to obtain the wishes of the people was ordered to be held on the 9th of March. There was a singular accord of feeling expressed on this matter. The people, the politicians and the press worked all one way. The Whig, Herald and Journal vied with each other as to which should be foremost and most radical in the cause, and the result was that out of a poll of 578 (being about two-thirds of the entire vote of the city) all but 45 votes were given against license, making a temperance majority of 488. The council immediately thereupon assembled and passed an ordinance forbidding the retail sale of liquor and also revoking the licenses already issued.

The proprietors of the Northern Cross Railroad held a meeting on the 15th of February, and, after subscribing $10,000 additional stock, reorganized the company by the election of J. W. Singleton, I. N. Morris, N. Bushnell, N. Flagg and J. M. Pitman as directors, with I. N. Morris as president; S. Holmes, secretary, and Ebenezer Moore, treasurer. The board gave notice that on the 1st of April the railroad company would take possession and claim the exclusive use of that portion of the roadbed lying within the city. A committee was appointed by the council to confer with the railroad company upon the matter. This property referred to was that part of Broadway west of Twelfth street extending to the river, which had been relinquished by the state to the city prior to the purchase of the remainder of the road by the railroad company. As the city's title was secure and the railroad company had really no use for the property claimed, action on the subject went no further. Subscription books to the stock of the road were opened on the 2nd of April to remain open for thirty days. No additional stock was taken. Prior to this period, about the first of March, the president of the road asked from the city a subscription of $150,000. It was not responded to. The time had not yet come. The engineers, Messrs. Whittle and Shipman, published two exhaustive and excellent reports of their survey, etc., in which they estimated the value of the road as purchased at $120,000. Farther than the labor of the engineers in their survey, no work of any consequence was done upon the road during this year.

The fiscal statement of the city for the year ending April 1, 1850, was a well-prepared and favorable showing. The amount of bonded indebtedness was reported as $33,373.43, of which $20,000 had been created by the refunding operations of the past year, when by the issue of this amount of bonds, which realized, when placed on the market, $18,400, all the then matured bond obligations of the city were taken up and a balance of about $1,500 in cash, was left in the city treasury for "pocket money." It was a judicious, well-managed operation. All of the bonded debt mentioned above would mature consecutively during the next ten years. The outstanding vouchers in circulation amounted to $1,994.26, about the same as at the end of the last fiscal year, but there was at this time cash on hand to meet these liabilities. The total expenditures of the city for the past twelve months had been greater than during any preceding year, but this was unavoidable, as, in addition to the natural increase of expense with growth, the year 1849 had made many and unusual demands upon the public purse. The prevalent pestilence had caused the nuisance, poor house, pauper and other accounts to swell to a large figure, and there had been completed and paid for, during this year, one of the costliest improvements ever made by the city. This was the grading of Sixth street from Maine to Jersey, which involved the filling of a ravine twen-

ty feet deep running along the entire length of the block.

At the annual city election in April there was no party contest. The democratic ticket, headed by Mr. Holmes, was successful over an independent ticket by a decisive majority; Holmes receiving 569 votes against 394 for R. S. Benneson, the independent nominee for mayor. At the same time, Amos Green and H. L. Simmons, democrats, were elected aldermen in the First and Second wards, John Wood only, in the Third ward, being chosen on the independent ticket. The city council was decidedly democratic, and the organization and action for the year was radically the same. There had been an election held all over the county on the 2nd of April for town officers under the township law, now for the first time going into operation, but the city, though declared as one of the towns, decided not to hold an election.

With the satisfactory condition of the city finances and its credit placed in a better shape than at any time before, there came now an active advance in business, which increasingly continued for the next half a dozen years, slowing down after that time until in 1861 it was revived by the war times, when there was plenty of money and so many interests and almost everybody, for a time, lived off the government. This revival of business life and industry was all over the land as well as here. By some it was attributed to the stimulus of the California gold coming into circulation; by one-half of the politicians it was credited to the national administration being whig, and this was as zealously denied by the other half. Again, and with some degree of truth, so far as it concerned Illinois, it was claimed that the new constitution, by its having redeemed the bankrupt credit of the state, had encouraged and invited immigration. It was really, however, besides the effect of the above influences, the natural periodical return of prosperity, and confidence that regularly appears after a period of depression.

In Quincy the effects were early and evident. It was a year of bustle and improvement. Two daily packet lines of steamers were running to St. Louis in addition to the Galena and St. Paul boats, two or three of which passed every day. Property rapidly advanced in value. For instance, the two large lots in Nevins' addition of the southeast corner of Maine and Twelfth streets, where now stands the Webster school house, and which had been offered for sale in the year before at $500, now were bought for school purposes by the city for $2,000, and today probably the same property without the buildings thereon may be easily called worth ness structures were erected. The McFadon's, Rogers', Mauzey's buildings on the north side over $50,000. Many superior substantial busiof the square; Kendall's, since called the City Hall, at the corner of Maine and Sixth; Luce's buildings, on Fourth, south of Maine, where for a long time the post office was located, and a number of other permanent and costly edifices were erected, giving better appearance to the city. Some handsome private residences were constructed. This was a feature in Quincy's appearance which was sadly neglected before. Now it equals any other city of its class in the state, in the number, variety and elegance of its private residences. Then, and up to this period, there was next to nothing to show of attractiveness in this line, nothing but what would be second or third class today. The old Wood, Keyes and Young mansions and two or three others were about all. The Leavitt house, perhaps the most pretentions and expensive private residence of its time, was built this year. It stood on the corner of Vermont and Eighth, was afterward purchased by General Singleton, and now is built over and forms a part of the St. Mary's School.

With the general business stimulation, manufacturing enterprise which is always the surest indication of local prosperity, became active. A larger number of factories of a valuable and durable kind were established than had ever been before. Among them were the Phoenix works, by the energetic and enterprising Comstock Bros., in the fall of the year, and about the same time the cotton factory of Dimock & Gove, which did a successful business for some years; also the planing mill of Chase & Scripps, the first large concern of the kind in the city which had been working in a small way before, now extended its business, and a number of other factories beneficial to the place and which have continued successfully, originated with this year.

There were severe losses by fire, of which there was an unusual number. In January the large brick steam flouring mill and distillery, known as the "Casey Mill," situated near the Bay, about where the freight depot now stands, was entirely consumed. It was the most extensive concern of the kind in the city, being a four-story structure, with surrounding buildings, originally erected by Messrs. Miller, at a cost of between $20,000 and $25,000. The property afterwards passed into the hands of Capt. Casey and other parties, who expended on it some $15,000 more. It was a serious loss to the business of the place. Later than this, also on the 30th of March, Kimball's mill, at the foot

of Delaware street, went the way of all mills. This also was a large establishment, and an old landmark. It was the oldest steam mill in the city, erected in 1831, although much enlarged since.

The long-talked Female Seminary, for which there had been yearning and movement for many months past, opened finally in October, in the buildings on the south side of Maine, near Sixth, which had for some years past been used by Miss Doty for the same purposes. It began under the supervision of Miss Catherine Beecher and a corps of teachers, with nearly one hundred pupils and fine prospects of success, which, however, were doomed to disappointment, as it lived hardly a year, sinking with itself a good deal of hope and more or less money beside.

Among the public events of the year were the observances on the death of General Taylor, the second President of the United States, who had died in office. A public meeting was called by the Mayor and proper preparations made, and on the 27th of July, with formal accompanying ceremonies, an impressive address was delivered at the Market House by Judge Peter Lott. Judge Lott was the most felicitous orator for such occasions in the city, and had performed a similar duty nine years before, on the occasion of the death of President Harrison. Several persons who had occupied places of more or less prominence in past Quincy history, passed away from life during this year. Judge Jesse B. Thomas, one of the oldest and ablest legal men of the state, who had presided over this judicial circuit, succeeding Judge Douglas, in 1843, and residing for some years in Quincy, died at Chicago on the 17th of February. Governor Ford, a citizen of Quincy and practicing lawyer as early as 1833, afterward Supreme Judge and Governor of the state, died at Peoria during the month of November. A more personal as well as general feeling of regret was occasioned by the death of H. S. Cooley, who died at New Orleans on the 21st of March, of consumption, and was buried here by the Masons with a good deal of public display. Mr. Cooley came to Quincy from Maine, in 1840, and at once became conspicuous. He was made Quartermaster General of the state in 1843, appointed Secretary of State in 1846, elected to the same office in 1848, and held it until his death. He was a man of fair talent, active and ambitious and, had his life been longer, would probably have continued to rise in political distinction.

The newspaper business exhibited the same advanced energy and enterprise that marked other callings, but it could not be fairly said to be as profitable and stable. There were two weekly German papers issued, both moderately democratic in politics. One, the Illinois Courier, published by Linz and Richter, came out in April and continued for several years. The other, the Wochenblatt, had but a short life, dying out with the sudden disappearance "between two days" of its publisher. The three other journals were the Herald, Whig and the Journal. The latter had somewhat of an involuntary chameleon reputation. It was charged by the Whig with being a democratic sheet, and as severely attacked by the Herald for its whig proclivities. The editor, L. M. Booth, an old newspaper man, had the luck or non luck to often be freighted with this uncertain reputation. He was somewhat in the situation of the two Irishmen, strangers who met and each thought that he recognized the other. After a grasp of the hand and a second look, both started back, and one of them says: "Faith and we're both mistaken. I thought it was you and you thought it was me, and it seems it is neither of us." His paper did not prosper, and he left in April, promptly, like the Wochenblatt editor, for California, where he soon embarked in a similar business. The Journal fell into the hands of C. M. Woods, who changed, in May, the name from People's Journal to Quincy Journal, and on the 20th of November commenced the issue of a daily paper. There had been two brief efforts to carry on a daily publication in Quincy (once, in 1845, and again in 1847); each lived but a few months. Mr. Wood's Journal was published at the price of ten cents a week. It had difficulties (suspended once or twice), but after some changes in name and ownership, was merged into and became the present Daily Herald, the oldest continuous daily of the city. Another journal, the Columbus Gazette, was started during this summer, but its existence was short and its circulation light and mostly confined to the county and its own immediate neighborhood.

Journalism then, thirty-six years ago, was laden with less labor, but also owned less conveniences, than since and now. Local news was scant and hard to obtain, and the manufacture of the same was a yet undeveloped art. Early news from abroad came at variable periods. As illustrative of this, one of the weekly journals, in two successive issues, tells its readers that it has "no dispatches again this week, owing to the storm," a somewhat significant comment on what the telegraph was in those days.

The fall election for member of congress, state treasurer, members of the legislature and county officials was warmly contested, with

peculiar and conflicting results. O. H. Browning was the whig, and W. A. Richardson the democratic candidate for congress. Browning carried the city by about 50 majority and the county (city included) by 139, but was beaten in the district; only one other county (Peoria) giving him its vote. John Wood, nominated as the whig candidate for the state senate on the declination of Col. Ross, of Pike—Adams and Pike constituting the senatorial district, received 210 majority in Adams, and C. A. Warren, his democratic opponent, led in Pike county by about 50 votes. In the representative district, composed of Adams and Brown counties, J. M. Pitman, J. R. Hobbs and J. Dearborn were the democratic nominees, against whom the whigs ran J. W. Singleton, Wm. Morrow and Holman Bowles. Pitman, Singleton and Bowles went out of Adams with small majorities, which the first two retained in Brown, where, however, Hobbs secured a majority sufficient to elect him. It was amusingly noticed at the time, that Dearborn, of Brown, got more votes than Hobbs, of Adams, in Adams, while again, Hobbs led Dearborn in Brown, each appearing to be honored most out of his own county. On the county ticket the whigs elected the sheriff and treasurer, Humphrey and Pomeroy and the democrats the coroner, Munroe, by small majorities. The democratic state ticket was also successful by from two to three hundred votes. This political result is notable as being a partial success for each of the two parties, which for the past twenty years had disputed the control of the county with about an even record of fortune, and because it was the last success of the whigs. From this period, with a single accidental interruption in the legislative succession, the democratic party maintained an easy, continuous supremacy in all the county elections for the following fifteen years.

An advance in business life in all directions was (as before stated) the marked feature of this year. There was an increase in the mill and provision product, less noted for the reason that enterprise was spreading itself in so many other occupations, some new, some extensions of what had been. As the best criterion by which to judge the present prosperity of a community, is in the number and extensiveness of its factories, where are offered opportunities for ingenuity to expand and the largest amount of labor to be employed, so the surest test of permanent stability is to be found in the price and valuations of its real estate property. Herein is the best basis of a people's wealth, and herein Quincy has an even and healthy record. Sudden changes in the value of real estate almost always are fictitious, and sooner or later prove so. During the sixteen years of independent corporate existence, six years as a town, ten years as a city, now, in 1850, the retrospect revealed a slow but steady step forward with far less of influctuation than attached to the career of most other young communities of the west. It had early, it had always, and it had now, in 1850, a larger proportion of people owning their own homes than any other town or city of the same grade in the west; and this has continued. The reasons for this condition of things, it is needless to name. The fact exists that there are nearly 50 per cent more men in Quincy who own their own homes than in any other Illinois city, and it is easy for any one to deduce from this how strongly, how, of necessity, both business and social feelings and interests must combine to make assurance of a permanent future. As evidencing this record of values during the period above named, the assessment tables tell a clear story. Valuations of real property by assessors rarely give a correct estimate of the value of such property, but the successive valuations are the best evidence that can be had of the varying value of such property running through a series of years.

The first town assessment to be relied upon was in 1836, when the town property was valued at $487,900. Four years later, in 1839, the last one made by the town, the valuation was $658,443. These valuations were high, much higher than would be made at the present time, but property all over the west had been rated at a speculative value some years before and so continued to be, while the percentage of tax assessments was low. In 1841, the second year of the existence of the city, the valuation of real estate was $729,809, and of personal property $95,059, and this proportion, slightly advancing each year, became, in 1850, $1,200,391 for real estate and $353,961 on personal property. In fact, these valuations which in 1835 were relatively too high, were, in 1850, placed almost as much too low, the earlier valuations being lifted as nearly as possible to the supposed cash worth of property, and indeed sometimes above, while the later valuations were as steadily falling far below what such property was actually worth. The reason for this depression in the assessments was, first, the inflated value that had been adopted in the early times, and again the operation of the two mill tax to pay off the state debt prescribed in the the state constitution of 1845. The unexpected effect of this two mill tax was, that if all the property in the state was valued at anywhere near its real worth, a much greater sum would

be raised to apply upon the state debt than was needed or proper. Hence, property was valued low to accord with the arbitrary standard of the two mill tax, while for the raising of the necessary revenue, the state and corporations could easily meet the demands of their budget by increasing the percentage on these low valuations.

CHAPTER XXIX.

1851.

PROSPERITY. THE YEAR OF "HIGH WATER." WHIG AND HERALD CHANGE PROPRIETORS. CHANGES IN THE JUDICIAL DISTRICTS. JUDGE SKINNER. RAILROADS AGAIN. ROUTE CHANGED FOR BROADWAY TO CEDAR STREETS. SAM HOLMES MAYOR. NIGHT POLICE. NEW BANKING LAW. CHURCH ON NINTH AND STATE COMPLETED. STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

Until the 1st of February, '51, the river remained open with fair navigation. It then closed for a week, reopening. It carried throughout the year a most extraordinary "boom" late into the fall, when it became finally ice-blocked on the 16th of December. This was the Mississippi's greatest, most triumphant year, when the waters of the upper Mississippi reached a height above the measure of any earlier mark. Its flood in 1844 exceeded any in general recollection, although some old settlers asserted that the river had been known to be higher in 1832 and 1826, and there was also an Indian tradition that some time late in the last century it had attained an height never since equaled. Be that as it may, the certainty is, that the rise of 1851 surpassed that of any within the memory or measure of white men. The summer was very rainy, but the chief volume of the flood came from the north. While this upper portion of the stream was thus unprecedentedly high, below the mouth of the Illinois and of the Missouri, which had been vastly swollen in 1844, it did not reach the summit water mark of that year. The rise began early in April, upon already full banks. As it continued to swell and passed above the measurements of 1844, the old settlers shook their heads with "yes, but it won't reach the 1832 or 1826 figures." However, when, on the 6th of June, the measure showed 5 feet 6 inches above the mark of 1844 they gave up.

It was a mighty flood, like a vast sea stretching from bluff to bluff. Here, on the city side, above and below the town, it washed the foot of the hills, filling Front street so much as to make it impassible and entirely stopping the operation of the mills. No small temporary addition to the population of the place was made by the incoming of many families who had been "drowned out" of the "bottoms" and crowded into the tenement houses in the lower part of the city. A peculiar occurrence beside was, that late in the fall, when ordinarily the river is at its lowest, a second swell came down, filling the lands and overflowing the banks as much as is usually done at the regular annual rise in June. It does not appear that this huge flood injured to any very great degree, the business interests of the city, although it much increased the sickness, which was extensive, and quite fatal, during the greater part of the year.

The dreaded cholera revisited the city in a more violent form than it had appeared the year before, but much less destructive than the scourge of 1849. For eight or ten weeks in the late spring and early summer it prevailed with varying fatality, leaving almost as suddenly as it came, with a record of about 160 deaths. As in its earlier comings, it came upon the people almost without premonition, and its advent was a shock and terror. The first cases noted were in the south part of the city, in the Odell family, where, in the short space of four days, the mother and three children were taken and died, and another child followed within a week. Thirty deaths occurred during the last week of May, twenty-eight being from cholera. The same feature was marked at this time as had been noticed on its two former visits, that on the Saturday and Sunday of each week it was the most fatal, and that during those days about one-half of the deaths occurred. The death roll of this year bears the names of an unusual number of prominent persons and "old settlers." Especially of these were E. W. Clowes and Ryon Brittingham, brothers-in-law, both early and substantial citizens, John B. Young, one of the pioneers, who came to this country from Kentucky at an early date, with somewhat more of means than the generality of the people then had, settled first in the south part of the county, and moved thence to Quincy. To his enterprising action the city owes many of its best early improvements. There died also W. E. T. Butze, John Glass, early German immigrants; Dr. H. G. Weoboken, a German physician of unusual skill and attainments; Dr. J. W. Newland; Charles Morton, the best known and most popular "land man" in the state; Mrs. McDade; Miss Sarah Wood; Ex-County Judge Andrew Miller and many others of like notable position. Among the most conspicuous and regretted of these was, probably, S. M. Bartlett, editor and associate owner of the

Quincy Whig, who died on the 6th of September, after a sickness of eight days, the event making sad impression. Mr. Bartlett was a man of marked traits of character, of fair intellect, excellent judgment, well experienced in the essentials of his profession, with a frank, outspoken nature, earnest in believing what he said and equally earnest in saying what he believed, a clean private character. He had during his fifteen years' editorial control of the Whig secured a strong reputation throughout the west, and the especial confidence of the political party of which the Whig was a recognized organ. He was a native of New England, came early to the west and had worked as a journalist and printer in St. Louis and Galena prior to his settling in Quincy. He was but 38 years of age at the time of his death.

After the death of Mr. Bartlett the interest which he had owned in the Whig was purchased by John T. Morton, who, as editor, in connection with H. V. Sullivan, published the paper for several years. This was the first change that had occurred in the ownership and management of the Whig since its establishment, in 1836. The Herald about this time went through with one of its many changes, being bought by P. Cleveland & Co. Mr. Cleveland was a ready, rapid, somewhat verbose writer, more polished, but less vigorous in style, than Brooks, the former editor, who now became the publisher and associate editor. Under their management, which continued for two years, the paper extended its popularity and political influence considerably more than its financial condition.

The old Fifth judicial circuit, originally including all the counties in the Military Tract and taking in the northwestern section of the state, formed, in 1829, was by an act of the late legislature divided and a new circuit made, composed of the counties of Adams, Hancock, Henderson and Mercer. This broke up many of the old time legal associations and limited, to some extent, the practice of the Quincy lawyers, who had for over twenty years been accustomed to "follow the circuit" twice a year and appear at the bar of each county in the tract. Many of them had local partners in the counties outside of Adams. O. C. Skinner, a prominent lawyer of Quincy, who had resided in Carthage before coming to Adams county, and while there had rapidly risen to the leading position at the Hancock bar, a reputation which he well sustained in Quincy, was recommended by the bar for the judgeship of the new circuit. The desire was then, as it had been at the first judicial election, to keep the contest from becoming political. This time the wish succeeded. The circuit, on a party vote, was undoubtedly whig, and Skinner was a most radical ultra democrat, but his high judicial capacity was recognized and, no opposition being made, he was unanimously elected. Some effort was attempted to bring party feelings into the election for prosecuting attorney, but it cut no figure, and J. H. Stewart, an experienced lawyer from Henderson county, a whig, but not a politician, was elected to that office.

Finally the railroad matter, that for two years past had "dragged its slow length along," which had been the topic for strife, talkative, public meetings, legislative action, and had engendered no small amount of personal bickering and animosity, was, by the general action of the citizens, taken out of its troubles and placed on the pathway towards certain and early completion. A law had been passed through the general assembly at the last winter's session legalizing the assessment by the city of Quincy of a special tax to meet the interest on any railroad bonds that it might thereafter issue, and the city council promptly provided an ordinance in furtherance of the provisions of this law. Another legislative action in the same direction was the law which authorized the construction of a railroad from some convenient point on the line of the Northern Cross Railroad, within Adams county, running thence on the most eligible and practicable route through the Military Bounty Tract and terminating at the most convenient and eligible point at or near the southern termination of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, prescribing also that such road should not run east of Knoxville in Knox county. These two judicious attachments to the railroad project clinched the heretofore somewhat doubtful public confidence in its management and lifted it at once to an assured success. The effect of the first of these special laws was to substantiate the credit of the city in its intention to sustain the enterprise by a bond subscription, and the other promised an eastern connection by railroad and canal by way of Chicago and the lakes with the already finished, progressing thoroughfares which would be immediate on the completion of the Quincy end of the route. This was far preferable at the time to the building of a road towards the centre of Illinois with an indefinite prospect of its continuance farther eastward. Large local subscriptions were now made, amounting in Quincy to between $50,000 and $60,000, and also in proportionate liberal figures along the proposed route of the road in this and the adjacent counties. The precise line was not at

once decided upon or made known, and agents and advocates were sent to the various localities between Quincy and Galesburg to arouse public interest and solicit subscriptions; promising always, of course, that the community which offered the most money would be sure to secure the road.

One of our prominent Quincy lawyers nearly came to grief in this endeavor. He had made a speech in a little town in an adjoining county and demonstrated that there was the natural route for the road, almost the only feasible line, that they needed it, and all that was wanted was for the people to subscribe liberally, so that some other place wouldn't "buy the road away from them," and made a capital and well satisfied impression. The next day he had a meeting in a rival town about five miles away, and there "spoke his piece" over again with telling effect, when he was suddenly interrupted by a fellow calling, "Why, Mr. W., that's just what you told us yesterday over in M——; you said the road was bound to come through our town and oughtn't to go anywhere else." To any other than this most adroit of legal gladiators this would have been a crusher. He was staggered for the moment, but recovered with, "Well, gentlemen, I did say something of the kind to those fellows over there and the gudgeons all believed me." Brown and McDonough counties voted, the first $25,000, the second $50,000.

At a public meeting of the citizens of Quincy on January 24th, it was proposed that the city should vote a subscription of $100,000 and purchase the interests of the company which owned the road for $20,000 in stock. This latter arrangement was perfected, and the council, on the 27th, ordered an election to be held on March 1st, upon the proposition to subscribe $100,000, which resulted in an almost unanimously favorable vote, 1,074 for to 19 opposed. At a meeting of the stockholders on the 22d of March, which was largely attended, N. Bushnell, J. M. Pitman, H. Rogers, J. D. Morgan and L. Bull were elected directors by the individual stockholders, Mayor Holmes representing the city, which had the larger portion of the stock, casting its vote in the same direction. The directors organized by electing N. Bushnell, President; J. O. Woodruff, Secretary, who soon resigned, and was succeeded by John Field, and he soon after by John C. Cox. S. D. Eaton was appointed Chief Engineer, and in April work began at the corner of Twelfth and Broadway.

At the April city election Mayor Samuel Holmes was rechosen by a majority of 268, out of a total vote of 984, over M. B. Denman, the whig nominee. At the same time C. A. Savage, Thomas Redmond and Geo. W. Brown were elected aldermen in the First, Second and Third wards. This election of two whigs and one democrat made the council a tie politically and was the basis for a good deal of dissension and harsh feeling in that body. This feeling had been shown somewhat in the retiring council, where after the board had voted to raise the mayor's salary from $250 to $350, he refused to receive it because it had not been unanimously voted.

Mr. Lock filed a notice of contest for the seat given to Mr. Redmond, who had beaten him by 17 votes. This was finally withdrawn, but remained long enough to stir up considerable personal feeling, and when the selection of a city clerk came up (this officer at that time being elected by the council), no choice could be secured for several meetings, not, indeed, until after 75 fruitless ballotings. There were two democratic aspirants for the place, each of whom secured two votes, one of these votes coming from a whig alderman, while two of the whigs voted for a whig candidate, thus preventing the mayor's having an opportunity to decide the choice by his casting vote. After a couple of weeks' wrangle, however, the democrats in the council "rose to the occasion" and adopting a motion to elect by resolution, chose Mr. Cleveland clerk. He had held the office for the two past years, and it was partly from some dissatisfaction towards him and partially growing out of the unwillingness of the whigs to select the city officials until the Lock-Redmond contest was settled, which caused this struggle over the clerkship. It was the first occasion of personal, political strife, that had appeared in the council, which in the early days had very little of that demonstrative element which not unfrequently wakes up its sessions nowadays.

Owing perhaps to this dissension and delay over the organization of the council no formal fiscal statement for the past year was published, but the city affairs appeared to have been well conducted and its credit sustained, though the debt had somewhat increased.

Mr. Holmes was a skillful business man, with unusual aptitude for public business and well acquainted with the city's history and wants, and made a highly commendable record as mayor.

During this year's administration was begun the organization of a night police, and the second revision of the ordinances was made under the supervision of the mayor.

Prices in all things were rising, as they had been for the past two years, beef at eight cents

and mutton seven cents per pound, and other necessaries in proportion, made living somewhat more expensive than it had before been. Real estate advanced rapidly in demand and value. One sale indicates this proportionate progress. The ten acre tract at the southeast corner of Maine and Eighteenth streets, now known as the Collins property, which had been bought five years before by the late Secretary of State, Cooley, for $1,000 ($100 per acre), was now sold for $2,525, or $252.50 an acre, cash, no improvement of value being on the ground. All over the city, as there was also throughout the country, real estate was in eager demand and was changing owners rapidly and at rising figures.

Money was plenty and easily obtained, and the adoption of the State Bank law gave broader opportunities for the establishment of "money factories," as they were called, and for a greater increase in the amount of paper circulation. A curious feature in regard to the bank law, which went into operation at this time, was the sectional character of the contest. It was partially made a political issue. The whigs all favored it, the democrats generally opposed it. The southern section of the state strongly democratic, was almost solid against the law, the central belt, which was whig, and the northern portion, then democratic, favored it. Chicago voted thirty to one for the law, and yet, as a curious commentary on this, is the fact that when the law was ratified by far the larger number of the banks organized under it were located in the southern part of the state, where it had received the greatest opposition. The majority for the law in the state was 62,221.

Much of handsome and substantial building was done during this year. The fine brick church long known as the Centre Congregational, at the corner of Fourth and Jersey, a branch of the 1st Congregational Society, was commenced.

It is now owned by the Baptists. The Presbyterian church, on Maine street, was enlarged and improved, and the Lutheran church, now replaced by the imposing structure on the corner of State and Ninth, was completed.

Touching this latter, a mishap occurred sad to those who were the sufferers but amusing to worldlings. By some error or oversight the lightning rod placed along down the outside of the steeple was carried as far as the belfrey and there landed, hanging there with no connection to the earth. The lightning caught on the tip of the rod, followed it down and when it came to the lower end spread itself, shivering the steeple and setting it on fire. The flame was soon extinguished, but the splintered steeple remained as a reminder that Providence cares no more for its own buildings than any others, unless they were properly finished. It was rather a shock to the faith of some good people.

CHAPTER XXX.

1852.

GOV. CARLIN. FIRST DAILY MAIL BY STEAMER. THE WHIG BECAME A DAILY. IMPROVEMENTS. BOOM IN BUSINESS. MILL BURNED. FIRST OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS. KOSSUTH INVITED TO QUINCY. RAILROAD WORK CARRIED ON. WHITNEY. THAYER. THAYER BY A POLITICAL MISTAKE, ELECTS TRUMBULL TO THE U. S. SENATE. POLITICAL CHANGES. MAYOR'S SALARY RAISED TO $300. POLITICAL.

A second vote was taken at the town elections in April, on the question of the continuance of the township organization system in the county, which had now been in operation for two years. It was sustained by a vote of 1,532, with but 222 cast against it, two towns only, Ursa and Beverly, voting to fall back to the county court system. Quincy, as at the former election on this issue, did not vote.

This was a severe season for the farmers in this section of the state, owing to the ravages of the army worm and other insect pests, which did extensive injury to the early crops. The river opened as early as the 8th of February, closing for the succeeding winter on Christmas day. Navigation was unusually good in the early part of the season, and the water rose to within three inches of the great flood of 1844, and about five feet less than that greatest of floods in 1851; but it ran very low in the fall, so much so that the St. Louis packets were not able to make their trips above Quincy after the middle of November.

The first regular daily mail by steamer was established in April from St. Louis to Galena, which was continued for many years, until superseded by the more rapid railroad conveyance. Before this time occasionally mail matter had been carried on the boats and messengers appointed to take it in charge, but it was only occasional and never became permanent until now.

The Whig opened out as a daily on the 22d of March, issuing at the same time a tri-weekly. It was the beginning of the present Daily Whig, although it met with two or three temporary suspensions before it became substantially established. The uncertainties of the telegraph

and the dearth of local matters of interest were the difficulties which hampered the establishment of a daily paper in those days.

The winter of 1851-52 was very cold and continued late into the spring. On the 10th of April there came one of the most severe and unseasonable storms ever known in the west, extending throughout the state and lasting for several days. The snowfall was from one to two feet in depth.

Much improvement was made in the general appearance of the place by the building of many handsome, tasteful private residences, a feature peculiarly lacking heretofore, and also of large and substantial storehouses. The city was growing fast. Among the needed and imposing improvements was Kendall's, afterwards known as the City Hall, at the corner of Maine and Sixth streets, at a cost of about $20,000. This was notable as being the first public hall in the place. Before this time the Court House or the churches, if they could be obtained, were the only conveniences for lectures, fairs and all exhibitions of a like character. Mr. Orrin Kendall, the owner of this hall, was one of Quincy's most energetic and enterprising men. He moved from here to Chicago, and, as though he had a passion for such plans, erected there a hall patterned almost precisely after that in Quincy and endowed it with his name, a handsome structure, which fell before the great fire of 1871. The stone Episcopal church, now the Cathedral, was finished during this year.

The boom in real estate property continued. An indication of these values was shown in the sale of what was then known as the "Mast corner," so called from its owner, Michael Mast, an eccentric, popular little man, a tailor, the earliest German settler in the place, and the first tailor also. This property, 49½ feet on Maine by 100 feet on Fifth street, was sold in September for $4,165, about $85 per front foot on Maine. There were on it no improvements of value. The contrast of these figures is curious with what the same property "went for" twenty-seven years before at the County Commissioners' sale. Then the entire corner lot, 99 feet by 198, of which the "Mast corner" was one-fourth, brought at auction, $16.25, about 17 cents per foot. Quite a handsome speculation.

Business of all kinds was active and extending. There was in it a bustle, life and confidence that gave most sanguine promise for the future. With a fast increasing population, real estate rapidly accreting in value, money facilities all that could be desired, eastern railroad connections assured, this was much the most lively and seemingly successful year that Quincy had known since 1836. The staple business of the past winter had been up to the standard. Between 19,000 and 20,000 hogs were the reported product of the packing season of 1851-52, about the average of the three or four preceding years. The great flour milling business, which, for the last fifteen years, had been a specialty of Quincy, as ahead of any of the upper Mississippi cities, was increasing in proportion to its past standard, but it met with temporary misfortune during the year. Two of the largest of the half-dozen flour mills came to what is the frequent fate of such structures, destruction by fire. These were the Wheeler & Osborn and Smith mills, on Front street, burned on the 17th of September.

So common had then become, as it still is, this fatality of steam mills, that it was said somewhat savagely, but suggestively, when these two went down, "Well, this makes four steam flour mills burned in the last two years. Better call them steam fire mills." A tally of the grist mills in Quincy which have thus been cremated, would more than exhaust one man's fingers.

Among the chief manufacturing establishments of the place, and perhaps that which handled the heaviest transactions of any, was the Thayer distillery, located about one-half mile south of the city, whose report at this time stated the cost of the buildings, etc., to have been $30,000; that there was annually consumed 300,000 bushels of grain; $12,500 paid for cooperage; $4,500 paid to wood choppers; $8,000 to employes, and that there was capacity for feeding 2,000 hogs and about half that number of cattle, which each year was fully used.

The first published official report of the superintendent of the public schools was issued this year. Before this period, as required by law, a brief formal statement was annually handed into the council, and as briefly and formally placed away on file. A detailed report of the condition of the public schools was, on the commendatory recommendation of the mayor, ordered to be summarized and officially published, since which time this has been annually done, and it is only from this date that a fair history of the public schools can be made, the earlier records being meager or lost. The public schools had now, after many years of trial, outlived all the opposition and prejudice with which they were at first assailed; were well managed, flourishing, and favored by the general public. There were two schools, largely attended, each with a primary department attached, employing in all eight teachers.

The especial national excitement of this year was the coming to America of the noted

patriot and exile Kossuth, who was warmly welcomed all over the land by manifestations of sympathy and respect such as have been accorded to no foreigner except when Lafayette made his tour through the United States in 1824-25. Beside the interest that he attracted as being the most eminent representative of republican freedom in Europe, he was an orator of most graceful and persuasive nature. He was gifted with a lingual facility that enabled him to use the English language with a readiness and aptitude equal to Carl Schurz, to whom, while he was inferior in force and originality of intellect, he was far superior in elocutionary grace. The "Kossuth craze," as it was called, pervaded the whole country, Quincy, as well, and the Mayor, always alive to catch a popular feeling, placed before the council a proposition to officially extend to Kossuth the courtesies of the city, which was done, and seconded also by a public meeting of the citizens. Kossuth did not come, but he was met and greeted at St. Louis by a formal representation of the council and by a large delegation of the citizens, who returned delighted with him and themselves.

The railroad work went steadily forward, between two and three hundred men being employed in grading at various points along the line within twenty miles of Quincy. As almost the entire original state survey had been abandoned, and a new line laid out, the lawyers, of course, reaped a small harvest out of a good many "right of way" cases that naturally came up. Some not pleasant jars occurred also over this question, whether the road should be finished first from Camp Point to the Illinois river, or pushed northwards to a Chicago connection. The indefiniteness of that clause in the charter, which prescribed that the road should not run east of Knoxville, and the uncertainty of where would be the Mississippi terminus of the C., B. & Q. road, which was rapidly reaching southward, also the adverse interests of other contemplated railroads in the upper section of the Military Tract, added to these embarrassments. They were all finally adjusted, however, with the conclusion that the northern connection should be first secured by the way of Galesburg. McDonough county, in May, by a majority of 173, in a pretty large vote after a hotly contested election, voted a subscription of $100,000, and in August, Brown county followed suit by the decisive vote of 749 for, to 316 against, a bond subscription of $50,000, and about $25,000 of private subscription was raised at Meredosia and points westward along the line.

At the October session of the city council the railroad asked from the city the right of way on Front street, from Broadway north to the city limits, and also the use by "loan" or grant, or otherwise, of a portion of the public landing for depot purposes. The right of way was given and also the grant of a tract two hundred feet in length on the west side of Front street and north of Vermont. This was the first of the franchises granted by the city, followed by others of like nature; which have given to this one railroad so much; and, so far as other roads are concerned, exclusive privilege. These were accorded to what, at the time, was the Northern Cross railroad, but passed and continued when it became absorbed in the C., B. & Q. railroad.

The brief statement heretofore given of the transactions of the Thayer distillery as partially illustrative of the business of the place, should be supplemented by a mention of other interests carried on at the same time by its active and enterprising proprietor, who was generally recognized as the foremost business man of the city.

With this reference to Mr. Thayer and his career is associated the remembrance of another man who occupied the same relative position through ten or twelve years of an earlier period. The business enterprises of these two men were almost precisely the same, their influence and position in the community was very much alike, and the career of each came to a nearly similar close. The names of what are called business men, however conspicuous they may be for the time, do not live on the records like those of the politician and the placeman, but their immediate importance and influence is far more effectively felt, is often more advantageous and much more permanent.

D. G. Whitney came to Quincy from Marietta, Ohio, about 1831 or '32, started a store in partnership with Richard S. Green, and rapidly rose to the position of being the most extensively engaged and supposed wealthiest merchant of the town, a place which he maintained for many years. Of a genial, generous disposition, quiet but attractive demeanor, he had great business ambition and a shrewd, bold, broad capacity therefor. Beside managing his large mercantile establishment on the west side of the square, where probably more trade was done than at any three or four of the other stores, he had interests in several country stores; built also in 1834 a distillery two miles below the town; later on erected a large steam flour and saw mill ten miles south, and in connection with it put up a capacious warehouse on the west river bank, about six miles above Hannibal, and subsequently built, at the corner of Maine and Front streets, two brick storehouses, the largest structures of

the kind then in the city. In addition to the care of these manifold interests, he was interested in the steamboat traffic between St. Louis and Quincy, and more or less each year engaged in grain and provision speculation. About 1837-38 he built the house now owned by General Singleton ("Boscobel"), which when erected, was the most expensive and elegant private residence in this section of the state. He pulled with apparent success through the "hard times" of 1837 and after, but failed about 1842 or '43, and twice afterward each time with a huge cloud of local indebtedness about him, despite which he twice temporarily established himself through his personal popularity and his strong hold upon public confidence. On his final failure, he removed to California, in 1849, and there partially succeeded in restoring his fortunes, but never attained the pre-eminence that he sustained here. His death was caused by being crushed between the cars about twelve years ago.

About 1844 or '45, when the financial prestige of Mr. Whitney was declining, Mr. Sylvester Thayer came from New York and opened a dry goods store on the north side of the public square, under the firm name of S. & W. B. Thayer, afterwards Thayer & Co. Later they purchased and removed to the building on the southwest corner of Maine and Fourth. The younger brother was popular, and the older one shrewd, longheaded and enterprising. They soon stepped into an extending city and county trade, and gradually enlarged their operations in the same manner as Mr. Whitney had done ten or twelve years before. They built and operated a large steam mill at the foot of Delaware street, and erected on the opposite side of the street the largest warehouse in the city, and probably the largest above St. Louis, with a depth of one hundred and sixty-seven feet and a width of sixty feet, which is still standing and has since been used for a tobacco factory and other purposes; also the distillery south of the city, since known as Curtis'; made large stock purchases, bought acres of grazing lands in Missouri and operated on a scale as much more extensive than had been done before as the size and business of the city was greater than it had ever been.

Some years subsequent to this period (1852) they failed hopelessly, loaded as Mr. Whitney had been with local indebtedness, but this failure was different in the one respect, that Thayer carried down with him the two banking houses of Flagg & Savage and Moore, Hollowbush & Co., while Whitney's failure involved only a great number of individual creditors. The failures of these two men, owing so extensively as they did, was a crippling misfortune to many, but yet Quincy owed them much.

During the twenty-five or thirty years when the one or the other of them was a leading spirit of Quincy's business, it was to a great degree their enterprise, means, business boldness and sagacity that kept the city ahead of the competition of surrounding rivals, gave it life, activity and employment, and engrafted upon it prosperities which were bound to become permanent. Such men make towns though they fail. The business history of Quincy would be half untold if these men and what they did, were omitted.

Mr. Thayer was personally a different man from Mr. Whitney. He was thoroughly a business man, and rarely seen in society, always either at his counting room or place of business, or at home. He was also an extreme democrat as Mr. Whitney was as ardent a whig, but he only touched politics when it fell in the way of his business interests. He was elected alderman and mayor and was very efficient in both positions. To him in a large degree, and very much to his regret when the result transpired, is due the election of the first republican U. S. Senator from Illinois. It is a curious piece of local political history, still more curious from its broad effects. The whig, or anti-Nebraska convention, as it was called, in 1854, had nominated for the legislature Messrs. Sullivan and Gooding. A bitter personal feeling between Mr. Gooding and Dr. Harrington, who was an aspirant for the nomination, both being citizens of Payson, made Dr. Harrington incline to come out as an independent candidate against Gooding. At this same time the temperance matter had stalked into the canvass and a series of awkward questions upon this subject was publicly propounded to the legislative candidates. The reply of Mr. Ruddle, one of the democratic nominees, to the effect that he was not especially hostile to a moderately restrictive temperance law if passed upon by the people, did not accord with the interest and views of Mr. Thayer, and when Dr. Harrington appeared as a candidate Mr. Thayer actively threw all the influence that he could exert against Ruddle and in support of Harrington. The result was that, while the democratic ticket carried the county at the November election by several hundred majority, Mr. Ruddle was beaten for the legislature by Mr. Sullivan, who led him six votes (Dr. Harrington getting between 600 and 700), every other democrat on the ticket being elected. These six votes placed Sullivan

in the legislature, which thus had a republican majority of one, by which one vote, Lyman Trumbull was chosen to the United States Senate. As Mr. Thayer said afterwards, the result unfortunately exceeded his expectations. What might have been the bearing upon the country and parties had Trumbull not been chosen, and Shields or Matteson elected to the senate as affirming Illinois in the support of Douglas' Nebraska policy, is a question for politicians to speculate on if they choose, but it is a queer fact that this result was brought about by a trifling local dispute and accident in Adams county.

Money flowed freely during these days. The state was flooded with bank note promises to pay. The free banking law of 1851 was producing its natural fruits ("dead sea apples," as they partially proved to be), as will the results of every financial scheme that proposes to perpetuate a uniform equalized national currency which is based on other security than the national credit, faith and industry. Flagg & Savage, the leading brokers, organized the "City Bank of Quincy" and issued notes. Their's was the earliest established private bank of issue in the place. Their notes, however, did not circulate at home, but were exchanged for others of an equivalent face value issued by some distant banks, organized and with a circulation secured (?) by the deposit of state bonds, bought or borrowed, and the cheaper these were, the better for the banks.

Quincy was much exercised about this time for the want of a "nom de plume." All the other cities in the land had their fancy names, and Quincy had none. The titles it should with most apparent propriety claim, of "Mound City" or "Bluff City," had already been assumed by St. Louis and Hannibal. It was proposed to call it the Hill City, but that would have dwarfed it alongside of Hannibal, and Mountain City was too monstrous. There were sixteen churches in Quincy at this time, a very large number in proportion to the pious population, and it was seriously urged to have the place christened "the City of Churches," but this was a name that might not stick, and had already been adopted elsewhere. So the city went unbaptized for awhile longer, until the name "Gem City" was assumed, why, how or for what specific reason it is difficult to say, although there are some appropriate points to warrant this title, and it has now become permanently fixed.

A special session of the legislature was called which began on the 6th of June and ended on the 26th. It was important only to Quincy for the reason that the Pike county railroad matter was being battled over in the legislature, and now became a local question of some importance. Quincy railroad interests sought to "stave off" the granting of a charter to the Pike county road (from Hannibal to Naples) until the N. C. R. R. was completed to Meredosia. In this they mainly succeeded, but the question entered into and a good deal affected the political issues in the city for some years.

This was a year of notable political changes and surprises alike in local and national affairs. The city election in April was a singular showing, completely reverisng the previons political order of things. The council, which two years before in 1850, had consisted of five democrats and one whig, now had five whigs and one democrat. The whig council, following the precedent of their predecessors, placed in all the appointive offices men of their own political faith. E. H. Buckley was chosen city clerk, which place he occupied for the next two years, and the entire city "outfit" was composed of whig officials. John Wood was chosen mayor over J. M. Pitman by 190 majority on a vote of about 1,200, and John Wheeler, A. B. Dorman and J. N. Ralston were elected aldermen, the whigs carrying every ward for the first time in the history of the city.

But little of new and local importance occurred in the transactions of the council during the year. One rather amusing excitement, such as Quincy occasionally and Quincy only can furnish, came up during the latter part of Mayor Holmes' administration, over the matter of paying the annual state tax. The collection of this tax had been heretofore made by a different official and at a different period from that of the city tax, and now by law the time for its payment was advanced, throwing the collection of two taxes into the same year. The fact that Quincy paid no county tax, and perhaps the other anomalous fact that for several years the eastern part of the county had avoided the payment of taxes, had put into the heads of some earnest people the idea that the paying of state taxes, apparently twice in the same year, could be got clear of, notwithstanding that they were based on separate assessments. So much stir was made over this question that the mayor, who, with many merits as a citizen and official, always had an eye to the vox populi vox Dei, especially the popular eye, called a public meeting to decide whether the state tax of 1851 ought to be collected. The meeting was a large one and it was there resolved that, while the payment of two taxes, so nearly together, was a hardship, yet it could not be evaded, and so this little teapot tempest was calmed down.

The one special action of the new city council that created comment and criticism, was their raising the salary of the mayor from $250 to $300. In the earlier times the mayor was not only the figurehead of the city in his representative character as president of the council and vested with a good deal of executive authority, but he was also, ex officio, a magistrate and expected to serve as such, and was, withal, street superintendent. Some of the earlier mayors, Conyers and Wood, for instance, from a sense of duty and personal inclination, gave up most of their time to overseeing the street grading, the laying of sidewalks, gutters, etc., which was no small task for whoever undertook to personally superintend all the details. The duties attaching to a seat in the city council were not as many as in later years, nor was the aldermanic dignity so prized and sought after as now; but for these, or some other reasons, the selection of men to fill such positions was taken much more satisfactorily. Take, for instance, the names of the aldermen of this year, 1852, who were a fair sample of what and who the city fathers used to be. John Wheeler, Chas. A. Savage, Thomas Redmond, A. B. Dorman, Dr. J. N. Ralston, George W. Brown, all representative men whose intelligence and character commanded public confidence, strongly contrasting with some of our later day councils.

Political feeling ran high during this last, hopeless, struggle of the whig party for a national existence. Large party mass meetings were held during the campaign. The democratic ticket carried both county and city, giving Pierce for president over Scott, and Matteson, for governor over Webb, nearly 400 majority, and the local candidates about 50 less. To congress, W. A. Richardson was elected over O. H. Browning, J. M. Pitman, John Moses and David Wolf to the legislature from Adams, and Brown over J. R. Chittenden, J. C. Cox and John Lomax, and Levy Palmer, sheriff, and C. M. Woods, circuit clerk, beat R. P. Coats and John Field. Calvin A. Warren was elected state's attorney by about 600 majority over J. H. Stewart, the former incumbent. The freesoil vote of 261 in 1848, now fell off to 107, and the 190 whig majority at the April city election was replaced by an equal majority on the other side.

CHAPTER XXXI.

1853.

PORK SHIPPED SOUTH BY BOAT IN JANUARY. THE EELS CASE. JUDGE SKINNER ON THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW. QUINCY GASLIGHT AND COKE COMPANY. BANKING. ENGLISH AND GERMAN SEMINARY. JEFFERSON SCHOOL PROPERTY. BUSINESS PROSPERITY. CHARTER FOR A BRIDGE. COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. QUINCY MADE A PORT OF ENTRY. THE GERMAN TRIBUNE. $100,000 VOTED TO RAILROAD. IMPROVEMENT OF MAINE, HAMPSHIRE AND BROADWAY. AGITATION FOR PLANK ROAD TO BURTON. ROAD ON OPPOSITE SIDE OF RIVER TO THE BLUFFS. FIRST "STRIKE." "QUINCY BLUES." OTHER MILITARY ORGANIZATION.

Navigation, which had ended on the 25th of December, 1852, was resumed on the first of February, and continued until Christmas again in 1853. The river had been open here during most of the winter, and about the middle of January a boat, the Regulator, which had been wintering here, started southward laden with a heavy shipment of pork, and after ten or twelve days' battle with the ice, reached St. Louis, and returned to Quincy. It was then an important advance gained to get the winter packing product of Quincy to St. Louis or the south at the earliest possible period. The business in this line for the season had been good, and some 21,000 hogs were reported as having been packed. The price greatly varied, running from $3.50 up to $6.00.

The "Eels case," which had been controverted in the various courts for many years, originating about 1837, was decided on the 21st of January. This case was important and had much national attention, because it judicially settled the personal responsibility of parties in a free state who assisted the farther escape of slaves after they had fled clear from the state where local law recognized them as property, thus sustaining the validity of the then existing fugitive slave law in extending its operations into the free states, was especially interesting to Quincy people, for the reason that the defendant had long been a prominent citizen of this place, where the case commenced. Dr. Richard Eels, whose name has thus become somewhat accidentally historical in connection with the early anti-slavery strifes, was a well established physician here, and was a member of a small association which aided onward to Canada runaway slaves. The case with its long continuation, financially ruined Dr. Eels, and the anxieties which it created probably aided in breaking down his health. He died in the West Indies about the time that this suit was determined. He was an unusually capable physician and a worthy man of rather extreme and unbalanced opinions upon some subjects. Connected with the topic above mentioned, which was once a constant vexation, but had of late generally passed out of thought, there came up a slight renewal of the old slavery fever. A public meeting in Marion county, Mo., had resolved to have no business intercourse with Quincy on account of

the disposition of so many of its people to harbor and aid runaway slaves. The question here was agitated as to what was the obligation in this matter in Illinois under the black laws prescribed by the new constitution, and how far the legal machinery of the state was subservient to the demand for the return of fugitives. Judge Skinner, who at this time was on the circuit bench, made public his opinion that only the United States law and United States officials had cognizance of such cases, and so with this closed nearly the last of the old-time sensitive trouble between Quincy and its near neighbors across the river.

The Quincy Gaslight and Coke Company, which had been incorporated at the legislative session of 1852-53, perfected its organization on the 9th of August, with a capital stock of $75,000, and made its local contract with the city for a twenty-five years' exclusive privilege. The greater portion of this stock was in the ownership of A. B. Chambers, of St. Louis, and he controlled the affairs of the company for a long time. The remainder of the stock was divided among the local charter members. The company bought on the 30th of July the ground at the corner of Jersey and Ninth, which they yet occupy, and began work at once. Ample means were at the command of the St. Louis parties, and the enterprise was rapidly and judiciously pushed, coming to an early completion and proving to be for a long time most satisfactory to the public and more remunerative to the owners than any of the other inter-corporate improvements in the city.

Banking matters partook of the general quick activity. The "Quincy Savings and Insurance Co.," with banking privileges, chartered the winter before, formally organized. This was afterwards, with some changes of name and control, the First National Bank of Quincy. A private banking house was opened during the summer on the north side of the public square by Ebenezer Moore, J. R. Hollowbush and E. F. Hoffman, under the name of Moore, Hollowbush & Co. It did a handsome and lucrative business until carried down like the other bank of Flagg & Savage, by the failure of the Thayers three or four years later.

An "English and German Seminary," under the auspices of the Methodist church, was projected this year, and through earnest efforts, enlisting other denominational influences, it became a success. This is the institution which was erected and long located in the imposing brick structure on Spring street between Third and Fourth, generally known as the "Methodist College," now the Jefferson school house. Some years after this, the name was changed to "Johnson College," in honor of one of its donors, and later still, in recognition of another beneficent gifts, it was rechristened "Chaddock College," which title it has since worn. About the time of this last change of name (in 1875) the college was removed to the corner of State and Twelfth streets, and established in the Gov. Wood residence, which had been purchased for its use. At the same time with this removal the city board of education bought, for $30,000, the old college property, which comprised, besides the valuable building, an entire block, and located there the Jefferson public school. This was a judicious and opportune purchase for the school interests of the city. It chanced to come at a time when the Jefferson school was required to be removed from Jefferson Square, to make way for the new court house, and there was secured to the school board a substantially built structure, amply adapted to the purpose, with a larger surrounding of ground than any other of the eight city school houses, placed also in a quarter where it might not be easy in the future to obtain a sufficient amount of land so centrally and satisfactorily situated for educational uses.

Trade and business of every kind continued more and more flourishing. About forty steamboats ran regularly from St. Louis to Quincy, and passing here in the up river trade. During the free navigation period of ten months, which continued into December, with a brief suspension in the spring (an unusual occurrence), there were registered thirteen hundred and fifty steamboat landings, averaging about five arrivals each day.

A statement compiled at the close of this year, which is probably correct so far as it goes, but incomplete on account of many omissions, rates the annual export trade of the city as amounting to $1,248,011. This professes to embrace all the values of product and manufacture that had been sold and shipped away. Among the leading items therein cited were 3,153 barrels of beef, 6,850 of crackers, 28,923 of flour, 20,296 of whisky, 101 carriages, 594 wagons, 5,092 stoves, 4,165 plows, 4,119 hides, 8,039 bales of hay, 116 hogsheads of tallow, 3,600 boxed candles, 430,000 feet lumber, 358,000 laths and shingles, $91,000 worth of castings, engines, etc., 40,866 bushels of wheat, 71,386 of corn and 137,299 of oats. At the same time another, like the above only partial statement of the business employments, reports 3 steam flour and 2 steam saw mills, 2 distilleries, 25 steam engines in use, 6 machine shops, 4 foundries, 1 cotton, 1 woolen, 1 wooden ware, 1 flooring factory, 3 sash, 3 carriage, 3 large

wholesale furniture factories and several smaller ones, 2 extensive wagon and plow factories and 7 smaller ones, 2 planing mills, 5 lumber yards, 1 book-bindery, 2 hardware, 6 iron and stove, 3 books and stationery, 4 drug and over 200 retail stores, grocery, dry goods, etc., 2 banking houses, 18 churches, 2 daily and 3 weekly English and 2 weekly German newspapers. The official valuation of city property for taxation, real and personal, footed $2,076,360.

The old court house, the second one, built in 1836 on the east side of the square, was enlarged by having an extension attached to the rear, and, by an arrangement between the city and county, the former obtained the use of one of the large lower rooms for a clerk's office and council room, which was thus occupied for the following fourteen years.

A charter for a bridge company was procured at the legislative session of 1852-53, the incorporators being the directors of the N. C. R. R. and some other parties connected therewith. The requirements of the charter were that the bridge should be commenced within three and finished within six years. These time conditions were not complied with, but extensions of the charter were obtained and with some changes from the original plan, this enterprise was the origin of the present railroad bridge, constructed some twelve or thirteen years later.

With the accession of the democratic party at the national election in 1852 to administrative control of the country, there followed the usual changes among the federal officials. Austin Brooks, editor of the Herald, was made postmaster, supplanting Abraham Jonas, who had held this office during the past four years. Another person, a partner of Mr. Brooks, had been booked for this place, but an unlucky business contretemps, coming to light, just on the eve of appointment, precluded the use of his name, and the office went to his partner. Also A. C. Marsh, as Register, and Damon Houser, as Receiver of the public land office, succeeded Henry Asbury and H. V. Sullivan. There was a good deal of local special importance attached to the land office and to these positions. They had been, in earlier years, places of distinction and responsibility, and were at one time largely lucrative; mainly so from the fees, the stated salary being small, only $400 per annum. Their value had been for some time past steadily shrinking, and their importance also, and the appointees above named were the last to hold the offices, which ended with their term.

The Quincy land district, established in 1831, embraced the entire Military Bounty Tract, and covered the 5,369,000 acres of public land lying between the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, reaching as far north as the latitude of LaSalle and Rock Island. More than one-half of this, about 3,500,000 acres, was by congressional law reserved from general purchase, and specially set aside to be deeded as bounties to the soldiers in the war of 1812. Patents for these thus reserved lands were issued to the soldiers as early as 1815 and in the four or five following years. The remaining unpatented lands were not offered for sale until a long time later, a large portion of them being reserved for more than 20 years. The cheapness of these bounty lands which could be bought from the soldier patentee; 160 acres for from $10 or $15 to $30; or the state tax title for a still lower figure, while the government price for land was $2.00 and later $1.25 per acre, and their unsurpassed fertility, with the advantage of a location between and nearly bordered by two great navigable rivers, were tempting offerings to the adventurous emigrants and to the speculator, causing a flow of settlement towards this section far in advance of that received by any other part of Illinois; an immigration which continued when the remainder of the hitherto government land was thrown open to general entry. With the location in Quincy of the public land office, there naturally followed the establishment of the private land agencies, which represented the titles to nearly all the unoccupied land in the bounty tract that had been granted to the soldiers. Hence every one desiring to purchase either public or private land had to apply personally or otherwise at Quincy, which, of course, thus became the sole land market center for this section of the state. Had Rushville, which at that period (1831) was more populous than Quincy, and came near being preferred, or Peoria, which was about equally central so far as the location of the lands lay; had either of these been the point selected for the public land office, one of the strongest factors in the early history of Quincy's prominence and improvement would have been lost. Most of the government land had now, in 1853, passed into private ownership, and when, soon after, the general government donated to the states all the swamp lands, or those subject to overflow, so little was left in this district that it was no longer necessary to maintain the offices here, and they were removed to Springfield.

Another federal office was created about this time. A bill was introduced into Congress in December, to make Quincy a port of entry, which passed during the session. The object was to convenience the railroad in its payments on the iron imported from England. Under the

operation of this law shipment could be made through direct to Quincy and here taken out of store, and the duties paid thereon from time to time in such amounts as the railroad company required. Several other cities on this great "inland sea" (as Mr. Calhoun, to evade his own opposition to internal improvements, termed the upper Mississippi), that were similarly interested in railroad enterprises, were also about this time, made ports of entry, and continued such for a number of years, a good while after the chief reason for their establishment had passed away. The law relating to Quincy went into effect Feb. 2, 1854, and the appointment of surveyor of the port was made soon after.

At the November election, which this being the odd year, was only for county officers, the democrats carried the county by the usual average majority of about 200, electing W. H. Cather County Judge over Henry Asbury; Geo. W. Leech County Clerk over B. M. Prentiss, and J. H. Luce Treasurer over C. M. Pomeroy. The city election, in April, was a mixed success for both parties. The whigs re-elected John Wood as Mayor over J. M. Pitman by 6 votes, and C. A. Savage to the council from the First ward by 3 majority. F. Wellman and S. Thayer, democrats, were elected in the Second and Third wards, and the general democratic ticket was successful. With the casting vote of the Mayor, the council continued the former whig officials.

A meeting of whigs was held on the 5th of May to consider the project of establishing a German whig newspaper. There were two German periodicals then published, both of which were democratic. Mr. Wood proposed to purchase type, etc., for such a paper if the party would sustain it for five years. The result was the establishment of the Tribune, which made its appearance on the first of November as an independent German weekly. It did not, however, live out its time. The promised support failed within a year or two and after passing through several changes of ownership and name, it became what is now the Germania. The Herald met with another of its frequent kaleidoscopes and suspended during the summer, resuming about the first of August under the management of Wm. M. Avise & Co.

Railroad matters were progressing successfully. Much of the grading through Adams county, the heavier sections excepted, was well advanced toward completion, and before the close of the year the entire roadbed to Galesburg was under contract. Some changes occurred in the management and in the directory, where a causeless inharmony temporarily occurred that was soon corrected. At the stockholders' meeting in April the old directors were re-chosen with two additional members, these were Brooks and Joy, representatives of the northern interests in the road, which eventually obtained its control. W. H. Sidell became chief engineer, succeeding Newell, and continued as such until the final finish of the road to Galesburg. Later John Wood was made director in place of Pitman, resigned.

At the 1852-53 session of the legislature an act had been obtained authorizing the city, by a popular vote, to subscribe $100,000 in addition to what had been already given towards the construction of the railroad. The company made application for this, and on the 23rd of June a public meeting was called to consider the matter, at which it was manifest that the general feeling was favorable and earnest for the subscription. The president of the road reported in detail its condition and prospects, what had been done and was desired and stated that an additional sum of $160,000 was required to completely grade, bridge and iron the road to Galesburg, and that the plan proposed was for Quincy to furnish $100,000, McDonough county $25,000 (having already given $50,000), and that the remainder would be made up by private subscription, also then and at a subsequent meeting the railroad directory pledged itself to take care of the interest on these bonds. The city council promptly ordered an election to be held on the 30th of July for the proposed subscription of $100,000 in eight per cent bonds. The project was carried by a nearer approach to unanimity even than at the election over the first subscription two years before. Then the vote stood 1,074 to 19. Now there were 1,133 votes cost for and but 4 against. McDonough county followed suit in August by a vote of 1,145 in favor of the $25,000 subscription with 285 opposed. There was also $30,300 raised by personal subscription, this about completing the amount called for. This was the second of the five subscriptions, amounting to $1,100,000, which have mainly made the foundation of the present city debt, the amount above named having been increased greatly by the funding of long delinquent interest. Whatever may be said or thought now, then, or at any time as to the need or propriety of incurring these great debts, Quincy has for them its own sole responsibility to bear, for it is a patent fact that each and all of these measures were eagerly adopted, not only with no shadow of dissent, but with an almost feverish enthusiasm of unanimity. To the $1,100,000 cited above as the sum of Quincy's investments in railroads may be added the city proportion of $220,000 voted by the county to the two

roads running north and south, which, however, became no part of the liabilities of Quincy, and its burden has insensibly passed out of existence. A special issue of bonds to the amount of $12,000 was made during this year to meet the payment on bonds, about to mature and to take up and fund local indebtedness.

An unusual amount of expensive and permanent public improvement was done during this year. Maine and Hampshire streets along and eastward from the public square were heavily macadamized, "a deep kneeded want during the muddy months," was Quincy's veteran punster's comment on the matter. Broadway from Twelfth to the river was put in passable, traveling condition, by having its uniform grade established and the same nearly finished before the close of the year. This comprehensive and costly work, involving one of the largest expenditures of the kind that the city had as yet made, was the cause of constant war in the council, and among the newspapers throughout the summer and fall, affording plenty of material for outside gossip and discussion, and often for merriment. It was the raciest, most honest contest of which the council had up to this time been the theater, not exhibiting the cavortings that sometimes have been shown there in later years, but it was pugnacious and plucky and long. The city fathers were evenly divided on this issue. The two from the north and one from the middle ward ardently urging it, while the two from the south ward and the other middle ward member were equally flintlike in their opposition. The project was brought forward, passed through the council, because of the absence from the city of one of the south ward aldermen, the contract was let and the grading commenced. When, however, this absentee alderman returned and one of the northsiders happened to be away, the boot changed legs; the order for grading was revoked, and payment on the work done suspended, until by another chance and the absence again of a south alderman and the return of the north member, thus giving back the original majority, the improvement started up again; and so it see-sawed throughout the season, while all the time one newspaper, to make capital against the city administration, and because its special friend didn't get the contract, bitterly denounced the job, and the other paper, to sustain the administration and because its special friend had secured the contract, fought for it with equal zeal. It was a furious warfare of words. The editors have gone, the contractors are dead, and two only of the aldermen are living, but the work went on to completion. It was, as before said, a very expensive and troublesome improvement to make, appearing to many as unnecessary at the time, but was of real, essential importance. This half mile cut to the river had been made by the railroad company twenty years before, and now much was needed to bring it into useful and available condition as a street.

At Twelfth street it lay some ten or twelve feet below the present surface level, to which it was raised again at this time, and to equalize the grade westward required many changes to be made all along the line, some of them quite costly, but the result in creating the best thoroughfare, in fact, the only easy graded street from the river up into the city, more than warranted the propriety of the expenditure.

The grade also of Maine street from Eighth to Eighteenth streets, then the eastern limit of the city, was established and partial work begun thereon, yet many years passed before the street was brought to anything like its present handsome appearance. Settlement along it at this time was thin, there being but three houses east of Twelfth, and not many more west to Ninth, and the ground was unequal and broken. One now looking along that broad stretch of smooth bedded street, with its easy, graceful proportion of rise and decline, cannot easily realize that its whole length from Ninth to Sixteenth, was at this period a billowy succession of lean hazel ridges and abrupt ravines, as numerous as the crossing streets and at times almost impassable, changed as it now has become into the most beautiful thoroughfare of the city, which indeed can scarcely be elsewhere surpassed.

Real estate values continued to advance as they had been steadily doing since 1840, accelerated by the active railroad movement and prospects. To the surprise of some, however, this increased rise appeared more in the eastern and central sections, than in the older portion of the city under the hill, where it might be presumed, from the location there of the depot, adding the railroad to the river business, that the value of the ground in that vicinity would be most enhanced. The result was the reverse of this expectation. Some property there changed owners, and at good advanced figures, but the trades made were mostly speculative, and the figures lower than relatively ruled elsewhere. The lot on the corner of Front and Broadway, which for some years had "gone a-begging" at $20.00 per foot, was now sold for $30.00, but this was somewhat exceptional, and generally the investments in this quarter remunerated slowly, the truth being that there has always been a larger area of ground and frontage on the river than was needed for the business that required to be specially located there, and this fact holds good as much in later

days as it always did in earlier times, when only "steamboat business" was transacted under the hill.

The promise and stir of the coming railroad stimulated some other latent ideas of enterprise into activity. There had been for many years a common "talk," usually just before a city election, of a plank road across the river bottom opposite the city. One frequent candidate for public honors, periodically used as his political shibboleth, "a town clock, free ferry and Missouri plank road." These of course amounted to nothing after the election, but now with the spirit of enterprise well aroused, and some rivalry excited, the first practical movements were made in the direction of the last above named and the most important of the three measures suggested.

Hannibal, seeing that Quincy had an assured eastern and northern railroad connection, while its own was at yet uncertain, had pushed out to good completion its plank and gravel road, reaching through the bottom lands to the Illinois bluffs so as to secure and retain all the trade of the southern part of Adams county. With an eye towards meeting this flank movement from our little rival city, a Quincy company projected and completed the survey of a line for a plank road to Burton, nine miles southeast of the city; and what was of like but much greater importance, an elaborate examination and survey with estimates of expense, was made by a skillful engineer, B. B. Wentworth, for about five miles of road, commencing at the ferry landing opposite the city and reaching almost by an air line to the north Fabius bridge at the foot of the Missouri bluffs. The estimates were, for a road of this character, raised above possible overflow, trestled bridges, etc., $19,246 for a single track with passings, and $21,656 for a double track. What has been expended since this time, thirty-four years ago, in endeavoring to make a road of this character, we do not know, but it is truth beyond question that if the above named amount, taken from what has been given railroads, vast as their benefits have been, had been devoted to the opening of these two enterprises, the gain to Quincy would have been very great and the railroads would not have missed it.

The first formal workman's "strike" broke out this year among the laborers at the brick and lumber yards, who claimed an advance of pay from seventy-five cents to a dollar a day. They all quit work on the 20th of June and paraded the town in procession, preceded by music of drums and fife. This was then a novelty and attracted attention, resulting in the yielding of the employers to the demand.

The military fever, which had been gradually dying out since the close of the Mexican and Mormon wars, broke out afresh this year with the organization of the Quincy Blues, made up in part from the members of former like associations, under the captaincy of B. M. Prentiss, which soon became a somewhat noted and creditable company. A German company, the Rifles or Yagers, was at this time the only organization of this character in the city, and it went out of existence soon after. The formation of the Blues brought out several other companies within the near following years. These were the "Quincy Artillery," under Captain Austin Brooks, of the Herald, a dapper little "cadet company, composed of the boys from Root's High School, and commanded by Captain Martin Holmes, and the "City Guards," under Captain E. W. Godfrey, who as a captain in the 18th Missouri Infantry, was killed at the battle of Shiloh in 1862. Quincy thus had for several years four military organizations, but all of them disbanded before 1861, except the City Guards, which being then still in prosperous condition, became the nucleus from which was formed the two companies which volunteered in the spring of 1861 to do duty in the war of the rebellion. Prior to this period, 1843, there had been at different times four military associations in the city, the first being the "Grays" in 1838-9, next the "Riflemen" in 1843, and shortly after the "Montgomery Guards," an Irish company, and the Germany company of Captain Delabar before mentioned. The "Riflemen" and "Montgomery Guards" enlisted in the Mexican war.

CHAPTER XXXII.

1854.

ICE PACKING BECOMES A BUSINESS. WIDTH OF THE RIVER 3,960 FEET. THEATRE STARTED. AMATEUR ACTORS. HIGH SCHOOL. NEBRASKA BILL. POLITICAL CHANGES. DATUM FOR STREET GRADES FIXED. MOULTON'S ADDITION. SWAMP LANDS SOLD. GAS COMPANY STARTED. FIRST LOCOMOTIVE BROUGHT TO QUINCY. A HOT SUMMER. DISTILLERY BURNED. QUINCY CADETS.

The winter of 1853-54 was generally pleasant, not marked by any extreme degree of temperature, although the snowfall was unusually large. The staple business of the season kept up with former years, about 22,000 hogs being packed, which was a fair average product. A new branch of business began about this time, rather light at first, but one that has since rapidly increased and grown to a place among the leading industries of the city. This was ice packing, heretofore altogether a private affair, which now, however, commenced as a regular

business. The first ice houses for packing, preserving and selling throughout the city, were built this year, on a small scale compared with what it has since become, but fully up to the wants of the place at the time. I. Cleveland, and soon after J. Cole, were the pioneers in this line, packing not a great deal, but enough for local distribution during the following summer. The river on the 23rd of February, at a very high stage of water, with flooded banks, unfettered itself from winter thraldom, and thence on throughout the succeeding winter, 1854-1855, remained entirely free from ice. Navigation was easy and lasted long by reason of this early opening, and the nearly full continuance of the spring rise as late as the middle of November. All through the summer the river was high. Twenty-one feet above low water mark was the gauge given of the highest water, and this unusual altitude long sustained gave a greater average volume of flow through the season than had been often before known.

A question much mooted then, and perhaps since, as to what is the exact width of the Mississippi at this point, was referred to some of the railroad engineers, who settled it by a careful measurement made over the ice in February, which had never been thus done before. Starting from low water mark, at the foot of Vermont street, and running on an exact east and west parallel to a point about 200 feet south of the ferry landing on the Missouri shore gave a distance of 3,960 feet, almost an even three-quarters of a mile. Since this measurement was made, on account of encroachments from the east side of the river by the extension of the public landing, and perhaps some changes in the banks on the opposite shore, the above figures may have slightly varied.

A special session of the legislature having been called by the Governor to meet on the 9th of February, an election was ordered to be held on the 6th of this month to fill vacancies made by the resignation of John Wood, senator from the Adams and Pike district, and of J. M. Pitman and John C. Moses, representatives from Adams and Brown. The democrats in convention nominated for senator Solomon Parsons of Pike, and for representatives Wm. H. Benneson and Hiram Boyle of Adams, while the whigs brought out John McCoy of Adams for the senatorship, and J. W. Singleton of Brown and John C. Cox of Adams as their candidates for the lower house. The election resulted in the success of Parsons, Singleton and Boyle. There was a light vote cast, and the result was effected by local influences and the politic indifference felt by the whigs in regard to the election. The whig candidates, with the exception of Singleton, and also all the candidates from the city, were in some parts of the county and in Brown overlooked altogether in some precincts securing not a single vote, and in Brown the Singleton vote was about three times the total of all the others combined.

Another special election was held on the 4th of April for a county clerk to succeed George W. Leech, who had been chosen to this place at the November election in 1853, and died three months after, on the 9th of February. Leech was a popular and skillful official, familiar with the routine and history of public business with which he had been associated from boyhood, belonging to one of those hereditary office-holding families, of which the country has so many. His early death was a public loss. At this election John Field, whig, was chosen over Wash. Wren, the late democratic sheriff, by nearly 300 majority.

Changes were made in the legislative districts by the apportionment law of 1854. Under this Adams county was separated from Pike, and with Brown made a senatorial district, and also Adams became a single representative district, entitled to two members, instead of as before, having three members in connection with Brown county. There was also enacted at this session a law which became a part of the city charter, providing for the election of two police magistrates for the city and relieving the mayor from judicial duties.

The first attempt at an established theater dates from this time. There had been as early as 1839 a "Thespian" organization, composed of a goodly number of the youngsters of the town, who fitted up a little hall on Third street, between Hampshire and Maine, and with well prepared scenery and costumes, gave exhibitions to their own satisfaction, and which afforded special pleasure and amusement to the people of the town. This association continued for several years. Among its members, and we believe the only ones now living and resident of Quincy, were J. T. Baker, Lorenzo Bull, T. G. F. Hunt, Thomas Brougham and Ithema Taylor. A traveling trompe would occasionally come along and make use of the Thespian Hall, with its scenery, etc., but the stay of such was brief, that of McIntyre and Jefferson, father of the noted comedian, who performed here for several weeks in 1843, being the longest. Nothing, however, like a permanent theater, with its own professional company, was planned until in the winter of 1853-54. Geo. J. Adams then began a series of "dramatic exhibitions" and lectures on elocution, in the Danake Hall on Maine street be-

tween Fourth and Fifth. Adams, "Crazy Adams," as he was called by some on account of his eccentric actions, was a very bright man, who had practiced at almost everything—clergyman, lecturer, Mormon missionary and apostle—and was withal, an actor of far more than average capacity and reputation. His troupe was composed of students from his class in elocution, with an occasional aid from some wandering actors, and the exhibitions were reasonably successful, lasting off and on for two or three years. During the time when he was managing these exhibitions, Thomas Duff, his brother-in-law, and wife, who had been performing in the east, came from New York and made their first appearance. Later, about 1857, when Adams dropped the management of this occasional theater, as it might be called, Duff, with a full company, came, and since that period carried on a theater from time to time, with occasional suspensions, for a good many years.

The act of Congress, creating a "port of entry" at Quincy, was approved by the President on the 2nd of January, and in March Thomas C. Benneson was appointed and confirmed as "port inspector." About twenty-five years later this office, with several other of the ports on the Mississippi, was abolished.

An earnest effort was made during the early part of this year to engraft a city high school upon the existing public school system, and a very large meeting was held at the court house on the 3rd of January in advocacy of this project. Following on this a lengthy petition was presented to the council at the February meeting, and referred to a committee composed of three of the aldermen and the superintendent of public schools. At the March meeting the majority of this committee reported unfavorably, but recommended the building of more school houses for education in the common grades, which report was adopted by the council, and at the same session a resolution was passed to submit to the voters at the next charter election, the question of a high school, and of obtaining from the legislature the authority to levy an additional tax for its support. The matter made much excitement in and out of the council. It became at last a partisan question, and entering into the April city election, was there overwhelmingly voted down and carried down with it the political supremacy of the whigs in the council. The immediate result of the agitation was the erection of another school house, the Webster school, at the corner of Maine and Twelfth, which was projected and commenced during the latter part of the year, and was at the time of its construction, much the most complete edifice of the kind in the city. An appropriation was made at this time of $25.00 a quarter for the education of colored children, provided that the superintendent thought it expedient; but it effected nothing.

This was what Greely was wont to call an "off year in politics," no presidential election occurring, yet it was a period of more political excitement and radical changes, attended with an unusual degree of personal bitterness, than any other since the nation was formed. That political Pandora's box, the Nebraska bill, shattered for a time the supremacy which the democratic party, organized some twenty-five years earlier, had during nearly all the subsequent time strongly maintained, severing from it a large portion of its best material. This, with the great bulk of the now dissolving whig party, formed a new association, to soon secure possession of the national administration for a period about equal to that of its predecessor. With the introduction of this question to public thought, Quincy, like the rest of the country, was aroused at once. The measure and the actions and motives of prominent men became the current constant topic of talk, and were discussed, disputed denounced and defended in every way and everywhere.

The general local sentiment was at first unfavorable in the Nebraska bill, but there was also a strong sentiment of confidence and pride towards the popular senator who was the father of this measure and whose first entrance upon his eminent national career was from this city, his former home. Early in February, therefore, a public meeting was called by the friends of Senator Douglas to approve of his action and endorse the bill. W. H. Cather, county judge, presided, and J. H. Luce, was secretary. The meeting was small and indecisive, and was adjourned to the 28th, when the assemblage was very large. The proceedings were exciting and amusing. All the extreme anti-slavery men of the city, who had heretofore counted but lightly in political affairs, being very few in numbers but very earnest naturally on an issue like this, floated to the front and did most of the battling, and the resolutions of approval were voted down. Several other meetings were held with the same general result, and on the 3rd of April, at a meeting with R. S. Benneson, a former democrat, as president, and Dr. Ralston, whig, secretary, where the same stirring scenes of strife occurred, a resolution condemnatory to the bill and charging upon the senator the responsibility for the agitation of the slavery question, was passed by a vote of about three to one.

The separation continued, and by the time the fall campaign commenced, partisan lines were distinctly drawn on the question of the Nebraska bill, which became in fact the only issue which was discussed at the November election.

The city election in April partook of this strong partisan and personal feeling and was hotly contested. The whigs, who had usually a reliable majority in two wards, though slightly in a minority in the whole city, renominated for mayor John Wood, with J. C. Bernard, E. K. Stone and N. Flagg for aldermen; and J. M. Pitman, who had twice unsuccessfully contested with Wood for the mayoralty, was again placed at the head of the democratic ticket, with W. D. Morgan, J. B. Merssman and Jas. Arthur as candidates for the council. The high school question, which was publicly voted upon at this same time and the proposition to raise a special tax for the support of the school or two schools, had been injudiciously pressed, and beaten in the council, public sentiment not having ripened for it as yet. It now became a prominent feature in the election and determined the result. Pitman was returned as elected by one vote, and two of the whig aldermen by like slender figures, Bernard by a majority of one and Flagg three. The two democratic police magistrates, A. Wood and T. Monroe, were also successful over T. H. Brongham and J. E. Dunn. This was the first year when police magistrates were chosen. The vote, 1,335, was the largest ever cast in the city, exceeding that of the previous presidential election.

Right after this hard fought election, and pending the formation of the new city administration, there sprang up a stubborn political strife in the council. The existing board was composed of two democrats and four whigs, one of the latter, Dorman, being absent, making it stand three to two without the mayor. When the board convened to count in and qualify the members-elect, Wood, after the vote was declared, filed a notice of contest against Pitman's election and vacated the chair. Alderman Thayer was made temporary chairman and thereupon the three whig aldermen demanded that the newly elected aldermen, whose claims were not contested, should be first qualified and the question of right to the mayoralty be afterward considered. The two democrats refused to recognize this line of procedure, and by leaving the house broke the quorum. This rather farcical performance was continued at several meetings for nearly a fortnight, causing a suspension of general business, until finally Wood withdrew his demand and the new board was organized. It then, with a party majority through the casting vote of the mayor, changed the political character of all the appointive offices. Since this period, 1854, with one exception, in 1859, although an occasional opposition mayor has been elected, the democratic party has maintained an unbroken majority and control in the city council for thirty-three years.

An important measure was adopted by this council tending to better define the hitherto doubtful system of city levels. The earliest formal step in this direction was a resolution or ordinance some years before that the "door sill of Holmes' store at the corner of Front and Hampshire," should be the regulation base. But the store had been rebuilt, the door sill changed, and Holmes had moved away, so that grade calculations had now to be made from the secondary standards, involving much uncertainty, and beside this the regulation base above named was not itself fixed upon a determinate permanent plane. Now the council, with low water mark as a basis, established "the 'bench mark' on Delabar's house at the corner of Spring and Front streets, 20 31-100 feet above low water mark, as the governing point for city grades." This well devised plan was still defective so long as it depended on "Delabar's house" for the "bench mark." A few years later it was improved and carried to completion by the present excellent system, which with elaborate and accurate calculation and measurements, established a base or datum plane 200 feet below low water mark, from which all grades are to be computed, and makes at the Franklin school house, "a table-stone for city levels" 230 feet above the river base, with monumental stones, corresponding to this table stone, at the center all the street intersections.

A city census, ordered by the council to ascertain the number and locality of the school children to be provided for, on the 1st of June, reported 5,878 under 20 years of age, and the total population of the city at 10,977, of which 196 were resident in East Quincy, as that portion of the city lying east of Twenty-fourth street and not yet attached, was called. It was generally thought that this figure, 10,977, was a good deal too low. The valuation of city property of all kinds by the official assessment, based on a low standard of about one-third the actual value, as were all tax valuations at this time, was returned as $2,076,360.86.

Property prices continued to advance as they had been doing for several years. A good deal of immigration flowed into the city and the surrounding section, and largely increased business of all kinds, and more extensive stocks of merchandise gave evidence of prosperity.

Many transfers of real estate were made at good profit figures. The largest land sale that had yet taken place in connection with Quincy, larger, indeed, than any since, was the sale at auction in December of the 160 acres lying in the northeast part of the city between Eighteenth and Twenty-fourth and Broadway and Chestnut streets, now known as Moulton's addition. The history of this tract and its enormous increase in value, passing unbroken through but three transfers from its first owner, is curious enough to detail.

It was patented in 1818 to Paul Barnard as bounty for services in the war of 1812. The same year, by conveyance made on the back of the parchment patent, which I have before me, it was sold by the soldier for $53. Thirty years after, in 1848, it was again sold for $6,400—$40 per acre. In December of this year, 1854, it was platted into nine blocks and eighty-two lots, each lot containing from one to two acres, the subtraction of the streets leaving about 130 acres to be sold. It realized at this sale about $45,000, or an average of $350 per acre. The lot on the northeast corner, a little less than two acres, brought $800, and a similar sized lot on the southwest corner for $1,250. So great an advance in the value of a single piece of property, passing through so few owners' hands, is rarely found.

Nearly at the same time with the beforementioned sale of the "Moulton" or "Skiddy quarter," which last was the name it had borne for thirty years, there was another extensive land auction which attracted local attention and was profitable to some. This was the sale of all the remaining swamp or overflowed lands in Adams county, that had, prior to 1850, been the property of the general government. Congress in 1850 donated to the states all such lands as lay within their respective boundaries. Illinois relinquished in 1852 her interest in these lands to the counties where the same were located. The Adams county court ordered a sale to be made on December 4th, 1854, of its lands, amounting to over 25,000 acres, which realized to the county treasury about $12,000. All the unentered land, including the islands east of the river channel, the low bottom land between the river and the bluff, the lakes, among them the great Lima lake or Lake Paponsie, as it was originally called, covering over three thousand acres; every foot of ground, in fact, that was at all subject to even occasional overflow, was embraced in this sale. Much of it was or seemed to be worthless, and brought not over ten cents per acre, but again a great deal of it was of special value and there offered an opportune chance for profitable purchase, of which shrewd speculators who were posted and knew what to buy, availed themselves.

The first Adams county agricultural fair was held on October 18th and 19th of this year. It had been projected with a good deal of enthusiasm and unity in the fall of 1853, and though a crude affair, in some respects, was a success. It exhibited on a piece of vacant ground a little north of Broadway, between Sixth and Eighth streets. The enclosure was made by an irregular sort of fence or barrier, formed by piles of fallen trees and brushwood, looking much like a military abatis, and sentried all along on the inside by the committee men to keep out the boys. The attendance and display, both from the city and county, was good, and the institution hence onward for several years was an object of general interest and advantage. Unfortunate jealousies or misunderstandings in later years broke it down, and the supporting interests leaving Quincy located near the center of the county, establishing there a fair which has been a steady success, representing, however, more of the county than of the city elements of industry.

The Methodist seminary was now finished and opened to students. It was somewhat successful, but laden from the start with financial embarrassments, from which it took many years to receive relief. The fine building in which it began its career was eventualy sold to the city for a public school, and the Chaddock college, as it is now called, in honor of one of its donors, was removed to the present site at the corner of Twelfth and State streets. The Centre Congregational church, at the corner of Jersey and Fourth streets, the neatest building of the kind as yet constructed in the city, built by a seceding portion of the First Congregational church society, was finished and dedicated.

The most notable and commemorative occasion of the year and literally the most shining event, was the completion of the gas works, and the first lighting up of the city on December 1st. This was as great a gala day, or night, rather, as Quincy had as yet known, and was signalized by a general turning on of the gas in all the street lamps and private houses, and a general turning out of all the people into the streets to see how the city and themselves looked, and also by a gay evening banquet at the Quincy House. The gas company had obtained, two years before from the state legislature, a perpetual charter, giving it the exclusive right for twenty-five years to the use of the streets for furnishing light to the public and to private parties, and had concluded a contract with the city, following the terms of the charter, for twenty-five years. It now

shone out with its well completed works, with a laid line of three and a half miles of pipe through the best settled part of the city and sixty-five street lamps erected and ready for instant use, with provisional arrangements completed between the company and the city, for their lighting and maintenance. It is due to fact and history to say that the contract was a mutually successful one, advantageous to all the parties. Under judicious and faithful management in its earlier starting, the company has also well lighted the city, and has always received, almost from the very commencement, a remunerative return to itself.

Besides this well-remembered occasion of the introduction of gas there was now the advent of other "first things" to be tabled in the record of this year, and these, though unattended by demonstrations like that which looked upon the first lighting up of the city, were equally events of public importance and attraction, and their dates are notable as initial points in the advancing movements of Quincy. On the 12th of March two small locomotives (as railroad engines used to be called), reached here, brought by barge from Chicago through the canal and down the Illinois river. Crowds gathered, of course, to see the new comers, but it was not until Sept. 12th that one of them, the Varnum, was put in working order and placed on the track to assist in the construction of the road. This, the pioneer engine, had a goodly crowd of gazers to witness its start. It had gotten the name of Barnum from the anti-railroad men, for there were a few croakers even in those days, who saw it lying on the landing unused for six months and dubbed it after the great prince of humbugs. On May 5th the first shipment of railroad iron, 100 tons, arrived, and May 29th the first rail was laid. All these occurrences, though unmarked by formality, drew special attention, from the universal interest that was felt in regard to the railroad. Some jarring matters in the railroad directory brought about the resignation of J. M. Pitman and the election of John Wood as his successor, and the resignation of John Field, who had been elected county clerk, was supplied by the selection as secretary of John C. Cox.

Final finish was made towards the certain completion of the railroad both north and east by the vote of Brown county pledging a subscription of $100,000 to the eastern branch from Camp Point to Meredosia. This was first effected through the influence of private parties, whose public spirit had taken hold of the project. No chartered railroad company there then existed. There was not then as there is now, a general incorporation law authorizing corporate organization at any time in the interim of legislative sessions, and it was two years later that the parties who built the road through Brown county secured a charter at the session of 1856-57, against a factious opposition. The first election in Brown for this $100,000 subscription failed. The vote was 525 for to 206 against, but the terms under which the election was held required that the vote in favor of the project should be equal to two-thirds of the vote cast at the last general election. It failed by seven votes, through over-confidence and inattention. At a second election held a few weeks later it was carried by a most decisive vote, there being scarcely any opposition.

The summer was extremely hot, the hottest ever known, as the oldest inhabitants always say. The thermometer rated on July 17th at 105, and six days during the month showed a degree over 100, with a monthly average of 93, really an extraordinary continuance of heat. With this was also much sickness. The cholera made a slight visitation, but only some half a dozen cases occurred in the city, while near around and in the county there were a good many more cases.

Some notable changes occurred among the newspaper establishments, always objects of public interest. The Patriot, published by Warren & Gibson, edited by the latter and later by D. S. Morrison, became a tri-weekly on the 16th of September. H. V. Sullivan, the first publisher of the Quincy Whig, with which he had subsequently been always connected, sold his interest therein to Henry Young, and made preparation for establishing another paper. This, the Republican, he brought out in partnership with F. A. Dallam in the following year, 1855. There were at this time four established journals in the city, the Herald, Courier (German), Whig and Patriot. The first two were democratic, the Whig was whig and the Patriot independent and anti-slavery.

The military mania was all-pervading this year. The Blues made their first parade, in creditable shape, on the 7th of January, and later in the season an artillery company under the command of Austin Brooks, of the Herald, was organized, but did not turn out until the next year.

Probably the most destructive fire that had as yet attacked the city, was on the 20th of October, when Thayer's large distillery with many of its surroundings, were destroyed. The damage was estimated at over $50,000, with little insurance, a much greater figure than had footed the losses suffered at any former fire.

Political excitement, here as all over the country, was intense and continuous through-

out the whole year. That mad issue made by the repeal of the Missouri compromise, offering the entrance of slavery into the territories and its protection while there, absorbed all other questions of dispute, shattering old party associations and creating a new line of political separation. The Nebraska bill and slavery extension were the leading and almost only subjects of thought and discussion, resulting in the overthrow of the democratic party in the state, completely reversing the political conditions that had existed, unbroken, for twenty-five years. The operation was different in several sections of the state. In the northern part, which had heretofore been decidedly democratic, almost the entire whig party and a very large percentage of the democratic, united in what was called the anti-Nebraska movement, from which sprang the republican party. In the central belt, where the whig element was stronger, the parties remained nearly the same; a few changes only being made from either side. In the southern section where were the great democratic majorities, with the exception of the locations wherein the German vote lay, which now cut loose from the democratic party to which it had been almost solidly attached, the democrats as a whole and nearly all of the few whigs that were there, supported the repeal of the compromise, thus leaving scarcely a nominal opposition in all the Egyptian part of the state.

In Adams county and adjoining the political changes were few and very nearly offset each other. Wm. A. Richardson was renominated for congress at the democratic convention after a long and stubborn contest between several other aspirants, and Archibald Williams was brought out by the opposition. The other democratic candidates were, for state senator, Wm. H. Carlin; for representatives, J. M. Ruddle and Eli Seehorn, and Wilson Lane for sheriff. Opposed to these were Peter B. Garrett for the senate; for the house, H. V. Sullivan and Wm. B. Gooding, regular nominees, and Wm. C. Harrington, independent, and B. M. Prentiss for sheriff. It was at this election that a small local cause brought about the election of the first republican U. S. senator from Illinois, which has already been mentioned in these sketches.

A curious feature connected with the organization of this legislature, before alluded to, with its meagre majority of one, and being the first anti-democratic legislature in the state since the formation of that party, is worth mention. It is not local to Quincy or Adams county, but is a part of the general political history of the state and nation, and caused the Adams county representation in the general assembly to play a much more important part than it otherwise might have done. Abraham Lincoln and Stephen T. Logan, the two most eminent men in that section, were elected by several hundred majority as the anti-Nebraska members of the house from Sangamon county, Mr. Lincoln very much against his wish, because he was recognized as being the candidate of the party for election to the U. S. Senate. When it was ascertained that the anti-Nebraska party had the control of the legislature by a clear majority of at least three, Mr. Lincoln resigned, every one supposing that Sangamon county would choose as his successor a man of the same political stamp. But the democrats laid low, and quietly organizing a "still hunt," run in a Mr. McDaniel, a very obscure man, and completely reversed the 600 or 700 majority of the month before. This left the balance of strength so close that half a dozen anti-Nebraska members, formerly democrats, controlled the situation and they demanded that an anti-Douglas democrat, rather than an old whig, should be elected as the successor of General Shields in the U. S. Senate. They succeeded, and after several days' balloting, where Mr. Lincoln came very near success, Judge Trumbull was chosen by one vote more than the vote given to Matteson, the Douglas candidate. Had Mr. Lincoln not been a candidate for the legislature, some other man like him in opinions would have been chosen with Judge Logan, and Mr. Lincoln would have been elected senator. Had he not resigned the result would have been the same. But if Abraham Lincoln had gone into the United States Senate in 1854, would he there have achieved that distinction which he afterward acquired, and would he four years later, in 1858, have fought the great debate with Douglas, which laid the foundation of his elevation to the presidency and eternal fame?

A private "High School" was opened by Prof. M. T. Root on the 6th of October, which may perhaps properly be called the first of its kind, since it was the only institution claiming such a character that was sustained for any great length of time. This school was popular and prospered under the management of Mr. Root and of those who succeeded him, until about the time when, several years later, the public high school, of like scope, and affording equal advantages, such a one as it had been unsuccessfully proposed to establish in the spring of this year, was engrafted upon the city school system. Mr. Root, beside being an unusually well educated instructor, and a decided though gentle disciplinarian, possessed that other valuable trait in a teacher of sympathetic association with his pupils. He added

to the attractions of his school by the organization of a military company from among his students. This, the "Quincy Cadets," with its simple, tasteful uniform, and a drill proficiency equal to the average, soon became one of the popular institutions of the city. One of its officers, Lieutenant Shipley, afterwards a lieutenant in the 27th Illinois Infantry, was the first commissioned officer from Quincy who was killed in the civil war, at Belmont, Mo., in 1861.

Another effort was made to establish a public free school for colored children by an appropriation of the council of $150 towards building a school house "whenever the property was bought and paid for." This project, like that proposed in the early part of the year, was a failure.

The Westminster church, December 24, 1853, representing the old school branch of the Presbyterian church, with the Rev. Wm. McCandish as its pastor, began service in a small building on Sixth street between Maine and Jersey. Soon after they erected a church on Hampshire near Ninth, which they occupied until they reunited with the other Presbyterians about thirty years later.

There were at this time eighteen religious societies in Quincy having churches for regular worship. Of these, thirteen conducted services in English, viz.: Two Methodist Episcopal, one Protestant Methodist, one Christian (or Campbellite), two Presbyterian (Old and New School), two Congregationalist, one Episcopalian, one Unitarian, one Universalist and one Catholic; and five in German, two Evangelical, one Lutheran, one Methodist Episcopal, and one Catholic. The Catholic societies were by far the largest of any of these. Their increase in this section for a good many years had been rapid and extensive. A public statement made about this time reports the Catholic diocese of Quincy to embrace 52 churches, 39 stations, with a church attendance of 42,000.

Much the most comprehensive annual review of the city that had as yet appeared was prepared and published at the close of this year. It is too lengthy and detailed for repetition here, though some of its principal statements may be shown. The gross amount of business reported displays a decided increase over any past year. The value of "agricultural exports" was as recited, $1,171,258. Among the leading items scheduled were 48,000 barrels of flour, valued at $312,000; of hay, 1,325 tons, $17,225; wheat, 22,294 bushels, $24,633; oats, 192,839 bushels, $61,710; corn, 76,416 bushels, $32,190; to this last article the compiler says should be added the 178,514 bushels that it took to make 624,800 gallons of whiskey, worth $206,184, all of which was made and shipped from here. The total number of hogs packed was 23,000, an advance on the previous year, and the value of the manufacture $296,141. Beef packing summed up a value of $49,149. Shipments south were made of 301,560 pounds of hides, valued at $15,078; 62,200 boxes of soap, $15,500; 1,215 boxes of candles, $25,440; 3,000 barrels of crackers, $15,000. Of brick 6,000,000 were manufactured, worth $21,000, and marble and stone work to an equal amount was done. Cabinet work amounted to $106,390. The cooper shops, 21 in number, turned out 55,400 flour, 10,750 pork and 14,550 whiskey barrels, and other work amounting to $63,362. The 15 wagon and plow shops and the 2 carriage factories reported a business of $179,315; 2 planing mills and 18 carpenter shops $152,211; 1 steam saw mill $50,000; 5 machine shops, $77,450; 4 foundries (2 of them stove), $165,520; 5 saddle and harness shops, $77,030; 5 lumber yards received 5,000,000 feet of pine lumber worth $100,000, 230 licensed stores of all kinds are reported as transacting business to the extent of $1,279,500. The compiler says in reference to the last amount above stated that he is disposed to consider it as possibly $200,000 too small, but that he had sedulously through his entire examination, from fear of over-estimation, kept his figures down as much as possible.

This statement of the leading industries of the city was compiled by a quaint, earnest old gentleman, now deceased, who was from very early times and for nearly half a century one of the notables of the place, and of whom and his oddities a characteristic anecdote follows. He was an excellent, benevolent man, defectively educated, but a singular compound of shrewd intelligence and eccentric action, a most ardent whig, and opposed to innovation of old theories, political, medical or anywise, having an especial distrust of whatever newfangled thing began with "anti" or ended with "isms." What the worthy captain precisely meant by hydropathic inventions, he only could explain. He considered some medical quackery, or maybe a lurking pun on the sound of the first syllable of the word hydropathic, as the story below, one of a thousand such as might be told about him, illustrates:

At a social gathering, where the captain was present, during the time, many years ago, when animal magnetism, mesmerism, spiritualism and such like perplexities were new, but pervading the country, and as little understood then as now, the subject of transcendentalism became a topic of talk. It was a new idea and a strange word to the captain, and kept him unusually silent for awhile. "Transcendental-

ism," thought he to himself for awhile, all in a puzzle. Part of this word sounded familiar, but altogether it was too long and too deep for him, when suddenly some expression used in the discussion threw at once a flood of apparent light upon his mind. "Oh," said he, "I see what you're talking about; it's a religious fixin' it seems. I didn't know before what transdentalism meant. I thought it was some new fangled ism about the teeth!" And then he dived into the discussion as fearlessly, as learnedly, and no doubt as lucidly as any of the other disputants. The subject was one which calls for more tongue than sense; and is well described by a satiric old Scotch philosopher as the fairest of all themes for controversy, "because, dyje see, it's an equal for baith parties, for the mon who talked didna ken what he meant, and the gude folk that listen dinna ken e'en all of his fool clatter."

The unusual early spring flood, continuing throughout the summer, suddenly subsided in the late fall months, leaving an almost unprecedented low stage of water. On the middle of November thirty inches of water was reported in the river channel, and much floating ice thus early appeared. This shallow channel and obstructing ice continued throughout the coming winter, but at no time did the river freeze fast. Boats with difficulty made occasional trips from St. Louis to Keokuk all through the winter months.

There was much financial distrust and business embarrassment during this year all over the west, and especially in Illinois, growing out of the weakness of the state stock banking system. Illinois was flooded with bank paper secured by pledge of the uncertain and declining bonds of other states, and rivalry and competition among the banks and brokers brought about some failures and created a general distrust towards all bank paper, yet the average prosperity continued, and in Quincy especially so, making this year, 1854, the most hopeful period in all its history to date.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

1855.

THE BAY. A PLACE FOR WINTERING STEAMBOATS. VOTING ON A TEMPERANCE LAW. SKINNER ELECTED JUDGE OF SUPREME COURT. SIBLEY ELECTED JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT. FISCAL STATEMENT. STREET IMPROVEMENTS. HOSPITAL GROUNDS PURCHASED. RAILROAD IMPROVEMENTS. WOODLAND ORPHANS' HOME. QUINCY AS A PORT OF ENTRY. A CITY DIRECTORY. U. S. LAND OFFICE MOVED TO SPRINGFIELD. REVIEW OF ITS HISTORY. THE NEWSPAPERS. MILITARY ORGANIZATION. PROSPERITY.

Business during the winter season was good. The pork production, at that time the best index of business prosperity, amounted to $35,000, which with the occasional steamboat arrivals, made activity and kept other occupations active. The river continued to keep open throughout the early part of the winter, with more or less running ice, and an average of about three feet in the channel. It shut down on this uncertain navigation by freezing solid on the 25th of January. The last steamer which left here on the 22nd of January was nearly a week on her passage to St. Louis. The river opened for the season on March 8th, and maintained a good stage of water until its final freeze on the 24th of December. Some half dozen large steamers were laid up for the winter, painted and repaired, in the "bay," which made quite an addition to the business appearance of the place. This making use of the "bay" for the wintering and repair of boats during the winter, had been for a few years common, and after this time continued, but for some reason it has been abandoned. There is no place on the upper Mississippi so fitting in all respects as the Quincy Bay for "putting in ordinary" of steamboats in winter, and for several years it was not unusual to see half a dozen or more of No. 1 crafts there, among them sometimes, a large New Orleans steamer.

Two important elections were held during the summer of this year, one of them general, embracing the entire state, and the other, which occurred on the same day, June 6th, confined to the central section, including Quincy, where it aroused especial interest and feeling. The first was over the ratification by popular vote, of a stringent temperance law which had been passed at the preceding session of the legislature, subject to approval of the people. The law was largely fashioned after the Maine liquor law, and the contest over it was quite stirring, producing an unusually large vote (about 170,000), an increase of more than 30,000 on the state vote of the previous year. No political lines were drawn at this election, which was the first of the kind held in Illinois, but action on the law was strongly sectional, it receiving general support in the northern counties, while in the southern section it was as uniformly opposed. It failed of ratification by about 14,000 votes. Quincy gave against it a majority of 105, which was increased in the county to 978.

The appointment of Judge Treat as United States district judge for southern Illinois made a vacancy in the supreme court of the state in the second district, and Judge Skinner, who had acceptably presided over the Adams and Hancock circuit, offered as a candidate for that position. Opposed to him were Stephen T. Logan of Sangamon, and Charles H. Constable

of Wabash counties. Political feeling was not enlisted in this election, but like the election on the liquor question, local sentiment and preference was active and controlling each aspirant receiving the general vote of his own section of the district, and Judge Skinner was easily successful by about 10,000 majority. The contest for the circuit judgeship and a successor to Judge Skinner, was like the above, a sort of triangular duel, and was attended with more of personal bitterness than often attaches to a purely political contest. The Adams county bar, with a desire to avoid political strife, had almost unanimously recommended for this position George Edmunds, an active and rising young lawyer of Quincy. A personal hostility to Mr. Edmunds brought forward an opposition and some severe attacks, which were refuted, but operated upon the election. Resultant on this was the candidacy of Joseph Sibley and John W. Marsh of Hancock county, the first, as the nominee of a democratic convention, and the latter one of the oldest and most experienced lawyers of the state, supported generally by the whigs of the district, such as had not committed themselves to the support of Mr. Edmunds. It was a close and doubtful election, ending in the election of Mr. Sibley by a small majority. Judge Sibley was three times re-chosen to this office, holding it for twenty-four years, the longest term of judicial circuit service known in the state.

The fall election for county officers excited but little interest. Three officials, treasurer, school superintendent and surveyor, only were to be chosen, and the democrats elected them all. At the city election in April J. M. Pitman was the democratic candidate for re-election to the mayoralty, and was successful with the rest of the ticket by 250 majority over Wm. B. Powers, "independent" candidate. This secured the democratic control of the council, which was continued through the three succeeding years, and no changes were made among the official representatives of the city.

The annual "fiscal statement" of the city for the year ending April 1, 1855, exhibited a more economical administration of the city affairs than that of the preceding year, when, as per this report, the expenditures had exceeded the receipts by $4,174.37, while by the showing of '54-55 the receipts amounted to $37,476.64 and the expenditures to only $36,993.95, leaving a balance on hand of $482.69.

A very decided advance in population was told by the state census taking during this summer, 10,754 against 6,901 as returned by the national census in 1850, showing an increase of over 56 per cent within five years. An unusual amount of substantial improvement also marks the records of this year. Jersey street, making now the seventh completed traversable track between the upper and the river section of the city, was graded from Third to Front street. Maine street was macadamized from Fifth to Eighth and brought to a better level father east. Broadway east of Wood, or Twelfth street, as it now was called, was increased in width to 76 feet to correspond with its western width. Thirteenth nor Fourteenth street was opened from Jersey to Broadway. This opening was the first departure from the original town plan which had heretofore been generally followed, of evenly bounded blocks 24 rods square and streets 4 rods wide; a very judicious arrangement, neatly adapted to the system of the federal land surveys and to the road laws of the state. The innovation in the establishment of Fourteenth street by making a block of double the usual length from east to west has since been followed in some other additions in the eastern part of the city by leaving out each odd numbered street running north and south. It was growing out of this, and with the idea of regulating the future shaping of the city, that the council, however, not now excepting to this particular measure, made the requirement, under the provisions of a state law to that effect, that all plots and plans for addition to the city must before being recorded obtain the approval of the city council. The chief idea in this ordinance being to ensure that all streets, platted in the outer sections of the city, shall conform in width and alignment to those already existing, even though they may not connect therewith. Orange street, since called Eighteenth, was opened from State street to Chestnut. This was on the line which had heretofore been the most eastern boundary of the city. A large addition was now made. At the January meeting of the council a new city charter was proposed and the mayor authorized to proceed to Springfield and urge its passage through the legislature. The main feature in the new charter was the enlargement of the city area. It proposed to about double the area of the city, making Twenty-fourth street the eastern and Locust and Harrison the northern and southern boundaries. The measure passed with some opposition, and was much resented by many parties, who, owning land near the city, were thus forced into citizenship against their wish and made to encounter increased taxation and responsibility for the large past and prospective city debt.

Orange street continued to be the eastern boundary of the city. The proposed amendment to the charter for the purpose of enlarging the city area, although it easily passed

through the council, met with much opposition in the legislature, where the outside interests could make themselves heard, and it failed to become a law. Two years later, however, at the regular session, the same measure was introduced and passed in January, 1857, and at the same session, a month later, another amendment to the charter was passed adding to the city what was then known as East Quincy, an area of about eighty acres bounded by Broadway and Thirtieth, an east and west line about on the extension of Jersey street taking in the old city cemetery, and Twenty-fourth streets. These lines, then made, have not since been changed and constitute the present bounds of the city. An order was made by the council that there should be prepared by the city engineer a complete plan of the city, showing the grades of all the streets and alleys, their dimensions, with points of intersection defined and marked, and figures attached, which should be the official record of grades as uniformly established all over the city, the same to be finished within two years. This was a project like that which had been begun in the preceding year, but then only partially carried out. Before the two years' limit expired, the addition to the city above mentioned was made and the work extended so as to comprehend its entire area, and this established system of survey and grades remains, with occasionally slight alterations such as the local interest seemed to require. A charter for Quincy water works was obtained from the legislature, but nothing resulted from it. Ten years later a charter for the same purpose passed the legislature, but did not receive the executive approval, and it was not until about ten years farther on that an individual enterprise, commenced on a somewhat limited scale, permanently established for the city this essential improvement. Purchase was made by the city of John Wood, for $8,160 in eight year bonds, of what was then called the Hospital grounds (since used for that and other police purposes), a tract of land of about eight acres lying west of Fifth street and south of and adjoining the Woodland cemetery.

An important business arrangement was now concluded between the city and the railroad company, by which the latter obtained from the city permanent rights in portions of the public ground belonging to the city, and transferred as consideration to the city the ownership of several pieces of property, mostly city lots along the river bank, which the railroad company had obtained by purchase, or had received in the form of subscription towards its construction. Much of the land which the railroad company thus obtained and needed for its uses, that lying north of Broadway, was subject to overflow at a high stage of water, and the grade had to be raised several feet. On this the building of an engine house and machine shops, of stone, and a large frame freight depot was begun early in the fall and sufficiently completed for use early in the following year.

A charter was obtained from the legislature in February for the Woodland Orphans' Home. This charity was projected in 1853, when fifteen philanthropic citizens united for its establishment, each one pledging $100 towards the purchase of a ground site on which to found the enterprise. The land was bought for this amount, $1,500, of John Wood, being the block owned by the "Home" on Fifth street, east of the cemetery. From this time the institution has been successfully conducted, doing much good. It has secured a hold upon the general sympathies of all classes in the community, causing it to become one of the most useful and popular among the public charities of the city.

Among the many notable "first things" of the place, which are always curious, was the direct importation of foreign goods to Quincy, through the medium of no other custom house, thus placing Quincy on a direct trading footing with all the rest of the world, which is told thus: "The first government duties on foreign merchandise received from any of our merchants by the collector of the port of Quincy, were paid a few days since by Messrs. L. & C. H. Bull, on cutlery and files imported by them from Sheffield, England. This house has for some time past imported direct many of the goods of foreign manufacture required for their business, but before Quincy was created a port of delivery, the duties had been paid at the port of entry, New Orleans."

The office had been established at Quincy about two years before, but it was to facilitate the importation of railroad iron, and only this class of freight had been received up to this period. According to the record, the above shipment and receipt was Quincy's first private mercantile transaction with foreign countries.

The very important exchange of property and rights between the city and the railroad company, before mentioned as having been consummated by the action of the council, has been so often a question of curiosity, and sometimes of legal controversy, that a detail of the property transferred, is here given. It was a well considered and thoroughly understood transaction at the time, supposed to exchange equal equities, permanent in their nature and mutually advantageous.

Under this agreement there was sold by the railroad company to the city, the river frac-

tions of lots 3, 4 and 5, of block 16; 3, 5 and 6, of block 25; the north 56 feet of river fraction of lot 3, block 26, being 650 feet, and all the private ground west of Front street, from the public landing to 56 feet south of York street, except river fractions of lot 6, in block 16, and 4 in 25. The railroad company released their former right to erect buildings on Front street, south of Broadway, or to occupy the public land south of halfway between Vermont and Hampshire, releasing also all their right to Broadway, east of Twelfth street, unless they hereafter had use for the same for a railroad; and further releasing to the city the right to collect city wharfage from their grounds, such as is collectible from the public landings, and further obligated themselves to furnish a good road below Olive street, past their ground, fronting thereon, till that street was opened, and to pay all damages, which might be assessed for rights conveyed to the company.

On the other hand the city sold to the railroad company all of the public landing, north of a line extending west from the center of block 6; all of Front street north of a line 50 feet south of Oak street and south of a line 660 feet north of Pease's addition, all of Oak and Green, now Vine, streets west of Olive street, giving also the privilege of using Broadway and Spring streets west of west line of Front street, but without the right to erect buildings thereon; of Front street south from 50 feet south of Oak street to Broadway, except sidewalks, and of making two railroad tracks in and along that portion of Front street south of the north line of Broadway to center of said block 6, with some conditions as to the line of said tracks, etc. And the city further agreed not to condemn any portion of the railroad property for a public landing.

The property and franchises conveyed by these agreements thus vested severally in the city and the Northern Cross R. R. Co., and later on the absorption of this company in the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, all of these rights and obligations were transferred to this last named corporation.

A city directory was published this year by J. T. Everhart, which was quite a comprehensive and complete work, really the first of the kind. There had been heretofore some small issues of this character, but they were very incomplete and meager, hardly worthy of the name.

The second annual meeting of the Adams County Agricultural Fair Association was held on the 26th of October and the two following days. It was a great advance on that of the preceding year, being a success, to which the city and county industrial interests of all kinds alike contributed, and it attracted attention and attendance from all the surrounding section, both on this and the other side of the river. Afterward for a number of years the Adams County Fair, with Quincy as its natural location, maintained this favorable prestige, each exposition, in its extensive and varied display, surpassing that of the year before. It soon ranked among the best of the Illinois county fairs. Largely was this owing at first to the judicious interest bestowed upon it by the manufacturing, mercantile and other active enterprises of the city. With the weakening of this support and the introduction of other less legitimate features for a fair, its location was subsequently changed.

There were the customary changes among the newspapers during this year. These, though often of but passing importance, are links in the chain of local record; since the newspaper history of a place is an essential portion of its complete history. It is curious to note the checkered career of journalism in Quincy, and its many changes, almost as frequent and periodical as the return of the seasons.

Of the two oldest and permanent journals the Herald, to the present date of writing, during a life of over fifty years, has passed through about thirty changes of partners and ownership, and the Whig, three years its junior, has had during nearly the same length of time, about half as many, while among the many smaller journals, that is, such of them as lived long enough to undergo a change of parents, the same conditions were common.

The Herald had its partial change in ownership, though its management remained the same. The Patriot and Republican, established as a weekly in 1854, came out on January 1st as the Daily Republican, published by Thos. Gibson and D. S. Morrison. The latter as editor soon became engaged in a political and personal wrangle with Brooks of the Herald, from which grew a street fight and a law suit, the whole productive of nothing but public annoyance and fees for lawyers. Quincy was made notorious for many years by its own newspaper scurrility, much to its dissatisfaction at home and discredit abroad. The death of Mr. A. Roesler, a very highly informed man, editor of the Tribune, a German weekly, caused a change in the management and character of this journal. It had been started in 1853 by an association of whigs as a political paper, but had not met with much pecuniary fortune. It now passed into the possession of Winters & Phieffer, and subsequently through other hands, be-

coming the present Germania. In later years the political character of the paper has been changed. In the Whig, the death in June of Mr. Henry Young, one of its publishers, brought about a change there also. The interest owned by Mr. Young was purchased by V. Y. Ralston. Morton & Ralston who now for sometime published the paper, a weekly and daily. Mr. Ralston was a young man of much energetic talent and possessed a special aptitude for journalism, in which he might have become distinguished had he continued in the profession. He abandoned it after a brief trial, began the practice of law with good success, removed to Macomb, Ill., went into the army as a captain in the 16th Illinois Infantry, and died during the war.

This was a great military year, the most warlike looking period that Quincy had ever yet known, or ever after knew, until the later well-remembered period when real war raged throughout the land. Two military companies, the Blues, Captain Prentiss, and the Yagers, Captain Delabar (the latter a German company), had been in existence for some time. Three others now made their appearance. An artillery company was organized in June, of which Austin Brooks of the Herald was elected captain. He accepted the command, as he said, on the condition that the company would "turn out if required to enforce the fugitive slave law." A cadet company with M. V. D. Holmes as commander, composed of the students of Mr. Root's school, was formed about the same time; the two making their first parade on the 4th of July, and later, in the fall, was organized the City Guards, Capt. E. W. Godfrey, turning out for the first time on the 19th of November. A batallion was formed from these companies, with Major J. R. Hollowbush as commander. Emulation among these several organizations made them of much interest and produced a high degree of military proficiency. A very imposing display was made on the 4th of July. There was the usual ceremonial observance of the day, greatly aided in effect by the large military force of the four Quincy companies and a visiting company from Keokuk. Nothing like it had ever before shown up in Quincy. It altogether put out the memories of Mormon war glory.

There was a good deal of financial distrust and embarrassment prevalent at this time, owing to excessive speculation and the large issue of uncertain money by the numerous western banks. Quincy was but slightly affected thereby. The suspension of the banking house of Page & Bacon, of St. Louis, and their close connection with Flagg & Savage, then the leading bank of Quincy, caused some local uneasiness; not sufficient, however, to seriously disturb business. The firm in St. Louis soon resumed, but after a year or two went down finally, and the breaking of this great house had an influence in causing the failure of the Quincy banking house, at a later day.

The general business of the city continued prosperous, and increased at home and abroad much more than it had in any previous period. The railroad, which in the latter part of the year, was completed to Galesburg, making there a through connection to Chicago, had brought to Quincy from the counties north and east of Adams, associations and acquaintance which extended the trade of the city to a distance and into localities where it had heretofore been almost a stranger. And now commenced and has since continued, a diversion of business connection and travel, which for thirty years had entirely gone to, and eastward through, St. Louis, towards Chicago, drawn thither by the lessened distance from the eastern markets and the more rapid transit afforded by rail than by the river.

Substantial and tasteful improvement of every kind was unusually marked. The stone Episcopal church, now the Cathedral at the corner of Hampshire and Seventh streets, which had been several years in building, was completed and occupied. Many of the best private residences of the city were erected at this time. It was what would have been called now a "boom year." One of the city papers publishes early in the year "as one of the evidences of the progress and prosperity of Quincy, that there are already contracts made for laying nearly ten million of brick in buildings to be erected in the city this season. The supply of brick is entirely inadequate to meet the demand. Good brick command a high price, say $5 to $6 per thousand. All now made or in the kiln are engaged."

The gas company, during this year greatly extended its mains, and set up from twenty-five to thirty additional street lights. The coal trade brought to the city by the railroad having reached the coal fields of McDonough county, now became almost at once an extensive line of business, cheapening the general price of fuel and affording coal to steamers, factories and private parties at rates greatly reduced from former figures.

Values of real estate kept advancing both in and around the city. As a token of this, the Mauzey storehouse on the north side of the square was purchased in October by the Budde Bros., for $4,500. The ground being under lease, did not sell with the building, but the privilege passed of buying it, 25 feet, for $2,000. This same piece of ground sold some three

years before, for $1,000. In the suburbs of the city the advance in prices was yet more marked. What was known as the "Buena Vista" Farm, two and a half miles east of the city, sold for $50,00 per acre. Forty acres of the "Fox Farm," now John Diek's, two miles north with no improvements on it, brought $100 an acre. The "Brewer Farm," one and a half miles east on State street, sold for $100 per acre, and the "Pearson Farm," two and a half miles southeast of the square, was purchased for $125 per acre.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

EXCESSIVE COLD. COMPLETION OF RAILROAD TO CHICAGO. QUINCY & PALMYRA ROAD. NEW BANK. WABASH FROM CAMP POINT TO ILLINOIS RIVER. VALUE OF PROPERTY. ORGANIZATION OF POLICE. LARGE CISTERNS. POLITICAL CHANGES. RISE OF REPUBLICAN PARTY. FALL ELECTONS. GROWTH OF BUSINESS.

Navigation ended on December 24, 1855, and the river remained ice-locked until March 18, 1856, when it opened, closing again on December 8, of this year. The winter of '55-56 was very severe, at times bitterly cold, with much snow, sleet storms and ice. The weather during the early part of January was particularly harsh, the mercury on the 7th falling to 28 degrees below zero, and the early weeks of February were equally cold, the thermometer showing 27 below on the 3d of the month, and the same again on the 9th and 10th. The stage driver came in on the evening of the 3d with his mail coach, so chilled as to be speechless, unable to handle his team, and had to be lifted down from his box. It was a season of much distress from this cause, but was, however, a very brisk period for business. Forty-five thousand was the number of hogs reported as being packed during the season.

The especial event of the time was the completion of the railroad to Galesburg on the last day of January. This had been finished and was operated as far as Avon on the 1st of January, and a short gap between this point and that portion of the road that was being built from Galesburg southward, was filled in on the above date, making the connection with Chicago complete. It was a jubilee time, and the satisfaction and anticipations of the people was told by the press as follows, with the flaring design of a locomotive and train and broad headlines of "Through to Chicago. A railroad connection with the Atlantic cities. All aboard."

"We have the high satisfaction of announcing the completion of the Northern Cross Railroad. The last rail is upon the ties and the last spike is driven, and another iron arm reaches from the great west unto the Atlantic!

"The event is an important one and inaugurates a new era in the history of Quincy. For years our citizens have been looking with an intense interest to the consummation of this enterprise which was to open, and which has opened, to Quincy, a future radiant with every promise of prosperity. A new vitality and a new strength has been given to our city, apparent in the immense increase of business in all departments, transacted during the past season, and in the extensive preparations that are making for substantial improvements in the way of buildings that are to go up this year. We have every reason to congratulate ourselves upon the present and prospective prosperity of our beautiful and flourishing city."

No event ever occurred in the history of the place that was hailed with more of universal satisfaction than the final construction of this road. It was felt to be the one needed resource to free traffic and travel from its winter thraldom when the river was closed by ice, and to establish the place on conditions of equality with the surrounding rival cities, and in it the citizens had freely embarked their means and their hopes.

Following shortly after the above mention of the gratification which greeted the completion of the road, and showing the results of this quickened connection with the east, and how they were relished, appears a press notice again giving the "acknowledgements of the editor and of Mr. Sam'l Holmes to Major Holton for a fine, fresh codfish, right from Massachusetts Bay, the first arrival of the kind in Quincy. After partaking of the same we pronounce it a 'creature comfort of the first water,' and tender our thanks." All of these, Messrs. Holmes, Holton and the editor, were born Yankees of the most cerulean hue, possibly may have been (as has been said of Yankee children) weaned on the above aliment. One may imagine the gusto with which they and their brother Yankees greeted these "representatives of both hemispheres;" as Daniel Webster dubbed them, fresh from the ocean, after having been obliged for years of life in the west to eat their codfish—salt.

One enterprise connected with this road opening, merits mention as being among Quincy's many "first things," the short-lived pioneer here in a line of business which though now co-extensive with the land, had at this time, but a limited and partial scope or operation, compared with what it has become. This was the establishment on the 1st of January, by some Quincy parties, of the "Godfrey and

Snow's express" from Quincy to Chicago. These parties had originated this scheme with some success in running their express to St. Louis by boat and for awhile made it profitable as well as also a convenience to the public when extended to Chicago, but the heavy hand of wealthier companies, controlling more extended facilities, soon took possession of the business and forced them out of what had promised to be a lucrative enterprise.

The long desired railroad communication with Chicago being secured to the great gratification and convenience of the people of Quincy, they at once in the flush of this satisfaction began immediately to look around for additional railroad advantages. Two projects were prominent and promising. One was the making of a direct eastern route by a road from Camp Point to the Illinois river, to link on to the connections of the great road that was pushing its construction westward from Toledo. This was already arranged for and the project was under way. The road that had been just finished to Galesburg (The Northern Cross R. R.) was intended to be the western portion of the Wabash, the road from Camp Point to Galesburg, being a branch engrafted on the original charter. It was deemed more immediately important to push the road northwards towards Chicago and this had now been effected. The other thought was of a western road into and across Missouri. This was finally done at an early after date, but at an unnecessary and uncalled for cost. The Hannibal and St. Joseph R. R. commencing at the latter point on the Missouri river and crossing the northern portion of the state on a nearly direct east and west parallel to its eastern terminus at Hannibal on the Mississippi, twenty miles south of Quincy was constructed under the partial pretext of making a military road, by the congressional grant of a large body of public lands. The system was the same that a few years before had been adopted in the charter of the Illinois Central, and has since been the basis upon which nearly all the great railroads west of the Mississippi have been built. At the time of its projection it was intended and expected (and the alignment of the proposed road was favorable and proper therefor) that there would be two eastern termini, one at Hannibal and one at Quincy; but the latter point, for political reasons was dropped out of the bill and Quincy had to ultimately construct its connection from its own resources. Our people however were anxious for the road, knew its importance and felt very generous and forgiving at the time. A company was organized, late in the year known as the Quincy & Palmyra R. R. Co., with ex-Mayor Holmes as its president, which proposed to construct a line of road from West Quincy to connect with the Hannibal & St. Joe track at Palmyra, and upon this scheme the city took decisive action early in 1857, securing its completion.

Among the new enterprises of this year was the establishment on the 1st of June of the "Bank of Quincy," by Boon and McGinnis, with a capital stock of $200,000, this being the third institution of the kind in the city. Its location was at the corner of Maine and Fourth under the Quincy House. Its business was not large for awhile but a year or two later on the failure of the two older banks, that of Flagg & Savage and of Moore, Hollowbush & Co., leaving this bank the only financial institution in the city, it had the monopoly of such business and for a time was successful and prosperous. This career was but brief. The failure of ex-Governor Matteson, who was its chief owner, and other causes, brought about the winding up of its affairs after three or four years' existence.

The third big hotel was commenced at this time. There had been the "Quincy House," in 1836, and the "City Hotel," afterwards the "Virginia," about the same time, and now came the "Cather House," named for its proprietor, located on Hampshire between Fifth and Sixth streets on the site of the old Judge Young residence, which since, much enlarged and with the name changed, has become the popular Tremont.

The Quincy House which had lately changed owners and been closed for a time for repairs and additions to be made, was re-opened by Floyd and Kidder from Chicago, and under their skillful management soon became as popular and noted as in its earlier days. Another city feature was the starting of a bus line running to the boat landing and the depot and over the city, an enterprise rather crude in its commencement, but one that lived and soon swelled into permanent existence. Improvements of all kinds continued. Many and more tasteful houses were erected than had ever been before, especially in the eastern part of the city. Property values kept on the rise, not at extravagant figures, but with a steady, healthy advance. The corner of Hampshire and Sixth was sold for $125 per front foot, 100 feet in depth. A small lot 17 feet front on the south side of the public square between Fourth and Fifth streets brought $200 per foot. The corner of Jersey and Third streets, 75 feet front, improved, sold for $5,500. A large lot on Maine street at the corner of Thirteenth, 175 feet front running back 400 feet to Hampshire sold for $5,000. This was the largest price yet paid for property anywhere and was thought to be

extravagant figure but the purchaser divided the ground into smaller lots and soon realized a handsome profit from his investment. Business in all branches was active and satisfactory. A brief mention, of the transactions of some of the leading manufacturing industries will indicate this. The mills of Quincy have always had the highest reputation abroad for the superior quality of flour which they produced, their brands commanding the top figure in the eastern and southern markets, and when brought in competition with other brands they were in the habit of taking the premium. The business was a steadily growing one and below is given with the names of the six mills at this time running, a summary in round numbers of the amount of flour manufactured, and the number of bushels of wheat consumed for the year closing December 31st, 1856.

	Bbls. Flour.	Bus'ls. Wheat.
Star Mills	20,000	100,000
Castle Mills	20,000	100,000
Eagle Mills	20,000	100,000
City Mills	40,000	200,000
Alto Mills	10,000	50,000
Total	110,000	550,000

The average price of flour during the year was $5.50 per barrel, making the total value of the milling business to have been $715,000. The wagon and plow manufacture had become very important and extensive and there were about twenty establishments engaged in this business. One of these, that of Timothy Rogers, employing from 35 to 40 hands all the year round, turned out 800 wagons valued at $60,000, and 1,200 plows worth $8,000. A notable and growing business, then as now, was that of the stove foundries. The Phoenix Stove Works, which was the most extensive in the city, reported the making of 9,445 stoves of various patterns, an employment of 58 hands and sales for the year of $199,128.42. This with the other like concerns aggregated the value of store manufacture at $175,128. The aggregate value of the lumber handled by the five lumber yard firms footed up to $251,350, measuring 8,950,000 feet of lumber, shingles 3,950,000, lath and timber 1,910,000. In this is not included the home manfactured lumber. The pork packing was not as large as the year before. There was a small increase in the number of those engaged in the business, but a falling off in the number of hogs and value. The result of the winter's work '56-57 was 38,306 hogs packed, valued at $986,492.

Several disastrous fires occurred in the early part of the year, some of them in business and central sections of the city, one at the northeast corner of the public square, and one farther east on Hampshire street. The loss was severe to some of the occupants but the gain was great to the city. The same enterprising impulse which many years before, when the old log courthouse caught fire, induced the happy spectators to throw on more kindling, was gratified to see the "old rookeries" go with the prospect of their being replaced by better structures. Another result of these fortunate misfortunes was to increase precautions against fire.

The leading local events of the year was the building, or rather the initiation of the building of the Wabash railway eastward from Mt. Sterling. This project which has been alluded to earlier in these sketches, as being under way at the commencement of the year, was put into active shape before summer. The proposition was made, advocated through the press and presented on the 17th of May to the council, that the city should subscribe $200,000 to the stock of the railroad projected from Camp Point eastward to the Illinois river known as the Quincy and Mt. Sterling R. R. The council voted favorably and authorized the mayor to make subscription to the above amount, and ordered an election to be held on the 24th of May for authority to issue $200,000 twenty years' bonds, drawing eight per cent interest, to be applied to the construction of this road. The election was a one-sided affair. Fifteen hundred and sixty-two votes were cast, which was a very large representation for that time at a special election, and all but twenty-one of these were cast in favor of the subscription. Work was commenced immediately. Indeed it had been progressing to some extent before the city took action upon the matter. The whole line was immediately put under contract with the condition and promise that it would be completed by December 1st, 1857. Its completion was not precisely on time, but came nearer thereto than most of the railroad constructions do. Before its final finish a speck of war arose on its line calling for the interposition of muskets and bayonets, this being the fourth war in which Quincy was engaged. There had been the Black Hawk, the Mexican and Mormon wars and this next, the "Brown county war" had its fair share of heroic adventure of which hereafter, in its time and place.

There was a warm contest at the city election in April but the whigs were successful in electing John Wood as Mayor, over J. W. Singleton, by a majority of 44, in a total vote of 1,525, which it will be observed was very near the same number of votes cast at the

special election on the railroad subscription six weeks later. The whigs also elected Henry S. Osborn and Robert S. Benneson as aldermen in the First and Third wards over John Abbe and H. Vogelpohl, and J. B. Merssman, democrat, was chosen in the Second ward over J. W. Brown. The control of the council was still democratic. An amusing stir was made later in the year by a petition being presented to the council, with a respectable number of signatures, asking that an examination should be made into the right of two of the aldermen to hold their seats. It was asserted that they were not American citizens. As the petition gave no names of the aldermen who were thus disqualified, the petition went to the wall and was not heard of again and we believe to this day it never has been certainly known who was pointed at by this paper.

The value of property in the city by the assessment of 1856 was reported at $3,668,555. On this the tax levy was ordered of one-eighth of one per cent for schools and school purposes; three-eights for meeting the railroad debt liabilities and one-half for ordinary expenses, and it was ordered also that there should be a sufficient levy made on property where the gas was in use to pay two-thirds of the expense of lighting the streets. The city debt and expenses so rapidly increasing on account of the large railroad subscriptions roused the attention of the council to making some effort to prepare for growing future liabilities, and an order was passed authorizing the mayor to make a loan for the purpose of establishing a sinking fund, but either from not understanding how to make the arrangement or from some other good cause the project languished out of existence just as a dozen similar schemes have done in later years. A change was made in the regulation base or datum for calculating grades, which in 1853 had been established at the bench mark figure of 20, 31-100 feet above low water mark. This figure was found defective for engineering reasons and by resolution the figure 100 was added. It stood thus for some years until perfected by the present plan. The name of Orange street was changed to Eighteenth and the council ordered that the streets east of this should be, when opened, called Twentieth and Twenty-fourth, thus, continuing the plan of double blocks which had begun at Twelfth street but contemplating the possible division of these blocks in the future, and the designation of the streets so made, by the odd numbers as Twenty-first and Twenty-third.

The first movement was now made towards giving systematic organization and appearance to the city police which from small beginnings some years before had now grown into fair sized proportions. Originally and for some time it consisted solely of the city marshal; then a night patrol was added and at this time it was composed of eight men, a lieutenant, a night constable and six watchmen. Uniforms of course were not yet to be thought of, but the council ordered that members of the force should be furnished with a white star to be worn upon the lappel of the coat and also with a rattle, at the public expense. It was a number of years before any addition in the matter of giving designation and uniformity of appearance to the city police was made. A revision of the ordinances, this being the third since the organization of the city, was ordered and completed during the year. The annual amount of destruction from fire, before mentioned, caused the council to largely increase the facilities for its suppression by adding to the machinery and resources of the fire department, among which was the construction of three large cisterns near by three of the lately built churches. With these, it appears from the records, that the city now had seventeen public cisterns which had been made during that number of years. These were absolutely essential and some of them were costly. It might be a curious search for any one thus disposed to try and ascertain how many of these old cisterns, so serviceable and needful in their day and constructed with so much of care and expense have been abandoned, or were destroyed even before the establishment of the waterworks system dispensed with their use. Some have been forgotten, or destroyed, with no remuneration to the city.

An advance was made in the character of city journalism. The five newspapers of the year before still lived and flourished, three of them English dailies. The Daily Republican, then much the most enterprising paper of the place was enlarged, and the Journal, a German paper, came out in February as a semi-weekly. It was a republican or anti-slavery journal, quite ably managed by Winters and Pfeiter. The other German paper, the Courier, was democratic. A very good directory of the city was prepared for this year by Root, the best that had yet appeared.

A publication was made at the close of the year, which attracted interest at the time for the reason that then the city was an owner in the Northern Cross Railroad and the people felt interested in the business progress of the enterprise, in which they had so heavily invested. It is also worth seeing as a contrast of the railroad business thirty-one years ago with that which is done at the present time.

The Northern Cross Railroad, completed from Quincy to Galesburg at the commencement of the year 1856, reports for the last six months ending December 31st, 1856, that its receipts from passenger travel amounted to $74,125; from freight to $133,878.12; from mails, etc., $7,219.32, making a total of $215,222.79, and that the expenses amounted to $108,643.48, leaving a net earned profit of $106,570.31.

The political record of this year was novel and stirring all over the land. It was a transition period in American politics such as had never been known before. The repeal of the Missouri compromise two years before this date had loosened all party harness and caused to swing away from their old time moorings at the state and congressional elections nearly every northern democratic state, such as New Hampshire, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and others that had until now from their earliest days unchangeably floated the democratic flag, and now on the broader arena of a presidential contest, these separations continued and were nationalized into new and permanent party formations. Almost the entire whig party in the northern and western sections of the state, with large accessions from the democratic party which acted together in 1854 under the name of Anti-Nebraska, now took the name of republican. In the extreme southern and southeastern part, nearly all the old whigs became democrats. A portion of the whigs formed an organization known as the "American" or "Fillmore party," which afterward merged into the republican, with which it usually coalesced on local matters. In the Quincy congressional district, the defection from the democratic party was less than in some other sections of the state, and the political results showed but little change from former years. Elsewhere, many leading representative men, such as Trumbull, Palmer, Judd, Wentworth and others, seceded from their party with a large following, but in this district for reasons needless to name, no democrat of prominence beyond his county, left his party and lines lay nearly as before.

At the county fall election Buchanan, democrat, received for president 3,311 votes to 2,256 for Fremont and 662 for Fillmore. There was a union of the Fremont and Fillmore voter, on a portion of the state ticket and on the county officers. W. A. Richardson, who had resigned his seat in congress to run for governor, carried the city and county over W. H. Bissell by 1,208 majority. Hamilton, the democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, leading John Wood (who had been nominated for this office to fill the vacancy on the ticket caused by the resignation of Francis Hoffman, who was ineligible) 694 votes. The local democratic ticket generally was successful by from 500 to 700 majority except in the case of I. N. Morris, democratic candidate for congress, who fell behind his ticket, leading Jackson Grimshaw 361 votes, while J. C. Davis, the candidate to fill the vacancy of Richardson's resignation, received a majority over Thos. C. Sharpe of 760. C. A. Warren was chosen for state's attorney over S. P. Delano; Samuel Holmes and M. M. Bane for representatives over J. F. Battell and John Tillson; T. W. McFall, circuit clerk, over H. V. Sullivan; John Cadogan, sheriff, over George Rhea; the successful parties, all democrats, receiving majorities ranging from about 500 to 7 6 as above stated. The county vote on calling a convention to revise the constitution was 2,840 for to 1,923 against. This proposition was defeated in the state.

Quincy was not in its thirtieth year of existence. Its growth, as shown at successive periods, rose from about 20 in the place and near neighborhood in 1825 to about 350 in 1830; to 753 in 1835; 1,850 in 1840; 4,007 in 1845; 6,901 in 1850; 10,754 in 1855, and is subsequent increase has been up to 14,362 in 1860, 24,052 in 1870, and 27,268 in 1880. The population of the county, including Quincy and also Hancock county, which was then attached to Adams, was 292 in 1825; of the county, Quincy included, 2,186 in 1830; 7,042 in 1835; 14,476 in 1840; 18,389 in 1845; 26,508 in 1850; 34,310 in 1855; and the population since, the city included, has been reported at 41,323 in 1860; 56,362 in 1870, and 59,148 in 1880. It will be noticed that prior to 1845, the county population increase was vastly more rapid than that of the city, since which period, the city has steadily been gaining, and it is probable that the census of 1890 will show more than half of the population of Adams county numbered as residents of Quincy.

There had been a long period of good navigation, nearly nine months, with 1,280 arrivals of boats, exclusive of the daily Keokuk and St. Louis packets. Seventy-five thousand was the estimated number of packages transported by river, and about 100,000 by rail.

The coal business, which had but commenced during the previous year, amounted to a receipt of 15,000 tons. Manufactories reported increase in number and in extent of production. There were 8 furniture establishments employing 225 hands; 5 flour mills turning out 105,400 barrels, valued at $685,100; 4 distilleries producing $432,656 worth of spirits; 25 cooper shops making near 140,000 barrels, hogsheads, etc., with an aggregate value of about $130,000;

12 wagon shops with a manufacture of 1,265 wagons, besides plows, carts, etc.; 7 harness shops; 2 carriage factories; 4 machine shops and foundries; 6 planing mills which worked up 400,000 feet of lumber; 4 steam saw mills which sawed 470,000 feet of lumber valued at $117,500; 1 large iron and copper factory, the business of which amounted to $12,400; 3 soap and candle factories whose transactions footed up to $41,000; the brick business was extensive, 16 yards producing 16,070,000; one large stove foundry whose work alone was $99,128.04, and the total of manufacturing from these and a few other leading establishments was figured $2,318,952.45, and the number of hands averaging 900. This summary omitted very many of the smaller establishments, from which statistics were difficult to be procured.

The general sum of business had nearly doubled over that of the preceding year, not so much by the starting of new firms as by the expansion of business of those already existing. The grain trade was extensive, 1,227,000 bushels of wheat and flour being shipped away, making Quincy in this line of trade next in the state to Chicago; there were also shipped or manufactured 417,661 barrels of flour. The exportation of pork was 17,962 barrels, bacon 1,648 hogsheads, and 9,500 packages of lard. There was a falling off in old staple business of pork packing here as generally in the west. Trade in dry goods and groceries was large and prosperous, five houses exclusively in the former line, did a business aggregating at $356,410, and from twenty groceries sales were reported amounting to $540,000. The amount done in this line of trade was estimated at not less than three-quarters of a million. Lumber had become a very extensive business, amounting to a total in the year of 1,365,000 feet.

CHAPTER XXXV.

1857.

CITY LIMITS EXTENDED. FINANCIAL IN DEBT. HOUSES NUMBERED. HOSPITAL GROUND BOUGHT. SALOON LICENSE QUESTION. MANY BUILDINGS GO UP. RISE IN REAL ESTATE VALUES. FIRST BOARD OF TRADE. MONEY PANIC. FOREIGN IMMIGRATION INCREASES. COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION ATTEMPTED. BECOMING A REAL CITY.

In the chapter of the preceding year (1856) has been given the successive population increase of the place from its settlement to 1880. This now, at the date above (1857), had grown from the handful of residents, in 1825, to about 12,000. The expansion of the city in area had not run evenly with its increase of population. From 1825 to 1834 it was but a name where the court met and the county commissioners assembled, being simply the county seat located on the fractional quarter section of about 157 acres that had been purchased by the county and was controlled like every part of the county, by the county commissioners. When in 1834 upon becoming a town and assumming an independent local government, the limits as fixed in its incorporation were the river on the west, and the present Jefferson, Twelfth and Vine streets on the south, east and north. This comprised an acreage of a trifle over 800 with a population of about 700. These boundaries were unchanged in 1840 when the town became a city and so continued until 1847, when what is known as Nevins' Addition, being the 120 acres lying between Twelfth, Broadway, Eighteenth and Jersey was attached. This addition was made under the provisions of a clause in the original charter of the city, that any land adjoining the city on being laid off into lots and blocks might be annexed. The population at this time was about 5,000. At the legislative session in January, 1857, the next material change was made by moving the north boundary line three-fourths of a mile farther to the present Locust street, and the same line prolonged westward to the river; a half mile east to Twenty-fourth street, and a half mile south to Harrison and on that line west to the river taking in some twenty-five hundred acres. This addition added but little to the population, as it was nearly all farm land or unsettled. The action met with bitter opposition from most of those living on or owning lands, thus summarily brought into the city. They complained that the legislative action was unfair since the subject of annexation had not been mentioned at the preceding election, that there was injustice in placing them and their property under another jurisdiction without their having a voice and vote on the question, and especially that they and their property ought not to be subjected to the burden of the already large city debt for the creation of which they were not responsible. To this last objection the reply was made that their own property adjacent to the city had been vastly increased in value by the expenditures and improvements made in the city from which the debts originated. The opposition, though it made much personal discomfort for our members at Springfield, was fruitless, and the annexation was made. The city now had between 12,000 and 13,000 of population. Some ten years later about 120 acres more were added, lying south of Broadway to near York and east from Twenty-fourth to Thirtieth street, since when the limits have been unchanged, comprising a total area of about 3,500 acres. With this extension of the

limits, there was an increase made in the number of wards from three to six, thus making the council to consist of twelve aldermen, twice the former number. The manner of selecting officers in the new charter was left as before; the mayor, marshal and aldermen, being chosen by popular election, and the other officials elected by the council. Two years later, in 1859, a law was passed making most of the city officers elective by the people. At the first election held under the new charter in April, a large vote was polled, the democratic ticket succeeding by a large majority, Sylvester Thayer receiving 1,032 votes to 698 for Charles A. Savage. The democrats elected as aldermen, Thomas Jasper and M. McVay, in the first and third wards, over J. C. Bernard and G. M. Brown, and in the fifth J. B. Hicks and A. J. Lubbe over U. S. Penfield and C. Meyer, and in the sixth, S. M. Bartlett and John Schell over F. Flachs and James Woodruff, while in the second ward J. B. Brown was chosen over Levi Palmer, and in the fourth B. F. Berrian and A. Kellar over J. Voglepohl and W. E. Wilson, the republicans carrying this new ward. This was the first appearance of the republican party at a city election. By a requirement of the law the aldermen in the new wards, the fourth, fifth and sixth, where two had been chosen drew lots for the one year and the two year term, when Messrs. Kellar, Lubbe and Schell drew the short term and their three associates held over for two years.

The city organization was completed in the council by the re-election of A. W. Blakesly as clerk and all the other democratic officials of the last year.

An unusual amount of important and permanent business came under the consideration of the council and was concluded during the year. The financial situation of the city was far from being satisfactory. Its bonded indebtedness within the past few years had greatly increased, amounting now, exclusive of railroad subscriptions, to over $200,000, and with the railroad debt to three times this amount, some of it overdue, and all rapidly maturing, while a large amount of vouchers were outstanding and circulating at a heavy discount. Other projects which must add largely to this debt, were being popularly proposed and the city credit from these causes was not by any means in a commendable shape. The revenue was unequal to the great increase of current expenses. The fiscal statement for the year ending March 31, favorably prepared as all such statements are, shows up the situation. As therein reported, the receipts from all sources amounted to $82,627, while the expenditures totalized at $93,823.34 $11,096.34 of which was in unpaid city vouchers. There was owing to the school fund $11,359.89, which as reported by a committee of the council, "had been used for other purposes" by the city (a mild expression synonymous with misappropriation) and now, to temporarily meet this demand, a ten year ten per cent bond for the above stated amount was ordered to be issued. In this connection it may be mentioned that the perversion of the school moneys did not cease for several years and was finally adjusted, when the delinquent amount had reached to about $24,000 by the council ceding to the school board all such title as it possessed to realty occupied and used or to be used for educational purposes within the city. This comprehended the Franklin, Jefferson and Webster school houses, and adjacent grounds. This was a fortunate arrangement for the school interests but somewhat sacrificial to the city which by its incorrect and perhaps it might be called illegal manipulation of school affairs was compelled finally to pay up at a much heavier cost than would have been in the pursuance of a more proper and prudent course. The carelessness in these matters was shown by the fact that about this time it was found that the treasurer's record account of the city with the schools, was missing, and an estimated balance of $3,300, these being the last figures remembered, was agreed upon as due the school fund from the city. The three schools above named were the only ones in existence at this time and were in prosperous shape, well managed and attended. They employed 14 teachers and reported an annual attendance of about 1,000 pupils. The cost of carrying on the schools for the year ending June 30, 1857, was reported at $5,957.82.

There had been an attempt made at economy during the past year. The street improvements, generally the largest expense item, was relatively less than usual but other demands incident to a young and rapidly growing city, such as police, paupers, salaries, fire department and contingent, swelled the total to former figures. And then piled on these, were the cost of bonds taken up, some $35,000 and railroad bond interest $14,000, which made an easy account for the deficit of nearly $12,000, in the year's business. Additional to all this, was the $5,000 of matured bonds unpaid, and nearly $40,000 maturing this year with an almost equal amount which would become due in each of the half dozen following years. The outlook was not encouraging, and the city was just beginning to realize the weight of its debt. It had assumed burdens without proper provision for carrying them. These burdens

seemed needful at the time to assume and ultimately brought vast advantage, but were burdens none the less for a long aftertime. To tide over these accruing liabilities and temporarily restore the city credit, a loan was ordered by the council and an issue of $75,000 of bonds authorized to provide for the same. This, of course, became an addition to the permanent city debt, which was now to be further increased by the subscription of $100,000 to the Quincy and Palmyra Railroad. The Hannibal and St. Joe road was now nearly completed. It was constructed under government aid as a military road, by a large donation of public lands. The desire had been that it should branch at Palmyra with one or two termini on the east, one at Hannibal, the other at Quincy. The plan through the influence of political complications failed and it cost Quincy $100,000. A company was organized to build this connection and having obtained the necessary authority from the legislature, application was made to the city council for a subscription. The council voted a subscription of $100,000 subject to an endorsement by the people. The election was held on the 4th of April, resulting in a vote of 942 for and 11 in opposition. Upon this an issue was ordered of bonds to the above amount running 20 years with 8 per cent interest and the road was speedily built. Palmyra also voted $30,000 towards its construction. This was the last investment of the city in railroads until about twelve years later.

This $100,000 subscription to the Quincy and Palmyra railroad was not completed as originally suggested and intended. The first proposition was that Quincy should give $100,000 and that Palmyra and the Missouri counties interested would give an equal amount, one-half of which ($50,000) was to be voted by Palmyra. On this expectation and understanding, the election was ordered by the council. The outside interests did not come up to their promise but Quincy did, taking as usual the heavy end of the log, and the road was rapidly built mainly on the basis of the city subscription and the credit given by the same. The Quincy and Toledo road, from Camp Point to Meredosia, to which the city had voted $200,000, was during this year, under the active management of General Singleton, placed under contract in May, rapidly pushed forward and so far finished to Mt. Sterling by Christmas that the cars were then running and a pleasant celebration was held at that place largely attended by people from Quincy. The construction of this road was by the aid and interests of the Toledo and Wabash with which it became consolidated a few years later.

The assessed valuation of city property for the year was $3,020,895. On this was levied a tax of one-eighth of 1 per cent for school and one-half of 1 per cent for ordinary purposes to which was added a three-eighths of 1 per cent for railroad purposes and later again of 1 per cent special tax to meet the interest on the Toledo R. R. bonds issued in January of this year. It appeared to be the idea of the council in these times, to provide by special tax for the accruing interest on each separate issue of railroad bonds. This was a praiseworthy plan, which if it had been carefully carried out might have lightened the load which the city was compelled to shoulder with its great pile of overdue and maturing bonds, swelled by years of delinquent interest.

The entire debt now was $707,060.73 of which $500,000 was from railroad subscription and all of this except about $11,000 drawing interest. The estimated revenue for the year 1857 was placed at $75,000, a dark outlook, when the resource and liability figures were placed alongside each other in contrast.

The enumeration of the houses, an essential in every city, was now for the first time ordered by the council. Their first resolution formulating this project, was an amusing absurdity. It prescribed that each 25 feet of lineal curbstone measure should constitute a number, that Front street should be the base for streets running east and west, the figures alternating across the street every 25 feet, and this part of the plan has continued excepting that some dozen years later the convenient Philadelphia system, as it is called, was adopted which makes the initial figures of each house number to correspond with the initial figures of the street bounding the block.

So far all was correct, but the other part of the council resolution, established a double base for streets running north and south, one at Broadway and the other State street, with a mixed prescription for affixing of duplicating numbers which would have puzzled the oldest inhabitant to have found his way into or out of the city had he looked to these figures for guidance. It proved so practically absurd and confusing when put in operation, that it was abandoned and Maine street made the base from which to number north and south respectively. This enumeration of houses was done, under a contract with the council, by McEvoy and Beatty, who at the same time prepared a city directory. It was crude compared with later publications of the kind, but was by far the most thorough and complete of any that to this date had been prepared. All the earlier directories, contained the same skeleton sketch of the town settlement, a few oft-told old stories

and very incomplete lists of names with great lack also of accurate designation of residences, etc. This book amplified all that was valuable in earlier directories in regard to city history, government, business and general condition, and contained about 1,500 names with residence and business carefully located by numbers.

From this enumeration of 1,500 the estimate is a fair one that the population of nearly 11,000 in 1835 by the state census had now grown to above 12,000. This was proven by the census of 1860, three years later, when it was reported at 14,362.

This 1857 directory, so correct and concise in most particulars, fell into the stereotyped error of all such publications, by assuming the population of the place as 20,000. This tendency to over-count population is common with census takers and reporters, and always finds a ready endorsement in beliefs.

There were twenty established churches at this time in the city, eighteen Protestant and two Catholic. Services in fourteen of these were conducted in the English language, and in the others, in German.

The city had made a few years before, the very judicious purchase of eight acres of land lying south of and adjacent to Woodland Cemetery, known as the Hospital Grounds. There was no decided idea as to what special use this ground should be applied to, but after some disagreement in the council, the "Poor House" building was ordered to be erected at a cost of about $2,700, and the ground became devoted to that use and also for a work house some time later.

For the first time there came up in the council for consideration the liquor or saloon license question in the shape of a local option, such as then had not even a name, although the principle has now become a national issue. Petitions were poured into the council protesting against the granting of grocery or saloon licenses, (which meant the same) on portions of a street or in blocks where a majority of the property owners or those doing other business there objected. The council took the position that they would be governed by such remonstrances in the matter of granting grocery licenses, and adhered to this restrictive policy tenaciously, except when, as very often, they didn't. It is a suggestive fact connected with this matter, and with the council legislation then (and which colors all legislation on this subject) that the grocery license for the preceding year amounted to $4,721, being more than the amount received from all the other licenses combined, proving itself to be the most fruitful source of revenue obtainable by the city, and of course to be gently handled for expediency's sake.

The local improvements, permanent in kind, both public and private, for which Quincy has always been especially noted, went on the same as heretofore. As indicative of the extent to which improvement had been carried, a discussion came up during this year, to which the writer was a party, and from it a wager was made as to the amount of brick sidewalk then existing in the city. On this a calculation and measurement taken, showed that there were thirty-three miles of such walk constructed, almost all of it twelve feet in width and in some cases sixteen feet wide. No other city in the United States, great or small, old or new, at this time was equally improved in this respect, and this feature continues. This extensive system of street improvement and completion, originated with the first years of the city, partially from necessity, and due also to a spirit of enterprise. The broken nature of the ground compelled an unusual amount of work in the form of levelling and making passable the thoroughfares, and these again demanded to be protected by the laying of gutters and sidewalks, and this custom spread into portions of the city farther perhaps than there was an actual need for such work to be done at the time. Seven streets, Broadway, Vermont, Hampshire, Maine, State and Delaware were at this time passably graded from the top of the hill to the river and during this year the grade of Jersey was completed.

The systematizing of the city surveys and grades progressed under the direction of the city engineer, who reported having placed 250 stone monuments as points of reference at the street intersections. The "Public Square," which for twenty or more years had known no other name, was now formally, by resolution of the council, christened Washington Park. Private improvements, both in amount and value, far surpassed what had been made any former year. Nearly all of the costly and imposing four-story structures of the south side of Maine between Fourth and Fifth, facing the square were erected during this season. The two fine buildings of E. K. Stone, immediately east of the Quincy House, the Lomolino building, now owned by John Leaman, a few doors farther east, by far the most expensive constructed edifice in the city, and the most elaborately finished, costing nearly $20,000, and the four-story houses of Flagg and Savage, at the corner of Maine and Fifth, were all completed and occupied early in the fall. The rental of each of these last named houses was $2,000 per annum. The Metz building, on Maine street east of Fifth, was now built, and the

"Hess House," since become the "Occidental," was enlarged so as to become the largest and most commodious hotel in the place.

Equal with the many improvements made, was the transfer and sale of property to an extent such as had not before been known, and at rates progressively high. A somewhat lengthy recital of some of those is worthy of note, as showing how well known property in the city was valued then in comparison with former and subsequent rates. The purchases were made mostly by our own people, but in a number of cases by speculators from abroad. The fifty feet at the southeast corner of Maine and Fifth streets (a short unoccupied lot) sold for $305 per front foot. The small lot at the southeast corner of Hampshire and Fifth, with the brick house on it, still standing, brought $7,705. These and many other of the sales made during this year were at public auction. A lot on Fifth street, immediately south of the old courthouse ground, 25 feet front, was purchased for $430 per foot, this being the highest price up to this time which had ever been paid for city property. The Thayer building, a three-story brick at the corner of Maine and Fourth, embracing 50 feet ground, where the public library building is now being erected, was bought by James Parker for $15,000. On Front street at the corner of Maine two large brick warehouses, these also being the property of the Thayers, who failed about this time, sold for $11,000 cash. The quarter of the block at the southwest corner of Broadway and Fifth, then and ever since used as a lumber yard, changed owners for $20,000. In other parts of the city farther away from business centers many sales were made at correspondingly high figures. In Moulton's addition the half of two large lots was sold for $2,180, the entire two lots having been purchased the year before for $2,000, property on the corner of Vermont and Twelfth, $22.00 per front foot. Ground on the hillside on Maine, west of Third, brought $170 per foot. A large sale was made of ground on Ninth and York for $5,000 to the Dick brothers, which became the foundation of their great brewery. Outside of and near the city the same high rate of value ruled, and many transfers were made. Eighty acres, a mile and a half north of town, which had been purchased but a few weeks before for $16,000 was offered at auction and sold at an advance of nearly $4,000. There never before, except about 1835-36, when the town was comparatively small, has been recorded so lively a traffic in property based on the growing prospects of the place, and most of these investments, like those of the earlier date, proved remmerative.

The widening business of the city stimulated the idea of forming a "Board of Trade," an institution always of value to a commercial city and of which in like name or character Quincy has had so many. This was the first organization of the kind. It was formed in May with C. M. Pomeroy as president and a large membership of most of the prominent business men of the city. It centered interest, was useful, and like several other such of later existence lasted but a year or two, from some fatality which seems to unfortunately attach to such associations, and is noticeable chiefly as being the first enterprise of the kind formed in the city.

The business showing of the year was active and generally prosperous notwithstanding the failure of the largest business house of the city (the Thayers, whose store, mill and distillery comprehended much the most extensive operations, that up to this period had been carried on in the place) and also the suspension of two leading banking houses. The winter business of 1856-57 was fair, though less than usual in some branches. Navigation had been free for a portion of the season. It was suspended by the river being frozen, from December 8th to the 15th of the last year, was resumed at the latter date, and continued until the early part of January when the ice became fast, and so stayed until the 18th of February when it finally opened for the season, affording good boating facilities until the last week in November, then became very low, but remained open with only occasional running ice throughout the following winter.

The season was a memorably cold one. On the 9th of February occurred one of the most severe snow storms within memory, followed by rain, sleet and an intense cold, covering the country with ice and almost suspending travel, even on many of the railroads. Springfield could only be reached from Quincy by going by the way of Mendota and Bloomington.

The old staple winter industry of the place showed some falling off from the record of previous years. About 38,300 hogs only aggregating in weight of product 8,989,462 pounds were packed during the winter, some 5,500 less in number than were put up in the year before, although not so much less in weight. This or nearly the same percentage of decrease in the pork product of the year, was general in the west at this time. Other manufacturing interests evidenced increasing business and success. The stove foundry business among others, had already grown to be very extensive, furnishing a large area of country, and employing many workmen. One, the Phoenix stove works of Comstock & Co., reported as its annual business, running into the winter of 1856-57, hav-

ing made of cooking stoves 5,518, heating stoves 1,488, parlor stoves 2,460, a total of 9,456, in the manufacture of which they used 987 tons of coal, 20,000 bushels of coal and coke and 200 cords of wood, employing an average of 60 workmen whose wages amounted to $30,232.42, and the aggregate business of the firm was over $100,000. This was the largest of the several stove foundries, but work was done by others in equal proportion, amounting altogether to about $200,000 of manufacture of this kind in the city.

The "Quincy Savings and Insurance Company" which became the First National Bank of Quincy, opened as an exchange and banking house, early in August. This made the fourth banking house now in operation, the others being the "Bank of Quincy," and the two firms of "Flagg & Savage" and "Moore, Hollowbush & Co." The two latter failed a few weeks later. Quincy had now its first experience in a financial disaster and panic, but somewhat strangely, though there was much of excitement, business operations generally were but slightly affected. There was a money panic all over the country in the fall, especially wild in the west, and many failures, all the great banking houses of St. Louis being forced to suspend and bringing down with them houses with which they were associated or which were dependent upon them. This told with some effect in Quincy. One of the indirect causes for this condition of affairs, was the horde of private state chartered banks which flooded the country with their handsomely pictured promises to pay, and which were scattered everywhere with most christian benevolence but unchristianlike were finally found to be without any redeemer. The monetary panics and business depressions in all past time may be mainly traced at almost every period of disaster to these home-made banks of state law parentage. There had been no suspicion of insolvency attaching to any of the Quincy banks though failures elsewhere were daily being published, when the town was surprised on the 28th of September to see the notice on the door of Moore, Hollowbush & Co. of their suspension and at the same time was spread, the news of the failure of S. & W. B. Thayer. A co-incident case occurred about twenty years later when the failure of the largest business house of the city brought with it the suspension of the largest bank. The house of Flagg & Savage was equally or still more crippled by the failure of the Thayers but held the confidence of the public in its solvency to such an extent that the run upon them was slight, but about six weeks later it was compelled to close doors, resuming after a short period of suspension, but finally gave up and permanently closed. The failure of these three houses was for a long time felt by many but caused no marked depression in general prosperity.

The permanent failure of the banking house of Flagg & Savage which occurred several months later, and after their temporary resumption, was a much regretted affair. While, as before stated, the closure of this and the other banking houses had no serious influence on the current business, for the reason that the city was in healthy progress and its business was peculiarly strong and solvent, yet the breaking down of this bank was generally felt to be a personal and public sorrow and misfortune.

It was the first private banking enterprise of the city. Its proprietors were free, generous, lavish indeed of their and to whatever was of a public interest or a private charitable appeal, and the personal popularity of the institution and its managers was well nigh universal. At the time of their first suspension, so strong was their hold upon the public confidence and sympathy that a notice was published, signed by quite a number of the wealthiest citizens, expressing faith in their solvency and offering the assistance of their individual credit and means. No such guarantee was made at the time of their final failure in 1860. It would have been useless if given and was not asked for.

The year was a somewhat peculiar one in its climatic conditions, with varying temperature and less healthy than usual. The city was somewhat severely scourged and scared still more by a smallpox visitation during mid-summer and again in the fall. The matter was met and promptly provided against, by unusual system on the part of the city authorities, or rather by the mayor, Mr. Thayer, the same whose financial failure occurred about this time, who as mayor, however, proved to be one of the most capable and efficient business men that ever filled the position.

An episode of this year was a rattling earthquake shock in July, which pervaded the Mississippi Valley and was pronounced by old inhabitants as the most severe of any that had shaken up the country since the famous great earthquake of 1811. The names of a number of well known citizens passed to the death roll of the year. Among these in March, was the Rev. Joseph Kunster, of the German Catholic church, who had been resident here for a number of years and became more than usually well known and influential generally. Mr. Alexander Savage, a former citizen of Maine and for several years resident in Quincy, died in the latter part of July at the age of 77. Mr.

Levi Wells, one of the few remaining real pioneer founders of county and city, ended an honored life on July 11th, aged 64. Mr. Wells had long been an Illinoian, dating his citizenship farther back than any other of the old settlers. He was born in Connecticut in 1793; came to Illinois (which was then a territory) in 1818, a year before the advent of his two later life pioneer associates, Wood and Keyes, both of whom survived him. He came to Adams county (then Pike) in 1824; was in 1825 elected one of the first three county commissioners, with Willard Keyes and Peter Journey. This office he held during the first three years of the county history and early times of Quincy. He was averse to public positions, and held no other in after life. He early in life engaged in mercantile business, and was the possessor of a large property in and adjacent to the city. He was of a decided religious nature, being one of the founders of the First Presbyterian (now the First Congregational church) and of the present Presbyterian church, in which he was the leading elder from its organization until his death. His philanthropy kept pace with his religion and his charities, though unobtrusive, were many and judicious, and his long life here was attended with public and personal respect, as was his death, with regret.

A marked increase appeared about this period, one that continued for some time after, in the foreign immigration, which had relatively fallen off of late years. This was almost entirely German. The earliest foreign engraftment to any great extent upon the population of the place had been of Germans, about 1834, a few as early as 1833, and the immediate succeeding years. In 1836 and thence along until 1839-40, a very large settlement of Irish came in, induced by the state, public improvements and the railroad labor required here at the time. These mostly remained, and a large percentage among the Irish families of the city now count back their coming to that date. Later on, about 1840, and for ten to fifteen years, a steady stream of German immigration flowed in, very largely some years, which had, however, began to gradually decrease, and now in 1857, for some reason not apparent here, it revived again. One steamer in May landed one hundred emigrants who had shipped direct from Germany for Quincy, and other arrivals in like character and number came in from time to time during the season. It was an odd, though it had become a common sight, a few years before, to find in the early morning, the entire public landing covered by these families with their multifarious household goods of every description, many of them cumbrous articles, whose bulk and weight made the cost of transportation to infinitely exceed their value, and perhaps among the scores of newcomers not a single person was able to speak or understand the language of the land where they had come to make a home.

The political record of the year after the spring election, had little of interest, there being no general election in the state, except for county officers. The only important federal office in the city, that of postmaster, was filled by the reappointment of Austin Brooks, editor of the Herald. At the fall election a so-called "independent" ticket for county officers was put into the field in opposition to the nominees of the democratic party. Nominally "independent," it was composed of and supported by the whigs, who, though their party organization was abandoned, had not as yet chrystalized completely into the republican party, of which they then and since formed the main numerical strength in the north. The election resulted in the usual democratic success. W. H. Cather (re-elected), Alex. Johnson, and Wilson Lane being chosen for county judge, clerk and treasurer, respectively, over W. S. Lee, John Field and Thomas Durant, by about 700 majority, with the exception of the vote on clerk, Field, a very popular man, carrying the city by nearly 250 votes, though beaten in the entire county by about the same figures. The general democratic majority in the city averaged about 100. The vote of the city at this election was 1,327, that of the county (city included) 3,870. There was a surprising falling off in the vote given at this election, as compared with that of the last year, and also at the mayor's election in April, proving how utterly defective and unreliable election returns are as a basis for estimating population. The population of both city and county were unquestionably rapidly increasing, yet the county vote of 6,229 in November, 1856, had now dropped nearly two-fifths, and that of the city, which amounted to 1,730 eight months before, fell away nearly one-fourth.

The periodical movement was made towards the establishment of a collegiate institution, a charter for that purpose having been obtained at the last session of the legislature. The leaders in the project and trustees of the proposed school or college were from among the most liberal and representative men in the city, John Wood, Willard Keyes, Samuel Holmes, E. Grove, R. S. Benneson, S. C. Sherman, H. Foote, G. L. King, S. H. Emory, W. McCandlish, J. R. Dayton, O. H. Browning, L. Kingman, L. Bull and C. A. Savage, and the Rev. J. J. Marks, pastor of the Presbyterian church, was selected as the president of the institution.

It was the design that there should be two departments (male and female) separately located, but to be under one general supervision or charge. A block of ground, at the southeast corner of State and Twelfth streets, was donated by Governor Wood, and one also by Mr. Keyes, on Eighth and Vine, conditioned on the sum of $75,000 being subscribed by citizens. The enterprise was not completed as originally intended, but was a partial success, resulting in the support of two very excellent schools for several years, each of a much higher pretension and proficiency than any that had previously existed in the city.

Amusements kept even pace with all the other several advances. A theatre with regular performances six evenings in the week, was the leading contribution in this line. It was located in the city hall and continued during nearly all the earlier portion of the year. The management was in the hands of Thomas Duff, the veteran actor; was well conducted and popular, giving far more satisfaction to the public than it probably did in a financial sense to its proprietor.

Beside the theatrical amusements before mentioned, other like gayeties and attractions, such as are incident to a city, were frequent and continuous during the year, far more than at any previous period. Military and firemen and society displays and parades, and excursions to neighboring cities and incursions of similar associations to Quincy, were of common occurrence.

The city had taken a long step forward in metropolitan appearance. While it would not be kind to say that its people put on city airs, it was however the evident fact that the place had assumed a city air, such as was observable now for the first time. The many and handsome buildings erected during this and the last year; the liberal improvements and expenditures which the city had made, the enlarged variety of occupations which had been rapidly established; the prosperous show of business with its accompanying flush of money and free expenditures of the same, and largely the effect of the increased and quickened facilities for travel and communication with other places near or distant, which invited also a corresponding advent of strangers and passing travelers to the city, far in excess of what had ever been, these were among the causes which gave to the city its peculiarly lively and attractive appearance.

It would be safe perhaps to say that there were ten visitors during this year to one coming into the place five years before. It was not longer than that period past, when, whenever a stranger made his appearance, the whole community, village like, would note his coming, inquire and soon find out who he was, what he was after, etc. Not so now. This year marked a social change in that respect which was permanent. People came and went with as little notice, unless some peculiarity attached to them, as they did in London or New York, or do in Quincy today. A new era had now commenced. With its landing alive with activity and laden with piles of shipment for its daily line of steamers; with its punctual railroad whistle, telling the time and also the coming and going of travelers by the score; its city nuisance and necessity, the noisy but convenient "bus line to all parts of the city"; its hotels thronged with guests, and, influenced by all the new surroundings, the people assuming, unconsciously to themselves, a more quick, prompt manner and action, personally and in business, Quincy now, thirty-two years from the date of its founding, seventeen years subsequent to its incorporation as a city, fully exhibited the characteristics of such, and felt itself to be one.