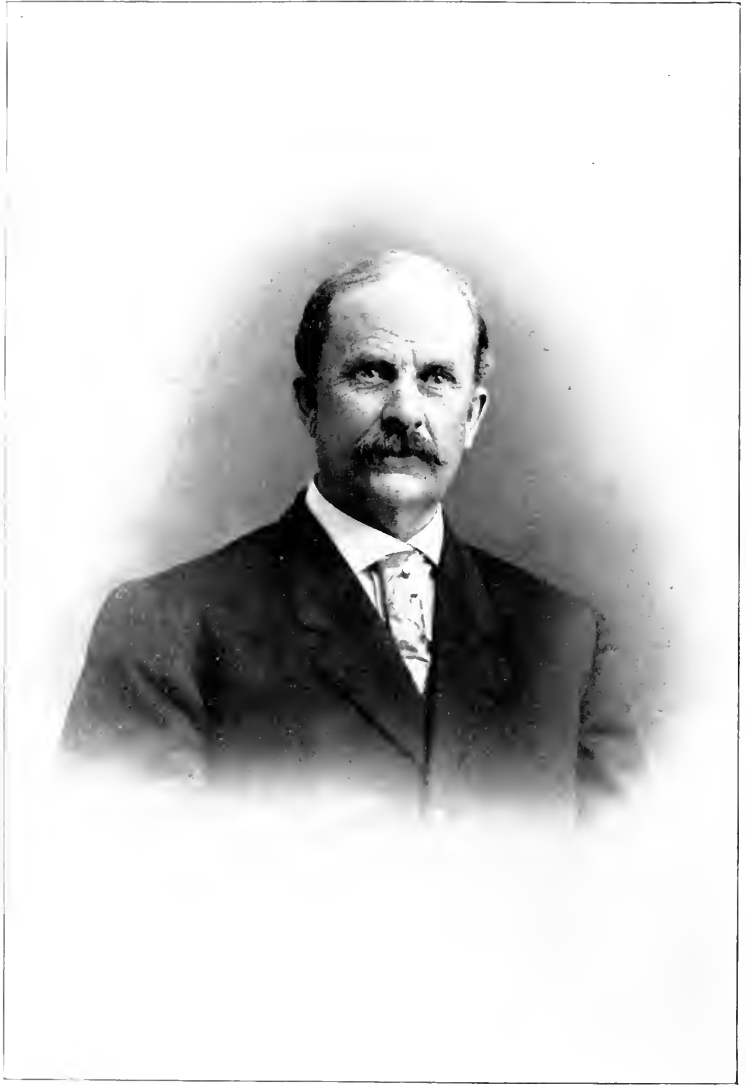


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HEMAN C. SMITH

HISTORY
OF
DECATUR COUNTY
IOWA

AND ITS PEOPLE

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PROF. J. M. HOWELL and HEMAN C. SMITH

SUPERVISING EDITORS

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME I

CHICAGO
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY

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INTRODUCTION

The history of Decatur County as United States territory reaches back to that eventful day in May, 1803, when the treaty was signed by which France ceded the vast territory included in the Louisiana Purchase to our Federal Government. The hand of Providence seems plainly manifest in the course of events which led to its acquisition. It is said that the American envoys who conducted the negotiations on behalf of the United States "spent no small part of their time explaining that they only wished a little bit of Louisiana, including New Orleans and the east bank of the Mississippi." Livingston indeed went so far as to express a very positive disinclination to take the territory west of the Mississippi at any price, stating that he should much prefer to see it remain in the hands of France or Spain, and suggesting by way of an apology for its acquisition, that it might be resold to some European power. Madison who was at the head of the state department at that time "felt a strong disinclination to see the national domain extend west of the Mississippi and he so instructed Monroe and Livingston," who were in charge of the matter on our part. But Napoleon, harassed on every hand by the great powers of Europe and fearful that the territory might fall into the hands of the English, rapidly abated his demands from the exorbitant sum first asked, finally offering to take \$15,000,000 and forced Livingston and Monroe to become reluctant purchasers not merely of New Orleans, but of all the immense territory stretching vaguely northwestward to the Pacific. Another strange thing about the matter is that Jefferson, in whose administration the purchase was made, "had led his party into power as special champion of states' rights and the special opponent of national sovereignty. He and they rendered a very great service to the nation by acquiring Louisiana; but it was at the cost of violating every precept which they had professed to hold dear." Thus came into the possession of the United States a territory of vast and very ill defined extent. Congress authorized a temporary government for the newly acquired province on October 31, 1803, but its jurisdiction was merely nominal as the French governor retained

his power at the request and by the authority of the United States. By further action of Congress the whole of the province north of the 33d parallel was organized into a court district and formed for governmental and judicial purposes a part of the Territory of Indiana. This action was had March 26, 1804, and affected what are now the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Iowa, also Southern Minnesota; it was called Upper Louisiana, and in this way the name District of Louisiana was originated, by which it was known during the early history of the country.

On March 3, 1805, Iowa was included as a part of the Territory of Louisiana, with the capital at St. Louis, and that part of the Louisiana Purchase now known as Louisiana became Orleans Territory. The Territory of Missouri was organized June 4, 1812, and Iowa was embraced in it. When Missouri became a state in 1820, Iowa with other territory, was detached and forgotten and "remained a country without a government, either political or judicial, until June 28, 1834, when the abuses of outlawry and crime became so prominent and so serious that, as a means of redress and correction, it was included in the Territory of Michigan. During all of these years, it is probable that the only civil law in force in Iowa was the provision of the Missouri Act which prohibited slavery and involuntary servitude in the territories of the United States north of thirty-six degrees, thirty minutes, north latitude."

By 1836 the population of this region had so increased that the territorial government of Wisconsin was organized, which at first included a part of the upper peninsula of Michigan, the whole of Minnesota and Iowa, and that part of Dakota lying east of the Missouri and White Earth rivers. When the Territory of Iowa was organized July 12, 1838, it included the present State of Minnesota and parts of North and South Dakota.

By an act of Congress approved March 3, 1845, provision was made for the admission of Iowa into the Union as a sovereign state, with boundaries extending on the north the parallel of latitude passing through the mouth of the Blue Earth River and on the west only to seventeen degrees, thirty minutes, from Washington, corresponding very nearly to the existing line between Ringgold and Union counties on the one hand and Taylor and Adams counties on the other. This reduction of the boundaries laid down by the Constitutional Convention of 1844 was very distasteful to the people, the admission was rejected by a popular election and in 1846 Congress proposed new boundary lines, having the State of Minnesota for the

north boundary, Missouri for the south, the Mississippi River on the east and the Missouri and Sioux rivers on the west. The date of admission to the Union was December 28, 1846.

Comparatively few of the counties as at present established had been organized previous to the convening of the first territorial assembly. It was not until after Iowa was organized as a state that we find Decatur represented in the Legislature. It was the last of twelve counties created by the act of the Legislature of the Territory of Iowa, approved January 13, 1846, and its boundaries as at first defined have remained permanent. The land included within the limits of the county was ceded to the United States Government by the Sac and Fox Indians in a treaty dated October 11, 1842. Decatur was west of the line by which this cession was divided into two parts and therefore did not have to be vacated by the Indians until three years after the date of cession. The three southern tiers of counties in Iowa at present were carved from the original territory of the County of Des Moines. Des Moines was the second county established in Iowa, Dubuque having been the first. The limits of the County of Des Moines were defined in section 2 of an act to lay off and organize counties west of the Mississippi River. In the definition of the boundaries of Des Moines County an error was made in that the county was not limited, in so many words, to territory to which the Indian title had been extinguished. The intention of the framers of the act was to erect the southern part of the Black Hawk Purchase into Des Moines County, but by the omission of a phrase the county was apparently extended westward to the Missouri River. The territory enacted into new counties was only the southern part of the Black Hawk Purchase. It did not extend westward to the Missouri River.

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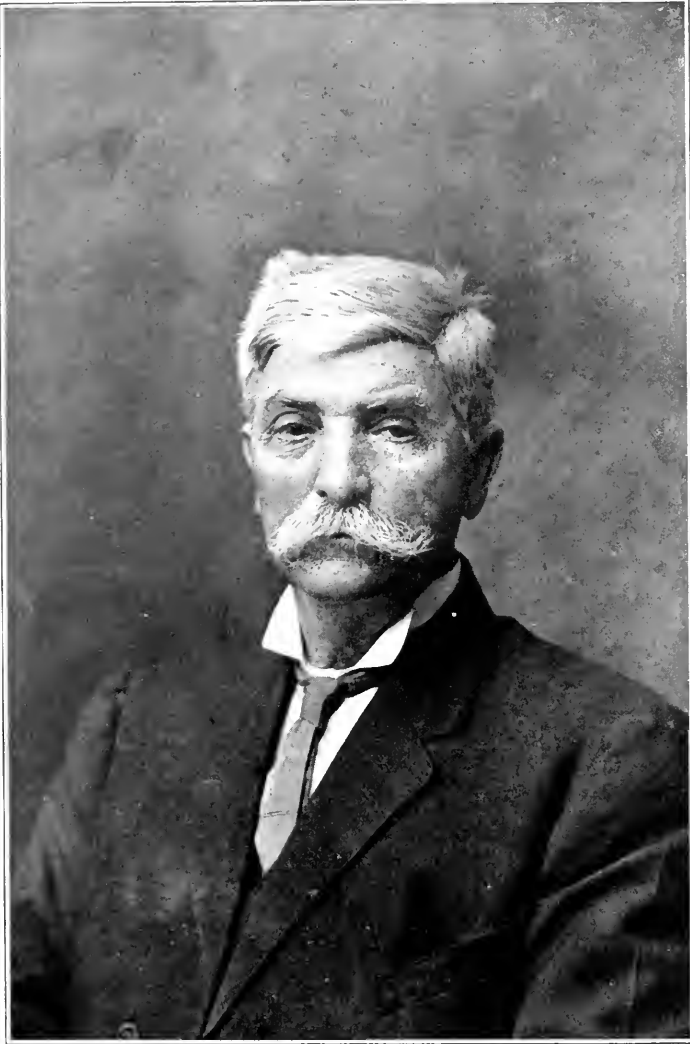
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PROFESSOR J. M. HOWELL

HISTORY OF DECATUR COUNTY

CHAPTER I

EARLY SETTLEMENT OF DECATUR COUNTY

Pioneer history, at its best, is an elusive subject. Records of the days when the settlers hewed their homes from the unbroken wilderness have not been adequately preserved and consequently the sources of information which have survived are treasures which must be kept and immortalized by the present generation and the ones to come, lest the tales of the hardships and sturdy deeds be lost to view forever. Such is the purpose of history. Pioneer history, as well as any other, grows with the telling. There is glamour and interest centering around the hard fought battles of the early days, which will bear the retelling many times over. What if bits of imagination are introduced in the retelling? Any life is prosaic in the stern reality—and narrative beauty is added by the coloration of the pure facts; but, of course, strict adherence to these same facts is a prime requisite.

In the beginning of Iowa history, and with it that of Decatur County, settlements were miles apart and social intercourse was difficult. Log rollings, husking bees, barbecues, cabin buildings and other entertainments significant to the pioneers supplied the only opportunities for the people to congregate together and these periods were often months apart. So the pioneer lived alone with his family in the silent and mighty forest and on the monotonous level of the prairie, sallying out before dawn to shoot the game for the day's food or to cast a line in the nearby stream. The clothes were manufactured by the good housewife who sat for days before the loom and spinning wheel, patiently working; linsey-woolsey and homespun, adorned with the skins of wild animals, were the popular fabrics.

An extreme hardiness of body and soul resulted from this life; men were cast in steel. Writers of today lament the deterioration of

the twentieth century civilization, praying for the spirit of the pioneer days. This may be true, but the effects of money and luxuries are too familiar to merit discussion in a work such as this volume. It is to the first men of the county and their influence in building up old Decatur and to the men of the present generation who are stolidly retaining this standard, that this work must be dedicated.

FIRST SETTLEMENTS

Perhaps the first record of early settlement in the County of Decatur proclaims that the very earliest settlements were made in the southern part of the county in or about the year 1840. Among the men who came to this territory at this time and threw up their rude habitations were: William Hamilton, James and Reuben Hatfield, Alfred Stanley, John McDaniel, John E. Logan and Allen Scott. It is said that some of these pioneers came even as early as 1838, carrying the impression that they were settling in the State of Missouri.

It is interesting to note that prior to the settlement of the so-called boundary question a number of slaves were held in the southern part of the county. Among the early records is the following:

“I, John McDaniel, of the County of Decatur and the State of Iowa, do hereby release, give up, and set at liberty as a free man, George, a black, a colored man, who has resided in my family since boyhood. Said man is about forty-five years old at this time, about five feet eleven inches high. Witness my hand and seal this 25th day of February, A. D., 1852.

“JOHN MCDANIEL.”

This same George died in the southern part of the county, evidently preferring to spend the rest of his days in the vicinity of his former master's home. McDaniel afterward moved to the State of Oregon.

The boundary dispute referred to in the above occurred about the time of the Fourth Legislative Assembly in Iowa. There was in question the boundary line between this territory and the State of Missouri. There was a difference of a strip eight or ten miles wide, extending from the Mississippi to the Missouri rivers, which each claimed. Missouri officers, attempting to collect taxes within the disputed territory, were arrested by Iowa sheriffs, so the respective gov-

ernors called out the militia, fully expecting that there would be bloodshed between the two factions. About twelve hundred Iowa men enlisted under the colors of their state and 500 were actually armed and equipped and encamped in Van Buren County. At this juncture three men were sent to Missouri as envoys plenipotentiary to endeavor to consummate a peaceable settlement of the question. Upon their arrival they found that the county commissioners of Clark County, Mo., had rescinded their order for the collection of taxes and that Governor Boggs had dispatched messengers to the governor of Iowa proposing to submit an agreed case to the Supreme Court of the United States. This proposition was declined, but afterward, upon petition of Iowa and Missouri, Congress authorized a suit to settle the controversy. This suit was duly instituted and resulted in the decision that Iowa had the right to the land. Under an order from the national Supreme Court commissioners surveyed and established the boundary. The expenses of the war, on the part of Iowa, were never paid, either by the United States or the territorial government.

Again, owing to the fact that the land in this section of the country had not yet been acquired from the Indians, settlers were forbidden by the military authorities from settling thereon. This explains the fact that most of the early settlers of Decatur County located in the present southern part. They were not in that day in Decatur County, but in the State of Missouri, hence not trespassers on Indian lands.

In the fall of 1847 a company of Mormons, en route to the State of Utah, stopped at a place now known as Garden Grove, in the northeastern part of the county, to spend the winter. When spring came the main body of them moved on westward, but a few others remained several more seasons. The last of them left in 1851.

In the year 1850 L. Ujhazy, who was formerly civil governor of the Fortress of Komorn in Hungary, came to this country and settled on the left bank of Grand River, and occupying the lands on the right bank where Davis City now stands. A postoffice was established and he gave it the name of New Buda, in honor of Buda-Pesth, the capital city of Hungary. He was appointed postmaster. Several other of his countrymen came with him to this place and it became known as a Hungarian Settlement.

More will be said in connection with this interesting event in a special article later in this work.

The following paragraphs relative to Decatur County were published in the Decatur County Journal of August 6, 1868, and in several succeeding issues, which was about two months after the establishment of the paper:

The county is about twenty-four miles square, and contains 576 square miles, more or less. There is probably not a county in Southern Iowa as well timbered as this and the timber is well interspersed among the prairies, which are generally small and rolling, or gently undulating, and consequently well adapted to the growth of all the grains and grasses of this latitude.

The principal stream is Thompson's Fork of Grand River, which enters the county not far from the northwest corner, and winds its way through Richland, Grand River, Decatur, Bloomington, New Buda and Hamilton townships, and leaves the county and enters Missouri near the south line. This is a beautiful stream, bedded with limestone, which supplies a large portion of the county with a good article of lime and also stone suitable for building purposes. It is also well timbered through the entire length of the county, with an excellent quality of white, black, red and spotted oak, together with walnut, elm, hickory, hackberry, buckeye, hard and soft maple, mulberry and linn or basswood. It is the best mill stream in the county, there being several very good establishments of the kind upon it. The first one north is what is usually called the Westervelt Mill, purchased a few years since by John Polly, and completely reconstructed and put in thorough running order. The next one southward is Funk's Mill, which has also changed hands, and been refitted in a first class manner. Still farther south stands the Davis Mill owned by William Davis. These, with several sawmills, make up the mill privileges of the Grand River. West of it is Elk Creek, a small stream, skirted with timber. Near the center of the county runs Little River, which affords abundance of stock water, and the banks of which are well set with the timber of the usual kinds. This stream empties into the Weldon Fork of Grand River, which is about half as large as the Thompson Fork, and is a fine stream, furnishing abundance of water for the east side of the county. It enters the county near the center of the north side, zigzags through Garden Grove, High Point and Woodland townships and enters Missouri not far from the southeast corner of the county. Its banks and adjacent ridges furnish a large amount of good timber for the small prairies

nearby. The tributaries are Little River, Brush Creek, Jonathan Creek, and Steel's Creek. These are also bordered with the usual varieties of timber. In addition to these streams there are numerous springs scattered over the county. On the prairies good well water can be had by digging from fifteen to forty feet. We neglected to mention in the proper place Long and Short creeks, tributaries of Thompson's Fork of Grand River, the former of which has an abundance of good limestone for building purposes and both have a large quantity of good timber along their banks. The numerous streams, springs, etc., together with the smallness of the prairies, and the large amount of good timber, well scattered over the county, adapts it to a heavier settlement than any other county in Southern Iowa.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

This is second to none as a farming country. It embraces a part of the largest prairie in our county, and consequently timber is more unhandy than in any other part of the county. It has a population of 289. The citizens have shown fully that they were not behind other townships in point of energy and enterprise, notwithstanding the disadvantages of the remoteness of their timber from their prairie land, they have within a very few years brought into cultivation a large portion of the township and have erected substantial buildings upon the same. The town has three subdistricts, eighty children entitled to school privileges, pays an aggregate of \$704 to teachers. Franklin is the name of the postoffice.

LONG CREEK TOWNSHIP

Though it cannot boast of having as large an extent of fine prairie as Franklin, can lay claim to having some of the best oak timber in the county. It has a population of 350; has eight subdistricts; 252 children between five and twenty-one years; pays \$1,177 annually to teachers. It has three prominent stock dealers, William West, Stephen Strong and R. G. Mansfield. Prairieville, located in the east side of the township, has one store and one grocery. There are two meeting houses in this place, one belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church and the other to the Christian.

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

This township, being the northwestern one, lies on Thompson's Fork of Grand River, is well watered, prairies small and timber in plenty. It has a population of 486, 222 having the privileges of

the common schools. Four subdistricts paid in 1867 \$396 to their teachers. Religiously, the people represent the Methodists, Baptists, United Brethren, Christian and Tunkers, and are peaceable and quiet. The postoffice is Westervelt.

GRAND RIVER

Located south of Richland, is also on the river, and has equal advantages of water, timber and good land, with a population of 219 and 106 children entitled to school privileges, being at present divided into four subdistricts. The aggregate amount given to teachers last year was \$506.58. Religiously about the same as Richland. Persons visiting or locating with them will be made to feel not entirely beyond civilization.

DECATUR

This township has in it some of the oldest settlers of the county, among whom are Millers, Woodmansee, Boord, Gill and others. These, as well as those who have come in since, brought with them cultivation, skill and energy, which have been manifested in the agricultural development of the township. It has a population of 829, 312 of whom are enjoying the advantages of the common schools. Paid teachers last year a total of \$709.50. Decatur City is its chief village. It is situated on an elevated dividing ridge between Grand and Little rivers, and is therefore free from the miasmatic influence of low, wet lands. It has a population of from three to five hundred and is an independent school district. The citizens have shown their interest in educational matters by erecting a good frame schoolhouse, two stories high, in the public square, and since its completion they have had an excellent school taught. Decatur City has two dry goods stores, one drug store, one grocery, one blacksmith shop and two taverns. The meeting house is owned by the Methodist Episcopal Church. It is a neat, frame building, 30 by 40 feet. The church is under the care of Mr. Baker. The Tunkers also have regular services in the place by Mr. William Stout and Garver. Some years since the Adventists, or Soul Sleepers as they were called, flourished extensively, but like the orator of whom we have read, they have "subsided." The Christian Church also eked out. There are many honorable members of these societies residing here, but without a home of worship. There are three physicians in Decatur City.

PRODUCTIONS

On the west and south sides of the county good building stone is abundant. A little coal has been found in several localities, but no banks have yet been opened.

In variety and beauty of natural scenery this county is unsurpassed. Many of the views along Grand River are indeed grand, as the name suggests. From the prairie highlands the wooded slopes and valleys present to the eye the loveliest landscapes.

This is one of the finest grain-producing counties, and is especially adapted to winter wheat. No county in the state has produced better crops of tame grass and the farmers have engaged largely in its production. Decatur County is well adapted to the raising of fruits, and there are already many bearing orchards. Among the citizens who are devoting their attention to fruits may be mentioned Amos Newman, J. B. Lunbeck, Charles Moore, J. S. Warner, Thomas Waller and Caselton Gibson. The wild fruits which grow abundantly are plums, grapes, crabapples, blackberries, raspberries and strawberries. The wild cherry, mulberry and the red and black haw are also found. Among the shrubs are the sumach, black elder and hazel in great profusion, and all indicative of a rich, deep soil. The prickly ash and swamp dogwood are also found in places. As a stock-raising county Decatur compares favorably with many others. The numerous running streams afford water at all seasons, while the timber makes a winter shelter. Several leading farmers are largely engaged in raising cattle and other fine stock, among whom may be mentioned Alexander McNeil, Stephen Strong, Adam Johns & Bros.

EDUCATIONAL

There are in the county seventy-seven sub-districts and three independent districts, Decatur, Garden Grove and Leon. Last year's report of the superintendent shows that there were 68 schoolhouses, four brick, 30 frame and 34 log. There were 78 schools taught last year, with an aggregate of 2,005 pupils in attendance. There were 60 male and 46 female teachers reported, the average compensation of the males per week being \$9.45 and females \$6.37. Decatur Township and the independent district of Decatur City justly paid male and female teachers the same wage, while all other townships discriminated against the females.

MANUFACTORIES

Grand River, as it passes through this county, furnishes a large number of eligible mill sites, some four or five of which have been improved. There are in the county two woolen mills, one carding factory, three water flouring mills, three steam flouring mills, ten steam sawmills and four shingle machines attached to sawmills. Several of the sawmills have lath mills attached.

One of the leading manufacturing establishments of the county is the woolen mills of R. M. Mudgett & Company, situated at Leon. They have a building 40 by 70 feet and three stories high. It is supplied with the best machinery, consisting in part of two sets of manufacturing cards, two sets of roll cards, two jacks of 180 spindles each, one broad and three narrow looms, with steam engine and all other necessary machinery. The factory has been in operation something over a year, but the proprietors have just made additions to the property to accommodate the increasing business.

Four miles east of Pleasant Plain, near the state line, are situated the woolen mills of John Clark, which have been in operation about twelve years. The main factory building is 34 by 70 feet and three stories high, with two additional buildings. It has two sets of roll cards, two full sets of manufacturing cards, two jacks, one of 180 and the other 144 spindles, one broad and six narrow looms.

Stout & Blodgett recently erected at Leon a brick flouring mill, the main structure being 30 by 36 feet, and three stories high, with an engine room 14 by 16 feet. It is provided with an engine of fifty horsepower, has two run of burrs and is fitted up with all the latest improved machinery.

STATISTICS OF AGRICULTURE

In 1866 there were enclosed 58,141 acres; rods of hedging, 1,649; acres of spring wheat, 1,030; bushels harvested, 11,266; acres of winter wheat, 630; bushels harvested, 6,860; acres of oats, 3,668; bushels harvested, 104,382; acres of corn, 25,069; bushels harvested, 299,820; acres of rye, 282; bushels harvested, 3,686; acres of barley, 28; bushels harvested, 271; acres of sorghum, 350; gallons of syrup, 15,653; acres of Irish potatoes, 352; bushels harvested, 11,124. The statistics of last year's crops will show a vast increase over the above figures. The crop of wheat for the year 1868 will more than double that given above for 1866. The area of land in cultivation is rapidly increasing in this, as well as other counties in Southern Iowa.

RAILROADS

As yet no lines of railroad have been completed within the county. The people, however, feel a deep interest in several contemplated railroads, promising great advantages to them in the future. One project which the people in the west part of the county, especially, feel interested in, is known as the Iowa & Minnesota Railroad. Some two years ago under a former organization called the Fort Des Moines & Kansas City Railroad Company, the line was surveyed and located. A considerable amount of the grading was also done south of Decatur City. There is confidence in the ultimate success of this road.

Another project is that known as the Chillicothe, Leon & Des Moines Railroad, in which the people of Leon and the eastern part of the county felt a particular interest. The Missouri counties through which the road passes have subscribed \$50,000 worth of stock towards its construction to the state line at Pleasant Plain, twelve miles south of Leon. About thirty-seven thousand dollars has been subscribed in Decatur County. I. H. Sales of Leon is president of the company. Both of the above projects have met with great favor in the Missouri counties through which the lines pass, and one of the lines, if not both, will doubtless be constructed at an early day. The contract for grading, bridging and tying the Chillicothe & Des Moines Railroad from Chillicothe to Princeton, a distance of fifty miles, was let on the 10th of February and the road is to be ready for the iron by the first of August, 1870. As soon as possible the survey will be made through this county and put under contract. A county possessing the elements of wealth that Decatur does cannot longer afford to wait for a railroad to develop her resources.

REAL ESTATE

Unimproved lands may be bought in this county at reasonable prices ranging from \$3 to \$6 per acre and some even as low as \$2.50. Unimproved lots in Leon are held at all prices, from \$20 up to \$200.

BRIDGES

The county has erected good bridges over most of the streams. One was completed last spring over Grand River at a cost of \$9,000 and one over Little River this winter at a cost of \$500. Another over Long Creek is now in the course of construction and will be finished very soon.

CHURCHES

Nearly all the evangelical religious denominations are represented in the county. The religious organizations of Leon are Methodist Episcopal, Christian, Baptist and Presbyterian. The Methodists have a neat, new and commodious frame church, with bell, and well finished. They have a good membership and a large attending congregation. The Christian denomination have a brick church, 40 by 60 feet in size, also provided with a good bell. The other denominations have not yet built churches in Leon. Flourishing Sabbath schools are connected with the above denominations.

In Decatur City the Methodist Episcopal Church has an organization of about forty members. The town is enclosed in what is known as Decatur City Circuit. The circuit has ten preaching places and has about 250 members. The largest society in the circuit is at Prairieville, one and a half miles north of Decatur City. On this circuit and connected with the church are seven Sabbath schools, that at Decatur City having an attendance of about eighty pupils. The Union Sabbath School in Decatur City has about the same number.

The Methodist Church—formerly known as the Protestant Methodist—has two organizations, one at Decatur City and the other at Funk's Mill on Grand River, northwest of Decatur City. The societies were organized by Rev. F. A. Kirkpatrick within the last year.

The United Brethren also have an organization at Decatur City and others in different parts of the county to the number of eight with 300 members. We believe the Baptists also have a society at this place.

The Decatur County Bible Society was organized in 1855. James P. Layton, G. D. Sellers, Uriah Bobbitt and J. W. Warner are prominent workers in this society at the present time.

POSTOFFICES

The following are the postoffices in Decatur County in 1868: Westervelt, Funk's Mill, Decatur, Elk, Sedgwick, Terre Haute, New Buda, Nine Eagles, High Point, Garden Grove, Franklin, Leon.

OLD TIME NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS


June 4, 1868—Our friends of the Methodist persuasion received, on Thursday evening last, a fine bell for their church, weighing 600 pounds. It is of regular bell metal and cost delivered about \$280.

June 4, 1868—Everybody who wants a cheap farm should come to Decatur County. Good wild lands can be had at from \$2 to \$5 per acre and improved lands at \$10 to \$12.

June 25, 1868—J. W. Harvey, late of Monroe, Jasper County, this state, has settled among us and associated himself with J. L. Young in the practice of law.

July 30, 1868—W. C. Akers, living three miles east of Leon, killed a lynx last Sunday morning in a pasture about 300 yards from his house.

September 12, 1868—Dan Castello's monster shows exhibited in Leon.

September 10, 1868—We are pleased to chronicle the return of Dr. I. F. Hildreth to his new home in Leon. This gentleman came to our town a couple of months ago, and together with Judge Sales, bought the stock of goods owned by C. S. Stout & Company. The Dr. hails from Bellefontaine, Mahaska County, and comes recommended as a gentleman of ability and high moral character and we have no doubt will prove to be a valuable citizen. Here's our , Doctor, and our best wishes for your success.

October 15, 1868—Whereas Oscar A. Doolan, aged 12, regularly bound to me, left my house and control, on October 4, 1868, without my consent or knowledge, this is to warn all persons not to trust or harbor him on my account as I will pay no debts of his contracting. Five cents reward will be paid for his return to me without expense. Signed, D. Huff.

March 4, 1869—Quite a novel scene was witnessed in the circuit court last Saturday, in the introduction of a full blooded African upon the witness stand, and drew a large crowd to hear the testimony. This, we believe, was the first instance of the kind on record in this county and excited no little comment.

April 9, 1869—The Leon Woolen Mills will commence operations one week from next Monday.

April 29, 1869—Mr. Thomas F. Marshall, one of the engineers of the Chillicothe and Des Moines Railroad, arrived in Leon on Monday last and commenced the survey of the line of the Leon, Chillicothe and Des Moines road from the state line to this place.

May 13, 1869—The Christian Church has just been completed and the finishing touches added. It will now compare with any edifice of the kind in Southern Iowa.

June 30, 1869—The G. F. Bailey & Co.'s Gigantic Caravan, Menagerie and Circus exhibited in Leon.

October 14, 1869—*Die Wage* is the title of a paper just started in this county, printed in the German language and edited by H. Kompe.

December 22, 1870—*Ab Waggoner* is now running the stage from here to Osceola, making connections with the trains going both east and west.

June 11, 1868—15,000 pounds of wool were received at the R. M. Mudgett & Co. woolen factory during the past ten days.

IN THE DAYS OF AULD LANG SYNE

The following items were taken from the Decatur County Journal in the years 1872-3:

Trains now leave Garden Grove going east as follows: Atlantic express, 11.01 P. M.; mail, 2 P. M.; Chicago express, 4.11 A. M.

Col. Geo. Burton returned home last week from the south country where he had been buying cattle. He has a drove of 500 head on their way here.

Monday afternoon was a good day for editors. W. J. Wightman of the Garden Grove Express was down. G. N. Udell of the Bedford Southwest, was in town. These two, with the Leon editors, ex-editors and sub-editors, met at Q. M. Lindsey's and held a little convention.

Jerome Harvey and Prof. Frazier will hold a normal school July 22d to continue four weeks.

Superintendent Perkins and Chief Engineer Mallory were in town Tuesday on railroad matters intent. They authorized the right of way committee to locate the depot. The right of way committee consists of J. W. Harvey, Judge Miles and Samuel Castor. Now is the time to buttonhole said committee.

Mr. Denham, of Grand River township, tried to have a Greeley ratification meeting at his house. Four men, including Mr. D. and his hired man, were in attendance.

On the 4th of July a celebration was held in the grove at the east edge of town adjacent Little & Wise's mill and fully 2,000 people attended. In the morning there was a procession of "Fantasies," while a cannon brought up the rear. Dolly Varden was present during the day and presented a graceful figure. Dr. G. W. Baker was marshal of the day. Music was furnished by the Leon Cornet Band, and the band wagon was drawn by four horses driven by "that superb reinsman, Samuel Lindsey." J. W. Harvey acted as president. Prof. W. M. Jordan and a company of vocalists sang patriotic songs.

Addresses were delivered by Prof. Harkness, J. B. Morrison, Francis Varga, Samuel Forrey and Elder J. C. Porter. The celebration closed with a display of fireworks in the evening in the north part of town.

The people of Prairie City, now called Van Wert, celebrated the 4th in a grove 2½ miles west of town. John Gemmell was marshal of the day. There was a parade to the grounds where the exercises opened with a song by the Sunday schools and prayer by Levi Lewis. Rev. Seth Samson made the address of welcome, which was responded to by J. C. Lewis. J. C. Roberts delivered an oration, which was followed by a declamation by Miss Nannie Gemmell. After dinner Lizzie McCann read the Declaration of Independence and Hon. Fred Teale delivered an oration. The local chronicler says that "Fred seemed full of patriotism." The singing was led by A. Bullard and Mrs. Barbara McCormick.

The 4th was observed at Pleasanton by an old fashioned celebration. The Declaration was read by Dr. Murphy and A. M. Post delivered an oration.

W. H. Robb addressed a large political meeting at Pleasanton last Saturday.

The Leon public schools opened September 9th with W. S. Domer, of Iowa City, as principal; Mrs. M. J. Read, grammar department; Miss Ella Eaton, intermediate, and Miss Mollie Miles, primary. Attendance, 258.

Jeremiah Hatfield, one of the oldest residents of Decatur County, and one of the most influential men we had, was stricken dead while working in his field last Monday.

Wood is selling for \$2 per cord in Leon.

Look out for the cars! The track layers are only two miles from town at this writing, August 22.

Cooper's Circus exhibited in Leon August 2d.

James Goen has the contract to carry the mail from the depot to the postoffice.

The Grant and Wilson Club will be addressed on next Wednesday evening, September 4th, by W. T. Laughlin, candidate for district attorney, and Hon. Sam Forrey. Come, everybody.

The oldest inhabitant never before saw such crops as Iowa can justly boast of this season. The county is a perfect ocean of corn, some of which has grown so tall that the owners will have to get on a ladder to pick the ears off.

J. A. Snyder has put an addition to his shop one door east of the M. E. Church.

Died, in Franklin Township, October 6, 1872, of congestive fever, Ebenezer Price, in the 44th year of his age. He was a faithful soldier three years in the Union army during the late war, and has been for several years an excellent member of the Christian Church.

The hotel now occupied by H. L. Sales passed into the hands of that prince of landlords, Capt. L. A. Ray, of Chariton, on Thursday of this week.

Some unprincipled cuss gobbled up a pocketbook belonging to Robert E. Dye, on last Monday, containing about \$200 in cash, besides some papers and a postoffice order for \$3.90.

The residence of J. R. Bashaw was totally destroyed by fire on Monday afternoon last, with a large proportion of his household goods, furniture and clothing. The fire originated in the roof in the neighborhood of a flue.—Dec. 5.

The prairie chickens have the epizootic.

Day before Christmas the mercury fell to 26 degrees below zero at Chariton. It was 42 at Minneapolis, 32 at Cedar Rapids and 28 at Burlington.

Died, at his residence near Terre Haute, December 27, 1872, John May. His unexpected death will be mourned by a host of friends.

On Friday evening last 23 cars of hogs were shipped at this point for Chicago.

On last Tuesday the last vestige of democracy was swept from our courthouse. A. E. Chase commenced his duties of clerk of the courts in place of Nathan Perdew, retiring.

There has been shipped from this point since the finishing of the railroad 175 cars of hogs, 49 of cattle, 10 of sheep and 2 of horses, making a total of 258 cars of live stock. In December alone 116 cars of hogs or 7,000 head were shipped.

There are over 500 patrons of husbandry or grangers in our county.

Last week a Ringgold county man brought to town twelve deer which he had killed within a few days. The venison sold readily at 9 to 12 cents per pound.

The following is the grand jury list for 1872: J. D. Burns, J. R. Starr, Newton Spencer, T. Fullerton, D. J. Patterson, M. T. Shelton, James Coover, Thos. Konklin, Sam Thomas, Thos. Pitman, Wm. Loving, Jesse Lloyd, C. Osborne, R. Turner, Peter Cartwright.

Thursday Tom Bradfield was unable to make his mail trip to

Corydon on account of the drifts, but on Friday the mail passed through all right.—February 6, 1873.

The old Patterson House is being pulled down to give room for a new two-story building to be erected by Armstrong & Blind.

The scholars of Eden Center, under the superintendence of their teacher, Mr. G. W. Samson, will give an exhibition on Friday evening, February 28, at which several dramas will be presented and lots of fun besides.

A lot of boys attended a dance in the country on Friday evening last, and got drunk as a natural consequence.

J. C. Roberts and T. W. Silvers, after an arduous examination, which they passed with great credit to themselves, were admitted to the practice of the law by Judge Hewitt, on Friday evening last.

The town of High Point is still improving. Curt Alexander is building a dwelling on the lot east of Ruffcorn's store.

CHAPTER II

ORGANIZATION OF DECATUR COUNTY

Decatur County was named after Commodore Stephen Decatur, who was born in Maryland, January 5, 1779, and was killed by Commodore Barron in a duel at Bladensburg, March 22, 1820. The territory was obtained from the Indians by a treaty which was ratified in March, 1843.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION

The County of Decatur was officially organized on the 1st day of April in the year 1850.

The first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held on May 6, 1850. The commissioners were: Josiah Morgan, William Hamilton and Asa Burrell. Henry B. Noston was the first clerk of the board.

The first order issued by this board was one allowing Andrew Still the sum of \$30 for his services as organizing sheriff. The commissioners, at this meeting, also ordered that the District Court, Probate Court and Commissioners' Court be held at the house of Daniel Moad until the county seat should be located.

FIRST TOWNSHIPS

At another meeting of the board of commissioners in July, 1850, the county was divided into four civil townships, namely: Garden Grove, Morgan, Burrell and Hamilton. It will be noted that the last three names were the respective names of the commissioners.

The following judges and clerks of election were appointed in these divisions: Garden Grove, William Davis, Victor Doze and Hiram Chase, judges; Joshua R. Monroe and Enos Davis, clerks. Morgan, Reuben Hatfield, William Oney and Christopher Wainscott, judges; Thomas Gilgore and Samuel McDowell, clerks. Burrell, Asa Howard, John McDaniel and John Still, judges; James

Woodmansee and Andrew Still, clerks. Hamilton, William Eaton, Jefferson Dimick and William Hamilton, judges; Wyllis Dickinson and Gideon J. Walker, clerks.

After the first board of commissioners had divided the county into four townships, County Judge S. S. Thompson organized the townships of Center, Decatur, Richland, Eden and High Point. In 1856 Judge Thompson was called to Princeton, Mo., on business and he left his office in charge of Samuel Forrey, who had been employed to act as county attorney. He organized and named the following townships: Grand River, Long Creek, Franklin, New Buda and Woodland. Long Creek and Grand River were named after the streams of the same name, and Woodland because of its heavy growth of timber. The names of Franklin and New Buda were suggested by villages of the same name, both of which have now disappeared. The townships of Fayette and Bloomington were called Prairie, but were afterwards divided and given their present names. The name of Bloomington was suggested by M. McDonald, who had once resided in Bloomington, Ill.

COUNTY SEAT

On January 18, 1851, an act of the Legislature was approved, appointing commissioners and providing for the location of the county seat. The commissioners were Henry Allen and F. N. Sales. On July 21, 1851, they reported to the Board of County Commissioners that they had selected the east half of the southeast quarter and the west half of the southeast quarter of section 27, township 69, range 26, "being high, gently-rolling prairie, through which runs the main road from Fort Des Moines to Independence, Mo., and in the immediate vicinity of good timber and stone, with good mill privileges." They also reported that they had named the town Decatur. N. Westcoat was selected to survey the new town. A sale of lots was also ordered to take place in Decatur on August 25, 1851, notice being given in the Des Moines Republican and the Sentinel at Fairfield.

There were many people in the county who strenuously claimed that the selection of the county seat had been illegal, because, on account of the high water prevailing at that time, the commissioners had not been able to reach the site inside the limits of the time fixed by the statute. The General Assembly accordingly ordered an election to take place the first Monday in April, 1853, to decide again on

the location of the county seat. It was urged that the point to which it was proposed to take the county seat was very little more in a central position than Decatur, which had been selected. Also, that the county had gone to the expense in constructing a courthouse at Decatur.

The vote was counted, however, and showed the majority in favor of removing the county seat to Independence, afterward called South Independence, and now Leon, located on the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 28, and northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 33, township 69, range 25. The county surveyor was employed to survey the new town.

At the next April term of the County Court a sale of lots was directed to take place on the second Tuesday of May, 1853, notice to be given by publication in the Des Moines Valley Whig, Fairfield Sentinel, Iowa City Reporter and the Pioneer at Trenton, Mo.

On the site of the town forty acres of land had been donated to the county as an inducement for the removal of the county seat, and the survey of the town was made in May, 1853. On the 12th of the same month a courthouse was ordered constructed and Peter C. Stewart was awarded the contract, the price being \$1,650. For some reason he failed to discharge the contract, and at the June term, 1854, another order was made for a courthouse, to be built of brick, 24 by 40 feet, and two stories in height, with three rooms below for offices and one above for a courtroom. A contract for the brick work and plastering was let to Arnold Childers for the sum of \$900 and the wood work to F. Parsons for the sum of \$800. This building was in use when burned, with all its contents, on March 31, 1874.

One of the voting places in the April (1853) election was at the store of Switzler, Davis & Co., located half a mile south of the residence on the Marion Oney farm in Eden Township. The store was in charge of I. N. Clark. Mr. Clark recalled the following voters as being among those who were present: Reuben, Calvin, Stanley, Andrew, Hiram and Myers Hatfield, James Hatfield (father and son), Hiram, Calvin and Abel Stanley, Alf Stanley (father and son), John and Anthony Vanderpool, William Oney, Johnny Patterson, P. C. Stewart, Harrison Weldon, Dan and Elisha Moad, Thomas Mann, Oliver Stanley, the McIlvaines (three in number), Dr. S. C. Thompson, Sam McDowell, Dan Bradley, Thomas East and I. N. Clark.

As soon as it was known that the proposition to move the county seat had carried, Doctor Thompson mounted his horse and started

for Chariton, where the land office was located. It was his intention to enter the land on which to locate the new town and also the surrounding territory. At that time one of the officials in the land office was Oliver L. Palmer, who was a son-in-law of Isaac Leffler, of Burlington. In some way Palmer heard of the result of the election in Decatur County and at once proceeded to take advantage of his information. Doctor Thompson called the next morning after his arrival and entered the land on which Leon is now located. He then discovered that Oliver L. Palmer had entered an 80-acre tract east of the proposed townsite and Porter W. Earl an 80-acre tract on the west side and Samuel Baird 120 acres on the south. The 160-acre tract north of Leon had been entered by Uriah Shaffer in 1850, and hence Shaffer's Addition to the Town of Leon. Palmer assigned his land to Isaac Leffler, who afterwards moved here and sold many lots in Leffler's Addition. Mr. Leffler had served several terms in Congress from Virginia, and was a man of ability and a prominent democratic politician. He lived here some time with his family and built a house on the lots now owned by John Holden. Earl's land was afterwards sold, and part of it is now known as the Stout and Gillham's Addition. Doctor Thompson donated forty acres of land to the town, which was surveyed in May, 1853.

IN REGARD TO THE COUNTY SEAT

The following article was prepared by "one who knew" in 1906 during the controversy over the location of the county seat, and when Decatur had presented a petition to have the seat of justice moved there from Leon. The article has to do with the controversies in former years and mentions many things which are not found in strictly formal history:

"As an early settler in Decatur County, March 12, 1851, at that time there had not been any townsite located for the county seat. But in the spring of 1852 there was a proposition made to take a vote at the April election, and a location was to be made as near the geographical center of the county as the lay of the ground would admit, which was about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles west of the town plat of Leon, on what is known as the Tash farm and called Greencastle. Another site was at the present Town of Decatur City, located there by two men who lived in Garden Grove at that time, and had a claim on a part of the land where Decatur City now stands. There was no legal call for the vote, but it was intended to ascertain the

feeling of the settlers of the county as to where the county seat should be. The April election was to elect the township officers, but the general election was the first Monday in August for all state and national officers. When the vote was counted Greencastle had the majority of the votes cast, although Garden Grove gave several votes for Decatur City. At the August election in 1852, Decatur and Wayne counties had to elect a representative to the Legislature. O. N. Kellogg, of Garden Grove, was a candidate, and Harvey Duncan, of Wayne County, was a candidate for the same office. Mr. Kellogg was in favor of a commission to be appointed by the Legislature of Iowa to locate the county seat of Decatur County, while Mr. Duncan was in favor of the voters of the county locating the county seat by vote of the electors, and said if he was elected he would use his influence to have a special act of the Legislature allowing the voters of the county to locate by vote at the April election in 1853, and at that election a large majority of the votes were cast in favor of Leon. The citizens of Decatur City would not encourage the building up of Leon, but discouraged strangers from settling in the county seat at Leon, with the result that these strangers did not settle in either place for more than twenty-five years, but went to other counties where there was no factional fight over the county seat. As the result of that factional fight there were hundreds of men who came to Decatur County and would have settled here, but did not from that very cause. Do the voters of the county want to repeat that factional fight again? I think not.

"In trying to keep Leon from building up they not only injured Decatur City just as bad, but the whole county suffered in the price of every acre of land from \$5 to \$15. That was the condition of our county before the railroad came to Leon. As I have stated, the price of all land was from \$5 to \$15 an acre less than in adjoining counties until the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad was built to Leon and the narrow gauge from Des Moines to Leon, when in a year or two the price of land began to raise in value, because there was a feeling that the county seat question was settled. There is but one question for every voter to ask himself, and that is, is there one reason why the county seat should be removed to Decatur City after being fifty-three years at Leon? I say there is not one single reason. But there are many reasons why Leon should remain as the county seat, and one reason is Leon is very close to the center of the county. But the greatest reason is the price of land would not depreciate if it remains the county seat as at present. Another

reason is that the people of the east half of the county have spent thousands of dollars to secure the two railroads built to Leon, the county seat, which was done by personal subscription and tax levies on Eden, Center and Leon townships to aid the roads in building. Now let every voter in the county who is opposed to removing the county seat to Decatur City sign the remonstrance. I am satisfied that a great many have signed the petition who do not honestly believe that the county seat ought to be moved. Now let them sign the remonstrance, and their names will count on the remonstrance and not on the petition.

“Now to correct an error in regard to the second term of the District Court of Decatur County being held in Decatur City. From my personal knowledge it was not held in Decatur City, but was held in a log cabin some three miles east and south of Decatur City. John J. Stanley was sheriff, Judge Townsend, of Albia, was the judge, and I was one of the grand jurors at that court. The grand jurors were sworn and Judge Townsend gave us instructions, and we left the room and went out on the grass near the cabin and talked for an hour or so, and reported there was no business to do, and we were discharged, and the judge got through with what business there was to do and adjourned court the same afternoon. Judge Townsend and I were neighbor boys in Indiana, and he made his stopping place at my home at that time.”

The desire of Decatur City to have the county seat there was short lived, for in 1906 the County Board of Supervisors turned down their petition.

FIRST COURTHOUSE

At a meeting of the board of commissioners on October 27, 1851, it was determined to erect a courthouse, to be 20 by 22 feet, and 14 feet in height, and to be constructed of hewed logs. This building was put up according to plans, but of course did not serve more than a few years in its proper role. It afterward became a hotel.

John J. Stanley built the structure for \$375 on land conveyed to the county by Allen Scott.

The next county building was a large frame structure which stood upon the lot where the Varga home was afterward located. Court was held therein two terms when the county judge filed objections, and finally refused to receive it from the contractors. Another building was started, but before it was completed it was destroyed

by a windstorm. Another was built upon its ruins, but fire swept it out of existence. It contained no fireproof vaults, and was long considered an unsafe place for the county records. On the morning of March 31, 1874, about 3 o'clock, G. P. Knott discovered flames issuing from the building. The alarm was quickly given and the citizens made every effort to save the building, but all to no purpose. The structure was destroyed, together with all of the records of the county. One book from the office of the recorder and one from that of the clerk were the only records saved outside of the treasurer's office. A snowstorm came just in time to keep the flames from destroying other portions of the town. The safe in the treasurer's office contained over thirty-three thousand dollars in money, but when the rubbish had been cleared away and the safe opened the contents were found to be intact.

The courthouse, which was torn down to make room for the present handsome structure, was erected in 1875. This building, which had served Decatur County for so many years, was erected in the following manner: There had been many sales of lots laid out in the forty acres given to the county. The proceeds, together with the ordinary resources being sufficient, the county judge contracted for the brick, which was burned in 1874, at a cost of about two thousand dollars. The board of supervisors had secured plans for the building, which was estimated to cost about twenty thousand dollars. The state had years prior donated swamp lands to the county, which had been sold from time to time, and from this source the county had \$10,000 of swamp funds. The board offered to appropriate this money if the people would furnish enough money to finish the building. A Leon contractor scaled the price down, and the Leon people raised \$6,600 and completed the building. On the morning of April 1, 1877, the entire west side of the structure was blown out with dynamite.

COURTHOUSE BURGLARY

Three years prior to this time the county was wild with excitement, for in March, 1874, the courthouse had burned to the ground and no one knew or has ever known just how the fire started. The loss to the county, not only in property, was large, but the greatest damage was the loss of valuable records. Then the second courthouse, described in the preceding paragraph, was constructed, costing about fifteen thousand dollars. Everything seemed to be proceeding smoothly and the people felt themselves fortunate in having such a



OLD DECATUR COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Blown up by burglars, April 1, 1876

fine building when, at 5 o'clock on Sunday morning, April 1, 1877, the heavens were lighted with a sudden flash and the whole town trembled as with an earthquake.

As this was the 1st day of April, many who heard it were slow to go out, thinking it was some one getting up an "April fool." But those on the square were convinced that something more serious had occurred, and they leaped up and went to their windows to see what was the matter. Those who could see the west side of the courthouse were struck with horror at the sight, for nearly the whole west side of the building was blown to the ground.

W. H. Dake, who lives upstairs on the southwest corner of the square, saw the house about the first man, and took in the situation at a glance. He saw that the fire had just caught, and with great presence of mind, snatched up the pail of water in his room and ran with all his might to the ruins. When he arrived the blaze was about four feet high. He dashed on the water and subdued the fast-increasing flames. The wind was blowing a strong gale at the time, and in two more minutes the building would have been a blaze. While running to the courthouse he saw some men, but did not recognize who they were, as it was still too dark to notice who persons were unless close at hand.

Mr. Dake raised the cry of fire, and when he had time to recover from putting out the fire these men were nowhere to be seen. John Kling, who keeps a restaurant on the west side of the street, sprang up at the sound and saw three men in an alley, and one of them went back and looked at the work they had done; then came back, spoke to the others and turned and ran south. In a few minutes people gathered at the scene and found that the explosion had been caused by a charge of powder within the building. It was soon broad daylight, and then an inspection began and revealed the fact that it had been done by burglars who had entered the building during the night with the intent of robbing the treasurer's office. Many were the speculations that were advanced as to what would be the result if the parties could be found. Even after hours had passed many would not believe the facts when told. Parties immediately notified the sheriff and treasurer, who soon appeared on the scene and began to search for the county safe, which contained a large sum of money, some twenty thousand dollars. The safe was discovered buried deep in the ruins, and it took some time to get it out, but with ropes and levers it at last was dragged out in the yard and found to be in sound condition. The treasurer, Mr. Varga, tried the combination

and found it all right, and when he opened it found every dollar of money in its proper place, and the people breathed freer. But when they turned and beheld the ruined condition of their handsome courthouse, a frown settled on each face. Each asked the other, "Who are the guilty parties?"

After the first blast of excitement had passed and people began to come to their sober senses and think the matter over, suspicion was fastened on two of the citizens of Leon, and these two were found missing. They had been seen late the night previous. These two were W. W. Van Schaick and Howard Reed. The former owned a stove and tin store here, and had been in business some six years. The other one failed in a hardware store here the preceding summer, and had only been here occasionally afterwards himself, but his family had remained all the time. The sheriff visited both of their houses early Sunday morning, but they were not at home, and their wives said they had not been home the night previous, nor were they to be found.

The officer soon found that Van had been east the first of the week, and had returned on Saturday and brought a strange woman with him. She stopped at the hotel, and Saturday evening paid her bill and was not seen afterwards. A visit to the livery stable revealed the fact that Van had hired a livery team and started for Osceola just after the explosion, in company with said woman. Pursuit began at once. A telegram was sent to take them in as soon as they got there. Sheriff Backus and Deputy Sheriff Lindsey started at once for the same point, on horseback, and they got there soon after Van and his charmer, and before the dispatch reached there. They found them both there and took them in and started back to Leon. The woman is a girl about eighteen years of age, and passed by the name of Lee, but her real name is Robinson. She is a "fast young bird," and her home is in the east part of the state. She became frightened and confessed the whole matter, telling the story of where they were during the first part of the night, who were the parties she saw, where the tools were placed when they left the courthouse to await the explosion. Their rendezvous was over Van's old store, on the west side of the square, and she was looking out of the window and saw the explosion. Van then came to her and they went up in the north of town, and there they met the buggy that took them to Osceola. This she told to several parties on their return to Leon.

The officers soon found that Reed had engaged a team to take him to Allerton on Monday morning, so as to catch the train going south early, and they were certain he was secreted somewhere in town. A diligent search and close watch was kept, and about 10 o'clock he was found in an upstairs room over Van's old store, asleep. The officers kept this to themselves, but put a watch on the premises, and waited until the excitement had subsided a little, for there was a prospect that if he was brought out he would taste the end of a rope. About 1 o'clock they went in the room and told the said Reed they wanted him. A search revealed the fact that the room was a perfect arsenal. Pistols and knives of the finest make were there, quite numerous. He was taken to jail to await the arrival of his partners in crime, who arrived after dark and were placed under lock and key to answer a charge of burglary on the courthouse.

It is not positively known how they entered the courthouse, but the woman says they went in at an upstairs window, pried up the floor, drilled through the top of the vault, but made a mistake in the distance and got into the recorder's vault, which is separated by a heavy wall from the treasurer's vault. They then took off the lock of the recorder's vault and came out in the recorder's office. They then pried open the side door to the hall, then went to the treasurer's office, burst it open and found that he had not locked his vault, for he had intended to come back after supper, but some unseen power seemed to keep him at home, and this was the first time he ever left things in this shape over night. This had taken the whole night, and daylight was coming in the east, and they had but just got to the safe in the vault, and what must be done must be done at once. The safe is the same one that passed through the fire when the courthouse burned. They found it locked, and resolved to finish up by putting several pounds of powder under the safe, putting a fuse to it and get out of the way. Their theory was that the powder exploding under the safe would spring open the doors. In this they were fooled, for instead of throwing open the safe it threw out the whole side of the house, including both the treasurer's and the recorder's vaults, burying the safe several feet under the debris.

The treasurer's and the recorder's offices were on the west side of the courthouse. The treasurer in the southwest corner, and the recorder in the northwest. The vaults for both offices were in the center between the two offices. The powder was exploded in the treasurer's vault, and the force was terrific, tearing out the center of the wall from the ground to the roof, and throwing it out and tearing

the vaults to pieces and throwing down about half of the partition wall on the west side of the hall, at the south end, opposite the treasurer's office. Across the hall from this was the auditor's office, the door of which was blown wide open and burst terribly. The office in the northeast corner was the clerk's office. This received very little damage. The floor over the west half of the lower rooms was torn to pieces, and such was the force that all the supports to the roof were blown down, and had there been a stronger wind the roof must have fallen in. The forcing up of the floor and joists bulged the east wall out some.

The books of the treasurer and recorder were in a terrible shape—all mixed up with the fallen walls and timbers, many of them almost entirely ruined, but not defaced.

The two culprits spent six years in the prison at Fort Madison for their work. The courthouse was repaired at considerable expense.

THE NEW COURTHOUSE

During the year 1898 the question of a new courthouse for Decatur County was first discussed. It was finally ordered by the board that an election be held in the county on November 7, 1899, for the purpose of deciding on the question. The election was held and resulted in a vote of 2,167 to 847 against building the courthouse. Another election, held May 27, 1902, resulted the same way by a vote of 1,754 to 1,280. Finally, at the election held November 7, 1905, the question was carried by 1,536 to 1,293, and the contract was let to Lauritzen Brothers of Waterloo, Iowa. J. J. Peterson, their representative, who erected the courthouse, arrived March 9, 1907, and operations were begun on the 20th.

The cornerstone of the new courthouse was laid on May 23, 1907. The ceremonies were in charge of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Judge H. M. Towner of Corning delivered the address of the afternoon.

The dedicatory services of the new courthouse were held on July 4, 1908. The day was a memorable one in the history of Decatur County, as Leon was packed with people from all over the county and many nearby counties contributed large delegations. The day was taken up with band concerts, drills, baseball game, trade parade, and dedicatory exercises, the latter directly after dinner. The dedicatory address was delivered in a masterful manner by Judge Smith McPherson of the United States District Court. Judge H. M. Towner of Corning and Judge H. K. Evans of Corydon also spoke.



DECATUR COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEON

The courthouse is fireproof throughout. The floors are constructed of cement and marble, the floors inside the railings and in the court room being of oak laid over the cement. Iron, steel, stone, tile, brick, marble and granite, with very little hard wood, are the materials used in the construction. The fixtures in the various offices are of steel, the counters are covered with polished granite. The building is replete with the most modern conveniences and the various offices and rooms are arranged with the idea of most efficiency and facility of use. The estimated total cost of the building was \$70,000.

JAIL

In 1856, under Judge Kelley, a substantial log jail was erected at a cost of \$1,800. This was used until 1884. The present jail is of brick and was erected soon after the old one was abandoned. It cost \$12,000. It stood near the northeast corner of the square, at the corner of Eighth and Idaho streets.

POOR FARM

For the purpose of housing the county poor a tract of 160 acres was purchased January 4, 1866, on motion of S. P. McNeil of High Point, for \$2,700. It is located on section 14, Eden Township, and was owned by D. B. Gammon. His residence was enlarged and fitted up as an infirmary. In the autumn of 1878 a frame addition was built, as an insane hospital, at a cost of \$2,000.

THE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM

The county road system comprises $155\frac{1}{4}$ miles of road. This is to be taken care of by the revenue derived from the automobiles thus: In 1913 the automobiles brought into Decatur County \$5,706 and in 1914 about seven thousand five hundred dollars. This system brings an average of about sixty dollars per mile for its entire length. There are in the neighborhood of fifteen county road superintendents to look after this road. These road superintendents look after the grading of the road in preparation for dragging, as well as the dragging itself and the repair of the wooden bridges and keeping approaches to bridges smooth. For this work, if the superintendent does the work himself, he receives the same compensation that he would have to pay others to do the same work. If the superintendent does not do the

work himself he hires it done and has the supervision over it and receives for such services 20 cents per hour for time. For any mileage of said system the superintendent is not allowed to spend over an average of \$60 per mile. If it is necessary to have some few corrugated tubes to take care of small drainage areas temporarily, these are taken care of out of the \$60 limit also.

A great portion of the dragging is now contracted for at the rate of \$10 per mile per year. Concrete work and heavy grading come over and above this limit.

Contracts for steel bridges, for bridge lumber, reinforcing bars for concrete work, have been let by bids and not as heretofore.

Last fall a contract was made with the A. E. Shorthill Co., of Des Moines, for three 50-foot steel spans and one 80-foot span, all riveted trusses and designed to carry a heavy traction engine and a concrete floor.

The 80-foot span was to go over Long Creek above De Kalb on a proposed new road. One 50-foot span goes over Little River on the Cannon Ball, another goes on the Corn Belt west of LeRoy near the Alda Roe farm, and the other will go on what is called the Griffith cut-off, along the railroad between Davis City and Lamoni, on the Inter State and Waubonsie trails.

The Tacoma Lumber Co., of Tacoma, Wash., received the contract for bridge lumber for the year 1915, at an average price of \$25.50, instead of about thirty-odd dollars per thousand as at some previous times.

Reinforcing bars were bought in a carload shipment from the Monmouth Bridge Co., of Monmouth, Ill., as they were low bidders.

Before construction on any concrete culverts is begun the county road superintendent is required to file with the auditor plans for the same, giving the estimated cost, drainage area and location. After the construction he is required to file the actual cost sheets, showing the itemized expenditures and to whom paid. These are to be found in the auditor's office and are open to public inspection at all times. For any new work on which the estimated cost is \$300 or over, a resolution of necessity is adopted and published in order to give the public notice and if they think such expenditure is not necessary, a chance to make a kick is given at the time named in the resolution.

If work is estimated to cost \$1,000 or over, it must be advertised for sealed bids. And if bids are thought to be too high, all can be rejected and the same put in by day labor if done under the lowest bid received.



DECATUR COUNTY HOME. EDEN TOWNSHIP

It is quite probable that a plant for the manufacture of reinforced concrete pipe for culverts will be established in Leon in the near future. These pipes are now being made in one or two counties in the state at prices that are below the same sizes in corrugated tubing.

CHAPTER III

SUMMARY OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

COUNTY JUDGES

Samuel C. Thompson, 1852-7; William F. Kelly, 1858-9; L. H. Sales, 1860-1; W. W. Ellis, 1862-3; Luman N. Judd, 1865; Robert Kinnear, 1866-9.

TREASURERS AND RECORDERS

John Brown, 1852; Abner Harbour, 1853; John Jordan, 1854-7; Ira B. Ryan, 1858-9; Samuel C. Cummins, 1860-3; J. C. Porter, 1864.

TREASURERS

J. C. Porter, 1865; Samuel C. Thompson, 1866-71; Charles B. Jordan, 1871; Francis Varga, 1872-7; E. J. Sankey, 1878-9; J. C. Gammill, 1880-3; A. E. Chase, 1884-8; M. A. Gammill, 1888-90; J. A. Caster, 1890-4; Charles H. Edwards, 1894-8; Asa S. Cochran, 1898-1902; W. H. Young, 1902-6; E. G. Monroe, 1906-10; W. C. Cazad, 1910-12; J. V. Arney, 1912-14; Elba Shewmaker, 1914-.

RECORDERS

Luman N. Judd, 1865; W. W. Ellis, 1866-8; W. J. Sullivan, 1869-76; John W. Leeper, 1876-80; J. H. Garrett, 1881-2; John W. Little, 1883-4; C. W. Beck, 1885-9; John N. Grayson, 1889-91; James Grindstaff, 1891-5; J. J. Evans, 1895-7; Bryson Bruce, 1897-9; Charles H. Brown, 1899-1901; Charles E. Lane, 1901-5; W. A. Poush, 1905-9; Ira B. Officer, 1909-13; Will Gardner, 1913-.

CLERKS

W. L. Warford, 1852-3; Samuel Dunn, 1854-5; George T. Young, 1856-62; Nathan Perdew, 1863-4; Francis Varga, 1865-6;

Ed K. Pitman, 1867-70; Nathan Perdew, 1871-2; A. E. Chase, 1873-8; Nathan Perdew, 1879-80; Millard F. Stookey, 1881-4; E. J. Sankey, 1885-9; Millard F. Stookey, 1889-91; T. H. Schenck, 1891-3; John N. Gates, 1893-7; John C. Stockton, 1897-1901; Spenceer W. Kehler, 1901-5; A. S. Tharp, 1905-9; John Mendenhall, 1909-13; E. E. Beck, 1913-.

SHERIFFS

John J. Stanley, 1852-5; Joseph R. Parsons, 1855-7; Harrison Weldon, 1858-9; George Woodbury, 1860-3; Ira B. Ryan, 1864-5; George Woodbury, 1866-9; E. J. Sankey, 1870-3; W. H. Fortune, 1874-5; A. Dilsaver, 1876; J. A. Snyder, 1876; John Backus, 1877; W. A. Kilpatrick, 1878-9; A. J. Allen, 1880-3; W. A. Brown, 1884-5; J. W. Honnold, 1886-90; G. W. Lefollett, 1890-2; G. W. Blain, 1892-4; Charles C. Beck, 1894-8; George F. Wolever, 1898-1902; R. D. Martin, 1902-4; Thomas Wallace, 1904-9; J. E. Andrews, 1909-13; F. L. Lorey, 1913-.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS

Thomas Johnson, 1858-61; Vincent Wainright, 1862-3; J. C. Porter, 1863; J. W. Penney, 1864-7; Samuel Bowman, 1868-9; W. C. Jackson, 1870-3; J. L. Harvey, 1874-5; J. C. Roberts, 1876-8; Josephine Kellogg, 1878-9; Laura V. Dye, 1880-1; Emmeline Manney, 1882-3; Lou Armel, 1884-5; Mrs. Julia B. Hoadley, 1886-90; A. A. Roy, 1890-6; Joseph E. Cummins, 1896-1900; J. A. McIntosh, 1900-4; Eli Hutchinson, 1904-7; J. W. Long, 1907-13; Mabel Horner, 1913-.

AUDITORS

George Burton, 1871; Robert E. Dye, 1872-3; W. C. Jackson, 1874-9; W. J. Sullivan, 1880-3; J. F. Scott, 1884-5; T. H. Schenck, 1886-90; Charles Shaffner, 1890-3; John Ledgerwood, 1893-7; George Sears, 1897-1901; James F. Gill, 1901-5; H. G. Scott, 1905-9; J. V. Lemley, 1909-13; R. E. McLaughlin, 1913-15; Walter Osborne, 1915-.

SUPERVISORS

A. B. Stearns, R. D. Burnett, Samuel W. Sears, Seth Samson, G. W. Rudibaugh, G. W. Shewmaker, J. D. Brown, W. S. Ammerman, E. Banta, Hiram Chase, Edward Conwell, W. H. H.

Clark, D. G. Sears, C. W. Barr, J. D. Strong, J. R. Smith, M. A. Wasson, James R. Smith, J. Lentz, John Allbaugh, J. G. Springer, Harvey D. Day, H. D. Dye, W. H. Paris, Charles L. Rudibaugh, Fred B. Niece, W. H. Campbell, T. Morris, C. W. Barr, W. L. Edmondson, J. F. Hacker, A. B. McClaran, S. H. Covington, S. P. Miley, Patrick Griffin, W. M. Frost, H. L. Northrup, J. H. Hill and L. P. Hastings have all served in the capacity of supervisor. The board is made up of three members, one elected each year for a term of three years.

CORONERS

Owing to the fact that the courthouse records prior to 1875 were burned in the fire of the '70s, the list of coroners before that time is not obtainable. Following is the summary of the men who have served since:

J. A. Snyder, 1875-6; Q. M. Lindsey, 1876-82; C. A. Gillham, 1882-4; H. C. Van Werden, 1884-6; W. A. Gardner, 1886-90; A. Brown, 1890-4; H. R. Layton, 1894-8; B. R. McAllister, 1898-1904; F. A. Bowman, 1904-1909; W. G. Jeffries, 1909-11; H. R. Layton, 1911-.

SURVEYORS

H. W. Peck, 1876-80; W. F. Craig, 1880-4; H. W. Peck, 1884-6; H. H. Flanagan, 1886-8; W. F. Craig, 1888-90; J. M. Hollinger, 1890-6; George Barrett, 1896-8; J. M. Hollinger, 1898-1904; Edward H. Peck, 1904-7; J. M. Hollinger, 1907-11; Frank Mallette, 1911-.

DISTRICT JUDGES

Samuel Forrey, J. W. Hewitt, E. F. Sullivan, M. A. Mills, D. D. Gregory, John W. Harvey, W. H. Tedford, H. M. Towner, R. L. Parrish, H. K. Evans, have served in this position.

SENATORS

Amos Harris, 1852-3; Nathan Udell, 1854-5; John W. Warner, 1856-9; William E. Taylor, 1860-1; E. F. Esteb, 1862-3; C. G. Bridges, 1864-7; Isaac W. Keller, 1868-71; Elisha T. Smith, 1872-5; Fred A. Teale, 1876-9; Isaac W. Keller, 1880-3; John McDonough, 1884-8; J. B. Hurst, 1888-92; W. H. Robb, 1892-6; George S. Allyn,

1896-1904; Marion F. Stookey, 1904-9; J. D. Brown, 1909-13; C. H. Thomas, 1913-.

REPRESENTATIVES

Abraham Putnam, 1852-3; S. P. Yeomans, 1854-5; Thomas M. Bowen, 1856-7; W. J. Laney, 1858-9; Racine D. Kellogg, 1860-3; John R. Andrews, 1864-5; Thomas H. Brown, 1866-7; Henry W. Peck, 1868-9; Fred A. Teale, 1870-3; Stanfield P. McNeill, 1874-7; W. S. Warnock, 1878-9; J. C. Porter, 1880-1; William F. Kelley, 1882-3; Elijah Banta, 1884-5; Thomas Teale, 1886-90; Guy P. Arnold, 1890-2; Bryson Bruce, 1892-4; Z. H. Gurley, 1894-8; M. Wemple, 1898-1900; B. L. Eiker, 1900-4; E. J. Sankey, 1904-7; C. C. Dye, 1907-9; E. J. Sankey, 1909-11; J. A. Smith, 1911-13; M. F. Thompson, 1913-.

CHAPTER IV

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP BEFORE THE WAR

By Duncan Campbell

Hamilton is one of the southern tier of townships of Decatur County, Iowa. It is bounded on the east by Morgan, on the north by Eden and on the west by New Buda Townships. In a few places the west line is indented by the curves of Grand River, and towards the northeast it is crossed by Little River, a tributary of the Grand. Several creeks and small streams carry their waters into these rivers when the flow is not exhausted by dry weather. The surface, generally, is an undulating prairie, broken in places by ravines. The river bottoms were covered with a large growth of timber at the time of its first settlement, but much of it has since fallen before the axe and saw of the woodmen. Later, some portions of the prairie became covered with a dense growth of shrubs and small timber planted by the settlers in order to protect their dwellings, farm buildings and fences, and to keep down the running fires which hitherto had destroyed the incipient saplings. The soil on the few white oak ridges is light, yielding but a meager reward for the toil of the agriculturist, but elsewhere good crops are raised and the people generally make a good living, many of them becoming quite wealthy.

The first settlers found some bands of Sac and Pottawattomie Indians still making the neighboring river bottoms their winter quarters, but spending the summers on their favorite hunting grounds in Kansas. Some of the settlers made considerable money in trading with them, on account of the Indians' poor appreciation of comparative values. These traders frequently managed to get the red man much in debt to them and when the Indians repaired to the agencies at Fort Des Moines or Council Bluffs to receive their annuities from the Government these traders usually appeared with them to collect the balance before the Indian had time to spend it otherwise, which he was prone to do.

The first actual settlers upon the lands now embraced in Hamilton Township appear to have arrived in the '40s. Champ Collier, an uncle of the Missouri statesman, Champ Clark, who was named after him; Allen Scott, Wyllis Dickinson, Aaron and Moses Turpin, Ed Winkle, William Conover, Cole Seymour, Alfred Logan, Martin Casline, John Reid, William Hamilton, William Acton, Asa Burrell and Gideon P. Walker were among the earliest. As most of these came in by way of Missouri they naturally held to the view of that state with reference to the boundary question and supposed they were settling within its limits. This view placed a line six miles or more farther north than the Iowa claim allowed, which was that the Sullivan line run in 1816 was the true boundary. The Supreme Court of the United States, having decided in favor of the Iowa side of the controversy, these settlers found themselves in a different state from that in which they intended to settle, and this will to some extent account for the mixed politics in the township in the early days.

The conditions which obtained in Morgan, Hamilton and New Buda Townships in those times were very much alike; the most primitive order of things prevailed in all of them. Ox teams were used instead of horses and these were of the scrubbiest kind. It required a team of six or seven yoke of them to break up the prairie which at that time was covered with a growth of blue-stemmed grass, higher than a man's head. However, it required but little ground to raise the corn needed for family uses. The markets were too distant and the price paid too low to make it pay to grow corn for that purpose. There was little or none needed for the hogs, because they fattened themselves on the abundant mast which in the little hollows about the trees could be shoveled up by the scoopful. One of the early settlers informed the writer that one fall he had sold \$800 worth of hogs, fattened in this way. Hence, about the only corn raised was that required by oxen and for the family bread. Corn needed but little cultivation then, as the famous cockle-burr and other weeds had not begun to take possession of the ground as they have in later times. In many cases the hogs of the different families ran out in the woods together and little discrimination was shown as to which was which. When a family got out of meat one of the men took a gun and shot the first fat hog that came within range, without very close inquiry as to where it belonged. Wild turkey, deer and other game were found in great numbers, and this with the hog meat made the flesh supplies especially bountiful.

Cattle were raised cheaply and with little trouble. Thus plenty of butter could be had at the cost of the labor of making it. There was little inducement to manufacture it for sale at the frequent price of 3 cents per pound. Eggs were very plentiful and so cheap that they were often fed to the hogs by the bucketful. Many times there was no market for them at any price. For sweets honey was obtained from the bee trees by the barrel and was a source of considerable revenue, even at the low price of 20 cents a gallon. In the way of fruit wild apples, plums, grapes, black haws and many kinds of berries made satisfactory relishes. Sorghum was introduced in 1857 or 1858 by a Mr. Fields who lived about a mile west of Pleasanton. He sent to Washington for the seed.

A portion of the clothing of the men was made from buckskin, and being nicely dressed looked quite well. Woolen clothes were made by the women, who carded the wool, spun it, wove it and made it into clothes of such enduring quality that a new dress did not have to be made every other day.

The first land to be occupied was in the timber or adjacent to it. This was because of the facility afforded for getting material for dwellings, barns, fences and fuel. The first houses were log cabins with puncheon floors and clapboard roofs. The puncheons were logs split and dressed or hewed on one side to a flat surface and laid close together on log sleepers. The shingles were made from blocks of oak about three or four feet in length, quartered and then split into clapboards by a froe. These were laid on the rude logs and then weighted and held in place by other logs. The doors oftentimes hung on wooden hinges and fastened with wooden latches. The windows consisted of openings between the logs over which pieces of oil paper or muslin were stretched. The stick and clay chimney, with its open fireplace and wide hearth, was a distinctive feature of those primitive homes and no happier memories cling around the recollection of any hearthstones in the world than do in the thoughts connected with these lowly cabins. The minds of many of those now in middle age hearked back to the times when, if as by chance, the young people of the neighborhood gathered in one of those 16 by 18 dwellings of an evening and the stove and the table, the beds and the cupboard were hustled outdoors to make room for the dance.

From a short biography of John E. Logan, who settled in Morgan Township in 1844, we take the following: "The Indians had not then been removed and the county was then in a primitive state. His post-office was at Trenton, Mo., forty miles away, and the postage on

each letter was 25 cents, which was invariably demanded when the letter was taken from the office. Money was scarce and with but little silver to make change and beeswax was used as a substitute, which was in good demand at 25 cents a pound. A small gristmill had been erected about four miles below Princeton, Mo., a distance of about twenty-five miles. This was of very small dimensions, but much better than none and was a blessing for which the pioneers were thankful. His dwelling was a cabin of hewed logs, 18 by 20 feet in size. He had been here the previous autumn and had engaged his location and engaged a man to build the above mentioned, he returning to Missouri and bringing his family the following spring. This cabin forms a part of his present residence, it having been clapboarded on the outside and sealed within. This is the oldest residence in the township. Here Mr. Logan and wife had lived for a period of forty-two years. A generation has passed away since they settled here. It was a beautiful timbered country, with no underbrush, and deer and other wild game were abundant."

But there were other wild animals in the woods besides the deer; coyotes or prairie wolves roamed about in great numbers and made night vocal with the chorus of their prolonged howls. Many a calf, pig, lamb and chicken fell a victim to their raids on the pens and corrals of the settlers.

When Decatur County was organized April 1, 1850, William Hamilton, Asa Burrell and Josiah Morgan were named as commissioners and their first meeting as such was held May 6th. Henry B. Noston was chosen clerk and Andrew Still was allowed \$30 for his work as organizing sheriff. The county seat was not yet located and it was ordered that until that was done the district courts, the probate court and the commissioners' court should be held at the home of Daniel Moad about six miles southeast of where Leon now stands. In July following the commissioners held a meeting in which they organized Garden Grove, Morgan, Hamilton and Burrell townships, naming the last three in which they severally lived after themselves. In the organization of Hamilton Township William Hamilton, William Eaton and Jefferson Dimick were chosen judges and Wyllis Dickinson and Gideon P. Walker, clerks. In those days the township business was transacted in a most simple and informal manner. At the first election held in Woodland Township the ballot box was a tin pail with a cover and the tickets were written by one of the clerks.

With the '50s many new settlers came in. From 1852 to 1857 more new people came in than in any other equal period since the first settlement. David Purden, William Snook, A. W. Moffett, Daniel Bartholow, George Morey, G. M. Hinkle, John Keown, William Loving, Austin Cowles, Robert Booth, James Dunleavy, John Henderson, James Gammill, Dr. David Macy, Dr. Glendenning, Dr. Mullinnix, Fleming, James, Ambrose and Meredith Dale, Wilson Stone, Ebenezer Robinson, Amasa Bonney, W. S. Warnock, William Alden, Royal Richardson, John Park, Isaac Waldrup, Richard Holden, Andrew Scott, T. J. Graves, John Mark, Henry Laney, Fields, James Alfrey, Hartman, John Mills, with their families. No doubt there were a number of others whose names have been overlooked.

In the days before grist and sawmills were erected various expedients were employed to meet the needs of the people. It is said that Champ Collier went out to the timber, cut down a large walnut, split it up, dressed the boards, and put together a very respectable coffin for one of his neighbors who had died. For making corn meal the grating method was sometimes used. By this means the corn was scraped off the cob by hand on a contrivance like a huge nutmeg grater. Others used a sweep. On the lower end of a suspended pole was a block of wood in which an iron wedge was inserted, with which the corn placed in the cavity hollowed out of the top of a stump was pounded into meal by working the sweep up and down.

In the course of time Allen Scott put up a horsemill for grinding corn. The patrons usually supplied the power, which was at first more frequently by oxen than by horses. In the latter half of the '50s several mills were erected, some of them run by steam and others by water power. In 1854 D. C. Cowles built a sawmill at Davis City for William Davis, and two or three years later Royal Richardson, William Snook, John Mark and John Clark put up mills in the south and east part of the township.

Calicos, blankets and coffee and such things were sometimes obtained from the Indians, who brought them from Council Bluffs and Fort Des Moines, when they went to those agencies to draw their allowances from the Government. Allen Scott opened the first store, which he kept at his farmhouse, and in partnership with him for a time was a man named Foster. The first postoffice was also kept here, and was named Nine Eagles, of which Governor Ejhazy, a Hungarian refugee, was the first postmaster. The mail was brought by way of Princeton, Mo.

The first school was taught in a vacated cabin on the Hamilton place, about a mile northwest of where Pleasanton is now. Cole Seymour was perhaps the first teacher, followed by Jim Dunkerson, Mr. Tillery and Gideon P. Walker, the latter teaching several terms. The teachers were paid by subscription and the length of the terms depended on the amount of money raised in this way.

The Village of Pleasanton was laid out in the spring of 1854 by Daniel Bartholow, and named Pleasant Plains. One-half of the land was given by Bartholow and the other half by William Snook. The first store was kept by G. M. Hinkle, who lived on a farm now occupied by John McCormick about a mile and a half northwest of the town. Later there were stores by Greenville Watson, Jeff Gardner, Isaac Waldrup and James Alfrey, who first served in a store belonging to Dallou & Pritchard, and afterwards set up for himself. Tom Majors, afterward candidate for governor of Nebraska on the republican ticket, had a large stock of goods in 1859. The goods were at first brought in by ox teams from Keokuk and Burlington, on the Mississippi, and from Brunswick and St. Joe, on the Missouri. Later they were hauled from Ottumwa after the main line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad reached there. The hauling of the goods from those points gave considerable occupation to men and teams, helping materially to piece out the means of living and giving a start in the acquiring of property.

At an early date William Snook entertained travelers, and later Joel Painter kept a licensed hotel on the lot where the Pleasanton Bank now stands. Royal Richardson opened his hotel in 1861.

Dr. David Macy was the first physician and located in Pleasanton in 1855. Doctor Glendenning was at Pleasanton for a year or more when he first entered upon the practice of his profession about 1856. Dr. P. E. Mullinnix located for practice here in 1859. Dr. W. E. Peters also that year.

When W. S. Warnock, who had been admitted to the Ohio bar in 1853, struck Pleasanton in the fall of 1865 on his way to the West in the search for health and incidentally looking for an opportunity to teach school, there was no school building in the village. Some of the public-spirited citizens, learning that he wished to teach, asked him to tarry for a few days while they erected a schoolhouse. He did so. The men of the village went to work with a will, repaired to the timber, cut logs, hauled them to a site just back of where Mr. Richardson's present residence is, and in less than two weeks had a building ready for occupancy. True, it hardly came up to the

standard of a modern city school, with its log walls, puncheon floor and clapboard roof, its seats of split logs with wooden pegs for legs. Nevertheless, it served a good purpose, being used as a meeting house for religious services as well as for day school. There were meetings for Bible study and later a Sunday school. Isaac Waldrup, merchant of the town, preached there with much acceptance.

Doctor Forbes had a school in a log cabin on the site of the Interstate Index office. The floor of the cabin had not been laid and the log sleepers were used for seats, yet the instruction imparted served its purpose in the development of the youthful mind as well as that given today on seats of the latest design and mechanism.

Education was considered of such great importance by the citizens that a building known as the College was erected for educational purposes in the late '50s. It was a 2-story frame building, 40 by 60, and was built by private subscription. The attendance of students varied from fifty to a hundred. But little more than the ordinary English branches were taught. E. Lewis and wife, George Stanton, John W. Crawford, W. S. Warnock and John Sallee were among the instructors. Myra Snook, afterwards the wife of Dr. E. C. Macy, helped in the teaching while attending the school as a student. The building was also used for church purposes, and soldiers were drilled in it during the war. With thirteen other buildings it was destroyed in a fierce tornado which devastated the town in 1864. It never was rebuilt, being a more advanced step than the community could support at that early time.

There were no church buildings erected before the war. The Methodist Episcopal people began one, but it went no further than the erection of part of the frame, which was neglected and destroyed in the excitement attending the opening of the war. There was a Methodist organization which struggled along and religious services were held in the school buildings by Isaac Waldrup, John Mark, Elijah Crawford and Doctor Glendenning. The Latter Day Saints people effected an organization in 1859, and preaching services were maintained by George Morey, A. W. Moffett and Ebenezer Robinson. Their usual place of meeting was at a schoolhouse on the farm of A. W. Moffett, but services were occasionally held at other places.

The men carried their arms to the place of meeting and wore moccasins, or more often, when the weather permitted, came barefoot. Those from a distance came in ox wagons.

The legal fraternity was represented by Gideon P. Walker, W. S. Warnock and James Alfrey. Walker was reared and educated in

New York, where he read law and was admitted to the bar. On reaching his majority he located in the southern states, remaining there for several years, teaching school and practicing law. He came to Hamilton in the spring of 1849, and on the organization of the township in 1850 he was chosen one of the first clerks. W. S. Warnock was a native of Ohio, in which state he studied law and was admitted to the bar. He came to Pleasanton late in 1855, where he taught school, kept postoffice and practiced his profession. In 1872 he moved to Davis City, and in 1878 was elected to represent the district in the Seventeenth General Assembly of Iowa. James Alfrey, a clerk, storekeeper, school teacher and county superintendent, read some law and practiced in justice of the peace court, but present information does not indicate whether he was ever admitted to the bar or not.

When the postoffice was moved from Allen Scott's place to Pleasanton in 1858 the old name Nine Eagles was retained for several years. Early postmasters were Isaac Waldrup and W. S. Warnock; some say the one was the first, some say the other.

In the eastern part of the township Robert Booth settled on a farm of several hundred acres in 1854. He had a mill and also a store, and was the first postmaster of the Spring Valley office. The little hamlet which sprang up about his place of business was variously known as Boothtown or El Dorado. This was on the east side of Little River. Almost opposite on the west side of the little stream settled Austin Cowles, with his two sons, D. C. and H. A. On a little hill not far from the river they built one of the first farm frame houses in the township, and on the river itself they put up a water power sawmill, to which was afterwards added grinding facilities. Before a regular school was established in the neighborhood the children used to go to their home of an evening to be instructed in the rudiments of reading and writing. Wesley Cowles, another son, had a blacksmith shop in Boothtown.

James M. Dale was another of the early Little River pioneers. He bought out Jefferson Dimick, who was named one of the township election judges at its organization in 1850. Mr. Dale had four brothers, Fleming, Ambrose, Dudley and Meredith, who all settled in the same neighborhood and raised considerable families that exercised important influence in the development of the community.

James Gammill arrived in the same neighborhood in 1854, and also raised a large family of worth and intelligence. Besides these there were the Laney, Dunleavy, Sharp, Williams, Rutherford, Rob-

ertson, Newcomer, McDowell, Bayles and Budd families. T. J. Graves came in 1859 and kept a blacksmith shop in El Dorado.

Some distance farther down the river John Clark established himself in 1856. His biography, as published in the Decatur County Historical Record, gives the following account of him: "Mr. Clark entered and purchased in Morgan and Hamilton townships about one thousand acres of land, one-half of which was heavily timbered, much of the timber being of large size and of excellent quality. Here he immediately erected a sawmill for the purpose of manufacturing the timber into lumber. A small log cabin was already on the place, which his family occupied until he could manufacture lumber with which to build a more commodious residence. He purchased his machinery at Keokuk and hauled it from that place with ox teams. In 1857 Mr. Clark added two sets of burrs to his mill property, and also carding machinery—combining in the same building sawing, milling and wool dressing. In 1859 he added spinning machinery and looms, manufacturing all kinds of woolen clothes. During the War of the Rebellion the demand for his goods increased to such an extent that ten or twelve looms were kept busy. During this period his firm handled no less than 75,000 pounds of wool annually. It proved a successful enterprise and the greater part of the abundant wealth of J. Clark and sons was acquired in the above mentioned manner. Their goods were a source of large revenue to the Government. The surplus funds were turned over to the Government in return for bonds, and thus in two ways did they contribute in a substantial way to the support of the Union in its struggle for existence. The milling business was discontinued soon after they started the woolen factory. In 1869 the First National Bank of Leon was organized with a capital of \$50,000, of which Mr. Clark supplied \$20,000, and he was president of the bank during the whole term of its existence, or until it became the Farmers and Traders Bank. In 1876 Mr. Clark and his son, William H., purchased the Davis Mill property at Davis City, and in 1875 father and two sons built the present brick flouring mill at a cost of about twenty thousand dollars. The mill had a superior water power, and an important use to which this power is applied is pumping water to supply the tank of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. This work is done by contract. Clark & Sons have contributed largely toward the building up of Davis City: each has a fine brick residence and they have erected and own all the brick business houses in town with one exception. Another enterprise of public interest and one highly

creditable to its builder was the erection in 1878 of a fine brick church at Davis City. Mr. Clark built this church at his own expense and furnished it with a fine town clock. All of its appointments are of the best. The cost of the church and furnishings was about five thousand dollars. Mr. Clark has never identified himself with any religious denomination, but recognizing the importance of moral and religious training, he resolved to construct an edifice that should be free to all denominations. It is called the First Union Church of Davis City, and is the only church building in town."

Among the most noted characters of early Hamilton history was Wyllis Dickinson. He was born in Kensington, Conn., about 1799; came to Hamilton in 1840. He first lived on the bottom land by Grand River, but having had an undesirable experience with the overflow of the river he moved farther back to higher ground on the ridge. He put up the walls of a log cabin, and needing the shelter before he could get the roof on, within these walls he made a tent of muslin bought at Cincinnati on his way hither, and in this he lived two or three years before the cabin roof was put on. In this rude and primitive dwelling, without a window, he lived until his death in 1892, a period of fifty-two years from his coming to the township. For the sake of exactness it should be said that toward the very last a single pane of glass was inserted in the wall near the chimney corner. Before indulging in this piece of luxury his reading during daylight hours was done by sitting with his back toward an opening in the wall made by removing a block of the chinking which was replaced in cold weather, when his reading was over for the time being. At night he read by the light of the lamp suspended by one of the beams which supported the ceiling. It consisted of a saucerlike vessel of metal, with a lip to it, in which lay a strip of cotton immersed in oil or melted grease, with which it was partially filled. The part of the cotton strip coming up through the lip was lighted, and as it burned down was drawn up from time to time with a large pin or other sharp-pointed article.

In this simple way he was accustomed to gratify his love of reading, which was intense, as he was a man of more than usual education for the time and place. He resorted to these simple expedients not because he lacked the means to supply himself with better things, but because of the simplicity of his tastes and character. There were plenty of funds at his command to have provided not only the substantial necessities of life, but to have given him the enjoyment of refinements, its luxuries and elegancies as well, if he had craved them.

It is said that when he was leaving the New England home his father wished to invest many thousands in his interests, but he would have none of it, preferring to push his way by natural means in the wilderness like another Thoreau far from the rush of modern life as it developed in the older communities. His relatives were liberal in sending him supplies of money so that he never was without the power to pay amply for even the simplest service rendered him, and in this manner he was very independent. He was the owner of 570 acres of land in the county, indicating that the simplicity of his life was not owing to poverty, but to inherent characteristics which induced sympathy with the natural rather than the artificial. That he was fond of literature is not to be wondered at, seeing that he was the cousin of the poet Percival, born in the same town four years before himself, who was a geologist as well, but was known chiefly as a writer of dainty and picturesque verse. Mr. Dickinson was a nephew of a Mrs. Willard, who maintained a female seminary in the State of New York, where she at one time entertained Lafayette, whose visit she afterward returned in his home in France.

He was much interested in young people making a struggle for an education, and was ever anxious for an opportunity to furnish such with books and magazines. A neighbor's son, John Holden, though now well advanced in years, has still in his possession a valuable work which was the gift of the old hermit.

That he was a loyal citizen and patriot is proved by the fact that during the War of the Rebellion he offered forty acres of his land to a neighbor's son on condition that he would enlist in the army for the preservation of the Union. It is a matter of regret that the offer was not accepted. Under his influence a nephew, Sherman Hart, who lived with him and whom he intended to make his heir, joined the Union army. He was taken sick at Island No. 10, and being taken to Cape Girardeau for hospital treatment, died there. This was more to be lamented inasmuch as he was engaged to an estimable young woman whom he expected to marry at the close of hostilities, the dwelling for their occupancy having already been erected.

He was never married, and though a great recluse was never melancholy or downhearted. On the contrary, he was a singularly happy disposition. His unusual physical strength was under the complete control of dominant will and the serenity of his temperament was the leading trait of his character. His coolness of temper was strikingly displayed by an incident which occurred in 1855. He had just sold some land and was supposed to have had considerable

money stowed away somewhere in the cabin, as proceeds of the sale. In the course of an evening, as he sat reading, and after young John Holden, who was assisting him with his corn gathering, had gone to bed behind a curtain stretched across the room, on which account his presence was unsuspected, there came a knock at the door, and not being suspicious of evil intent, Dickinson proceeded to unfasten the door by removing a large pin. Upon opening the door a very large man appeared, followed by a smaller one. The large man claimed to be an agent of the Government, deputed to gather up all of the arms found in the hands of the citizens. Mr. Dickinson expressed his surprise at this alleged action on the part of the Government, especially in his case, as he was well known to be a perfectly loyal citizen from whom the Government had nothing to fear. During the colloquy the old man seemed to be thoroughly unsuspecting, but to the young man behind the curtain the move seemed to be a mere ruse on the part of the intruders to get into their own hands a shotgun, rifle and a musket which were kept upon the wall in the customary manner, in order that the obvious purpose of robbery might be more easily carried out. Finding that the revolver that he usually carried was not within his reach, he sprang from the bed and seized the leader by the throat, who, on account of his superior strength was enabled to shake him off, but finding that Dickinson was not alone, rushed through the open door and made his escape with his fellow burglar. One of the pieces from the wall was fired after them, Dickinson the while remaining perfectly cool and collected, and after the flight of the parties making the remark that he could easily have brained the fellow with the powerful door pin which he still held in his hand.

The hermit was very successful in handling bees and he had perhaps as many as a hundred swarms at one time, and also rendered the honey and wax from forty hives, most of which was shipped to St. Joseph, Mo., but some went as far as California. Of the honey he was accustomed to make considerable quantity of methelgin, a strong spirituous liquor which he drank freely as a stimulant, also sharing it liberally with his callers, for he was fond of company. Doing his own cooking, he became quite an expert in that line, and many of the young people of the place liked nothing better than to have an opportunity of partaking of the savory viands prepared by his hands, and he took great delight in thus catering to their tastes.

The old gentleman was originally an Episcopalian, but in mature life leaned to the Methodist persuasion, and gave freely of his means to its support, though he never became an actual member of the church. He was a great Bible reader.

Allen Scott, who lived on section 19, one of the very first of the pioneers, was a remarkable character and included in his make-up both the virtues and the vices of the class and time of which he belonged. He was somewhat of enterprising spirit, having the first store, the first postoffice and the first mill in the township. Some of the timbers of the framework of the old mill were still to be seen standing in a field by Sand Creek bridge as late as in the '80s.

After Mr. Scott had lived in the township some years he was visited one winter day by a wife and daughter whom he had abandoned in the old Indiana home. After making the call and receiving the blessing in the shape of some silk dress patterns from his store, they left his place on foot for the purpose of returning to the home of a relative living beyond Davis City. While crossing the prairie, bottom land intervening, they were overtaken by a fierce snowstorm and blizzard, and being blinded by its force, they became bewildered and lost their way. They wandered aimlessly about until benumbed by the freezing rain, and overcome by the stupor which affects persons in such cases, they dropped in the snow, and after the storm was over, were found frozen to death. Their bodies were buried in what is now the orchard of this writer.

In those early times horse racing was one of the chief forms of recreation and dissipation. Between Scott's house and the river a track was laid out and his place became the rendezvous of sporting men from all parts of the country, in order to test the speed of their horses, gaining and losing money.

Horse thieves abounded in those days and many times the best animals of the honest farmers came up missing. The matter finally became so grievous that it was found necessary to adopt heroic measures in order to put a stop to the serious losses incurred in this way. The farmers quietly banded together, and at night visited those known to be engaged in this nefarious business, took them out to the timber and treated them to a liberal application of hickory switches. This method of procedure effectually cured the evil, the parties receiving treatment speedily betaking themselves from the country, one dose being found quite enough.

One one occasion it was strongly suspected that Scott knew more about such things than he was willing to tell, and it was proposed to

use radical measures to make him willing. One night he was rather forcibly invited to an interview under an oak in the road leading to Pleasanton. A noose on the end of a rope was placed about his neck, the other end was thrown over a limb, and he was shot rapidly skyward. After dangling in the air for some time he was lowered to the ground and given an opportunity to share the desired information with his friends, but he was still unwilling; and a second application also failing to elicit any knowledge from him, he was set free, his captors thinking that after all he might be wrongly suspected. The tree on which the operation took place was afterwards known as the Al Scott tree and remained a prominent landmark in the highway until it was cut down a few years ago for firewood, much to the regret of the old settlers.

At one time there was quite an excitement over the alleged discovery of gold on the Scott place in the bed of Sand Creek. There was a considerable amount of gold found, but there is reason to believe that the particular spot where the supposed discovery was made had been salted for commercial purposes, that the value of the land being raised Scott would be able to sell his farm at high price. However, the plan did not work, for the gold was sought with such avidity that the supply gave out before any trade for the farm was consummated, and the excitement soon died out. The salting of the creek bed was easily accomplished by collusion with one or more of the many gold seekers who were constantly passing to and fro on the California trail during the days of the gold fever in 1849 and the '50s. The Scott place was a noted resort for such parties. The farm remained in his possession until 1876, when it was sold to Stephen Beach.

But Scott was not all bad. He had his good points. Like most of us, he was a mixture of the worst and the better elements in the human aggregation. He was generous and hospitable. Everybody was welcome to his board and no one was refused a bed when occasion required. The needy were never turned away empty handed, and those in want of accommodation cheerfully received such help as he could give. But like many another free-hearted soul who failed in recognition of the higher aspects of life, he lived long enough to become a pensioner on the bounty of his friends. He was unsuited to the conditions which followed the war; his property gradually frittered away, until he found himself without a home, but not altogether without friends.

CHAPTER V

ABOUT NEW BUDA AND THE HUNGARIANS

By G. P. Arnold

The Hungarian Revolution of 1848 was one of many ferments of the kind that affected all of Europe at that time. Before this there were ties binding Austria and Hungary into one political family, and the revolution was Hungary's hunger for freedom. The two figures which stand out in the limelight of that time were Louis Kossuth, the provisional president of the Hungarian Republic, and Gorgy, the man of genius in the field of war. Kossuth was the orator, in some respects, without rival in all history. In a Turkish prison, with but meager material, he familiarized himself in the use of our English speech, to that extent that he held English and American audiences spellbound. So great a judge—no greater judge then lived—as Ralph Waldo Emerson declared that a part of his Birmingham speech reached the highest rung of oratory. His American tour was an ovation, and, brilliant as it was, failed to satisfy the fiery Magyar; he wanted armed intervention in the affairs of Hungary and felt piqued that there was no prospect of armies forthcoming. He was irreconcilable to the last; found an asylum at Milan and never returned to the home of his youth.

The struggle over, the flight began. England and especially America were the objective points. Turkey was a hospitable station on that underground railway. An American war vessel conveyed Kossuth to England. His American tour began with a reception in New York, a journey to Washington where the orator and his suite were entertained, wined and dined at Brown's Hotel at Government expense. He addressed the Congress and was given a reception at which Secretary of State Webster presided. Besides this Congress passed a law allowing each Hungarian to select a quarter section from any unappropriated land anywhere, and the same should be held from sale for ten years without tax or cost.

At the head of the Decatur County colony was Ujhazy, former civil governor of Komorn, a fortified island in the Danube which surrendered to Austria. The governor and party came here about the year 1851, and at that time the Grand River Valley was unsurveyed. The governor gave the name to the township and settlement; was, in fact, the first postmaster in the county, at Nine Eagles, on the farm of Allen Scott.

Now Scott was of another era, a contemporary of Thompson, of Edinburg, Mo., and Peter Cain of Cainesville. It is presumed that the Cain-Scott wave of immigration came from the South, for as late as 1851 and later, the mail accommodations were by way of Princeton, Mo., and Decatur County had no east lines of communication at that time.

The governor had a house built, a rambling structure, that was the most expensive dwelling of the day. It is related of the governor that he was accustomed to ride over the prairies and select the landmarks, and fix the confines of the Hungarian reservation, claiming a vast tract including the present Davis City and southwest to the present site of the original manorial castle, and saw in his mind's eye a vast colony of his countrymen living in peace under the folds of the stars and stripes. This roseate view of the future must have been shared with Col. George Pomutz, for later the genial colonel actually promoted a scheme for a greater New Buda, but that is another story and will be deferred for the present. Governor Ujhazy and family and George Pomutz in the year 1853 moved to San Antonio, Tex., and the governor remained there until his death, at a ripe old age, never returning to his native land.

Pomutz came back and thereafter was the central figure of New Buda, and in connection with a civil engineer by the name of Drahos, put on paper his ideas of a greater New Buda. The fine map showed a city having a University Square, Boehm St. Kossuth Platz, with the accessories of a full fledged city. The colonel sold lots and invited immigration upon the merits of his paper town, and not without success, for a few German families fell in with his offer. The colonel covered St. Louis and Hoboken in his operations, and had he lived in these days would have merited the name of frenzied financier. Detractors he had, but his presence and speech appealed to the popular taste. The white mare he rode he called Highland Mary. He used the English speech almost as well as Kossuth and freely quoted from Byron, the popular poet of the time. His linguistic accomplishments were considerable. He spoke besides Hungarian the language of

English, German, French and was familiar with one or two Slavonic tongues. In person he was tall, blonde, with a full beard and mustachios, wavy hair, that suggested a hairdresser when none was at hand, a military bearing and a suave and ingratiating presence. This was the Col. George Pomutz of the later '50s.

Now comes his Civil war record—and it was a good one. He wrote the history of an army brigade and when the battle ended got the appointment of consul to the Czar's dominion. He became consul-general and died about 1894 at the post of duty in Petrograd. He died in the Greek faith, and according to an American newspaper account, sometimes appeared at court in the full regimentals of an American brigadier-general.

The Ujhazy-Pomutz dream of a Greater New Buda was not so flimsy and airy as one might think. In other hands and other management a prosperous community might now occupy the colony's choice of a site.

After the colonel's death the consulate made inquiries at Washington as to the deceased consul's relatives, for it was thought that he left an immense estate judging from the highly colored maps of the metropolitan New Buda with accompanying title deeds conveying great values in the nascent city. At this time University Place and Kossuth Platz were waving in corn.

One has said that Ujhazy went from Texas to Hungary and collaborated with the great Deak in the work for Hungary's betterment, a work that is still unfinished, but mightily advanced by Deak's statesmanship. Cavour and Deak were contemporaries, but Cavour's dream of a united Italy under constitutional rule was realized during his life, while the struggle in Hungary is still on. Deak died without his heart's wish. The usual theory of Ujhazy's life after leaving New Buda is that in Texas he found a home and died by his own hand at an advanced age. It is very probable that he was in communication with Deak and the Liberals, but that, like Kossuth, never returned to the home of his youth, although all obstacles were removed in 1866.

The New Buda colony is not to be confounded with the Slavonic Hungarians which now flock to our shores to work in the coal and iron industries. The elder colony was composed as a rule of men who were educated in the schools, had held office, military and civic, under the provisional government and now were in a new country and under strange conditions. The colony was a failure, measured by our standards. Thirty or forty, at high water mark, would complete

the census at the breaking out of our Civil war; soon thereafter few remained.

Another, Francis Varga, was long connected with the affairs of the county and is remembered by hundreds of citizens; he was intimately connected with the Kossuth government and after its fall his flight was imperative. Disguise and the greatest secrecy were necessary to elude the minions of Austria; at last the free City of Hamburg was reached and thence to England and America, following the footsteps of Ujhazy to Decatur County. Here he lived and died.

The colonists were not empire builders in any sense, few of them ever having had any experience as farmers, and their crude attempt at tilling the soil is well known. The last log of Ujhazy's manorial castle is gone as certainly as his dream of a prosperous and greater New Buda has vanished into thin air. The founders are dead and all that remains of the unique colony is the name.

THE STORY OF FRANCIS VARGA

One of the most prominent of the colony of Hungarians who came to Decatur County in the early days was Francis Varga, whose death occurred April 5, 1902, at the age of eighty-five years.

Francis Varga was born at Debreczen, Hungary, on August 8, 1817, where his father acted as professor in the Protestant college. He went to school in his native city and in 1840 was graduated as attorney-at-law. Shortly thereafter he went to Nagy-Beeskerek, where he was appointed as attorney for the Kiss family's estates; therefore for Erno Kiss, who was executed October 6, 1849. In 1840, during the bloody riots of the Serbs and Wallachians, there had been a vigilance committee of five members appointed, of which he was chairman. This committee during six months of its services had convicted twenty-three persons. In 1840, in the month of January, he was elected chairman of the so-called Danger Committee at Szeged. This committee soon finished its work and Francis Varga was elected vice lord lieutenant and transferred his place of business to Nagy-Beeskerek.

When the southern army was conquered, Francis Varga, with the rest of the Torental officers, crossed the river at Maross, and on the 13th of August arrived at Vilagos, where the Hungarian army surrendered. About two thousand civilians, under Russian escort, were sent toward Kis-Jeno. Among these was Francis Varga in a vehicle with five of his comrades. Near Gyula the coachman succeeded in

getting away with all that were under his charge. Varga then went to Gyula, where his relative resided. Here, however, he was not in safety, and acting upon his uncle's advice he went to a village; later to his mother, who resided at Hadju Boszormemy, whence he was compelled to flee. After roaming for four months there was nothing left for him to do but to leave the country, more so as he was sought everywhere. Through his cousin he succeeded in obtaining a passport.

With chemicals he erased his name and the description of the person to whom it was issued and substituted it with the name of Frank Wagner and setting forth therein the description of his own person. After a hard struggle he arrived at Krakaw (Cracow). With the assistance of a worthy Polish physician he succeeded in obtaining a passport, and with that he went to Hamburg, where he met several of his fleeing countrymen.

The officials soon grew tired of the hospitality shown to the patriots, so they went over to Altona (Schleswig-Holstein), where they remained until January 1, 1851. Then, with Ladislaus Madarasz, Joseph Majthenyi and several others, he went to London. The following period is described in the words of Francis Varga himself:

“Here we spent six months without molestation, free as birds of the universe, longing and waiting that something might happen whereby we might return to the East. We soon realized that there was not a ray of hope, however, and we decided to go to America. Madarasz and Majthenyi spent five months at Ostend. Madarasz's son also came there (William), as did Mrs. Majthenyi with her only son, Theodore. Before we embarked about forty Hungarians arrived at Southampton from Turkey; they were all Bem's army; they were under the command of Captain Bissinger, whose real name was Erno Drahos. He was at one time attorney-at-law in County Torantal and chairman of the vigilance committee at Szeged. The unfortunate fellow did not have money enough to come in, so I took him to my lodging. We spent a few days in London and afterwards we bade farewell to Europe. At Liverpool we embarked on the steamer Manchester, Majthenyi and Madarasz with their sons, also Drahos and myself. The captain, an English fellow, I should term a 'stuck-up' fellow, therefore I could not say that our trip was enjoyable. It took us twenty-two days to cross the ocean. During that time we had severe storms. Finally, on the 13th of August, we reached port. While we greeted our new country with hail, with a powerful sigh did we think of the betterment of our own beloved

country. We did not fare any better than the average of the immigrants.”

For fifty-two years Francis Varga was away from his fatherland, seeing it only once in that time. He was married in 1858 to Mary Sanders, of German descent, and to them were born seven children, one son and six daughters. The son, Stephen, is now a prominent business man of Leon, Iowa.

CHAPTER VI

DECATUR'S WAR STORY

The County of Decatur is justly proud of the part played by her sons in the great drama of the '60s. Enshrined in the hearts of the people, these men who resolutely faced the terrors of the South, risking life, home, health and everything that was dear to them, in order that the Union might be preserved, truly deserve more than a few scattering words to their memory. It is true that monuments may be erected, the deeds of the brave sung in immortal verse and ennobled in the national literature, but the true memorial the sanctity of the heart will enfold and by word of mouth from generation to generation will the courage, fortitude and sublime self-sacrifice of the "boys in blue" be transmitted in enduring form. History has a purpose; it is to preserve, fairly and justly, the records of the past, so that a guide may be rendered to the thoughts and conceptions of future men and women who live when these white pages have grown sear and yellow. Simple statement of fact is far better than fulsome encomium in the narration of the big story of fifty years ago; it is by these direct, forceful means that history will serve its true purpose.

Decatur County at the beginning, when the first dark mutterings of war were heard, held a very peculiar position. There were about eight thousand people in the county at that time. Also there were no railroads and no telegraph and news filtered through slowly. Patriotism in such a position might be said to have existed in spots; large spots it is true. Decatur was located on the southern border of the state and this fact did much to divide the sympathies of the people. It would not be fair to the present readers to say that this county resolved itself into a unit for the support of the North, for it did not. There was a very strong southern spirit here and very antagonistic to the northern element. The latter was, however, in the majority. There existed during the opening years of war an organization known as the Knights of the Golden Circle and they were strongly repre-

sented in Decatur County. Men contemplating enlistment in the Union Army were made the recipients of many letters and verbal persuasions from these Knights, endeavoring to prevent them from fighting for the North. More of this will be related later in this chapter.

The general reader of today does not appreciate the scope of the word "slavery," what it meant in those days. The true meaning has been either mercifully expurgated from the pages of modern literature; or, it may be said, it is unfortunate that more has not been written of it, in order that the facts may be common knowledge. The term "white slavery" is well known today and the meaning of the phrase brings to us a feeling of loathing and indignation. The slavery of the South was little better, was even more universal and more countenanced. In the ulterior character different in motive, it yet embodied deeds and principles exactly similar to the modern slavery. This inter-relation of the races meant commercial advancement on the auction block, thus the justification. Rome and the Latin countries also had their slavery and the literature of these peoples does not disguise the dreaded institution.

The outbreak of the Civil war has been attributed to many causes. These are all based upon the one thing—slavery. The political differences and the intrigues and enmities rested on this issue alone. In reading this deduction, many will disagree, for even at this late day there seems to be incontrovertible argument on each side of the question. Slavery was distinctly out of tune with the times; the attitude of the southerners was falsely aristocratic; all of which tended to their inevitable downfall. The stirring times which followed the Mexican Territory acquisition, the fugitive slave law, the Missouri Compromise, the struggle in Congress, the Lincoln-Douglas debates and Lincoln's election to the Presidency, cannot be detailed in a work of this scope, but a discussion is worthy as a preface to the story of the part Decatur County played later.

A greater appreciation of Abraham Lincoln's worth is gained when we comprehend the arena into which he stepped in 1860. The utter confusion, the threatening war clouds, and the words of the people, "Let's see what you can do," were stern tests for the "backwoods lawyer." The opportunity was given him and his accomplishments are history.

War might have been avoided had the North recognized the slaves on the same basis as cattle or any other common property, or, on the other hand, had the South reverted to the sentiment of the North

and pronounced slavery an evil. It is evident, however, when the tenor of the day is considered, that these two theories were impossible. The mass of the people on both sides were eager for the actual conflict; mob spirit prevailed in many places; but the greater minds, the leaders, entered the struggle with heavy hearts. Lincoln, Grant, Lee, Jackson and Longstreet, and other foremost figures of the war, were sad with the weight of unjust and useless carnage. The four years' strife, the early success of the Confederate hosts, the high tide at Gettysburg, the slow, merciless pounding of Grant's machine on the depleted army of Northern Virginia and the final chapter at Appomattox cannot be more than mentioned, but this is appropriate and adequate.

FIRST PREPARATIONS

Soon after President Lincoln issued his call for volunteers in 1861 a company was raised in Leon and vicinity. Their services were tendered to the state, but owing to the plentitude of other companies their services were not accepted immediately. They were told to hold themselves in readiness, which they did, drilling and training themselves regularly.

In July, 1861, the Decatur company was mustered in as Company D, Fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. George Burton was captain; Joseph S. Warner, first lieutenant; John B. Springer, second lieutenant. Warner resigned his commission in February, 1862. Burton was afterward promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Howard Brown, once promoted to first lieutenant, later became a captain. Frederick Teale was captain during the latter years of the war. Samuel Bowman was first lieutenant after the promotion of Howard Brown. James W. Finley became second lieutenant and later first lieutenant. James D. Gamble was second lieutenant for a time.

Soon after this first company was raised in the county a cavalry company was organized in Garden Grove and vicinity. In August, 1861, they became Company L of the Third Cavalry. Gilman C. Mudgett was captain of the company until March, 1864, and was succeeded by John D. Brown, who had been promoted from fourth sergeant to second lieutenant. Ezra Fitch was first lieutenant, but resigned his commission on May 1, 1862, and was succeeded by Dudley E. Jones of Keokuk. James C. Williams was first lieutenant during the last years of their service. Edward Mudgett was the last second lieutenant of the company. About twenty-five men from

Decatur County also entered Company M of the same regiment under Captain John W. Warner, who resigned February 6, 1862.

In August, 1862, another large force of volunteers from this county became a part of Company K, Thirty-ninth Infantry. Milligan J. Cain of this county was made first lieutenant and Carrington S. Porter second lieutenant.

In the fall of 1862 two companies of men were raised for the Thirty-fourth Infantry, becoming Companies A and I. The former went to the front with Eli H. Alexander as captain; Jonathan R. Waters, first lieutenant; Rowland T. Sloan, second lieutenant. Company I had as captain, John Ward; first lieutenant, Almon S. Gardner.

In August, 1863, Capt. John L. Young raised a body of men for the cavalry. They were taken as a part of Company C, Ninth Cavalry, with Young as captain. The latter was afterward promoted to the rank of major.

During the summer months of 1864 a company of men was raised in Decatur County for the 100 days' service. It became Company C, Forty-eighth Infantry, and was officered as follows: captain, James H. Summers; first lieutenant, James Burrows; second lieutenant, William H. Barnes.

There were maintained during a part of the war a Southern Border quota of companies, one from each county. The Decatur company was raised in September, 1862, and was known as Company A, Third Battalion. James H. Summers was captain; C. G. Bridges, first lieutenant; and R. G. Mansfield, second lieutenant.

A few men from Decatur County also joined Companies G and H, Sixth Missouri State Militia. A large number entered Company K and a few Company I of the Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

During the War of the Rebellion quite a number of men from Decatur County enlisted in Missouri and Kansas regiments and had the county received its proper credit of men no draft would have been necessary. As it was, only a few men were drafted from three or four townships. Counting enlistments in outside organizations no doubt Decatur County supplied the Union army between 900 and 1,000 men. Six full companies were furnished as follows: Company D, Fourth Infantry; Company L, Third Cavalry; Company A, Seventeenth Infantry; Companies A and I, Thirty-fourth Infantry; and Company C, Forty-eight Infantry. The following organizations were composed largely of men enlisted from this county: Com-

pany M, Third Cavalry; Company K, Thirty-ninth Infantry; Company C, Ninth Cavalry; and Company K, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia. Besides the foregoing quite a number of soldiers joined the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, the Sixth Missouri State Militia, and other organizations. The highest rank attained by a Decatur County soldier was won by George Pomutz who became a brevet brigadier general. The next was George Burton, who became lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth Infantry. Both of these men were born under a foreign flag.

When the war broke Pomutz joined the Fifteenth Iowa Infantry and was made adjutant of the regiment. Shiloh was the first battle in which the regiment participated and in this engagement Pomutz was wounded in the thigh. He became conspicuous for his gallantry in action and was promoted to the rank of major of his regiment. At the Battle of Corinth he rendered efficient aid as assistant adjutant general to Gen. T. J. McKenan and also as engineer in connecting and strengthening forts and in constructing short interior lines. The regiment participated in the Vicksburg campaign and belonged to Crocker's Iowa Brigade. On May 20, 1864, Pomutz was selected and served for some time as corps provost marshal on the staff of Gen. Frank P. Blair, commander of the Seventeenth Army Corps. Pomutz joined his regiment at the beginning of the Atlanta campaign and bore a gallant part in the long series of battles which followed. Later Pomutz was made lieutenant-colonel and on March 13, 1865, was made brevet general of volunteers. He had frequently commanded his regiment and sometimes his brigade. Further history of this estimable gentleman's life may be read in another portion of this volume.

George Burton, who became lieutenant-colonel of the Fifteenth Iowa, was born in the City of Dublin. His father was an Englishman and a wealthy manufacturer of Dublin. The son served as a sailor for several years and then came to the United States and finally settled at Bloomington, Illinois. He enlisted in the regular army and participated in the Mexican war. At the close of hostilities he came to Decatur County and entered what was later known as the Soper Farm in Eden Township. At the beginning of the Civil war Burton entered the service as captain of Company D, Fourth Iowa Infantry. About a month after the Battle of Pea Ridge, Burton was made lieutenant-colonel and at the Battle of Arkansas Post on January 10 and 11, 1863, he led his regiment. At the close of the war Burton located in Leon, where he resided for a number of years, and

then took up his residence in Kansas. He died several years ago in Wellington, Kan.

Decatur County furnished three soldiers who rose to the rank of major—J. L. Young of the Ninth Cavalry, R. D. Kellogg of the Thirty-fourth Infantry, and G. C. Mudgett of the Third Iowa Cavalry. Prior to his service in the Ninth Cavalry Major Young served as captain of Company A, Seventeenth Infantry. At the Battle of Iuka Captain Young commanded the regiment by order of General Rosecrans, and no officer ever performed his duty more gallantly. The Seventeenth incurred the unjust censure of General Rosecrans at Iuka, but the regiment won such high distinction at the Battle of Corinth as to elicit the following congratulatory order from the commanding general: "The Seventeenth Iowa Infantry, by its gallantry in the Battle of Corinth, on the 4th of October, charging the enemy and capturing the flag of the Fortieth Mississippi, has amply atoned for its misfortune at Iuka and stands among the honored regiments of the command."

In the list of captains supplied by the county there were included the following: John B. Springer and Fred Teale, of the Fourth Infantry; John D. Brown, John C. Gammill and John W. Warner, of the Third Cavalry; James Stonaker, John F. Landis and Charles P. Johnson, of the Seventeenth Infantry; Eli H. Alexander and Thomas Ward, of the Thirty-fourth Infantry; and James H. Summers, of Company C, Forty-eighth Infantry.

The Third Iowa Cavalry consisted of 12 companies, 1,000 strong, recruited from the counties of Davis, Van Buren, Lee, Appanoose, Jefferson, Decatur, Wayne, Marion, Munroe and Lucas. It was raised and equipped by Col. Cyrus Bussey at the personal request of General Fremont. The first regular battle in which the regiment participated was Pea Ridge on the 6th, 7th and 8th of March, 1862. Out of the 235 men engaged in the battle the loss was 25 killed, 17 wounded and 9 missing.

At the Battle of Hartsville, Mo., John D. Brown, then a lieutenant in Company L, was taken prisoner early on the morning of January 11, 1863, but was shortly afterwards paroled. On the 10th of June, 1864, the regiment bore a conspicuous and gallant part in the disastrous fight at Guntown, Miss. In Captain Noble's report of this battle the following is said: "Captain Wilson and Lieutenant Lynch with Company C charged the enemy gallantly and drove the enemy's squadrons back. They were reinforced by Companies E and F under Captains Spencer and Crail. This was on the 7th. On

the 8th and 9th we advanced towards Guntown. On the morning of the 7th we left camp and went into the battle at Brice's Cross Roads. I placed one battalion on the right of the road and one under Major Jones also mounted on the left. Sent two squadrons under Capt. John D. Brown a mile to the front as a picket. The battalion under Jones, Companies F, G, H and I, were under fire from a heavy column of the enemy and held them in check for almost an hour. Company I, under Stanton, was the most exposed of my squadrons. The enemy was driven back three times. We were ordered to retire and were relieved by infantry, but we formed in line immediately in their rear. After this the contest lasted but a short time when all were retired. The cavalry were ordered to protect the retreating columns. We were fired upon with solid shot and shell, but no disorder was caused. We were then ordered to fall back to Stubbs Plantation where we rested until 2 A. M. of the next day and then moved towards Ripley, holding the rear. After daylight two squadrons were sent a mile to the rear and a line formed to support them. We were then assailed with great fury and only by the energy and courage of Companies L, M and A under Captain Brown and B under Captain DeHuff did we hold the bridge leading to Ripley."

General Noble, in his report of the action of July 13th, speaks of Captain Brown as follows: "This officer, with his usual coolness, seeing the enemy about three hundred strong, between him and the column, formed his men on the brow of the hill and calling upon every man who could keep in his saddle to follow him, led the charge; our men, cheering, firing and thundering down the hill, surprised the rebs, who broke and fled in amazement." On the afternoon of the next day W. J. Sullivan of Company M suffered the loss of an arm by a cannon shot.

Referring to the Battle of Big Blue on the Price Raid, General Winslow says, "I was struck in the left leg with a rifle ball and disabled and turned the command of the brigade over to Colonel Benteen. I know that Captain Brown and Lieutenant Watts were dangerously wounded while gallantly leading their men."

The regiment participated in the Wilson Raid and Colonel Noble in his report of the affair at Ebenezer Church, Ala., speaks of Captain Brown as follows: "Captain Brown captured a whole company with arms yet loaded; they were a color company and outnumbered the company that captured them."

Capt. John C. Gammill enlisted in Company L, Third Iowa Cavalry, August 10, 1861, and was made orderly sergeant of his com-

pany. On May 2, 1864, he was promoted to second lieutenant and on July 12th of the same year was made first lieutenant and served in that capacity until the close of the war. On July 1, 1865, he passed an examination for a commission in a colored regiment and was appointed a captain in the One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Colored Infantry. He served in that capacity until the regiment was mustered out January 9, 1866. For three months prior to this date he commanded the regiment. Captain Gammill served 4½ years and participated in more than fifty battles and engagements.

In writing of the home-coming of the Third Iowa Cavalry, W. J. Sullivan, a member of Company M and who lost an arm in the service of his country, writes:

In the fall of 1863 the Third re-enlisted at Benton, Ark. On or about January 20, 1864, at 9 o'clock at night, the regiment received orders to be ready to start for home at 4 o'clock the next morning. In my imagination I can almost hear the boys yelling and singing "Home, Sweet Home." You may rest assured that one blast of the old bugle brought the boys out of their tents, everybody busy rolling their blankets and making ready for the trip homeward.

We marched to Little Rock and crossed the Arkansas River to the depot of the Little Rock & Duvall's Bluff Railroad. In a short time we boarded flat cars for Duvall's Bluff and arrived there in the afternoon. After a few hours' delay we went on board a little old stern-wheel boat called the Anna Jacobs. Just before dark we started down the White River, which empties into the Mississippi. Our first stop was at the Town of St. Charles. In some way information reached the regiment that a lot of rebels were located in this town. When we got to St. Charles the boat landed, the gang planks were placed in position, and we went on shore rebel hunting. We scouted around town for a short time, but there was no fighting. I do not think that we could have made much of a fight as we were armed only with revolvers, having turned our guns over to the Government before we left Little Rock.

Our next stop was at Helena, Ark., where we landed and went up town to procure a few needed supplies. By 9 o'clock at night we were all on board and pushed out into the Mississippi and continued our journey. Our next stop was at Memphis, Tenn., where we stopped for the night for the purpose of procuring a larger and faster boat the next morning. During the night some of the boys got ashore, in some way unknown to the officers, and undertook to paint the town, and in doing so George Retherford, of my company,

was killed by the provost guards while trying to make his way back to the boat.

Next morning we boarded a fine side-wheel boat called the *Mary E. Forsythe* and started for Cairo, Ill. There we left the boat and boarded a train for Decatur, Ill., and reached there early in the morning. We then boarded a train for Hamilton, Ill. I cannot brag on this last train, for the reason that it was made up of cattle cars, with rough boards for seats. But we were nearing our homes and loved ones and thought we could put up with anything which would hasten us to our homes and destination.

On the morning of January 29, 1864, I think, we arrived at Hamilton, Ill., just opposite Keokuk. It was early in the morning that we left our stock cars and started for Keokuk by crossing the river on the ice. When we reached the river we could see hundreds of people on the Iowa side ready to receive us with glad hands. Right here, in sight of the homes of many members of the regiment, we experienced our greatest peril of the war. For several days before our arrival the weather had been very warm and had to a great extent weakened the ice on the river. In our great anxiety to once more step on the soil of beloved Iowa we failed to realize the dangerous condition of the ice under our feet. We could see people on the wharf waving their hands, hats and handkerchiefs, but we thought, of course, that they were manifesting their delight at our return home. However, some of the boys took in the situation and gave the alarm. We then understood the signals of our friends. We scattered into a very thin skirmish line for the rest of the way across the river and were saved to our friends and country.

CHAPTER VII

ROSTER OF DECATUR COUNTY SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN THE CIVIL WAR

FOURTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Company D

Burton, George, captain. Warner, Joseph S., first lieutenant. Springer, John B., second lieutenant.

Akers, George C., wounded severely in leg July 28, 1864; leg amputated and died of wounds August 4, 1864. Arnold, John C., wounded in head slightly March 7, 1862. Ashbum, James M., wounded in head by shell December 28, 1862. Asherwood, John, enlisted October 21, 1864. Beck, Clark, reached the rank of eighth corporal. Bowman, Samuel, reached the rank of first lieutenant. Bozarth, William, reached the rank of fourth sergeant. Burnett, William, reached the rank of first corporal. Burns, Henry, wounded in heel March 7, 1862. Burton, George, appointed captain August 17, 1861; wounded severely in arm March 7, 1862; promoted lieutenant-colonel May 1, 1862. Childers, Edwin D. Collins, Henry M., reached rank of fourth sergeant; taken prisoner and died March 6, 1864, in the prison at Andersonville. Colwell, Williard, wounded in neck March 7, 1862. Davis, James A., reached rank of second corporal; died May 7, 1864, in Iowa. Davis, Merrick, wounded severely in arm March 7, 1862. Driskill, Elmer R., enlisted March 26, 1864. Finley, James W., reached the rank of captain. Finley, John P., wounded in arm; arm amputated March 7, 1862; reached the ranks of captain and assistant adjutant. Folkner, Elijah J., died February 25, 1863. Forkner, Squire W. Fortner, Abijah A., died February 28, 1863. Gamble, James D., reached the rank of first lieutenant. Gillham, Charles A., reached rank of fifth sergeant; wounded in leg March 7, 1862. Gray, James, reached rank of third sergeant; taken prisoner in 1864. Harman, William F., reached rank of second cor-

poral; discharged as William F. Hannan. Harrison, William H., killed in battle March 7, 1862. Harrow, James M., wounded in hand March 7, 1862. Hawkins, William, wounded in arm March 7, 1862. Hays, John M., died June 25, 1864, in New Albany, Ind. Hines, Willis, wounded in both thighs March 7, 1863. Hunt, James D., wounded June 4, 1864, at Kenesaw Mountain and died of his wounds September 5, 1864, at home. Keller, William R. Kennear, Robert P., fourth sergeant; died September 4, 1862, at Helena, Ark. Killer, Oscar G. Lawrence, Matthew G., wounded in shoulder March 7, 1862. Marcum, John, wounded in head March 7, 1862; reached rank of second sergeant. Marshall, John, died February 24, 1863, on board steamer D. A. January. Martin, Samuel, wounded in arm March 7, 1862. Martin, Silas, reached the rank of first corporal. Metz, Richard, fourth sergeant; killed in action May 19, 1863, at Vicksburg, Miss. Milligan, Isaac. Moad, Thomas, died February 2, 1863, at Young's Point, La. Payton, James M. Ross, John. Rumley, Andrew J., wounded in hand March 7, 1862; fifth sergeant. Sellers, John. Sheeley, Silas. Simons, Henry. Smith, Francis M., fourth corporal; wounded in back March 7, 1862. Snyder, Henry T., wounded by railroad wreck at Parkersburg, Va., June 2, 1865; second lieutenant. Solomon, Lewis, reached rank of fifth corporal. Springer, John B., reached rank of captain. Stevens, Charles O. Tanner, William T., reached rank of first sergeant. Teale, Frederick K., wounded in shoulder March 7, 1862; captain. Tucker, Arnold, wounded in hand March 7, 1862. Wamer, Joseph S. Welton, Reuben S., second sergeant; wounded in arm March 7, 1862. Wells, Benjamin F. Work, Alonzo L., sixth corporal; wounded and died of injuries November 17, 1862, at Memphis.

THIRTY-FOURTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Mustered October 15, 1862

Field and staff: Kellogg, Racine H., promoted major September 16, 1862. Golliday, Uri P., chaplain.

Company A

Alexander, Eli H., captain. Waters, Jonathan R., first lieutenant. Sloan, Rowland T., second lieutenant.

Arnold, Henry L., died March 10, 1863, at St. Louis. Beavers, William J. Bennett, William A., sixth corporal; reduced to ranks October 30, 1864. Bridges, Martin. Briley, Stephen H. Brown,

John M. Bullard, Reuben. Bullard, Royal B. Carr, William H. Carter, Charles M. Chandler, Henry T. Connely, John, fifth sergeant; reduced to ranks October 30, 1864. Curry, Italus M., second corporal; reduced to ranks October 30, 1864. Edgington, Asahel, fifer. Edgington, Charles, seventh corporal. Ellas, Albert S., first sergeant. Ettleman, Daniel. Farris, James S., died of disease March 18, 1863, at Memphis. Field, Miller, died January 24, 1863 at Mound City, Ill. Gallagher, James. Gillham, Lyeurgus L., died June 15, 1863, at Mound City, Ill. Graham, John H. Hall, Allen D., died February 3, 1863, at St. Louis. Hamm, John. Hankins, Alexander, died April 2, 1863, at St. Louis. Harding, Hiram. Harding, Samuel, died January 21, 1862, on Steamer Iatan. Hardman, Christian, died January 11, 1863, on Steamer Iatan. Hardman, Moses, died January 12, 1863, on Steamer Iatan. Harman, Jonas F. Hawkins, Alvin G., died at Yazoo City, Miss., July 20, 1863. Heaston, Eli, died at Helena, Ark., December 24, 1863. Helmick, Isaac. Helt, George, third sergeant; reduced to ranks. Henning, Jacob, died November 25, 1862, at Burlington, Ia. Herschberger, Joel, died January 14, 1863, on Steamer Iatan. Hines, Hiram. Hitchcock, William H. Hite, Conrad B. Hite, James J. Huffman, John M. Huffman, Jonathan B. Johnson, Abraham, died March 4, 1863, at Mound City, Ill. Kennett, John W. Kinnaman, Peter. Lillard, Henry L., fifth sergeant; died January 29, 1863, St. Louis. Lockwood, Asahel C. McCullough, Isaac, deserted October 14, 1862. McKinney, Andrew J. McKinney, Lewis. McLeod, Josiah, quartermaster. McVay, John, eighth corporal. Macy, Davis, sixth corporal; died July 25, 1863, at Vicksburg. Manning, Amos A. Melton, James C. Monk, Jesse. Mourrer, Phillip W. Norris, Milton B. Nutter, William. Pace, Elisha L., deserted October 18, 1862. Pearsey, Charles. Phelps, Eli W. Rogers, John O., died January 26, 1863, at Mound City, Ill. Rogers, Merit S. C. Scott, Peter, second sergeant. Scott, Stephen. Shank, Samuel. Silvers, James M. Silvers, Stephen H., died December 9, 1862, at Helena, Ark. Silvers, William B., died March 25, 1863, at St. Louis. Sloan, Clinton D. Sloan, Rowland T. Smith, John, Jr., died February 14, 1863, at St. Louis. Sparling, Silas H., died December 15, 1862, at Helena, Ark. Stanford, Andrew J. Stiles, Daniel M., died February 7, 1863, at St. Louis. Stults, George H., wagoner. Tharp, Zeno. Thornberry, William, died February 3, 1863, at St. Louis. Walker, Johnson. Walton, Henry, first lieutenant; taken prisoner September 29, 1863, Sterlings Plantation, La. Warrington, Nathaniel B., fourth cor-

poral. Walters, Jonathan R., captain. Williams, Hiram, fourth corporal. Williams, James, first corporal. Winters, Joseph, first corporal; died January 22, 1863, on Steamer Iatan. Wolverton, Perry, fourth sergeant. Worden, Jackson M., third corporal; died October 13, 1864, St. Louis.

Company I

Ward, Thomas, captain. Andrews, John R., first lieutenant. Maxwell, William K., second lieutenant.

Arnold Moses. Baley, James. Beals, Daniel N., died February 10, 1863, at Chicago. Beck, David F., died August 3, 1863, on Steamer City of Memphis; first sergeant. Biddle, Hugh. Biddle, William A. Bond, Thomas F., fifth sergeant; died February 15, 1864, New Orleans. Boyd, Allen. Bradley, William R. Branaman, Peter, fifth corporal; reduced to ranks. Broadbrooks, John M. Brownell, Joseph S., died August 11, 1863, at Port Hudson, La. Coleman, William B., second lieutenant; died June 9, 1863, Cairo, Ill. Cox, Stephen L. Craft, James, died April 20, 1863, at Benton Barracks, Mo. Craft, John. Craft, Thomas, died April 20, 1863, at St. Louis. Crees, John F. Davidson, John S. Dunbar, John. Eaves, Nelson B. Edmiston, James D. H. Eller, Jacob. Fletcher, George W., third sergeant. Fuller, Alonzo F., died January 12, 1863, at Arkansas Post, Ark. Gabble, George W., died February 4, 1863, at St. Louis. Gardner, Almon S., first lieutenant. Gardner, William A., died January 20, 1863, on Steamer Iatan. Gercken, Henry. Gibler, Albert, died July 27, 1863, at Port Hudson, La. Gibson, Adam, sixth corporal. Gibson, John. Gibson, Moses. Gilbert, John R. Gray, Thomas, died in July, 1864, at New Orleans. Hatfield, James A., died December 6, 1863, at New Orleans. Hatfield, William R. Hedrick, Andrew J. Hedrick, John D., died November 27, 1862. Howard, Joseph C. Jackson, Guy. Jenkins, Benjamin F., wounded July 4, 1863, at Vicksburg and died of wounds August 27, 1863, at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. Jenkins, Frederick. Jones, George W. Jordan, William. Judd, Luman K. Keller, Andrew J., fourth sergeant. Kizzier, William, died July 30, 1863, at Vicksburg. Laddusaw, William. Lain, Charles W., died March 19, 1863, at St. Louis. Leffter, Michael, died February 17, 1863, at Chicago. Lighthill, Joseph. Lighthill, William. Liming, Joseph M., died February 10, 1863, at Chicago. Little, Newton C. McClure, William, died January 27, 1863, at St. Louis. McDonald, William, died February 11, 1863, at Alton, Ill. McIlvain, John.

McLaughlin, John W., fourth corporal; reduced to ranks. Manrose, Andrew J. Mathes, Ira, died February 17, 1863, at Benton Barracks, Mo. Maxwell, William K. Mercer, John, seventh corporal; died February 9, 1863, St. Louis. Miller, John W. Moffett, Francis G., first sergeant. Motsinger, Christopher, deserted February 16, 1863. Murray, Washington E. Norman, Asbury. Notson, Thomas T., second corporal. Osborn, Christopher. Peterson, David J. Pitman, Jeremiah V., died November 3, 1863, at New Orleans. Rumley, Cyrus. Sawyer, William C., died November 30, 1863, at Mustang Island, Tex. Schenck, Daniel H., eighth corporal; died April 7, 1863, St. Louis. Sheely, Adnah. Simpson, Lennius. Sly, Cornelius, died February 6, 1863, at Chicago. Smith, Robert B., died February 16, 1863, at Helena, Ark. Springer, Oliver, third sergeant. Stapp, Milton. Stout, Micajah, seventh corporal. Strong, T. W. Taylor, James M., died February 4, 1863, at Chicago. Tharp, Albert. Tharp, Jacob. Tharp, Osborn C., died September 25, 1863, at Carrollton, Ia. Thompson, Henry, died February 25, 1863, at Chicago. Tippie, Lewis. Tullis, John S. Ward, Thomas. Wiley, Abraham, second sergeant. Woodmansee, John. Young, Henry H., sixth corporal.

(Note: Most of these two companies were joined with the Thirty-fourth Consolidated Battalion on November 12, 1864.)

THIRTY-NINTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Mustered November 24, 1862

Company K

Bennett, William F., captain. Cain, Milligan J., first lieutenant. Porter, Corrington S., second lieutenant.

Amack, Robert W., died December 1, 1862, at Davenport, Ia. Asbach, Herman, died February 8, 1863, at Corinth, Miss. Bales, Curtis J. Bales, Joseph A., third corporal; taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona, Ga.; paroled. Blakesley, Andrew L., taken prisoner December 30, 1862, at Shady Grove, Tenn.; killed in action October 5, 1864, at Allatoona, Ga. Blakesley, Isaac M. Bright, Henry, wounded October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Brown, Bird, taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Butts, Jesse D., taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Carter, John B., third corporal. Clark, James A., taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Clark, Joshua. Clear, John W., died January 26, 1863, at Colum-

bus, Ky. Cockerham, William D., fourth sergeant. Comstock, George W., died March 4, 1863, at Corinth, Miss. Coppersmith, George. Cozad, Aaron A., first corporal; taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Davis, John. Doan, Isaac S., taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Doan, Milton S., second sergeant. Dunn, William. Evans, James E., wounded December 31, 1862, Parkers Cross Roads, Tenn.; taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Farnes, William, taken prisoner Parkers Cross Roads, December 31, 1862; killed in action October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Fisher, George W., deserted October 11, 1862. Fugit, Isaac P., died November 30, 1862, at Davenport, Ia. Gabler, Francis, killed in action October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Green, Noah, accidentally killed while on picket duty at Corinth, Miss., July 12, 1863. Grow, George W., taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Harris, Stephen F. Harris, William T., taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. King, John H., killed in action October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Lighthill, Peter. Lose, Wesley F., sixth corporal. Macklin, Harvey B., fifth corporal; taken prisoner October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Martin, Matthew. Mercer, George, taken prisoner December 30, 1862, at Shady Grove, Tenn., and died February 12, 1863, at St. Louis. Miller, Abraham, killed in action October 5, 1864, at Allatoona. Moad, Elisha B., first lieutenant; captured at Allatoona. Osborn, John R., second lieutenant. Osborn, Samuel L., fourth sergeant; died March 20, 1865, at Savannah, Ga. Parrott, James R. Piercy, James W., first corporal. Piercy, William, died January 22, 1863, at Jackson, Tenn. Purdun, Oliver E., fourth corporal; taken prisoner at Allatoona. Ross, Isaiah. Ross, Jacob. Ross, Thomas, deserted September 12, 1862. Ryan, Joseph J. Ryan, Thomas G. Sherard, Hiram P., fourth sergeant. Stephens, Robert, taken prisoner at Allatoona October 5, 1864. Stone, John M., fifth corporal; taken prisoner at Allatoona. Waddle, James, taken prisoner at Allatoona. Wright, Martin V., taken prisoner at Shady Grove, Tenn., December 30, 1862.

SEVENTEENTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Mustered April 16, 1862

Company A

Young, John L., captain. Garrett, Jesse B., first lieutenant. Sales, Lorenzo H., second lieutenant.

Aitkens, James A., first corporal; taken prisoner at Tilton, Ga., on October 13, 1864. Aitkens, Joseph M., first sergeant; taken prisoner at Tilton. Arnold, Daniel S., wounded slightly at Iuka, Miss., 1862. Ashburn, Barnett. Ballard, John, deserted March 1, 1863. Beck, William A., sixth corporal; taken prisoner at Tilton. Bird, William, wounded in right arm June 26, 1863, at Vicksburg; died of wounds July 12, 1863. Blair, William H. II., first lieutenant. Bosarth, Joseph S., wounded October 13, 1864, at Tilton and died of wounds December 2, 1864. Burnett, Joseph N., fourth sergeant. Butts, Peter. Carroll, James, wounded severely; taken prisoner and paroled in Mississippi. Carroll, Wesley, fourth corporal. Clements, Charles W., wounded and taken prisoner at Tilton. Comb, Samuel P. Davidson, Robert F., wounded and taken prisoner May 14, 1863, at Jackson, Miss.; taken prisoner again at Tilton in October, 1864. Davis Hugh, wounded at Vicksburg; missing November 24, 1863, at Missionary Ridge, Tenn.; died while a prisoner at Andersonville, Ga., October 18, 1864. Dunn, Allen, second corporal; reduced to fifth corporal; wounded at Vicksburg and taken prisoner at Tilton. Faulkner, Green B. Fishburne, Martin S. Fisher, Herschell, died March 14, 1864. Flory, Jacob F., fourth corporal. Franklin, Jeret I., captain. Fullerton, John W., fourth sergeant. Fullerton, Thomas A., third corporal. Garrett, David J. Garrett, Jesse B., wounded severely at Corinth October 4, 1863. Gulliams, Samuel. Harris, James. Harris, William D. Hatfield, Thomas, taken prisoner at Tilton. Henry, John R., fifth sergeant; prisoner at Tilton. Howard, George J., died September 3, 1862, at Farmington, Miss. Jackson, Guy, absent without leave from May 4, 1862. Johnson, Charles P., captain; wounded and taken prisoner May 14, 1863, at Jackson, Miss. Jones, Abraham. Joseph, Eliphalet, killed in action May 14, 1863, at Jackson, Miss. Keller, Rufus L., wounded severely and taken prisoner at Jackson. Leffler, Frank, died November 22, 1862, at St. Louis. Leffler, Martin. Levally, Henry B., died May 16, 1862, at Keokuk, Ia. Lighthill, Michael. Lumley, Joseph. McGuire, Charles, deserted March 4, 1863. Maeksburg, Samuel, third sergeant; wounded at Vicksburg; captured at Tilton. Mather, George W., fifth sergeant. Miller, George, killed in action May 14, 1863, at Jackson. Miller, Monroe, first lieutenant. Miller, Mordecai. Musser, Samuel, killed in action November 24, 1863, Missionary Ridge, Tenn. Norman, James, wounded at Vicksburg; prisoner at Tilton. Norman, Samuel, captured at Tilton. Odell, David D. Oldsted, Allen. Platter, George W. Porter, James. Reid, Fred-

erick. Relea, Aaron T., wounded and taken prisoner at Jackson. Sales, Lorenzo H. Sears, David M. Shafe, Myron W. Simms, Samuel N., wounded and captured at Jackson; killed in action November 24, 1863. Simpson, Elias H., third corporal; captured at Tilton; wounded at Champion Hills; died May 28, 1865. Slaughter, Asa M., second corporal; killed in action May 14, 1863, at Jackson, Miss. Smith, George W. Smith, Joseph F., died June 7, 1863, at Milliken's Bend, La. Stevens, Warren N., fourth corporal. Stewart, Charles, died April 18, 1862. Suter, John J. Switzer, John, taken prisoner at Jackson; wounded and captured at Tilton later. Sylvester, John, second corporal. Sylvester, John, Jr., wounded and captured at Jackson. Toney, William R., third corporal; captured at Tilton. Turley, Granville N., no record; Green W. died at Keokuk April 7, 1862. Turley, Jacob, first sergeant; wounded at Jackson; killed in action Missionary Ridge November 24, 1863. Wadsworth, John C., killed in action May 14, 1863, at Jackson, Miss. Wheeler, Joseph F., fifth corporal; wounded and captured at Jackson. Willis, Henry G., wounded September 19, 1862, at Iuka, Miss. Wilson, Michael. Wilson, Thomas F., captured at Tilton. Wires, James H., captured at Tilton. Wycoff, Cranmore, wounded. Young, William H. Zernes, John J., wounded severely at Iuka.

THIRD IOWA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

Mustered September 14, 1861

Field and Staff: Brown, Thomas H., brevet captain.

Non-commissioned Staff: Hall, Isaac N., reduced to ranks.
Brown, Thomas H.

Company L

Mudgett, Gilman C., captain. Fitch, Ezra, first lieutenant.
Baker, Micajah, second lieutenant.

Ammerman, William S. Beaman, William C. Beeler, Joseph. Bennett, Roland. Bright, William, died December 29, 1861, St. Louis. Brown, John D., taken prisoner at Hartville, Mo., January 11, 1863; wounded severely at Big Blue, Mo.; reached rank of captain. Brown, Thomas H., third sergeant. Brown, William, commissary sergeant. Brown, William W. Bullard, Calvin, deserted October 13, 1861. Carroll, Hugh. Cary, Edward G. Casey, John, died November 5, 1861, at Keokuk, Ia. Casper, Dimick E. Chase, James H. Courtney, Jacob. Culver, Orange, fifth sergeant. Curry, Edgar W. Custers, Matthias. Daws, Edward W., third sergeant. Ded-

rick, Andrew J., third corporal. Dum, William. Fitch, Ezra. Gaskill, Harvey. Goyen, Thomas. Gray, William A. Hale, Charles R. Hale, Isaac N., third sergeant. Hamm, John H. Hammond, William A., died December 23, 1861, at St. Louis. Hand, Charles D., died July 1, 1862, at Indianapolis, Ind. Harrett, Peter, taken prisoner at Hartville. Harris, Simeon R., third corporal. Hastings, Herbert M. Hines, Daniel. Hitchcock, Isaac P. Hitchcock, James F. Hitchcock, John F. Honnold, James W., second corporal: wounded at Mine Creek, Kan. Houseman, David G. Jewell, William P. Johnson, Robert. Johnston, Richard H. Jordon, John. Judd, Oscar. Knapp, Benjamin F. Knapp, Charles M., fourth sergeant. Knapp, Edward Y. Knight, Samuel G. McQueary, Milton G., first sergeant: died September 10, 1861. Martin, Henry H., third corporal. Mereer, William G. D. Miner, Joseph. Mudgett, Edward, second lieutenant. Mudgett, Gilman C., Jr., first sergeant. Mudgett, Gilman C., Jr., major. Mudgett, Recorder M. Newman, Stephen D., died October 15, 1864, at Memphis. Northup, Albert C., taken prisoner at Hartville, Mo. Pace, William P. Patton, John W., died November 7, 1861, Keokuk, Ia. Pryor, Leroy, first corporal. Rains, Jacob, seventh corporal. Riley, James H. Ryan, Thomas G. Sankey, E. J., wounded severely and leg amputated June 11, 1864, on retreat from Guntown, Miss. Smith, James M., died April 17, 1864, at St. Louis. Space, Nathaniel. Stewart, John W. Thompson, Charles W. Thompson, Francis M. Thompson, John M., third corporal. Vaughn, William R. Veatch, Benjamin F. Warren, John. White, Louis R., third corporal: deserted September 12, 1861. Williams, James C., first lieutenant. Williams, Thomas G. Williamson, Henry. Wilson, John W., second sergeant. Wilson, Samuel A. Wooley, Abner. Wooley, William, sixth sergeant.

Unassigned

Farnes, James. Orren, George W. Richey, James E.

Company M

Warner, John W., captain. Jones, Benjamin S., first lieutenant. Walker, Harvey H., second lieutenant.

Acton, Aaron. Acton, Thomas. Acton, William H. Anderson, Solomon S., died January 18, 1865. Asbach, John, killed in action September 25, 1864, at Osage, Mo. Bard, Benjamin F., wounded severely July 14, 1864, at Tupelo, Miss.; died of wounds July 24,

1864, at Memphis. Benton, Richard D. Blades, Robert E. Blades, Samuel E. Blades, William J. Blakesley, Abraham, third corporal. Bowman, George S., fifth corporal. Bowman, John W. Broadbooks, Rufus W., died March 13, 1863, Rolla, Mo. Brown, Burr, killed in action April 27, 1863, at Jackson, Mo. Cowles, Henry A., fourth sergeant; captured at Pea Ridge. Cowles, Wesley F. Cox, James M. Dale, Meredith J. Dunlavy, William H. Farris, Alfred L., died November 11, 1861, at Keokuk, Ia. Faulkner, ———, fifth sergenat. Gammill, James M. Gammill, John C., first lieutenant. Gunter, John F. Gunter, Marion. Gunter, Monroe. Hamilton, Francis M. Hatfield, William P., died January 14, 1862. Keys, Charles. Lee, Henry. Loe, Madison. McBroom, William. Mansfield, Asail J., killed in action March 7, 1862, Pea Ridge. Martin, James B., died October 18, 1862, at Lebanon, Mo. May, James S., fourth corporal, died October 21, 1861. Miller, Abbey, died February 8, 1862, at St. Louis. Miller, Jefferson. Miller, William B., killed by guerrillas August 17, 1862, in Jackson County, Mo. Newel, Elijah F. Newel, Marquis T. C. Nixon, Robert M., sixth corporal. Schaeffer, John W. Scott, Brison. Seymour, Willard P. Seymour, William A. Shackelford, Howard, first sergeant. Slack, John H. Slack, William R. Smith, Francis M. Snodgrass, William H., fourth corporal. Stevens, Uzziel J., fifth corporal. Sullivan, William J., wounded and arm amputated July 14, 1864, at Tupelo, Mississippi. Swander, Harrison, first corporal. Talley, Isaac A. Teeters, Thomas. Thrailkill, Scott. Tong, Francis M. Walker, Harvey H., first lieutenant. Walker, Henderson, died February 7, 1862, at Rolla, Mo. Warner, John W., captain. Weber, Franc. Whitten, Increase S., died September 8, 1864, at Memphis. Whitten, Oscar. Wilson, John S. Wilson, Simmeon N., sixth regiment. Wise, Carter H. Works, Orville, second sergeant.

Unassigned

Farnes, Augustus. Farnes, James. Richey, James E.

NINTH IOWA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

Mustered November 30, 1863

Company C

Young, John L., captain. Reigart, Thomas J., first lieutenant. Wood, William H., second lieutenant.

Allbee, Robert G. Anderson, Joel M., second corporal. Arnold, Michael, died February 17, 1865. Atha, John E. Ballinger, James E. Barnes, Stephen, died November 9, 1864, at Keokuk, Ia. Bobbitt, John P., fourth corporal. Bristow, Henry, died September 12, 1865, at Lewisburg, Ark. Chennowith, Lemon. Cherry, John, third corporal. Cole, David. Crawford, James F. Davis, Jacob, died October 21, 1864, at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. Dennis, Lee, died July 22, 1864, at Benton Barracks, Mo. Dunham, James T. Dunn, James H. Dunn, John P. Earnest, Elbert. Evans, James J., second corporal. Farris, James H., fifth corporal. Garrett, David J., fourth sergeant. Gibson, Thomas J. Hadley, Harlan. Handley, Chancey. Hastings, Lewis M. Hawkins, James. Houdersheldt, James, died September 15, 1864, at Austin, Ark. Hunt, James H. Jennings, Alvin, seventh corporal. McCalla, George. Martin, Jacob C. Mayton, John. Mercer, Asbury, sixth corporal. Milligan, Jesse A. Morrison, Robert W. Rader, Michael M., deserted January 16, 1864. Sears, William O. B. Smith, Francis M., third sergeant. Williams, Daniel M. Williams, Thomas C. Young, John L.

FORTY-EIGHTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Mustered July 13, 1864. 100 Days' Service.

Company C

Summers, James H., captain. Burrows, James, first lieutenant. Barnes, William H., second lieutenant.

Adair, Jephtha. Adkins, Lewis P. Aikey, Peter. Alexander, Curtis L. Allmon, William H. Arnold, Henry L. Baker, Wesley C. Barnes, Benjamin O., died October 4, 1864, at Rock Island, Ill. Barnes, William H. Bell, Jasper N. Bennett, Hiram. Bover, Leander. Brown, William. Bullard, Albert D. Bunce, George W. Bunton, Albert. Chambers, Austin. Chambers, John W. Chew, Samuel F. Clark, Levi. Day, Daniel R. Dilsaver, Albert. Douglass, William H. Downey, Robert T. Endecott, Jacob. Enlow, Benjamin A. Enlow, John D. Fierce, William E. Fletcher, John H. Foreman, Arriley. Gates, Rufus A. Gay, Hiram. Hamilton, Peter J. Hamm, Robert B. Harrison, Benjamin F. Hitchcock, Horace A. Humphries, James. Hutton, Charles A. Kenion, James. Matthews, James. Miller, Francis B. Moore, William. Morris, Nathan. Moss, James. Nigh, George W. Ownby, William H. Oxford, Lilberh H. Oxford, William R. Page, Reuben.

Piburn, Thomas B. Power, Andrew. Rector, Jesse. Renfro, John. Robertson, James. Rogers, Edward. Rogers, John. Schaffer, Robert C. Schoonover, Nathan. Seymour, John A. Strong, Solomon P. Summers, James H. Thogmartin, Robert. Thompson, Luther. VanCleve, John. Vanderpool, James. Warnock, William S. Whittecar, Jasper N. Whittecar, Wesley A. Williams, James. Williams, John W. Wilson, John.

DECATUR COUNTY SOLDIERS IN TROOPS OF OTHER STATES

Company A, Thirty-seventh Illinois

Gray, William S.

Company D, Fiftieth Illinois

Waller, Alexander.

Company K, Tenth Kansas Volunteer Infantry

Bonowgus, William D. Clibbun, George. Hatfield, Andrew. Kesecker, Andrew. McCoy, Charles B. May, John E. Miller, Franklin. Mory, George W. Pope, Cyrus W. Pope, Virgil. Scott, Allen. Scott, John R. Scott, Peter. Smith, James A. Watson, Greenville. Watson, Thomas. White, James W.

Company A, Thirty-fifth Missouri Infantry

Benton, Clark L.

Company E

French, Robert. Gordon, James L. Guire, Jacob, deserter. Miller, Bryson J., deserter. Miller, John R. Miller, Nathan, deserter. Miller, Reuben. Osborn, Samuel W. Plaintiff, George W. Smith, William S. Vincent, Joseph. Wyon, David. Wyon, Frederick. Wyon, Henry.

Company D, Forty-fourth Missouri Infantry

Zimmerman, Jacob.

Missouri State Militia

Company D, Second Cavalry: Hukill, John H.

Company H, Fifth Cavalry: Cogsdal, Stephen.

Company G, Sixth Cavalry: Banks, Henis; Simpson, Gilliard; Simpson, James; Vanvallenburg, James.

Seventh Cavalry

Company I

Corrigan, James. Likes, Samuel J. Orr, William H.

Company K

Clark, Isaac N. Collyer, Thomas. Combs, Washington F. Conquest, John. Crookshank, Peter. Deck, Isaac. Gardner, Baylis D. Gardner, John L. Gardner, Joshua A. Gilbert, Samuel R. Gray, John R. Gray, John W. S. Hall, John W. Hall, Samuel L. Hatfield, Andrews. Hatfield, James. Hatfield, John M. Hatfield, Riley. Hines, Alexander. Horn, Elisha. Johnson, Farmer A. Kelly, George B. Kelly, Robert. Kemp, John M. Kemp, Phillip. Kentch, Lewis F. Kirk, Josiah. Leech, John C. Long, William L. McDonald, Barnett. McDowell, Samuel. McKern, Thomas H. Nixon, Thomas. Oney, Joseph A. Oney, Marion. Oney, Thomas B. Payne, William T. Piercy, James T. Piercy, John H. Pitman, Ed K. Pitman, John H. Price, Harrison H. Smith, Benjamin F. Spellman, Hiram. Stanley, Calvin. Still, Hiram. Still, Jesse. Tash, William R. Waldrip, Byron F. Wescoat, Cyrus K. Wheeler, William F. Wickoff, N. S. Wicuff, John T. Wilson, William D. Wisdom, Francis F.

SOUTHERN BORDER BRIGADE (IOWA)

Third Battalion

Company A

Summers, James H., captain. Bridges, C. G., lieutenant.

Alfrey, J. P. Alfrey, J. W. Allen, Jacob. Arnold, Alonzo. Arnold, Daniel J. Ayers, Alfred. Barickman, C. J. Beck, T. L. Blades, W. J. Bomer, William. Boyd, Henry. Boyd, John. Branscom, Henry. Bridges, C. G. Brown, James. Brown, Volney. Campbell, J. W. Campbell, Robert. Carlton, S. O. Chance, John. Chew, S. F. Cleaver, J. P. Cook, Henderson. Cook, Wilkinson. Covington, Smith C. Craft, John. Day, G. S. Dilley, James V. Dreese, Reuben. Fierce, E. W. Foland, Michael. Gardner, J. A. Gatlin, Cornelius. Gibson, Jasper. Gibson, William B. Gordon, J. M. Harnor, John S. Hazen, Joseph S. Higby, Hiram. Hisey, James. Hisey, John. Hoover, George. Houston, Robert L. Hundersheldt, Wesley. Jackson, Jesse L. Kingen, James. Kromer, O.

W. Kumley, Lewis. Lane, George. Lee, Clarence. Lennox, Richard. Loyd, Jesse. McCroskey, Samuel. McGuire, Michael. McKee, Clark. McKee, William L. McMurtney, ————. Mansfield, R. G. Mercer, James A. Millsaps, Robert. Millsaps, Samuel A. Notson, R. P. S. Page, Samuel. Parmer, Samuel. Paschal, William. Pierce, Ess. Robbins, William S. Roberts, Jesse. Roop, Wilkinson. Rowell, Columbus B. Rumley, William. Scott, John. Sheets, Christian. Smith, Robert. Snavely, Abraham Y. Snook, William. Stanley, John. Stanley, Benjamin. Stanley, Matchet. Stanley, O. L. Stephenson, Craig. Strong, John D. Strong, Lineus. Strong, Solomon. Summers, James H. Lapscott, John K. Thompson, F. M. Turpon, Brison. Utterback, Willis. Vandever, Edward. Vaughn, Hiram S. Vaughn, J. D. Vaughn, J. S. Waldron, Enoch. Walters, Madison. Welmon, James H. West, William. Whitecar, Diamond. Whitecar, G. W. Whitecar, Josiah. Whitecar, William. Whittecar, James. Whittecar, Wesley. Wian, Jacob. Wian, John. Williams, J. T. Williams, J. W. Williams, Walker. Witter, David F. Witter, William L. Woodard, E. P. Wurtenbee, John. Zin, Abraham.

CHAPTER VIII

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN DECATUR COUNTY

The prosperity, the progress, the spirit and the character of a county is largely measured by the condition of its schools. The intellectual qualities of the people, their culture and regard of life may also be summed up by this means. Decatur County began her life under the usual hardships, privations and sacrifices and her first schools were consequently crude and inefficient, but through the years of upbuilding in other lines, the county has perfected a commendable school system, one that will possibly bear more improvement, such as school consolidation, but nevertheless one which deserves credit. Competent teachers are employed and the schools, so far as possible, are equipped as the modern school should be. Every pupil has the opportunity to receive a splendid education in Decatur County and has entrance to just as many courses and as great a variety of subjects as can be had in any county in the state.

The government has, almost without exception, been in the hands of capable educators. The money of the county has been extended freely upon request for the betterment of the schools, and it is safe to predict that within the next decade the advance will be even greater than it has been in the last decade.

The following paragraphs deal largely with the early history of the schools in the county and many of them are written by men and women who attended the classes in the log houses and who firmly believe that they acquired as good or better education than the pupils who sit in steam-heated, ventilated rooms, with the maximum of light.

EARLY LEON SCHOOL DAYS

A former Decatur County woman wrote the following of her girlhood days in the schools of Leon:

“In a room upstairs on Main Street possibly, the old, old court room, Howard Shackelford and I stood beside Miss Jones’ knee and

learned our A B C's. To me she seemed queenly as she was tall, stately and grand.

"My next remembrance is of attending school in the old Methodist Church ere it was finished inside, being seated with rough boards. There were three teachers, I. P. Martin, Sarah Kirkpatrick and Elizabeth Simmons, of Garden Grove, each reigning over a corner of the room, a most trying time for both teachers and pupils. Two incidents were vividly impressed on my mind, one being when Mr. A. Gillham's large yellow dog was loosed one morning and came to the church, causing us children to scamper into the room with fear and trembling. Miss Simmons thought to teach us a lesson in kindness to animals and put out her lily white hand to pat the dog, saying, as she did so, 'O, the poor dog won't hurt you,' whereupon he snapped her hand, biting it quite severely. With tears and sobs she informed us that she had a friend (?) in Garden Grove who would avenge her injury. The other was how chagrined we were when Mr. Martin had several of us distributed around the platform to learn the eights in multiplication, and County Superintendent Wainwright came to visit the school.

"Afterwards came L. M. Hastings, who remained with us more than three years, moving with us to the first brick school building on the site of the present north building. It contained four rooms, halls, bell, home-made seats, desks and recitation seats, and a good long blackboard. For the first time we began to call the teacher 'Professor,' and he could not have been happier had he owned the whole building, as he sang, 'There's Music in the Air' with far more fervor than usual, and bade us 'goodby' and 'good morning or afternoon' every time he left the room or entered for several days. A few of us, Myra Gardner, Hila Fishburn, Emma Dawson and, I believe, Lily Berger were not eligible to the high room, but he graciously took us, saying that he had us started his way of teaching and wanted to keep us. The thorough mental arithmetic drill he gave us has ever been beneficial to me, although our parents thought him severe because we 'talked it in our sleep.'

"Politics raged high in school during the Civil war and fights, of words and fists, with an occasional hair-pulling, were not uncommon. 'Rebel,' 'Secesh,' 'Copperhead,' 'Abolitionist' and 'A nigger is as good as you are,' were epithets hurled back and forth. The ardor of the republican girls was dampened by the other girls saying, 'You are glad to get a democrat for a beau,' as there were more boys of that party than the other.

“Soon came A. J. Abbott, a nice man, and Professor Newcomb, who was awfully in love, spending most of his time walking the floor, planning how he could get to Humeston and back from Friday evening until Monday morning. Mr. Tip Dilsaver, that prince of good fellows, taught us to sing ‘The Poor Swiss Girl of Lucerne,’ and seated the boys and girls together. Cal Hoffman was my seatmate and I remember how shy he was, clad in brown overalls and occupying the few inches on the farthest end of the seat from me.

“The school was graded about the year 1867, beginning in the fall of 1868 to have a three-year high school course of nine months each. How eager we were to finish that course. Comparing it now with the course pursued in small towns of today I find the latter only excel it in more difficult texts and the addition of Latin and German.

“A. F. Woodruff was about two days smarter than the rest of the class and was proud, timid and wrecked under criticism. He was standing at the blackboard one morning, arm extended from the shoulder, drawing a perfect circle, a feat we all envied, and as usual I was making merry with a group in the rear of the room, but he thought that I was making fun of his lavender pants, which were shrunken from much washing. So, with darkened visage, knitted brow and gritted teeth, he dashed off the following and passed it to me:

“‘In Pluto’s dark domain below
Where some are forced to go
They wear petticoats and switches;
But while on earth’s domain we dwell,
Some must be content as well,
To wear short breeches.’

“Being so verdant as not to know whether ‘pegged topped’ or ‘tight,’ long or short trousers were the latest, I had to seek an interpreter. Again, though not provoked to it, he wrote:

“‘Of all the men who wisely wrote,
Be he saint or cuss,
The one who wrote most strangely,
Was this Anonymous.’

“Besides several longer poems, ‘The Rabbi’s Daughter,’ and ‘My Former Lover.’

“One of the text-books pursued was one, Moral Science, containing a chapter on marriage laws. Belle Thompson was reciting and ventured the suggestion that people should marry on six months’ pro-

bation, and if contracting parties were not congenial said contract to be null and void. A suppressed giggle passed through the audience and she was excused from further recitation.

“T. W. Silvers was fluent and logical, mapping out a career, following it closely and, of course, attaining success.

“S. A. Gates, always amiable, had little use for monosyllables in his vocabulary. He did not ‘fall’ out of the hay mow, but ‘was precipitated.’ Belle Bobbitt used that for ‘a saying’ until Josephine Kellogg, when secretary of the institute, wrote:

“‘The multiplicity of matters to be attended to at the beginning of the term precluded the possibility of a carefully prepared literary program.’

“I frequently contrast the commencements then and now. Now we have showers and flowers and bowers, decorations, ovations and collations; but we marched in two by two, Woodruff, with his borrowed clothes, which we knew not of until his days of prosperity; Gates, with his whiskers; Silvers, with his boyish appearance, and I, with my white dimity dress trimmed in a yard of val lace, and delivered our essays and orations, replete with figures of speech and flights of oratory, we thought. We had neither flowers, motto nor decorations. The subjects were heavy enough, mine being ‘Lights and Shadows of Life.’ It makes me want to shrink out of existence to think of it. I opine I might do better on both the lights and shadows but on the mystery of life not any.”

ANOTHER SCHOOL REMINISCENCE

The following paragraphs are written by another woman, whose memories of the early schools include the years from 1856 to 1877:

“The first school ever held in Leon was in the courthouse and the teacher, George T. Young, forever endeared himself to all parents, by saving the lives of his pupils at the risk of his own in a cyclone that blew the building down behind him as he carried out the last two tots. This was in June or July, 1855.

“When a wee girl I went to school with my big brother Lemuel, to J. C. Porter (a better preacher than teacher), in the first schoolhouse Leon ever owned, a little frame building out in the east part of town, where long recesses, carrying and passing the water, singing the states and capitals and the multiplication tables were the main attractions. On Friday afternoon the speakin’ was great. John S.

Gardner 'Timber'—Aunt Ann's, Al (there was a 'Prairie' Aunt Ann's, Al also) and Hattie Raiff were the prize speakers, and when Al Gardner started out once a month on 'Rienzi's Address to the Romans' we sat with bated breath until he resonantly closed the declamation. Lou Weldon taught us little girls to knit at recess. John Bowman gave us riddles to guess. Later another preacher, George Adams, taught school over a store, being succeeded in turn by Samuel Sears, Carr Porter, Sarah Patterson, Mr. Judd, Emily Higbee and others. The new Methodist Episcopal Church was used by Professor Lewis, J. C. Porter and later by that fiery tempered, but best educator Leon ever had up to that time, L. M. Hastings, a man who was a generation ahead of his day, who really sowed ambition's earnest seed in student minds and gave the new schools a new impetus.

"The boys of those old school days were Jack and Reuben Weldon, Bob and Billy Boone, Bill Kirkpatrick and several others that I do not recall at present. My school attendance closed here for Mr. Hastings being county superintendent, as well as teacher, issued to four conceited pert little girls of fifteen to seventeen years, a teacher's certificate each, as special rewards of merit for greatest scholastic attainments in briefest time. They were Ella Adams, Martha Jordan, Fannie Raiff and the writer. At once we secured schools and launched into careers poorly prepared, but bravely determined.

"How well I remember that sketch of Henry Lumbeck's on the blackboard of the old north end brick, where Mary Miles, Emma Dawson, Mary Hutchinson and yours truly assisted Aaron Frazier in his school work. The three Belles (Bobbitt, Thompson and Burns) made his life something wretched to carry, and he in turn took it out of his under teachers. My school days in 1861 to 1865 are eventful ones. When Ann Wharton and Martha Jordan tore a Lincoln and Hamlin button off my dress, political excitement, even among the children was high; I got Mary Knapp and we promptly relieved those two girls of Douglas badges. The war was carried further next day by the democrat girls annexing to their ranks, Mary and Edith Patterson, Sarah Kirkpatrick and Nancy Sales; on our side we had Hattie Raiff, Nancy Freeman, Minerva Bobbitt and all our little sisters. While the war waged it was earnest. When we went home for repairs most of us had a threshing thrown in, though our parents all were in secret sympathy with the children's way of settling matters of national importance while our big brothers were 'in the war.'"

DECATUR SCHOOLS

The following article on the schools of the county was prepared in the schools of Leon by a pupil and contains an interesting and instructive story of the progress of education in this locality.

The first school in Leon, Ia., was conducted in 1854 by H. V. Wainright in a log schoolhouse located on Gospel Ridge and East Leon. He taught one term and was succeeded by Satah Patterson Bashaw, who conducted a school in the same schoolhouse for two terms.

When the time for the next term of school came the old log schoolhouse was too small to accommodate the number of pupils, so that the lower floor of a two-story building, used as a courthouse, and standing where the Varga residence now is, was pressed into service and George T. Young hired as teacher. While Mr. Young was teaching in the year 1857 a storm occurred which blew down the building, from which, fortunately, all escaped with their lives.

The courthouse having been blown down, a couple of buildings, one back of where the Kraft, Grimes & Co.'s clothing store now stands and the other across the street east of the present town square, were used for school purposes. About 1864 school was held in the old Methodist Church, which stood where the Carnegie Library is now located.

J. C. Porter, Sarah Kirkpatrick, Professor Hastings, C. S. Porter and Mr. Caldwell were some of the teachers between 1860 and 1868, when the first building was constructed for school purposes. This building, which stood on the site now occupied by the North school building and premises, was a four-roomed brick building. The first teacher in the new building was Aaron Frazier, who initiated a course of study requiring twelve years to complete. Under him the first graduating exercises ever held in Leon were given in 1871 by the class composed of A. F. Woodruff, Matilda Jordan, S. A. Gates, T. W. Silvers.

Professor Frazier taught until 1876, when a second brick building of eight rooms was erected on the present site at a cost of \$11,000, the first brick building being retained for several years as a janitor's residence.

In the '80s Profs. A. B. Cornell, B. F. Miller, and S. M. Mowatt, who had charge of the school for seven years. Next came Professors Lyon and V. R. McGinnis, who served for two years each, followed by Samuel L. Darrah, who was principal of the school for



CARNEGIE LIBRARY, LEON



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, LEON

four years. During this time, in the summer of 1895, the present South school building was erected, S. H. Lorey being the contractor.

Professors Drake, Pierce, Volker and Gass followed. During the year 1903 the building which was erected in 1876 was torn down and a new one built in its place, which, with the addition annexed in 1913, forms the present modern and commodious North school building.

There is now the normal training course, with domestic science, a corp of nineteen teachers and an enrollment in 1913 of 610 scholars.

The first school in Decatur County was taught in Garden Grove in the year 1849 by Mrs. Enos Davis, a relative of Susan B. Anthony, school being conducted in her home, as there was no building. Her house was known as the Old California House and so named by gold seekers on their way to California.

About 1853 a frame school building was erected and Reverend Carey, a Methodist preacher, was hired to teach in the new building, but it burned on the first day of school. In 1856 a brick school building was erected of octagon shape, which was the best in Southern Iowa, and Professor Hastings hired to teach the first class. In 1864 the school began rising in prominence under the supervision of R. A. Harkness, of Delaware County, N. Y. During the sixteen years that he taught the school was called the Athens of Iowa. Since then the octagonal brick has been torn down and a frame building erected, which lasted for several years, but it was recently razed and the present handsome structure erected.

The school at the present time, with its normal, domestic science and manual training, is considered one of the best in the county. They have an enrollment of about two hundred and fifty students and employ about ten school teachers.

In the year 1879, when the Humeston, Shenandoah Railroad was extended westward, the little Village of Weldon sprang up and grew with great rapidity. In the fall of 1880 Emma De Selm taught a subscription school in the I. O. O. F. Hall. The next spring the children were sent to a country school located one mile south of town. That fall William Morren was hired to teach in town, the expenses of this school being paid from the township school funds. October 1, 1882, the town was set off as an independent school district and W. C. Whitmarsh employed to teach the school, which was conducted on the second floor of the town hall. The members of the first school board were Geo. E. Mitchell, S. M. Prowell and L. T. Greenlee. Dr. Enos Mitchell was hired to teach the school during the months of May and

June, 1883, at a salary of \$25 per month. He was often obliged to leave the school in charge of one of the older pupils while he attended his practice.

The next fall Mrs. M. A. Critchfield took charge of the school. She had an enrollment of about seventy pupils. The next year she hired Miss Millie Grimes to assist her for a few months. In 1885 the first schoolhouse was erected at a cost of \$2,000, grounds included. Joseph Coffee was the contractor.

The first year in the new building Mrs. Critchfield was assisted in the primary department by Miss Nora Brown.

In 1886-87, J. H. Jamison, now known as ex-Senator Jamison, was principal, preceding I. S. Condit, now professor of mathematics in the Iowa State Teachers' College. Next came A. A. Roy, who took the first steps in arranging a graded system. Next came J. C. Wingett, Charles Fisher, and J. W. Cozad, who held the first graduating exercises in the spring of 1893. The members of this class were Maitland Maxwell, Joe Lane, Frank Durnal, Jessie Marshall, Anna Kline and Ella Tallman.

The school having outgrown the building the grades were continued in the building while the high school was moved to the opera house until the new building was completed early in the year 1895. Since then an addition has been added to the building, now valued at \$6,000. The school has continued to grow. They now have five teachers besides the music teacher, and last year's report gave an enrollment of 130 pupils. Among the later principals were A. N. Smith, J. A. McIntosh, J. M. Howell and H. J. O'Neil.

When sub-district No. 5 of Richland Township was made an independent district in 1874, a school building was erected in the Town of Grand River, Ia. Here Nora Gassett-Eiker, Ellen Gammon-Long and Hannah Hutchinson were employed as teachers for the first terms in this building. By 1886 this building became inadequate and a new building 28 by 40 was erected and a short distance from the first one, and for a time school was carried on in both buildings. Afterwards both buildings were sold: one is now used for a residence and the other for a church. Chas. Matsler and Bert Emerson were among the first teachers. Following Emerson came V. R. McGinnis.

In 1890 John Waterman made the first attempt toward a graded school. He formulated a course of study from which there was practically no change from 1890 to 1896. He held the first graduating exercises in the year 1895, the class being composed of Frank Bone,

Robert Snyder, John Burkhart, Nora Boyd, Nora Overholtzer and Nellie Brennaman.

In 1897 the present school building was erected. It consists of four rooms, including the recitation room and library. Four teachers are employed to teach the eleven grades.

Following Mr. Waterman came R. E. Porter, R. W. Boeger, J. L. Latta, and H. L. Cosner, who was the first principal to have an assistant in the high room. Next came V. S. Webber, John Burkhart, and the present principal, Charles H. Tedford. The school has continued to grow in size, until last year an enrollment of 167 students was reported.

During the years of 1879, 1880 and 1881 the children of Lamoni attended the district school of Fayette Township No. 1, the schoolhouse being a small frame structure east of town across the road from the Banta farm where Samuel Keown now resides.

Among the early teachers in this school were Earl D. Bailey, A. L. Ferguson, Inas Peck, Julia Hoadley, and Miss Fuller.

Some of the early students were Miss Graham, now Mrs. Poush, of Leon, C. F., T. J., and E. H. Smith, Tom and Nellie Riggs, Letha Barr and Alex. Hopkins, now of Lamoni.

In 1882 a carpenter shop was rented in the business part of town, which provided an additional schoolroom until 1883, when the main part of the old East Side building, containing three rooms, was erected. Prof. A. A. Roy was the first teacher in this schoolhouse, he teaching from 1883 to 1886. Professor Andrews then taught two terms, he preceding Prof. D. F. Lambert, who taught from the spring term of 1887 to the spring term of 1889, when he resigned this position.

Under Professor Lambert the first class that ever graduated in Lamoni held its exercises in the year 1888. This class was composed of Frank Stoddard, Andie Smith, Cora Bailey, Martha Robinson, Frances Walker and Mary Evans.

Professor Gunsolly, who is now in Graceland College, was hired to teach the next term of school, he teaching till the fall of 1894. During this time the old East Side building had become so congested that outside rooms were again pressed into use until 1891, when the north wing of the old East Side schoolhouse was erected. The town grew so rapidly that in 1894 a four-roomed brick building was built in West Lamoni. It was then that Prof. D. F. Lambert again took charge of the schools until 1897.

In 1896 the school board purchased the old lumber yard lot and shed, which was quickly converted into a schoolhouse, today known

as the Red Central. Since 1897 Lamoni has had the following professors: G. N. Briggs, Mr. Buffman, who is now in the North Dakota University, Mr. Griffiths, Mr. Hannum, O. H. Hollen, Mr. Fisher and the present superintendent, Mr. Neveln.

Lamoni is now building a fine modern building just south of the Herald Publishing House, which is to cost around forty-two thousand dollars.

The first school in Pleasanton was probably conducted in 1855-56, in a log house not built for school purposes on Main Street west of the square. The first teacher was Pery Bailey. A few of his pupils were Henry, Louis and Mary Anne Mills, William and John Crawford, Almira Snook, Lucy Anne and Monroe Willis.

The first building erected for a schoolhouse was a large log house built in northeast Pleasanton. It is now used as an icehouse. W. S. Warnock and Louis Hastings were two of the early teachers in this building. Among the early students of this school are W. J. Sullivan, Doctor Foxworthy, now of Leon; John Painter, of Pleasanton; Dr. E. C. Macy, of Pleasanton, now deceased; Mrs. E. C. Macey, Mrs. Gardner, and Rev. G. P. Campbell, now of Davis City.

In the later '50s or early '60s, the people of Pleasanton decided to establish a college. The building was to be a large two-story one, 40 by 80 feet. For financial reasons only two rooms were finished. These were used by the little town for a public school. Among the early teachers were W. S. Warnock, deceased, A. W. Lewis, and W. W. Murphey, now a prominent physician in Los Angeles, Cal. Later teachers were Mrs. Dr. Macey, Sr., Gideon P. Walker, Doctor Foxworthy and J. M. Sallee, of Bethany, now deceased.

In the year 1886 the building blew down before a severe hurricane. In its place was erected a one-story brick building occupying the same site. This brick building was torn down in 1898 and the present one erected. Among the teachers in the present building were Erven Spencer, Mrs. Vena Edwards, Ralph Shelton, and at present Miss Silvia Vandel.

For many years Pleasanton claimed to have one of the best schools to be found in the country. It now has a good school of ten grades, it being graded about 1904.

The first schoolhouse in Decatur was a log one, located about where Lew Brown's residence now stands. Mr. James taught in the year 1855, a later teacher being John Finley, Jr., of Leon. Among the early pupils were Sarah McCroskey-Springer, Delia Huston-Teale, Jane Huston-Day, and Anna Ownby-Rowell.

During early times when no school building was to be had, school was conducted in a store room, Methodist Church and hotel, successively, until a building was erected in the center of what is now their town park.

In the years 1871 and 1872, Ed Sampson, of Van Wert, was principal and Mrs. Ownby was primary teacher. Among her pupils were Belle Shelton-Horner, Mrs. Emma Horner-Tullis, Arthur and Gene Moore, and Mollie Moore-Little.

The schoolhouse which stood in the center of the park burned and the present building erected about 1882.

Henry and Sarah Alden were the first teachers in the present building. Succeeding the Aldens came I. N. W. Cooper. During the '80s Col. H. W. Peck taught several terms. Since then a great number of men have been principals, among whom are Profs. W. H. Kalkofen, D. W. Greenslate, Arthur Moore, J. W. Long, Ed Conwell, J. M. Howell, Erven Spencer, J. C. Cozad, and the present superintendent, F. H. Riggle, who is now in his fourth year.

The first school building in Davis City was located in S. W. Davis' pasture in the southwest part of town. Mr. Samuel Bowman was teacher in the year 1863. Mr. N. C. Piercy taught in 1867. Mr. Piercy preceded Mr. S. A. Gates, who taught the year of 1868, and then returned to Davis City in 1874 and conducted school in the same old building. He had an average of seventy-two scholars and forty-two recitations daily. For teaching the schools he received \$40 per month.

The brick building which is now used as an opera house was erected in 1875, and William Poland hired as principal, with Mrs. Lloyd Severe as primary teacher. From 1875 to 1880 William Poland, A. M. Morgan, E. J. Hainer, W. P. Davidson and J. C. Hainer were employed as teachers. Mr. J. C. Hainer upon leaving Davis City was employed in the State Agricultural College at Ames. Mr. E. J. Hainer was later a United States congressman. Since 1882 up to the present time J. M. Howell has alternated with many principals, among whom are J. C. Knott, ——— McGhee, ——— Owen, J. W. Long and James Dutton.

Principal Darrah taught the first term in the present schoolhouse which was erected in 1890. The members of the first graduating class were: Lew Horner, Maude Topliff, Grace Horner, Pearl Norman and Anna Shirley.

The first Van Wert schoolhouse was built about one-fourth of a mile north of Van Wert or Prairie City, as it was then called, in 1858.

This building was a log structure about 16 by 20 feet, with one door and two or three windows. It was provided with puncheon slats long enough for eight or ten pupils to sit on, for seats. An undressed board placed upon pegs driven into the wall served as a writing desk.

Among the early teachers in this school were: Miss Powell, Lewis Holt, James Blair and Newton Piercy. Some of their pupils were: Charles L. Spencer, Guy and George Jackson, John, William and Minerva Barrackman, O. H. and E. J. Blair, W. A. Irving, the Misses Taylor, Jake and John Flora, and Leora and LeRoy Kelsey.

In the winter of 1871-72, Mrs. Belle Burns-Harvey, who was teaching there at the time, held the first Christmas exercises ever given in the town. While she was teaching the name of Prairie City was changed to Van Wert.

In the year 1872 a frame building 22 by 28 feet was erected and equipped with desks in keeping with the time. It was a one-room building and seated during the winter of 1887-88, seventy-seven pupils.

In 1888 a high school or graded school building of three rooms was erected and a two-roomed school started. Some of the early principals in this school were: Mr. Rhodes, V. R. McGinnis, A. A. Roy and Mr. McVey.

A few years back an addition of two rooms was built to the schoolhouse, the result being the present building. Some of the later principals have been F. P. Reed, O. H. Hollen, Mr. Davis and Miss Poiteux Halstead, who is the present principal.

EARLY SCHOOL DAYS IN FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

By J. N. Machlan

The schoolhouse at which the writer first attended school was located one-half mile north and one-fourth mile west of Fairview Church on what was then called the Leon and Osceola road, which angled across a beautiful stretch of prairie from where Fairview schoolhouse now stands to what was formerly Green Bay, over which the old buckboard, drawn by pair of tiny steeds, assisted Uncle Sam in distributing the mails. Well, the little school ship weighed anchor and launched out with Hannah Smith, later Lorey but at present Evans, of Leon, at the helm, with a small band of urchins at her side, prominent among whom was the writer of this article, who at that time still donned the dress such as was worn by the fair sex of our country and which became a source of no little grievance to the wearer from the fact that my brothers, who were bad boys and were

a little older than myself, persisted in calling me "sis," a name which I abhorred from the beginning.

Perhaps some of my readers will say, "For land sake, why didn't the mothers dress their young men in pantaloons?" Well, let me tell you some reasons for doing as they did.

1st. Fashions have changed somewhat over in Paris during the past few decades.

2d. Cloth from which to make garments at that time was very high and we must of necessity economize by wearing our garments as long as they were any good.

3d. Self pride had not yet overrun this country.

4th. This country was not yet rid of the army greyback and the seven-year itch.

So you see the mothers were quite busy preparing food, looking after sanitary regulations, etc., and could not devote much time to making wearing apparel as at the present day. The little school ship glided peacefully along and we pupils were learning quite rapidly. Miss Smith was painstaking and her methods of teaching about as follows: Twice two was four; two times four are eight; twice five ought to be ten, and so on. About the same as they teach mathematics now. The school fixtures consisted of benches, a blackboard and a gad. The books were principally of the old elementary type of readers and spellers; not so costly as at present. A good lead pencil cost 10 cents, a slate, 25 to 30 cents. The pupils had to walk pretty straight or get a licking, the writer excepted, who was a very obedient lad of a few summers. Our teacher was a good singer and used to entertain us with such songs as, "We'll Hang Jeff Davis to a Sour Apple Tree," "Glory Hallalujah," etc. Our hats were home-made, of rye straw braided by our mothers.

In course of time it was deemed best to move the schoolhouse to a location more convenient to the pupils, who were few and scattered. At an appointed time when the ground was covered with snow the building was placed on skids, several teams hooked on and the building was moved one-half mile north and one-fourth mile west where it remained on the prairie until it was sold and torn down. After the schoolhouse was moved a term of school commenced, and at the close of the term a summer term was taught. A big fellow who stood six feet tall was employed to teach the winter term. When the day arrived he appeared with a gad some six feet long, and at the sight of that six foot salamander the chills chased each other up and down my spine and I believe my schoolmates felt similar to myself, as we knew

he had whipped a boy at another place so hard that the boy was confined to his bed for a time. This teacher, although very strict, proved to be a good instructor.

There was a class in mathematics that was far advanced, also some good readers. Among those who attended this school who have become prominent were: One missionary to India, one lawyer of no little prominence, one college professor who has the reputation of being one of the best educators in Iowa, besides several successful school teachers, farmers, merchants, etc. We now jump a period of time to the time when Lee Harvey, of Leon, was employed to teach a winter's term of school. Mr. Harvey was equal to the occasion. He was a very intelligent and promising young man. Well, Lee, as we called him, taught a very successful term of school. He taught four winter terms in succession. Mr. Harvey was a kind hearted man and was held in high esteem by the majority if not all the pupils.

EARLY SCHOOLS IN GARDEN GROVE

This article was written by one who attended the early schools of Garden Grove and lived there during the first years of that town's existence:

"Thirty-one years ago our little colony, consisting of Ozro N. Kellogg and his family and the Davis family arrived at Garden Grove. There were about a hundred families of Mormons making a transient stay, but not a house for a distance of forty miles, either east or west; the nearest settlers being along the southern border of our county. There were no counties organized adjoining this, in Iowa, and no land surveyed, excepting six townships that were put in market to induce immigrants to buy the improvements, for the alleged reason that the saints were destroying the timber, thereby diminishing in value the timber land.

"We cannot proceed without honorable mention of the lamented father of our county superintendent, who was the first to awaken an interest in the cause of education in this goodly land, not by teaching, as he did formerly, but recommending the writer to our neighbors, many of whom were glad of an opportunity to have their children at school.

"This school commenced in December, or as soon as a puncheon floor could be made for our rude log cabin, and continued three months. Tuition, \$1.25 per scholar. In the winter of 1851-52 Mr. Hiram Chase resumed the work. He had been a successful educator

in years gone by. They vacated their kitchen, and a profitable term was taught not kept.

“Those good spelling schools will always be remembered by those who attended, and almost every person in our sparsely settled community was included in the number.

“The summer of '52 still found us dependent on our own resources for a teacher. A district had been organized and the writer was employed. Some pupils came five miles, and frequently were obliged to leave their horses across Weldon and come over on a foot log. Mr. Kellogg proffered the use of one of his rooms. The teacher went a mile and carried two children on horseback.

“Our first teachers re-entered the schoolroom from the necessity. They brought with them years of study and practice, and knew no education that meant an exemption from labor, in whatever department. They had no advantages of convenient school buildings or fixtures. The seats were made of logs split in two with legs put in them. The kitchen tables (not extensions) were the desks, and they used what books happened to be brought. Much of the instruction was necessarily oral. They took great pride in correct spelling, good reading and writing.”

The following list is of the first pupils who attended the normal school at Garden Grove in 1881: Till Jordan, Eva Chase, Mettie Pitman, Leola Haywood, Amanda Kier, Mina Madarasz, Jessie Madarasz, Kate Detrick, Esther Sanger, Kittie Stone, Emma Butts, Lizzie Martan, Cyrena Kausler, Belle Wise, Addie Hainer, Mary J. Ryan, Mary Campbell, Manda Rogers, Ada Kirkpatrick, Kate Ryan, Sallie Coover, Allie Gardner, Allie Porter, Ida Genree, Mary Davis, Nora Gasset, Mary Shinn, Eva Shinn, Sallie Walton, H. Hutchinson, Della Lunbeck, Ellen Gammon, Anna Gammon, Mattie Post, and J. A. Beevers, W. A. Machlin, A. J. Law, Dan West, Elza Osborn, E. D. Samson, T. J. Hasty, W. W. Hamilton, Chas. Matsler, Stev. Varga.

EARLY EDEN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

The first school in Eden Township was taught in 1853 in a log building, 16 by 24, covered with clapboards and puncheons. David Shinn was the teacher. Robert Dye taught in the same building in 1855-56. The next school was held near the Judge Kelley farm. The first regular schoolhouse was built in 1856 on the Richard Meeks farm, built of frame, the timber sawed by Billy Davis, of Davis City.

Robert Dye taught the first term in this new school. In 1856-57 the township organized and divided into school districts. Aunt Mary Walton was another of the pioneer teachers of this township. The present Eden School was built in 1868. It was built of brick by William Jenkins, of Leon. Calvin Morris was the first teacher here.

SCHOOL STATISTICS

In the Davis City District there are two teachers, one male and one female; there are 250 pupils enrolled; and one schoolhouse is used, which cost \$9,000.

In the Decatur City District there is one male and four female teachers; 118 pupils enrolled; and one school, cost \$450.

In the Garden Grove City District there are two male and nine female teachers; there is one schoolhouse worth \$15,000. This school was built in 1903. The enrollment is 245.

In the Grand River Town District there is one male and three female teachers; 156 pupils are enrolled; and there is one school worth \$2,500.

In the Lamoni District there are two male and twelve female teachers employed; the enrollment is 466; and there are four schoolhouses, worth together \$10,000.

In the Leon District there are two male and seventeen female teachers; 631 enrolled; and two schools with a combined value of \$35,000.

In the Leroy District there is one male and two female teachers; eighty pupils enrolled; and one school used, which is worth \$4,500.

In the Pleasanton District there are three female teachers; 124 enrolled; and one \$2,000 schoolhouse.

In the Van Wert District there is one male and five female teachers; 117 enrolled; and one school, cost \$4,500.

In the Weldon District there is one male and five female teachers; 132 enrolled; one \$6,000 school.

The total in independent city, town and village districts is as follows: twelve male and sixty-five female teachers; 2,319 enrolled; and fourteen schoolhouses, costing together \$88,950.

COUNTY DISTRICTS

In Bloomington District there are two male and nine female teachers; 207 are enrolled; and there are eight schoolhouses, costing \$6,050.

In the Burrell District there is one male and eight female teachers; 171 enrolled; seven schools worth \$4,200.

In the Center District there are eight female teachers; 160 enrolled; seven schoolhouses, worth \$3,600.

In Eden District there are one male and seven female teachers; 183 enrolled; eight schoolhouses, worth \$4,050.

In the Franklin District there is one male and seven female teachers; 120 enrolled; six schoolhouses worth \$2,300.

In the High Point District there is one male and eight female teachers; 131 enrolled; eight schoolhouses, costing \$3,300.

In the Morgan District there are two male and six female teachers; 183 enrolled; six schoolhouses which cost \$2,250.

In the Woodland District there is one male and eight female teachers; 189 enrolled; nine schools which cost \$3,725.

In the Decatur District there are the following: No. 2, Woodmansee, there is one male teacher, eighteen enrolled, and one school which cost \$634; No. 3, Pleasant Hill, there is one female teacher, twenty-eight enrolled, and one \$500 school; in No. 4, Stone, there is one female teacher, thirteen enrolled, and one \$400 school; in No. 5, Washington, there is one female teacher, fifteen enrolled, and one \$300 school; in No. 6, Wells, there is one female teacher, twenty-nine enrolled, and one \$300 school; in No. 7, Hickory Grove, there is one female teacher, seventeen enrolled, and one \$300 school; in No. 8, Lone Star, there is one female teacher, twenty-six enrolled, and one \$400 school.

In the Fayette District there are the following: In No. 2, Spurrier, there are three female teachers, nineteen enrolled, and one \$300 school; in No. 3, Black, there is one female teacher, twenty-six enrolled, and one \$500 school; in No. 4, Evergreen, there are two female teachers, twenty-two enrolled, and one school which cost \$1,175; in No. 5, Athens, there is one female teacher, fourteen enrolled, and one \$300 school; in No. 6, Brenizer, there is one female teacher, twenty-three enrolled, and one \$500 school.

In the Garden Grove Rural Independent District there are the following: In No. 2, White Oak, there is one female teacher, twenty enrolled, and one \$500 school; in No. 3, Gospel Ridge, there is one male teacher, thirteen enrolled, and one \$300 school; in No. 4, Tick Ridge, there are two female teachers, fifteen enrolled, and one \$800 school; in No. 5, Pleasant Ridge, there is one female teacher, eighteen enrolled, and one \$800 school.

In the Grand River Rural Independent District there are the following: in No. 1, Jefferson, there is one male and one female teacher, seven enrolled, and one \$100 school; in No. 2, West Elk, there is one female teacher, sixteen enrolled, and one \$600 school; in No. 3, Centennial, there is one female teacher, twenty-one enrolled, and one \$500 school; in No. 4, Union, there are two female teachers, twenty-three enrolled, and one \$450 school; in No. 5, Elk, there is one male and one female teacher, twenty-five enrolled, and one \$400 school; in No. 6, Center, there are two female teachers, nineteen enrolled; and one \$500 school; in No. 7, Diamond, there are two female teachers, sixteen enrolled, and one \$600 school; in No. 8, Welcome, there is no school.

In Long Creek District there are the following: In No. 1, Woodard, there are three female teachers, twenty-seven enrolled, and one \$800 school; in No. 3, Good Hope, there is one male and one female teacher, fourteen enrolled, and one \$350 school; in No. 4, there is one female teacher, twenty-three enrolled, and one \$400 school; in No. 5, there is one female teacher, twenty-six enrolled, and one \$300 school; in No. 6, Hawkeye, there is one female teacher, eleven enrolled, and one \$500 school; in No. 7, Hazel College, there is one female teacher, twenty-nine enrolled, and one \$400 school; in No. 8, Elm Grove, there are two female teachers, forty-one enrolled, and one \$200 school; in No. 9, Spring Valley, there is one female teacher, seventeen enrolled, and one \$300 school.

In the New Buda District there are the following: In No. 2, Stringtown, there are two female teachers, twenty-nine enrolled, and one \$450 school; in No. 3, New Buda, there is one female teacher, twenty-four enrolled, and one \$500 school; in No. 4, Togo, there is one female teacher, twelve enrolled, and one \$500 school; in No. 5, Bennett, there is one female teacher, thirty-one enrolled, and one \$60 house; in No. 6, Liberty, there is one female teacher, twenty enrolled, and one \$300 school.

In Richland District there are the following: In No. 1, Brick, there is one female teacher, forty-three enrolled, and one \$600 school; in No. 2, Glenwood, there is one male and one female teacher, nineteen enrolled, and one \$250 school; in No. 3, Dunham, there is one male teacher, thirty-three enrolled, and one \$500 school; in No. 4, Daughton, there is one female teacher, sixteen enrolled, and one \$400 school; in No. 6, Comstock, there is one female teacher, twenty-one enrolled, and one \$800 school; in No. 7, Liberty, there is one male

teacher, fifty-six enrolled, and one \$700 school; in No. 8, Westerville, there is one male teacher, twenty-seven enrolled, and one \$600 school.

The total for the rural districts is as follows: There are nineteen male and one hundred eighteen female teachers, there are 2,457 pupils enrolled, and 110 schoolhouses, costing a total of \$55,494.

The grand total is as follows: there are thirty-one male and 183 female teachers, there are 4,776 pupils enrolled in the county, and there are 124 schools, costing an aggregate of \$144,444. In the county there are 2,686 male and 2,600 female children between the ages of five and twenty-one. The average monthly wage for men teachers is \$67.66 and for women, \$49.45.

CHAPTER IX

GRACELAND COLLEGE

By Inez Smith

For righteous masters seized my youth,
And purged its faith, and trimmed its fire;
Showed me the high, white star of truth
That bade me gaze and then aspire.

—Matthew Arnold.

Almost as old as the church itself is the dream of its wise men for the establishment of a house of learning. Graceland is the crystallization of that dream. They were not all—in fact, few of them were—educated men, who built the church and sustained it in the olden days—they were not educated men who kept the sacred gospel message pure through the “dark and cloudy day,” but all were men who, even while they felt the Spirit’s power, still knew that an organized, systematic course of study and discipline would make them bigger men. Had not the Almighty himself spoken and urged this duty upon them? The Seer of Palmyra—an unlettered farmer boy, during the brief years of his activity in the world, in the midst of church—and city building, and in the midst of turmoil and confusion, still found time as he rested from flight by the dusty roadside, or in the home of a friend, to study his Greek or Hebrew lexicon. And our fathers who built the little city on the river shore had dreams that did not concern the boisterous Gentile hordes that stormed their gates and made defense first thought. In those dreams a university crowned the hill, and a learned people populated the little City of Nauvoo. In all those days, through sedition within and pressure without, the people were rallied and supported by a love and trust in one man, for they said that God was with him. Why need they fear, when this one man, a man of almost unparalleled moral and physical courage, saw nothing to fear?

But there came a dark day when that one was gone; there were brave men left, there were true men left, but the blessing of God had gone from the little city forever, and it with all its dreams lay in



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ruins. No, not that; for dreams are built of stronger stuff than stone and mortar, and they were still as substantial in the hearts of the strong men of Israel as they had been in the days of Nauvoo's greatest glory.

The day came again when true men and strong gathered to the old standard, and still in the hearts of these were the potential possibilities that would have clothed the hills round old Nauvoo with Gothic spires.

In 1869 at a conference at St. Louis, Missouri, after a lengthy preamble the following resolution was adopted:

“Resolved, That this conference recommend for consideration of the twelve and general church authorities, the feasibility and the advisability of establishing a school for the education of our own young men, with a view to the ministry; and that the question be brought up at the next sitting of the general conference.”

This was adopted. Accordingly it was called up at the semi-annual conference at Gallands Grove, Iowa, October 7, 1869, and after some discussion was deferred until the annual conference of 1870. April 8, 1870, at Plano, Illinois, the resolution was again taken up, and after much discussion, and efforts to amend, it was lost. The conference evidently thought that the School of the Prophets provided for in the law would meet the requirements sought, for immediately after the rejection of the resolution mentioned above the following was adopted: “Resolved that the School of the Prophets be organized at as early a time as practicable.” The conference therefore did not intend to discourage the desire for education, but sought to provide for it in another way.

Nothing more was done for some time. The next attempt was an effort made by the formation of a joint stock company. At a regular meeting of the “Board of Trade of Lamoni, Iowa,” held on the 31st day of December, 1888, Articles of Incorporation for a college in Lamoni were presented and read, and upon motion ordered printed; also Joseph Smith, David Dancer, George A. Blakeslee, William W. Blair, and Delos F. Nicholson were requested to act as a committee to secure subscriptions for the purpose of erecting the college. Another committee, David Dancer, of Lamoni, Iowa, and Edmund L. Kelley, of Kirtland, Ohio, and Robert Winning, of St. Joseph, Missouri, were appointed April 18, 1889, to “solicit stock, arrange and devise to put in operation the plan of the college.” On May 25th the committee met and reported subscriptions received. In and around Lamoni \$4,300. Foreign list reported \$625. Israel

L. Rogers, Sandwich, Illinois, \$5,000, Edmund L. Kelley, Kirtland, Ohio, \$50, Robert Winning, St. Joseph, Missouri, \$1,000. The committee was continued, with the exception of David Dancer, who by his own request was released, and Asa S. Cochran was chosen in his place.

During the April conference, the following action was had by the conference:

“Resolved, That in the opinion of this conference, the time has arrived when it may be expedient to establish an institution of learning under the control or influence of our church organization, and to this end there shall be a committee appointed (by the body) to receive propositions for a location and take such other preliminary measures as may be necessary; and said committee empowered after receiving such proposals to make all necessary arrangements for the establishment of such institution.”

A committee consisting of seven, viz.: George A. Blakeslee, Israel L. Rogers, Edmund L. Kelley, David Dancer, Robers Winning, Frederick G. Pitt, and John A. Robinson was appointed.

Upon the next day the committee reported in part as follows:

“Resolved, That the committee take measures to secure a proper fund for the carrying into effect the resolution relative to the establishment of an institution of learning passed by the conference on yesterday, and to this end we open proper subscription books and arrange for a special fund to be known as the College Fund, for this purpose.

“That E. L. Kelley and Robert Winning be a committee to prepare the necessary subscription list and books.

“That the personal canvass be under the direction of the bishoprie, they appointing suitable persons to solicit subscriptions.

“That all authorized canvassers be instructed to report monthly to the secretary, whose duty it is to collect all moneys and to turn over same to treasurer, taking his receipt therefor.

* * * * *

“That the secretary communicate with Lamoni College Committee and subscribers, and if possible secure the turning over to his committee of all cash and other subscriptions made. * * *”

The joint stock plan failed, but the agitation of the college proposition still continued. In 1894 at a joint counsel of the twelve and the bishoprie held in the editorial room of the Herald office on Friday, April 20th the following action was had:

“Resolved, That we look with favor upon the effort to build a college at Lamoni to be controlled by the church. Resolved further, That we believe that it should be a purely educational institution and free from sectarian influence or bias. Resolved further, That we give our hearty support to the present movement looking in the above direction.”

Those present were Joseph Smith, William W. Blair of the presidency, Alexander H. Smith, Edmund C. Briggs, James Caffall, William H. Kelley, John H. Lake, Joseph R. Lambert, Heman C. Smith, Joseph Luff and Gomer T. Griffiths, of the twelve; Edmund L. Kelley, George H. Hilliard and Edwin A. Blakeslee, of the bishopric. The resolution was adopted without a dissenting vote.

By the time of the next conference, 1895, the college committee was ready to report. Land had been donated by Sisters Marietta Walker and Minnie Wickes, and Bro. W. A. Hopkins for college purposes; also twenty-six acres had been purchased from Mr. Hopkins, making sixty-six acres in all.

The conference ordered the college committee to incorporate as provided under the laws of Iowa, and a board of directors was subsequently chosen. The former board was known as a board of trustees and was composed of the following: Edmund L. Kelley, Daniel Anderson, Robert Winning, Joseph Smith, William Anderson, Ellis Short, Edmund A. Blakeslee. The board of directors consisted of Joseph Smith, Daniel F. Lambert, Parley P. Kelley, Edmund L. Kelley, John H. Hansen, James R. Smith, Alexander H. Smith, William W. Blair, and Edwin A. Blakeslee.

The board of trustees started the erection of the college building and its equipment. By them it was christened Graceland College and the grounds the Graceland Addition to Lamoni. The streets were named—articles of incorporation filed and adopted. Along the platted streets of the grounds the committee set out about eight hundred shade trees.

On November 12, 1895, the cornerstone of the building was laid with elaborate ceremonies.

The procession formed at the east side public school and led by Lamoni's junior band, marched to the college, carrying the stars and stripes.

Services were in charge of Bishop Edmund L. Kelley. Prayer was offered by Elder Henry A. Stebbins. Directed by President Joseph Smith, the cornerstone was lowered into place by L. J. Frink, L. B. Mitchell and John Weedmark, and President Smith officially

laid the cornerstone. Speeches were made by William W. Scott, mayor of Lamoni; Joseph Smith; Zenos H. Gurley; Daniel F. Lambert, superintendent of public schools, and Alexander H. Smith, president of the quorum of twelve.

During President Smith's speech he announced that the following articles were placed in the cornerstone: Copies of the Chicago Chronicle, Chicago Times-Herald, Chicago Inter-Ocean, Chicago Tribune, Saints' Herald, Autumn Leaves, Independent Patriot, College City Chronicle, Zion's Ensign, Holy Scriptures, Book of Mormon, Book of Doctrine and Covenants, and church articles of incorporation.

Before the winter of 1895-96 closed the basement was completed and the walls up about as high as the second floor. The building was estimated to cost about ten thousand dollars, and some lots in Graceland Addition were sold with the hope of meeting the expense.

The first faculty consisted of Thomas J. Fitzpatrick, Joseph T. Pence, Jeremiah A. Gunsolley and Nellie Davis. The first enrollment was thirty-five, and they began work September 17, 1895, in a rented building in the business part of Lamoni, known as the "France Block."

The college building itself was ready for dedication on January 1, 1897.

The dedication service was under the direction of the program committee, consisting of Edmund L. Kelley, Daniel Anderson and Daniel F. Lambert. The opening prayer was by Rev. George Mitchell, of Davis City, Ia. The dedicatory address was delivered by President Joseph Smith. Speeches were made by Judge H. M. Towner, judge of the Third Judicial District of Iowa, and by Elder Joseph R. Lambert. The dedicatory prayer was offered by Prof. Mark H. Forscutt, dean of the faculty, and the dismissal prayer was offered by Elder Columbus Scott. An entertainment was given in the evening, and the day's exercises closed with a benediction by Elder Alexander H. Smith.

The fifty students in attendance were immediately transferred to the new building. In 1898 the trustees and directors were united in one board, to perform the duties of both.

Mr. Joseph T. Pence, first president, acted in that capacity until 1898, when Prof. Ernest Ritson Dewsnup, of Manchester, England, was secured. Professor Dewsnup acted until the end of the college year 1899, when he was succeeded by Prof. R. A. Harkness. In 1901 Prof. Herbert Spencer Salisbury, of Illinois, became president;

following him C. O. Taylor acting president from 1902 to January, 1903; Charles Marr Barber, January, 1903, to June, 1903; Professor Dewsnup resumed the chair in 1903 and acted until June, 1905, when Prof. Rolland McLaren Stewart, of the University of Iowa, was called to the position. When Professor Stewart resigned, in 1908, Prof. David Allen Anderson, of Iowa University, became head of the college for one year, since which time, in the absence of an election to that office, Prof. Jeremiah Alden Gunsolley has acted in that capacity.

Many good and capable men and women have served on the faculty of Graceland in her history, and it is impossible in limited space to name them all. Almost without exception they have had the college and her interests at heart, and have helped in making Graceland what she is today—contributing not only in their official capacity to the life of the college, but sacrificing of their time and talents outside of their work to the college and community, and even at times giving material aid financially.

The library of the college early became an important factor. Mrs. Mina Cook Hart was the first to attempt getting it in condition and properly classified. She arranged the books according to the Dewey Decimal System. A few years later, however, the library lapsed into a condition of haphazard growth, and by the fall of 1908 was in a condition of decided chaos so far as library law and order were concerned. Prof. Thomas J. Fitzpatrick, who had been that year elected to the head of the Department of Mathematics, being himself a private librarian and collector of some note, took the library work in charge, since which the library has assumed a rather phenomenal growth. He has been helped in his work as librarian by donations from individuals, faculty members, funds donated by the Athenian Literary Society, Zion's Religio-Literary Society and the General Sunday School Association. The library at its present rate of progress will soon comply with state requirements.

The museum, also an early attraction to college visitors, is now being well cared for, and will become more and more interesting and instructive. Professor Fitzpatrick is also in charge of the museum.

But in financial matters, in common with many other schools of her class, Graceland came near being grounded. There were those who expected to see her able to make her own way in the world, and there were those in the church who began to feel the support of this child of their own adoption becoming a burden to them; so in the

year 1904, in about the seventh year of her age, Graceland received what was at the time considered her deathblow, when at Kirtland, O., the church in conference assembled, passed, after a lengthy discussion, by a yea and nay vote of 851 for and 826 against, the following preambles and resolution:

“Whereas, The maintenance of Graceland College is proving to be a serious burden in a financial way and is likely to so continue; and,

“Whereas, There seems to be but a minority of the members of the church who favor its continuance; and,

“Whereas, The operation of a college of its character does not lie within the direct line of our appointed work as a church; therefore,

“Resolved, That we favor a discontinuance of Graceland College after the close of its present term, and recommend that the property be turned over to other uses such as may be agreed upon by the bishopric of the church and such other councils or persons as may be chosen by the general conference until such time as the general conference decides to reopen the college.”

On May 12th the bishopric and board of trustees took under advisement the carrying out of the resolution and decided upon the following action, which, whatever may be said about its legitimacy, we believe has proved a blessing to many of us, who had it not been for the open doors of Graceland College, would never have had the privilege of the little learning we have had. The report of the council was as follows:

On May 12, 1904, the bishopric of the church and the Board of Trustees of Graceland College, to whom was referred the matter of the use and disposition of the property of Graceland College by resolution of the general conference at Kirtland, held a joint meeting in the rooms of the Herald Publishing House, Lamoni, Ia., and after due and careful consideration of their powers and duties in the premises adopted the following as a basis of work:

“First: That the Board of Trustees of Graceland College was by the general conference at its last session appointed a committee to act with the bishopric in caring for the property of Graceland College as shown by minutes of said conference, pages 705 and 706, and following the passage of a resolution of said conference, page 698 of minutes, to-wit:

“Resolved, That we favor a discontinuance of Graceland College after the close of its present term, and recommend that the property be turned over to other uses such as may be agreed upon by the bishopric of the church and such other councils or persons as may be

chosen by the general conference until such a time as the general conference decides to reopen the college.

“Second: That the resolution favoring the discontinuance of Graceland College was acted upon without any notice whatever having been given that the same would be presented for action, as is required by the articles of incorporation of Graceland College, which reads as follows:

“These articles may be amended at any general conference of said Reorganized Church, or at any meeting of the board of trustees herein named, providing sixty days’ published notice of said amendment and the nature of the same be given through the Saints’ Herald prior to the time of such annual conference or meeting.”—Article 15 of incorporation act.

“Third: That the resolution referred to of the general conference cannot properly be considered an order for the closing of Graceland College, for the same would be contrary to the articles of incorporation, and the former action of general conference requiring sixty days’ published notice before action upon such a resolution, and therefore absolutely void; but, that it was simply the expression of the sentiment of those present at the conference upon the question, without the authority of an action to close the college.

“Fourth: That this council, after due consideration of the question of closing the college and diverting the property to other uses than that of a college, which is duly provided for in the articles of incorporation, believe that it will actually cost less to run the college the ensuing year than to discontinue the running of the same; besides, it will so disturb the educational work, already in operation at great sacrifice and expense, as to make it doubtful if the college could ever recover from the effects of so stopping it.

“Therefore, after a full and respectful consideration of the feeling and sentiment expressed in the resolution by the general conference, it is the sense of this council that its members in their respective capacities and duties as members of the bishopric of the Reorganized Church, and as trustees of Graceland College, use every legitimate effort practicable to solicit and collect the means to liquidate the full indebtedness now against the college, and, should the means be furnished, continue the running of the college according to its articles of incorporation, and the trust reposed by the church.”

The board of trustees also took action as follows:

“Whereas, The conference in session at Kirtland, O., took action favoring the closing of the college without regard to a provision in

the articles of incorporation requiring sixty days' notice in case of change of said articles, thereby doing injustice to a number of students and to parties who had purchased scholarships and made donations, when a year's notice would seem none too long to take such action in a matter so important; and,

“Whereas, The sacrifice made in closing the college at this time is entirely too great, both by losing the services of President Dewsnup by reason of his educational standing, together with the extra expense of securing a president, who, if his equal, would cost us several thousand dollars more for the term which he was engaged, and the discouragement it may cost to the many who have given their aid in many ways and who have cause to fear the stability of the institution which may be closed with scarcely a moment's notice; and,

“Whereas, A resolution was presented later in the conference than the foregoing, by the quorum of twelve, favoring the running of the college as soon as the debt was paid, the board believing such to be the sentiment of the church membership generally, and that the closing of the college at the end of this year will present almost insurmountable obstacles to its reopening, and having an assurance from the bishopric that active measures will be taken at once looking to the immediate liquidation of the debt; therefore, be it

“Resolved, by the Board of Trustees of Graceland College, in special session assembled on this 12th day of May, 1904, That we immediately proceed with the work of procuring and electing members of the faculty, the distribution of catalogues, and the performing of such other duties as are prescribed by the articles of incorporation to continue the college in session for the next year; it is understood, however, that such action is to be contingent upon the debt against the college being paid.”

The bishopric also took action regarding the financial phase of the affair, and the whole was embodied in the report of the trustees to the general conference of 1905. At the same time a minority report was brought in, and the subject of the legality of the action was discussed at length on the conference floor. As a good way out of the dilemma the conference finally decided to receive both reports and indorse neither. At the same conference the question of continuing the college was again broached, and the following resolutions relative to the matter, after having been adopted by a joint council of the twelve, presidency and bishopric, were presented to the body and eventually adopted:

“To the General Conference, Greeting—At a joint council of the first presidency, twelve and the bishopric held this morning, the following was adopted and presented to the conference:

“First. That after due consideration of the question of continuing the running of the college, and the importance of the same in giving proper training and educational facilities to the youth of the church, and such others as may care to avail themselves of its benefits, together with the present status of the financial condition of the same, we are of the opinion that the college should continue; and whatever minor changes as to courses of study and methods of development, if any, be left as provided by its articles of incorporation with the board of trustees, and such changes as may be made directly by the conference.

“Second. We favor recommending to the conference that the expenses of running the college be met by voluntary contributions for the purpose, and that one day in each year be set apart, to be known as College Day, upon which offerings, in the manner of collections, shall be taken up in all districts and branches of the church, to aid the college work, the same to be forwarded to the bishop of the church to be devoted to such purposes.

“Respectfully submitted,

“HEMAN C. SMITH,

“FREDERICK M. SMITH,

“Secretaries of Joint Council.

“Lamoni, Ia., April 7, 1905.”

The school had opened the previous fall as usual, but with the tremendous handicap of public opinion throughout the church against it. A fair number of students enrolled from various localities, ranging from Massachusetts on the east to Arizona on the west, Saskatchewan on the north and Texas on the south. It was at this perilous time that the advent of President Rolland M. Stewart found college affairs in a dubious condition. In all Graceland history perhaps there never was a better loved, respected and capable president than Professor Stewart. It is enough to say for him that, laboring under the prejudices above mentioned, he doubled the enrollment during two years of his presidency. The year 1905 brought the first agitation for dormitories and industrial work. The first Sunday in each September was set apart as Graceland Day throughout the church for the taking of collections for the support of Graceland. The next year this was changed to first Sunday in October.

The refunding of railway fare brought the college nearer to the door of the prospective students. The action of the 1905 conference brought new lease of life, and once more Graceland faced her problems with renewed determination to make good.

In 1907 the Industrial Department, much planned and talked of, was begun in a small way. A dormitory for girls was built at a cost of \$3,100, and given the name of Marietta Hall, in honor of Mrs. Marietta Walker, a pioneer in church and college work. Mrs. Bettie B. Smith, a kind-hearted, motherly saint, was put in charge of the dormitory, and kitchen and dining room in the basement of the college. It was a large family to cook for, and no one but "Aunt Bettie" could have done it. It was a small beginning, but by no means meager in memory to those who were there and visited there. The precious "first things" are always best, and the first days of dormitory life at Graceland were no exception. The boys and girls of those days could tell you the most interesting part of this history, for like most history, the best parts must forever be the unwritten ones. But who has forgotten the strolls on the college campus, the informal "sings" in the chapel, the quarrelings and makings-up of college life in those days? If that crowd were once more gathered on the campus, I am sure that none would have forgotten how to play "three deep," or if they met in the basement kitchen would any fail to remember the right proportions of sugar and milk that would result in "dandy fudge." Even dish-washing had a charm undreamed of in mother's kitchen. But the Industrial School has grown older, more staid and more sober now, and things move in a more dignified way than at first; but perhaps some of the students of later years can testify that none of the good times have been lost on the road.

The future of the Industrial School devolved upon Prof. Charles B. Woodstock, of Kenosha, Wis., who has made a success of that phase of his work by his untiring effort. By this means many have gained an education who, had it been otherwise, might never have had it. The kitchen and dining room work and part of the laundry work is done by student help. The farm and all outdoor work is carried on by the men who are studying at the institution, as is also the janitor work, and in fact everything that student labor can do. The Graceland boys of several years ago, some of whom are now in the missionary field, who used to canvass the town in search of wood to saw, can best appreciate the better facilities for the man who wants to help himself. Professor Woodstock is the head of the manual training course, a department of the industrial work, which is deserv-

edly very popular, and needs no argument to prove its merits. The revival of interest in the arts and crafts has never needed a recommendation. We are beginning to realize that our "ten fingers are our best friends." Some very interesting work has been designed and put out by the Graceland shops. We expect Graceland to keep in the van of this movement.

In point of numbers of its devotees perhaps the Business School exceeds all other departments in popularity, with a close second of the Normal School. The short time that some students have to devote to college, limited finance and the desire to get to work in the world and feel the joy of earning are some of the causes that crowd the Business Department. The Normal Department also has a deserving popularity, for the work of educating for the art of teaching has become more and more imperative. There was a time when almost anyone could "teach school;" but that time has passed, and Graceland realizes with her contemporaries the true worth of the title "Teacher," and is making skillful the hand and the heart that must in some sense control the future citizenship. The Children's Home should in time furnish the students of the Normal Department the necessary "training school," and prove an advantage both to the home and the Normal Department. Too often the entrance of commercial and industrial courses side by side with the higher liberal studies results in the deterioration in interest of the latter. We hope that this has not been the case with Graceland. The desire expressed by some to make a commercial school of Graceland has never met with favor from those who rate a life higher than a living. The mad commercial spirit which insists on knowledge that "pays" and even philosophizes on the truth that all knowledge is useful, and distorts it into the idea that useful knowledge consists only in those obvious and visible parts of truth that mean dollars and cents. The spirit has reached us, as it has others, and the School of Liberal Arts cannot be said to be as popular as others in the past. The time will come when the demands of the young people who come to Graceland will require the beginning of a movement for a greater Graceland in the things that count for true scholarship. We must comply with the weights and measures of education that have been selected as standard, and then a "degree" from Graceland will be worthy of honor in the world of men. But in the meantime, while we are waiting to grow, Graceland is one of the small colleges which has not and will not refuse to do what she can for those who cling to the time-honored ideal of a liberal education.

The Music Department has been a prominent feature from the inception of the college until now. Miss Nellie Davis was the first head of this department, and she has been followed by the best help available to the trustees from time to time.

The School of Oratory was originally conducted by Mrs. Ruth Lyman Smith, and has since been presided over by Mrs. Evelyn Gurley Kane, Miss Alice Heathcote McElrath, Miss Zaida Gaines and the present director, Miss Lena Lambert. There was a time when the School of Oratory suffered a sort of decline, but it was brought into prominence again by Miss McElrath, whose own interest inspired everybody else, and soon made her the idol of the student body. It was Miss McElrath who planned, coached and helped in the execution of the first annual Athenian play, in 1907. It was the old favorite, "Esmeralda," and it was such a signal triumph for the Athenians that the Athenian play has become an annual event.

The school has one literary society—the Athenian—it was organized almost at the beginning of the college and has been thriving ever since. The Athenian Society, besides their own literary improvement, have done things. The evidences of Athenian liberality in the matter of gifts to the college is not hard to find, and the list of them would be too long to enumerate. The Athenian Society has met representatives of other schools and colleges in several interschool debates and won her share of them.

The Athletic Associations have held wavering prominence in Graceland's history, but since the appearance in the faculty of Prof. Roy V. Hopkins, who is director of athletics, in addition to being professor of ancient languages in the college, athletics seem to have come into prominence to stay, and have created a college spirit that the old Graceland never knew—that spirit of loyalty to the gold and blue, the college and the team, that lives always.

The first dormitory descended to the boys, and the girls occupy a new one, built in 1909, and named Patroness Hall, after a society of loyal Lamoni matrons formed several years ago for the purpose of helping Graceland. And they did help her, and helped the new dormitory so substantially that when it was finished there was no choice but to name it Patroness Hall. There is a sunny, spacious dining hall in Patroness, and three times a day the people from both dormitories meet there around the long tables.

The students take pride in improving the school. Out of their private funds they have donated liberally for certain school projects, and the latest improvement was the decorating of the dining hall,

which was achieved by a box social given by the girls after a week full of excited planning, crepe paper, ribbon and all sorts of wonderful things.

Blair Hall is the farm house and has at different times sheltered some of the students.

Every year the Booster Club furnishes to the public a lecture course which makes a small profit for the college, and also helps the college in its work, with other college recitals, plays and entertainments, the college calendar is quite full.

There is one honor scholarship conferred each year for the best oration. For the time the donor of the scholarship did not wish his name revealed, but somehow the scholarship has become universally spoken of as the Pitt scholarship and everybody knows that the benefactor is William Pitt, of Independence, Mo.

The history of Graceland is a little bit of a misnomer, for as yet she has not had a score of years in which to make history; the longest and best part of her history is in the future, still Graceland has lived long enough to earn many lifelong friends in the students whom her old brick walls have sheltered. That indefinable something that ties a man to his school has bound us Gracelanders forever to Graceland days and Graceland ways, however commonplace they may seem to others. There are some of us whom the memory of a violet-dotted campus and the songs of the meadow lark on the Graceland hills will follow all our lives; then how can we forswear allegiance? Like Goldwin Smith, who by the way was no sentimentalist, said of Magdalen College when at fourscore he wrote, "My heart has often turned to its beauty, and often the sound of its sweet bells have come to me across the ocean—a little Eden in a world where there are none too many of them;" so will many of us say in the eventide of our lives, when we look back to our Graceland.

There are people—even of our own church—who doubt Graceland and her mission; that prejudice must be laid aside by those who go out from her walls. We will show them that Graceland does not send into the world mere intellectual deformities, but men and women ready for the world's struggles and triumphs, with broad, generous views of life, that will tend to make life better worth living—fitted intellectually, spiritually, and physically to cope with the world's problems.

CHAPTER X

THE CITY OF LEON .

EARLY SETTLEMENT AND GROWTH

Leon is now a city of 1,800 inhabitants. When the town was first surveyed it was given the name of Independence, but as the county seat of Buchanan County, Ia., bore the same name the postal authorities objected, so the new town was given the name South Independence. In the winter of 1854-5 the Legislature of the state changed the name to Leon in compliance with a petition drawn by a committee consisting of S. C. Thompson, Dr. J. P. Finley and G. L. Moore. It is said that the name Leon was suggested by W. H. Cheevers who became attracted by it while serving as a soldier in the Mexican war.

Thomas H. East built the first residence in Leon. It was a log cabin located in the rear of the present opera house. After the town was surveyed Dr. S. C. Thompson built a log house sixteen feet square where the opera house now stands and occupied the same for a residence. He also put a small building up for use as an office. I. N. Clark put up a store building for Cleveland & Winn on the site later occupied by Clark & McClelland's store. Into this building the goods from the store on the Oney farm were moved and Mr. Clark sold the first dollar's worth of goods to Reuben Hatfield. The building was 20 by 40 feet in dimensions and constructed of rough logs. One of the firm, Winn, in recent years conducted a store at Higginsville, Mo.

Soon a sufficient number of settlers arrived to justify the establishment of a postoffice and Joshua Davis was the first postmaster. He was a brother-in-law of Johnny Patterson and had his office on the north side of the square. Among other pioneer business men were: Dr. Frank Warford, Moore & Richards, Samuel Harrow & Son, W. W. Ellis, Dr. J. P. Finley, Stillwell & Stevens, Ira B. Ryan, and Reuben Shackelford. The latter kept the first hotel then

located on the site of Mrs. Konkle's residence. Isham Fuqua also kept an hotel in an early day. John M. Richardson conducted the first flouring mill. The first attorneys were John Warner, George A. Hawley, P. H. Binkley, Judge Samuel Forrey and "Timber" Wood.

In 1854 the first school building was erected in Leon. At the close of that year the town had four stores and about forty residences. From this time until the commencement of the Civil war the growth in population was quite rapid and the town enjoyed a lucrative trade. New stores multiplied rapidly and by 1860 the town had 600 inhabitants. In 1870 the town numbered 820 people; in 1880 there were 1,367; in 1890, 1,565; in 1900, 1,620; and in 1910 there were 1,800 people living here. The town in the last five years has grown proportionately.

Among the old settlers here was W. T. Fishburn. He came from Van Buren County in 1856. By trade he was a millwright and contractor. That year he built a grist mill for Uncle Billy Davis, the founder of Davis City. He built a grist mill in Terre Haute in 1858 for himself and managed it for nearly three years. The mill was partially destroyed in 1860 and so he returned to Leon, where he owned and occupied a residence on the present site of the Advent Church. He was an accomplished mechanic and put the machinery in the Little grist mill in the east part of Leon. He supervised the placing of the town clock in the church at Davis City.

Leon was incorporated as a city in 1858. The early records of the city have been lost, so it is not possible to ascertain just who the first officers were; however, in 1874 the office of mayor was held by M. A. Mills.

The office of postmaster has been held successively by Joshua Davis, Alexander Updegraff, Mr. Snyder, P. O. James, John P. Finley, Jr., W. H. Robb, J. L. Harvey, W. J. Sullivan, E. K. Pitman, J. R. Conrey, John Ledgerwood, Millard F. Stookey. The office is in the third class, with no city delivery, but with five rural route carriers. In the near future, however, the Leon office will be changed to the second class.

NEWSPAPERS

The Leon Pioneer was published by Binkley Brothers, P. H. and George, in the autumn of 1855. It was a seven-column folio, issued on Thursday. It was democratic in politics. Binkley Brothers

sold out to Joe Parsons and he to Sam Caster. The next proprietor was John Finley who changed the name to the Democratic Reporter. Jackson & Howard finally succeeded Finley and in 1866 the paper came into the hands of Detrick & Penniwell. A Mr. Garrett afterwards bought the interest of Penniwell and then the whole was sold to G. N. Udell. Frazier & Jackson were the next in the list of owners and they restored the name of Pioneer to the sheet and during the last of 1870 sold to Ed D. Pitman who published the paper in 1871-2. He then disposed of the office material to Shinn Brothers and the latter moved it to Hutchinson, Kan.

The Democrat was started in January, 1879, by O. M. Howard and W. C. Jackson and was a few months later consolidated with the Reporter, another young sheet, the new paper being called the Democrat-Reporter. On February 26, 1880, the Decatur County Press was issued for the first time by the Press Printing Company with J. C. Stockton as editor and publisher. On October 26, 1881, this paper was united with the Democrat-Reporter. Mr. Stockton was editor of the new combination and J. A. Ray was business manager until August, 1884, when a company was formed. Lon H. Boydston was then editor. Up until this time it had been a greenback paper, but now it changed to the democratic color.

On January 1, 1887, Boydston sold to J. D. and O. E. Hull. The new owners dropped the name used and called the paper The Reporter, which title has been used continuously ever since. On October 1, 1887, J. D. Hull sold his interest to E. W. Curry and the firm name was then Curry & Hull. This lasted until May, 1889, when L. H. Boydston purchased Curry's interest. On December 1, 1890, O. E. Hull bought out Boydston and came into full ownership which he has retained until the present time. The paper is democratic, six columns, weekly issue running from twelve to sixteen pages. The circulation is about two thousand seven hundred.

The Leon Plain Talk was first issued April 3, 1886, as an independent sheet, and was the successor of the Voice and Echo which was published from September to December, 1885, by Brannon & Flanders. This paper ran but a few months, then died.

Die Wage was a German paper printed for a few weeks in 1869, to encourage German settlers to come to this county.

The Decatur County Advocate was started in the spring of 1873 by D. Frank Knapp. He published it one year as an anti-monopoly paper. In 1876 he returned and started the Leon Clipper, a republican paper. This he published for a period of three months.

The Fact was started in Leon in 1887 by the firm of Stockton & Watsbaugh. This paper, independent in politics, continued to run successfully until 1897, when it was abandoned.

Forty-eight years ago the Journal was first issued in Leon by P. O. James, a practical printer and an experienced newspaper man. It has since been published continuously and thus is the oldest paper in the county. The old Washington hand press and other material was hauled to town in a wagon by the late R. E. Dye. At that time the population of the town was about seven hundred and the county not over nine thousand.

Peter Orlando James had been an employe of the Des Moines Register, where he formed the acquaintance of Frank W. Palmer who had an ambition to serve the people of this district in Congress. It is said that Palmer bought the press and type and presented them to Mr. James. At any rate the paper was started in the interests of Mr. Palmer and successfully so. Mr. James had served during the Civil war in the Fourth Iowa Infantry and was an excellent soldier. He was a prominent Odd Fellow and took great interest in the order. He filled in succession all of the offices of the lodge and was chosen several times as a representative to the grand lodge. Mr. James became postmaster in 1871. Mrs. M. E. James continued the publication of the Journal and also served as postmistress. In 1875 Mrs. James sold the paper to W. T. Robinson, now deceased. He conducted the paper for ten years, during which time he improved the mechanical department and increased the patronage and circulation. He was assisted in the local work by S. C. Mitchell and J. A. Keaton. Mr. Robinson was an experienced printer and newspaper man and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. In August, 1885, Mr. Robinson sold the paper to Marion F. Stookey, Millard F. Stookey and W. S. Johnson, with the latter in control as editor. On January 1, 1893, the paper became the joint property of the two Stookeys, and on January 1, 1904, a joint stock company was organized, composed of the following stockholders: Marion F. and Millard F. Stookey, James F. Harvey, Thomas Teale, Capt. J. D. Brown, Stephen Varga. The stock held by these men has been gradually taken over by Will F. Lindsey and James F. Harvey, these two men now owning the entire paper, the former acting as editor. The paper is published weekly, is republican, six columns, and generally runs from twelve to sixteen pages each issue. The office and plant is equipped with the latest machinery, including a modern linotype.

TELEPHONES

The Leon Telephone Company established an exchange in January, 1896, in the building now occupied by the Exchange National Bank. Miss Lou Craigo was the operator. The exchange remained in the above location until February 22, 1898, when it was removed to the Caster Building at the corner of Main and Commercial streets. The Leon Telephone Company was the property of C. A. Hawkins of Chicago and W. R. Ellinwood of Leon. Leon now has the service of both the Bell and Mutual companies.

ELECTRICITY

The Leon light plant was constructed in 1888 by the City of Leon and managed by the city until November, 1904, when the plant was sold to Curtis & Chase, the consideration being \$5,000. This deal was closed on November 15th and the new proprietors began operating the plant under the title of the Leon Electric Light, Heat and Power Company, with George W. Sears as superintendent and treasurer. Lewis Nies of Oskaloosa was secured as electrician. In March, 1909, J. F. Smith and Sam C. Johnston of Omaha, Neb., bought out the company and changed the title to the Leon Electric Company. This company now supplies Decatur City and Garden Grove with electricity.

WATER

The question of a municipal water supply first came before the people of Leon in 1909. On June 10th of that year a special election was held on the proposition of issuing \$35,000 in bonds for the construction of a system of water works. This proposition was defeated by a majority of 195 votes.

On December 14, 1909, the question was again submitted to a general vote. By a vote of 626 to 253 the people declared in favor of issuing bonds to the extent of \$35,000 and by a vote of 336 to 130 in favor of establishing a system of water works.

IMPROVEMENTS

Within the last decade a start has been made in equipping the City of Leon with adequate paving, sewerage and other improvements necessary to a growing town. In the years 1913-4 fully three miles

of good brick paving was laid. In 1909 the sanitary sewerage system was installed under the main streets, the sewage being disposed of by artificial means. There are six miles of water mains in the city, all municipally owned. In the summer of 1915 there will be nine miles more sewerage laid in the city.

The new Burlington depot at Leon was opened to the public January 23, 1911.

The Waubonsie Trail was put through Leon in the spring of 1911.

The first meeting to consider a Young Men's Christian Association in Leon was held December 16, 1879.

BANKS

The Farmers and Traders State Bank of Leon was organized in 1894 as a private bank by J. E. Thomas of Davis City, A. H. Teale of Kellerton. They bought the bank building of L. P. Sigler. In the same year Thomas Teale bought their interests in the bank and it was incorporated as a state bank January 1, 1895, Judge John W. Harvey being a partner and stockholder and later becoming president. There has been no change in ownership as the estate of Judge Harvey still retains a half interest. The present officers are: Thomas Teale, president; Mrs. John W. Harvey, vice president; Fred Teale, cashier; T. S. Arnold, S. G. Mitchell and C. E. Stuber, assistant cashiers. The bank started with a capital of \$25,000, increased to \$50,000 in 1903, and to \$100,000 in 1913. It is the largest capitalized bank in the county at the present time.

The Exchange National Bank of Leon was started as the Exchange Bank in February, 1885, with the following first officers: S. W. Hurst, president; I. N. Clark, vice president; C. E. Gardner, cashier. The present officers are: A. L. Ackerly, president; O. E. Hull, vice president; E. G. Monroe, cashier; Carl Monroe, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$35,000; and the deposits are \$190,000.

The Farmers and Traders Bank mentioned above was originally started in 1869 as the First National Bank and five years later was purchased by the Decatur County Banking Association, namely, D. and A. B. Stearn and L. P. Sigler, who named it the Farmers and Traders Bank. Sigler was president and T. S. Arnold cashier.

There is in process of organization a new bank in Leon to be known as the Leon Savings Bank. It is to be located in the Sigler Building at the corner of Main and Ninth streets. The articles of

incorporation are at this date filed. Marion F. Stookey will be president; Frank N. Hansell and G. W. Baker, vice presidents; and George T. Ogilvie, cashier.

LODGES, SOCIETIES AND CLUBS

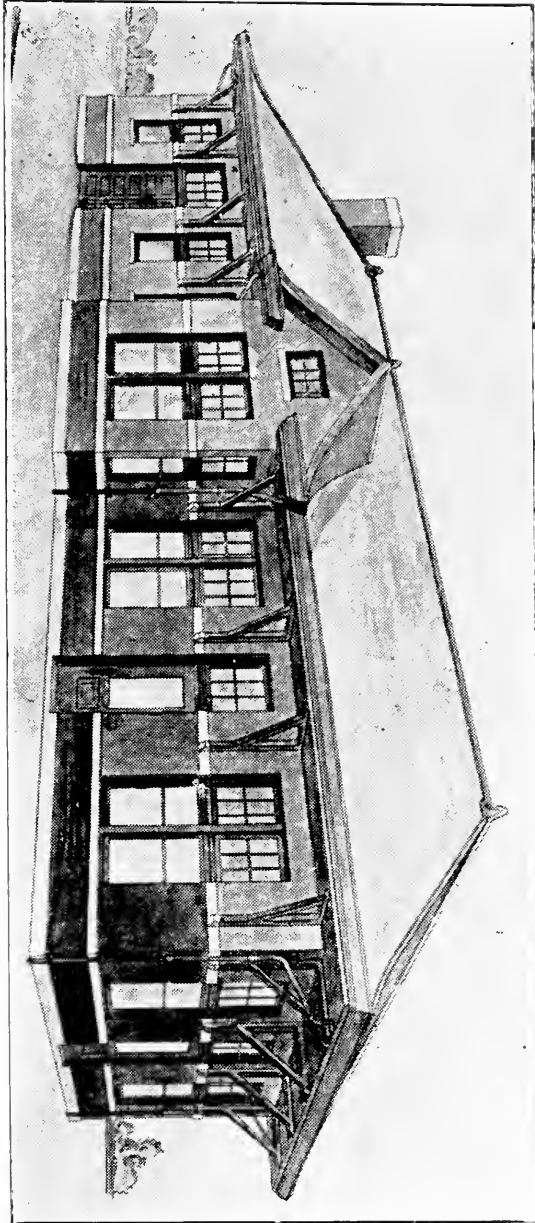
Grand River Lodge No. 78, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was organized under dispensation November 30, 1855, with the following charter members: Samuel C. Thompson, worshipful master; George T. Young, senior warden; J. R. McClelland, junior warden; D. O. Ball and Thomas Silver. John P. Finley, Peter C. Stewart and Samuel Forrey were the first initiates and were received January 15, 1856. The charter was granted June 5, 1856, and Samuel C. Thompson was named as worshipful master; George T. Young, senior warden; F. M. Wafford, junior warden.

Leon Chapter No. 33, Royal Arch Masons, was organized October 25, 1866, with the following officers: C. S. Stout, high priest; S. C. Thompson, king; John P. Finley, scribe; H. W. Peck, captain of hosts; C. G. Bridges, principal sojourner; John E. Chaney, royal arch captain; William M. Duncan, master third vail; George T. Young, master second vail; W. B. Montgomery, master first vail; J. H. Woodbury, secretary; Thomas Johnson, guard. George Woodbury was the first man elected to membership.

Independence Chapter No. 28, Order of Eastern Star, was organized in November, 1884, with a membership of about twenty-five.

Hesperia Lodge No. 33, Knights of Pythias, existed several years before the fire of 1879, when the records were all destroyed with the exception of the charter which was returned to the grand lodge. The lodge was reorganized June 21, 1886, under the former name. The lodge was reorganized with eight of the original members, namely: A. E. Chase, W. A. Brown, E. W. Curry, W. T. Cartwright, S. A. Gates, L. W. Forgraves, G. L. Harvey, C. W. Hoffman. The following also became charter members at this time: J. L. Young, H. C. Van Werden, C. M. Murray, L. Van Werden, Albert Gafford, W. J. Sullivan and John F. Hamilton.

Leon Lodge No. 84, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized by dispensation February 7, 1856, and chartered October 8th of the same year. The charter members were: John F. Finley, Sr., W. H. Cheever, J. H. Clark, Arnold Childers and C. R. Lapham. The lodge flourished until 1861 when, by reason of numerous enlistments in the army, meetings were discontinued. The last meet-



BURLINGTON DEPOT, LEON



ing was on March 9th of that year and the next recorded meeting was held on July 27, 1868.

Leon Post No. 251, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized November 22, 1883, by W. T. Wilkinson, mustering officer. The following were the first officers: J. A. Ray, commander; S. P. Nott, senior vice commander; C. W. Beck, junior vice commander; W. J. Sullivan, quartermaster; Ed K. Pitman, adjutant; W. L. Kelly, surgeon; I. P. Morton, chaplain; John P. Finley, officer of the guard; E. W. Curry, officer of the day; J. M. Sylvester, sergeant-major; J. B. Garrett, quartermaster-sergeant.

Leon Lodge No. 88, I. O. G. T., was organized in the autumn of 1885 with forty-six charter members. The charter was received December 12th, following.

CHURCHES

In the fall of 1850 John Patterson, Parnela Patterson, John Jordan, Artemesia Jordan, William Burt, an exhorter, Cynthia Burt, Lou Annie McIlvaine, Abner Harber, Ishmael Barnes, Levi Clark, ten in number, organized a Methodist class, and in September, 1850, Decatur County was organized. In March, 1851, the Methodist Episcopal Church was to be organized at John Patterson's cabin, the original chapel of Methodism in Decatur County, size 11 by 11 by 6, center to comb, but the preacher, Brother Klepper, from Missouri, was sick and could not get nearer than John Jordan's on Eden Prairie, near the Richard Meek place, so John Patterson walked down there that day in a snow storm from his home where the Leon cemetery now is, and they organized the church.

In the fall of 1851 the Iowa Conference sent a missionary by the name of Lyman Briggs to Decatur County. Three sermons were preached and on week days, but every Sabbath the class met at Patterson's.

John Parker was the next one; he came in the fall of 1852. Barnes and family came and lived where W. A. Boone lives. McIlvaines came and lived on the Doctor Baker farm. Doctor Thompson came in the fall of 1851. Quarterly meeting was at Albia and Uncle John Patterson went on horseback, as it was the only way to travel, as there was no road with the exception of the Indian trail and no bridges. This year Thomas Smith and family came and added five more to the church. Others who came were: Stanleys, Vanderpools, Hatfields, I. N. Clark, Thomas Winn, James Garrett, Frank Smith.

Brother Swim came to preach, but not often, as there were five counties to be supplied. The first quarterly meeting was held at Decatur City in a house built for a courthouse. John Hayden was the first presiding elder; John Parker, pastor; John Patterson, class leader; John Jordan, steward.

The first Sunday school in Decatur County was organized in 1853, in John Patterson's cabin, by Williams, a Presbyterian, and John Patterson as superintendent. In 1854 the Decatur mission was formed and D. L. Swim appointed pastor in charge. In the same year it became Leon Circuit, which was composed of the counties of Decatur, Ringgold, Clarke and Union. Owing to the increase in population it was thought best to divide the circuit so Decatur Circuit was established. There being a substantial church in Decatur City the minister aroused the people of Leon to build a large church. Services were held at Patterson's and other members' homes and later they were held in a school where Mrs. Landis now lives. In 1856 preaching and Sunday school were held in an old courthouse in the east of town, where the Varga residence now stands. Then in the old brick courthouse in the southwest corner of the square. The Presbyterian and Methodist societies plastered this building to obtain its use, each society occupying the building on alternate Sabbaths. The bell now used by the public schools once called the worshippers to this church.

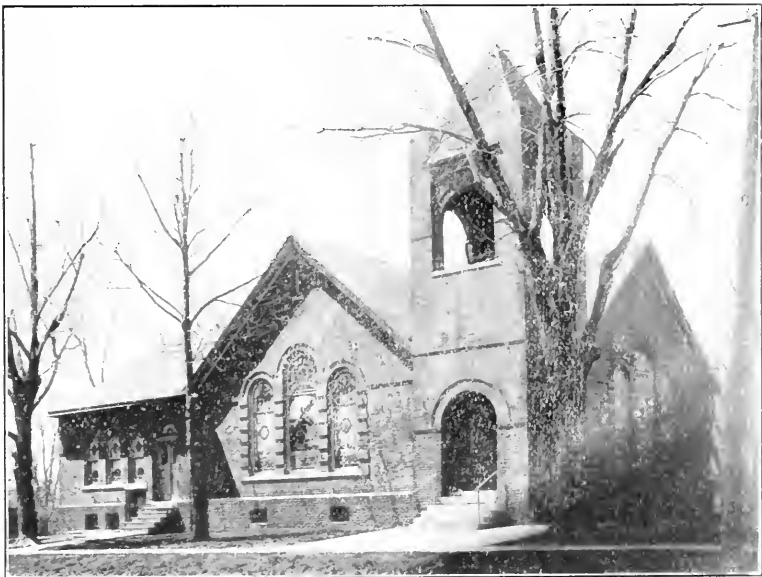
On January 13, 1859, a committee was appointed to estimate the cost of a new church and shortly afterward the lot where the public library now stands was taken over and work begun on the building. The committee named was composed of: George Hawley, John Jordan, John Patterson, John Tharp, Daniel Shaffer, Rev. J. D. De Lay. It was through great effort that the building was enclosed, floored and one coat of plaster put on in the fall of 1859. For seats slab benches were made with no backs. The threatenings of the Civil war and later the war itself stopped all work upon the church. In 1860 the trustees were ordered to buy or build a parsonage. In 1863 part of the pastor's salary of \$400 was paid in produce. In 1876 the church building was renovated. W. P. Wood and L. P. Sigler gave the church its first organ in 1877. On July 5, 1888, the church was incorporated.

The cornerstone for the new church structure was laid August 23, 1888, and completed at a cost of \$9,000.

The following are the names of the pastors who have served this society: Lyman Briggs, John Parker, Swim, J. B. Rawls, David



METHODIST CHURCH, LEON



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, LEON

Dickinson, Erasmus T. Coiner, Jacob De Lay, Benjamin Williams, Samuel Farlow, J. B. Cary, Benjamin Shinn, D. O. Stuart, William F. Hertwood, G. P. Bennett, R. W. Thornburg, J. C. R. Layton, Simpson Guyer, Amos Wilson, A. P. Hull, D. McIntyre, William Plested, A. Brown, W. H. Shipman, C. L. Nye, C. H. Newell, James Boreman, A. T. Jeffrey, W. C. Hohanshelt, George M. Hughes, George Winterbourn, John Gibson, Joseph Stephen, I. N. Woodward, A. M. Pileher, Ray Shipman, James L. Boyd, E. M. Hoff, Guy J. Fansher.

The Christian Church was an aggressive force among the early pioneers of Decatur County. An organization was established in good season in Leon, and the efforts of the pastor and visiting evangelists exercised a material influence toward the moral and educational advancement of the people.

The first regular organization of the Christian Church was effected the first Sunday in June, 1854, by Elder Josephus C. Porter, who served as preacher in charge for nearly twenty years. Names that are now mentioned with respect and affection as members of this devoted band of pioneer Christians are: John Gardner and wife, Christina A. Gardner, Franklin Gardner, J. C. Porter and wife, Anna Bradfield, Catherine Gardner, Wilson I. Gardner, Anna Thatcher, Jacob Witter and wife, Reuben Shackelford and wife, Andrew McElvain, J. McElvain and wife, John W. Gardner and wife, W. W. Ellis and wife, Dr. J. R. McClelland and wife, Daniel Bradley and wife, and Nancy Weldon. Among those who assisted in evangelistic work during the early days were Elders John Polly, W. B. Fisk, O. E. Brown, J. C. Levey and T. V. Berry.

In 1867 the congregation had increased in numbers to such an extent that a church building became a necessity. Accordingly a brick structure was erected which cost \$4,000 and was used as a house of worship until the spring of 1902. It was 40 by 60 feet in size and for many years was the best church building in the county. The new building was dedicated on Sunday, February 14, 1903.

The list of pastors who have served this church in Leon is as follows: Revs. J. C. Porter, James Gaston, T. V. Berry, A. B. Cornell, S. H. Hedrix, H. A. Lemon, W. E. Jones, O. Elbert, A. E. Major, John P. Jesse, C. F. Stevens, H. T. Clark, R. J. Castor, H. H. Hubbell.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was organized in 1857. Among the leading members were John W. Warner, Mr. Gillam, W. P. Blair, Robert Patterson and George T. Young, with their

families. They met in the courthouse on alternate Sunday mornings for four years and then discontinued services. Reverend Post was their only pastor during this time.

The Presbyterian Church was formed June 2, 1866, in the Methodist Church. The first members were Francis and Mary Varga, W. H. Smith, Thomas and Mary Baldwin, Fidelia F. Thompson, Robert and Keturak Kinnear, Margaret Stone, W. W. and Rebecca J. Moore, W. P. Blair, Mary A. Blair, Mary E. Young and Martha E. Avery. The meetings were first held every month in the old schoolhouse. After 1869 they were held on alternate Sundays, one preacher serving this and the Grand River Church. In 1871 a house of worship was erected on Commercial Street, two blocks east of Main, costing \$7,000. The pastors who have served here are: Revs. D. S. Hughes, R. J. Burt, A. A. Mathes, F. Rea, C. M. Des Isles, Cyrus Johnson, W. C. Cort.

The Baptist Church first held services four miles southeast of Leon, some years before the war. The meeting place was shortly removed to town. Among the early members were: Mr. and Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Hammer, Samuel C. Thompson, Robert E. Dye and wife. Rev. John Woodard preached for the congregation for some years just before the war and then the organization went down. About 1867 Reverend Cake preached for one year. Then came Revs. Morton, Tillbury, Freeland Edwards. The new organization was effected November 1, 1879. Among the members who helped in this revival were: Robert E. Dye and wife, Mrs. Hammer, Mr. and Mrs. Burns, Warren Cole and wife, N. P. Bullock and wife, C. M. Murray and S. P. Nott and wife. The society rented a hall over Bowman's harness shop until the church was constructed in 1883 on the second block east of the square. It was a frame structure and cost \$3,500.

The Seventh Day Adventists formed a society in Leon in 1888 under F. C. Watkins. A house of worship was constructed soon after the organization of the society. The society has now but twenty-three members and hold meetings every other Sunday. There is also an Adventist Church at Woodland, nine miles southeast of Leon, and one at Tuskeego. Both of these congregations are small.

The United Brethren Society began their work in the county in 1856, when Elder Abraham Replogle, of Appanoose County, gathered the members at Franklin and organized them into a church with William J. Stout, Sam A. Gurber and Harry Spurlock as ministers.

The charter members of this society were: Susan Hendricks, Jacob Sears and wife, Christ Heaston and wife, Jacob Heaston and wife, Samuel Sears, William Stout and wife, Harvey Spurlock and wife, Samuel Garber and wife, and James Owensby and wife. The first communion was held at the Owensby home. The first church was constructed in the county in 1874, six miles northeast of Leon, and was known as Franklin Church. In 1883 came the unfortunate division of the church over the question of uniformity in religious garb. The liberal conference joined with the Presbyterians in building a union chapel at Crown. The following preachers have served there: Revs. S. H. Bashor, Mrs. Clara Flora, Noah Flora, Isaac Thomas, Sadie Gibbons, W. A. Witty, S. J. Wood, F. Rawlinson, J. F. and F. A. Garber, G. T. Ronk. The church at Union Chapel was organized in October, 1912. The church building in Leon was begun May 28, 1914, the lot having been purchased in October, 1913, and the church was dedicated October 25, 1914.

THE SWIFT COMPANY

The plant of Swift & Company in Leon was completed in September, 1904, and opened for business the same month with T. D. Watson as resident manager. He was manager of the Chariton plant before coming to Leon, and after the big fire that destroyed the former Swift plant in this city he had charge of both the houses of the company, here and at Chariton. The first plant was built and opened in 1902, and was completely destroyed by fire in the winter of 1904. The cost of the second structure was \$5,000. This second plant burned to the ground on Saturday, October 24, 1914. The loss amounted to \$100,000.

COMMERCIAL CLUB

The Leon Commercial Club was established April 26, 1907. The object of the club is to promote the civic and industrial interests of the city and to place Leon on equal footing with similarly sized cities in the state. The present officers are: James F. Harvey, president; A. L. Ackerley, vice president; William J. Springer, secretary; C. W. Robinson, treasurer.

REMINISCENCES OF LEON

By Maj. J. L. Young

In November, 1859, when I first saw Leon there was not a foot of sidewalk in the town. The men engaged in the mercantile busi-

ness were Richards & Hale, who had a nice stock of goods in an old frame shack at the northwest corner of the square. Bradley & Gardner were doing business in the frame building that stood on the opposite corner of the square, where the Evans Block now stands. J. D. Harrow & Co. were in a still smaller frame building that stood where the Park Hotel now stands. Stevens & Stillwell were in a frame building on the west side of the square near the Hurst store. I am not certain whether John R. Wharton or Wharton & Richardson were then in business, but I think they were in a 2-story frame building standing on the alley where Stempel's drug store stood. That was the first imposing business building in the town and had an outside stairway on the south side leading to the second story, where the Binckleys printed the Pioneer, the only paper then published in the county. Alexander Updegraff and Ab Gillham had a harness shop just south of Farquhar Brothers' hardware store.

The legal guessing on points of law and equity at that time was done by Judge Sears, while Bob Parrott, of Osceola, was prosecuting attorney for the district. George T. Young was clerk; Harrison Weldon, sheriff; John Jordan, treasurer, and L. H. Sales, county judge. The jail was a log structure and had iron bars in the windows which we thought awfully secure in those days. I guess it was, for nobody broke jail then as they have since the cage system was introduced. The jail then stood one block west of the northwest corner of the square.

At that time I. N. Clark was the only retired merchant in Leon. M. H. Wood made and mended our shoes, and Uriah Bobbitt filled the same office for the horse and mule population. Judge Samuel Forrey was the leading lawyer of the place, while Joe and John Warner dropped in the procession next, and P. H. Binkley, George A. Hawley and George S. Adams brought up the rear, with V. Wainwright just newly admitted, looking out for a good place in which to drop.

John Warner and George A. Hawley were the Presbyterian preachers for the town and vicinity. John concluded to give all of his time to the church and sold his practice and good will to Young & Wainwright and quit the practice for six or eight months, and then went into the firm for active practice again.

The hotel accommodations then were fully up to the present considering the town size. The Patterson House, kept by Robert Patterson and his estimable family, was a 2½-story structure, of wood, that stood on the south side of the square just east of the site of the

Varga Block, where a nice, cheerful wood fire in the old-fashioned fire-place gave such a comfortable greeting to the traveler that he was prepared to partake heartily of the substantial and well cooked meal he was always sure of having placed before him. The Freeman House, a clean, comfortable place to stay, was kept by Mrs. Rhoda Hawkins, Billy Boone's mother. Billy was then a bare-footed boy, usually with his big toe tied up or a stone bruise on his heel. John Warner and Old Man Shackleford had been engaged in the hotel business, but they retired and gave way to more pretentious hostelries. Shortly before this Karl Hoffman completed the building known for years as the Sales House. Hoffman traded the building for eighty acres of land north of Leon, where his son Cal now resides.

The frame Methodist Church was not completed in 1857, but they held meetings every Sunday at 11 o'clock, and at "early candle lightin'" when they could get a preacher. When they could not, Uncle Johnny Patterson would hold class or Jimmie Garrett would "exhort" for an hour or two.

John Lee, an importation from Illinois, started a saloon in a photographer's car on the west side of the square in 1861, but a committee composed of the best women of the town visited the place one fine day with axes, hatchets and matches, and John did not keep a saloon in Leon after that.

In 1856 the population of Leon had increased to 600. In 1871 it was only 850, but the arrival of the railroad during that year brought many people to the place so that the population had increased to 1,367 in 1880. The greater portion of the main line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad through Iowa and also the branch from Chariton to Leon was constructed during the year 1871. Eight years later the road was extended to Bethany, Mo. In order to procure the branch line Garden Grove Township donated \$25,000, while Center gave \$50,000 and the right of way from Garden Grove to Leon. The advent of the railroad stimulated immigration, promoted business activity and increased the value of real estate throughout the country.

Among the members of the Leon bar in 1871 were John W. Harvey, Warner & Post, N. P. Bullock, J. B. Morrison, E. W. Curry, W. M. Porter, W. E. Dawson and Albert Hale. The physicians were J. P. Finley, H. C. Sanford and J. R. McClelland. A. S. Updegraff conducted a harness shop, and Q. M. Lindsey officiated as landlord at the Sales House. The First National Bank had a

capital of \$60,000 and was officered as follows: President, John Clark; vice president, William Davis; cashier, L. P. Sigler; directors, J. D. Wasson, A. M. Hilton, R. E. Hutchinson, William Loving, J. H. Garrett, J. E. Logan and S. C. Thompson. The druggists were Hildreth & Woodbury, Thompson & Gillham and Hammer & Finley. Among the prominent merchants were S. W. Hurst, Richards & Close and W. D. Coventry. S. V. Walton & Brothers advertised themselves as breeders and shippers of Poland China hogs, Shorthorn cattle and Spanish fowls. Phillip Blind was the barber, and A. C. Davis the dentist. L. S. Lunbeck was the painter and paperhanger. The woolen factory was owned and operated by C. M. Knapp, and Jordan & Robb owned the abstract books and conducted a land agency. Sinclair & Jenks were the restaurant people, and S. A. Miller supplied bread for the public at his bakery located south of the square. P. O. James had established the Journal in 1868 and in his issue of August 24, 1871, occurred the following: "We learn that work commenced on the B. & M. Branch at Garden Grove on Monday. This is glorious news to our people and gives us room to hope that we will soon have a railroad in Decatur County."

THE LEON BOARD OF TRADE

This organization has been superseded by the Commercial Club, but nevertheless the history of the same is interesting. On January 15, 1888, a meeting of the business men of Leon was held at the courthouse at which steps were taken towards organizing a business men's association. At this meeting a committee was appointed for the purpose of drawing up a plan of organization. At a second meeting held on Friday evening, January 13th, the committee reported, recommending that an association be formed at once under the name of the Leon Board of Trade. The shares of stock were fixed at \$5 each, and each member of the board was required to take not less than one share of the stock. The constitution and by-laws were at once circulated for signatures, and within fifteen minutes thirty of the business men of the town had signified their intention of becoming members of the board. The board of trade existed successfully and helpfully for a number of years. The purposes of the organization, of course, were largely the same as the present Commercial Club.

LEON AS DESCRIBED IN 1869

The Decatur County Journal, issue of Tuesday, March 4, 1869, has the following to say of Leon:

This is the county seat and is situated about two miles northeast of the geographical center of the county. Thomas H. East had built a house on the townsite before the town was laid out. Judge S. C. Thompson built the first after the location of the town. Clark, Winn & Co. built the first business house, and I. N. Clark sold the first goods in September, 1853.

It now contains six general stores, two family groceries, two drug stores, two stove and tinware stores, three shoe shops, two printing offices, two harness shops, two jewelers, two milliners, three hotels, one livery stable, three blacksmiths, three wagonmakers, one cabinet dealer, two land agencies, eight lawyers, six physicians, two churches, one schoolhouse, two flouring mills, one woolen factory, with the usual proportion of mechanics of different kinds.

Among the substantial business men are Richards & Close, J. D. Harrow and G. D. Sellers, general dealers; Hildreth & Sales and T. W. Hammer, druggists; S. Farquhar and J. W. Shaeffer, dealers in stoves and tinware; J. L. Simms, boots and shoes; A. S. Updegraff and Patterson & Darr, saddles and harness; Jacob Warner, jeweler; Mills & Cross, Uriah Bobbitt, blacksmiths; G. Irelan, wagonmaker. J. O. Johnson keeps the Sales House; this is known as the best hotel in Southern Iowa. Among our prominent lawyers are Young & Harvey, S. Forrey and J. B. Morrison. The physicians are J. P. Finley, Sr., B. F. Raiff, R. D. Gardner, H. Clay Sanford, J. R. McClelland and C. P. Mullinnix.

A Masonic lodge, known as Grand River Lodge No. 73 and Leon Chapter No. 32, located in Leon, are in a flourishing condition. Leon Lodge No. 84, I. O. O. F., is also in flourishing condition. A Chapter of Temperance was organized during the past winter and is doing good work.

Considerable attention has been given by the citizens to the planting of shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery. The Public Square, a block of ground 216 feet square, has been enclosed and planted in forest trees, mostly maple, yet of small size. Half a mile north of town there is a large and well-stocked nursery of fruit and ornamental shrubbery of almost every variety. The nursery has been in operation twelve or more years, and is owned and operated by the practical horticulturist, J. B. Lunbeck.

Wood is the principal fuel used and is delivered in Leon during the winter season at \$2 per cord.

There are forty-four arrivals and departures of the mails each week to and from different directions. The postoffice here is a money order office.

The population of Leon is about one thousand. During the past season about thirty good buildings were erected.

MEMORIES OF LEON

The following items were prepared by J. N. Machlan. The writer makes the items doubly interesting by using the historical present tense:

As Abraham Lincoln is now running for President of the United States it is fitting that some demonstration in honor of the occasion be given at Leon. It is useless to state that there is no little interest shown by both political parties on the occasion. Prominent among the Lincolnites that are among those that are parading the streets of Leon are Jesse Roberts and George Machlan, who with a string of teams hitched to a wagon loaded with logs are playing an important part as they pass through the streets of young Leon, one of them driving and the other splitting rails with a mall and wedge.

News has reached us that El. Curry, son of William Curry and brother of E. W. Curry, has returned home from the war on a furlough.

That Grandma Taylor, mother of Uncle Ben Taylor, living in the northeast part of Franklin Township, had disappeared from the homestead of her son, Ben, where she made her home. The news was heralded from place to place over the sparsely settled country, and a searching party, consisting of John Lillard, George Machlan and others, have searched diligently for the missing woman and have found no traces of her whereabouts except some small bits of her clothing.

News has also reached us that Denver Curry, youngest son of William Curry, met with a sad accident while watching his father bore holes in a stick of timber to be used in making a bob sled. The little fellow became anxious to ascertain if the auger point was about to come through the lower side of the timber, and in doing so thrust his front finger into the hole that was just being completed, when it was instantly seized by the crude jaws of the auger and cut off. The severed piece was preserved in alcohol.

We are informed that the young daughter of Mr. Clinkinbeard, near Prairie City (now Van Wert), who, with her parents, was visiting at the Machlan homestead, became anxious to eat some home-made soap from a kettle near the house. The child was attracted by the looks of the soap, and thinking it was sorghum molasses, ate quite a mouthful before she learned it was hurting her. Presently she began to suffer, and as soon as it was learned what she had eaten she was given raw egg and cream, which relieved her somewhat.

We are informed that a dance will take place at Jesse Roberts' one night next week. All are invited.

There will be a spelling school at the Walker schoolhouse next Friday night. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

Strange, isn't it, that we have just learned that the little round yellow and red varieties of Jerusalem cherries that some people call tomatoes, such as our mothers raise in their gardens for ornaments, are said to be relished by some people as edible.

Horrible Accident.—Mrs. Day, wife of Joshua Day, living in central Franklin Township, was killed by a runaway team while returning home from Leon with her son, Joe Jackson. When about $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of town the team became frightened, and running for some distance when Mrs. Day was thrown from the carriage, her clothing catching about the vehicle. She was dragged near the horses' heels for some distance, when Joe became unable to hold the team. They kept on running, the carriage upsetting, and becoming loosened, they continued on toward home, leaving the corpse in a badly mutilated condition in the little muddy creek $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of town.

The Eclipse of the Sun.—The other day, while we were busily engaged stacking wheat and had a stack almost finished at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, we observed first a hazy atmosphere, then a smoky appearance, then in a few minutes a yellowish tint, then darkness was coming on and peculiar sensations were chasing each other up and down our spine as it grew darker and darker. We climbed down from the stack, as it was too dark to work, and went to the house. The fowls had gone to roost. But ere long Old Sol began to show his shining face as if nothing extraordinary had taken place, and before his face disappeared beneath the western horizon we had our wheat stack finished and climbed down for supper.

J. S. Ryan's daughters look quite well in their new dresses made of wool yarn spun and wove into cloth by their mother, Mrs. John

Ryan, of North Central Township. The flannel was made from red and blue wove in checks.

The hum of the spinning wheel may be heard in the land these days. Mrs. John Delk and Mrs. George Machlan enjoy treading the wheel and singing as they spin.

The sad news has just reached us that Chicago is burning and that horses and cattle are rushing to the lake and plunging into the water to escape the flames.

J. S. Ryan, J. M. Gardner and Alma Jackson have each purchased new organs. Organs have been so reduced in price that a pretty good instrument can be had for from \$250 to \$300, and the price of pianos has also dropped until a fairly good one can be had for from \$600 to \$800.

A Narrow Escape.—Ebenezer Price, while assisting with the threshing at his near neighbor's, was standing near the tumbling rod of the thresher when his clothes caught on the revolving shaft and was fast winding them up, when, with great presence of mind, he seized the shaft, called out "Whoa!" to the teams and, being a powerful man, was enabled to bring the revolving shaft to a standstill and saved meeting a horrible death.

There will be a spelling contest at the White Oak schoolhouse Friday night. Some good spellers are expected to be present. Come everybody.

Theodore Delk, living in Center Township, has become quite proficient in handling the violin.

Sherman Abbott, a bright young fellow, is doing some spying for Uncle Sam in the northeast part of the county.

Mr. Vannostrand is making some good hard money on his fine farm on the north county line. Mr. Van knows how to till the soil for what's in it.

Frank Samson, a bright young son of Reverend Seth, of near Prairieville, fell twenty feet through a hay mow at George Machlan's, lighting on a hard floor and temporarily injuring his spine.

Denver Curry, brother of School Teacher E. W. Curry, stopped growing at a height of 6 feet 4 inches.

A party of four young couple boarded a lumber wagon a few evenings ago and started to church northwest of Greenbay, stopping at Mr. Johnson's store in Greenbay and procuring all the candy Mr. Johnson had, which was about three pounds, and started on their way munching at the candy as they went. It was not long until they

began to feel sick and not one of the entire posse escaped the effect of the candy. They all returned home a little worse for the wear.

There will be a corn-shucking at Mr. Donover's stable tomorrow night. Oysters will be served after the shucking. Come early and bring your sweethearts.

Ebenezer Price, on going to his barn yesterday as usual to feed his horses, was picking up some hay and uncovered a man dead drunk. The man was almost frozen to death, and would have been beyond recovery had not Mr. Price taken him to the house and warmed him up and gave him some food to eat.

Amusing, wasn't it, to see young George W. Samson blushing crimson the other day during school hours at the Roberts schoolhouse when young pretty Miss Smith (teacher) caught him napping?

There will be a taffy pulling at Frank Bedier's Saturday night. Come and bring your 'lasses and your lassies.

Mr. Henry Gribble has purchased a recently invented self-binding harvester for about three hundred and seventy-five dollars. The machine binds grain with wire and is attracting people from far and near to see the wonder of the age.

It is reported in Decatur County that a line of wire called a telephone line has been constructed between Indianola, in Warren County, and Afton, in Union County, and that people in said towns can talk over the line of wire by talking into a queer-looking apparatus called a telephone. The people in adjoining counties are quite a little excited over the affair, as many of them never heard of such a thing before in their lives.

CHAPTER XI

THE FOUNDING OF LAMONI AND THE WORK OF THE ORDER OF ENOCH

By Asa S. Cochran

The name Lamoni, as applied to the locality which is now known thereby, had its origin with the First United Order of Enoch, a corporation composed of a number of men of means connected with the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

The stockholders of this organization held their first meeting at Council Bluffs, Ia., September 19, 1870, at which meeting Elijah Banta, Israel L. Rogers, David Dancer, David M. Gamet, Alexander McCord, Calvin A. Beebe and Phineas Cadwell were chosen a board of directors. These men further organized by choosing Elijah Banta, president, Israel L. Rogers, treasurer, and Henry A. Stebbins, secretary. The purpose of this organization is clearly set forth in section 2 of the constitution, which reads as follows:

“Section 2. The general business and object of this corporation shall be the associating together of men and capital and those skilled in labor and mechanics, * * * for the purpose of settling, developing and improving new tracts of land which tracts of land shall be selected and purchased by a committee to be appointed by the board of directors * * * to take cognizance of the wants of the worthy and industrious poor men who shall apply therefor, and provide them with labor and the means for securing homes and a livelihood and to develop energies and resources of the people who may seek their respective localities for settlement.”

At the first meeting of the board Elijah Banta, David Dancer, Israel L. Rogers and Phineas Cadwell were appointed a committee to seek a suitable location for the purchase of land and the operation of said company. The stock certificates of this corporation were issued from Lamoni, Ia. The committee visited several localities in the states of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa, finally locat-



LATTER DAY SAINTS CHURCH, LAMONI



SAINTS' HOME FOR THE AGED, LAMONI

ing in the Township of Fayette, Decatur County, Ia.; the post-office being Sedgwick; the nearest store being at Davis City, seven miles distant; and Leon, eighteen miles away, being the nearest railroad station. The first report of the secretary, dated September 1, 1871, showed that the capital stock amounted to \$44,500 and that 2,680 acres of land had been purchased at a cost of \$21,768.84. Subsequent reports show that the capital stock had been increased \$100 more and a total of 3,330 acres of land had been purchased at a cost of \$30,673.94. Twelve new houses had been built costing \$7,678.40 and about sixteen hundred acres of prairie land had been broken at a cost of \$4,040, a nursery planted and various other improvements made. The shares in the company were \$100 each. Those holding the largest amounts of stock were: David Dancer, \$9,000; Elijah Banta, \$5,000; Israel L. Rogers, \$5,000; Phineas Cadwell, \$3,400; Moses A. Meder, \$3,000; William Hopkins, Simeon Stivers and family, T. J. Andrews and family, Ephraim Rowland, Marietta Walker, Alexander McCord, and Calvin A. Beebe, \$1,000 each; the remaining stock being divided up among about sixty different individuals.

The organization continued about twenty years, paying 90 per cent in dividends and returning the original stock also.

A resolution passed by the board in 1874 shows one thing had in view by them which concerns our subject. It is as follows: "Resolved that we proceed to locate a town site upon or near the land belonging to the association as soon as it is found practicable."

The elders of the Decatur District, principally of the Little River, now Pleasanton branch, had been busy preaching in Fayette Township and several had been baptized, so that on November 12, 1871, in pursuance of a resolution passed by the Decatur District conference, the district president, A. W. Moffett, organized the Lamoni branch which was composed of fifteen members who had formerly been members of the Little River branch, namely: Charles, Harriett and James R. Walker, William and Eliza Bunt, Robert L. Simpson, Adam, Angeline, Francis M., and Susan Dennis, Andrew J. Green, James D. and George R. Dillon and John E. Ackerly, also Charles H. and Margaret Jones, Z. H. Gurley and James P. Dillon. Charles H. Jones was chosen president. During the next year, 1872, the membership of the branch was increased considerably. Samuel Ackerly, George Ross from Wisconsin, George Braby, Peter B. Johnson, and Andrew K. Anderson from Illinois, I. N. W. Cooper from Pennsylvania, William Hopkins from California, James Shaw, Robert

and John Johnson from Canada, who with their families and numerous baptisms by the elders had increased the membership of the branch to nearly seventy. In the year 1873 the members were still further increased by the arrival of O. J. Bailey from Michigan, George W. Bird who had been with Lyman Wight in Texas, Richard Elliker from Canada, Daniel P., David D., and Alburn B. Young, George Adams and E. J. Robinson from California, each with one exception having families, a companion at least.

By this time they were in need of a place of meeting. When the writer came here in the fall of 1875 Daniel P. Young had succeeded Brother Jones as president of the branch. Meetings were held in two schoolhouses at the same hour. One of the houses was a part of the one near the Evergreen Church and the other was $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles east. In the following spring the president called a union meeting on Sunday and appointed the meeting on the following Sunday in the new church.

The following week was a busy one. No lumber nearer than Leon, twenty miles away. Monday and Tuesday lumber was hauled from Leon and blocks for foundation from the timber. Wednesday and Thursday, carpenters, of whom I remember Alexander H. Smith, who had moved that spring from Nauvoo and settled near where Andover, Mo., now is, and H. R. Harder and Hiram Dougherty, who came from Kansas, and perhaps others, framed the building and laid the foundation. Friday and Saturday anyone who could wield a hammer or saw was invited and before the sun set for the last time of the week, the building was up, shingled, inclosed, windows in, and door hung. Meeting was held the next day according to appointment. No floor, no seats, except lumber, wagon seats, or chairs brought in for temporary use. The building was located near the center of the township on land furnished by E. J. Robinson. In the fall, as the cool weather came on, a floor was laid, walls plastered, and it was made comfortable for the winter. The size was probably about twenty-four by thirty-six, about ten feet to the eaves. It was never painted and was abandoned as a church and sold after the church was erected in town.

In 1875, I think, Samuel H. Gurley started a small store in what had been a schoolhouse, keeping a limited supply of goods as he deemed suitable. There were no other stores or wagon or blacksmith shops nearer than Davis City until about 1877, when Peter Harris arrived from Wisconsin and erected a blacksmith shop not far from the church building. This was afterwards moved to town, also the



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, LAMONI



WEST SIDE SCHOOL, LAMONI

dwelling he constructed. Conditions remained the same, being only a farming community, until the year 1879. A company was formed somewhere east, known as the Leon, Mt. Ayr & Southwestern Railroad Company, formed principally of men connected with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, their purpose being to extend the railroad from Leon through Mt. Ayr. Work was pushed forward to Davis City and west to what was afterwards known as Bethany Junction, now called Togo. From there they designed to take a northwesterly course and commenced the work of grading and would have passed about two or three miles north of where Lamoni now stands, when Samuel V. Bailey chanced to meet some of the leading men of the company and conversed with them in regard to changing their course so as to reach "The Colony," as the locality was then named. This proposition was favorably received by them in case sufficient aid was guaranteed to justify them in changing their course. Several individuals almost immediately entered into an agreement to obligate themselves each in proportion to the value the assessor had placed upon their property to furnish the aid to the company required. They were David Dancer, Elijah Banta, the First Order of Enoch, S. V. Bailey, J. R. Smith, and I think N. H. Riggs, George Adams and W. Hudson. Meeting with the railroad men they obligated themselves to furnish them 200 acres of land for a town site, also the right of way through the township, also the right of way to the state line, provided they should wish to make a junction at Lamoni at some future time. The railroad men were to build and operate a railroad, establish and maintain a depot on the land supplied them, and pay \$15 per acre for the land, also deed them 100 average lots when the town was laid out and platted. The Order of Enoch supplied 120 acres of land which lies on the south side of Main Street and bought eighty acres of Frank Drummond which lies on the north side of Main Street. The land purchased of Drummond cost them \$600 more than the railroad men allowed them. They also furnished three miles of right of way. But eventually the 100 lots sold for enough to reimburse them for the outlay.

There was one dwelling on the land furnished by the Order of Enoch which stood where the W. A. Hopkins home now is located, and was occupied by I. P. Baggerly. He had the land now north of the railroad planted in corn which was ready to cut up when trains commenced running and the building of the town commenced. On the other side of Main Street on the eighty acres were two houses. One stood on the block immediately south of the one afterwards

occupied by the Herald office, and was occupied by Mr. Drummond, who maintained a bachelor's hall therein. The other house, a much older one, stood very near where the Barr Hotel now stands. Much of this land was planted in corn. The first dwelling house erected was by Volentine White, later owned by James Jennings and now by Doctor Hill.

Among the early comers to the new town were William Officer and J. T. Dixon, L. A. Fowler and B. L. Merritt. The first business houses were erected by Thomas Teale and Samuel H. Gurley; the first where D. C. White and Sons have their store and the latter one where the Lamoni Hardware Company is now located. There was an effort made by some people to have the new town named Sedgwick, as that had been the name of the postoffice here up until this time, but Lamoni was kept finally as the name of the new town. Lamoni was a busy place in the fall of 1879. Over ten thousand bushels of corn were sold and shipped. Carpenters were busy in all directions. A lumber yard was started by David Dancer, Albert P. Dancer and A. S. Cochran. In the fall of 1880 Henry A. Stebbins became a resident of Lamoni and succeeded Albert P. Dancer in the lumber business.

The first person born in the new town, that is, after the town was established, was Bertie Lamoni White, the son of Volentine and Mary A. White. The first ones to be married were Earl D. Bailey and Katie Harris. The first person that died was Nehemiah D. Smith, whose death occurred February 7, 1880.

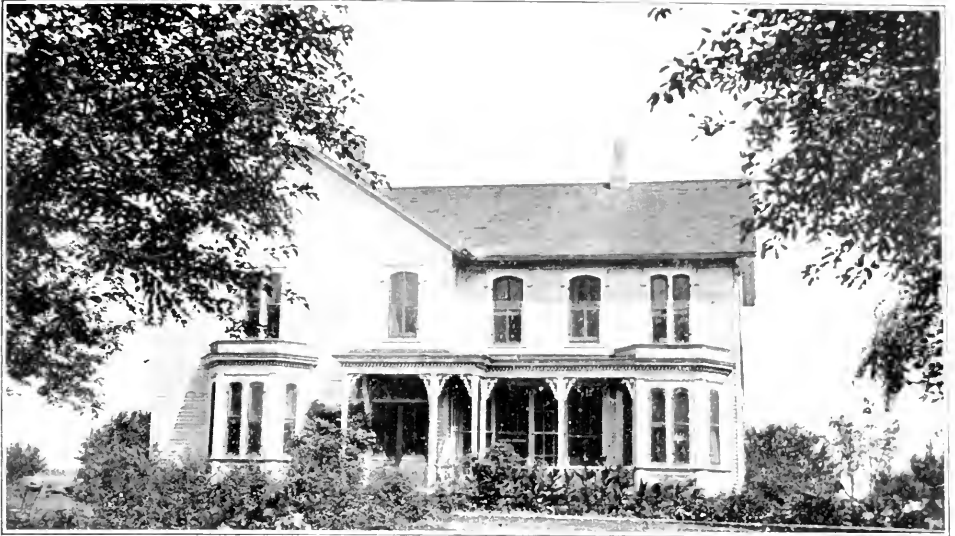
BANKS

The Farmers State Bank of Lamoni was established in 1898. The officers at the present time are: Fred Teale, president; J. R. Smith, vice president; Orra Teale, cashier; and T. B. Nicholson, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$25,000 and the deposits amount to \$160,000.

The State Savings Bank of Lamoni was organized and begun business in 1898. W. A. Hopkins is the president; Anna A. Dancer, vice president; and Oscar Anderson, cashier. The capital stock is \$50,000 and the deposits \$438,000.

NEWSPAPERS

The Lamoni Gazette was given to the public in November, 1885, by Sumner E. King, from Missouri. Three months later he disposed of the paper to Walker and Hansen. Several owners followed this



LIBERTY HOME FOR THE AGED, LAMONI



CHILDREN'S HOME, LAMONI

firm and it finally fell into the hands of the Lambert Brothers who changed the name to the Independent Patriot and under this name it was a success and a great aid in the moral uplift of the community. It was discontinued in 1910.

The Lamoni Chronicle, the present newspaper at Lamoni, was first established in June, 1894, by W. H. Deam. Deam kept the paper for a time and then sold out. Several owners followed until April 1, 1913, when W. H. Blair, H. E. Gelatt and G. W. Blair purchased the plant. They have made a distinct success of the paper and have one of the most modern plants to be found in the state among the smaller papers. The paper runs from eight pages up, is six columns, and is issued on Thursday of each week to about thirteen hundred paid-up subscribers.

THE CITY OF LAMONI AND ITS PEOPLE

Among the many active agencies for the building of Lamoni is the Lamoni Commercial Club, organized to promote the general welfare of the community. The business of the town has been very prosperous due to this spirit. The club was organized in 1907 and its first officers were: W. A. Hopkins, president; C. E. Blair, vice president; F. B. Blair, secretary; O. E. Teale, treasurer.

At the present time Lamoni has upwards of eighteen hundred inhabitants and is located in the heart of a rich agricultural, gently rolling and fertile prairie country, well settled and improved by prosperous and substantial farmers.

Lamoni has a modern system of water works installed in 1910, with an abundance of good water, supplied from a large lake covering over ten acres of ground and thirty feet deep in places, located three quarters of a mile from the business section of the town.

Electricity for the town is supplied by the plant at the Herald office, which also supplies current for Davis City and Kellerton.

In 1914 an extensive sewerage system was laid beneath the principal streets, the sewage being disposed of by means of a septic tank located on the outskirts of the city.

Among the other things which cause Lamoni to be justly proud of herself are: two municipally owned parks; a modern, pressed brick coliseum building, completed in 1911; an efficient fire company; beautiful homes; two banks; charitable homes; two fine church buildings; a splendid telephone system; no saloons, gambling rooms or pool halls; a second class postoffice; and above all a spirit of progressive citizenship.

Lamoni has for years had a modernly equipped grain elevator, including cleaning and shelling stations on the Burlington Railway between St. Joseph, Mo., and Des Moines and Chariton, Ia. The second elevator is owned by the Farmers Grain and Seed Company.

Lamoni is the headquarters of the Inter-State Trail, which is an organized, improved and well marked highway extending from St. Paul to Kansas City, via Des Moines, Lamoni and St. Joseph. The Waubonsie Trail, running east and west, also passes through Lamoni, forming a junction of the two trails at this point. In the movements for good roads the citizens of Lamoni have always taken an active interest.

One of the finest high school buildings in the state is located here. This building was started first in 1913-4 and completed. In November, 1914, fire destroyed the interior and roof, without damaging the side walls to any extent, however. The work of rebuilding was immediately begun and now is about completed. The original cost of this magnificent building was \$50,000. The equipment is of the latest and every care has been taken to comply with the laws of hygiene and efficiency relative to a perfect schoolhouse.

SOCIETIES

The fraternal spirit in Lamoni has been developed to a very high degree in the past years. Besides the men's clubs there are numerous clubs composed of women, all of them organized with a worthy purpose in view, whether for the intellectual improvement of the members or the co-operative effort to better the city. Perhaps the leading club among the women is the Patronesses, more of which is said in the history of Graceland College by Inez Smith.

The Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, all have chapters in Lamoni and are prosperous and with strong membership. The Grand Army of the Republic Post and the Women's Relief Corps hold a strong position in the organized life of the city and have a building devoted to their especial use.

John Anderson Post No. 487, Grand Army of the Republic, at Lamoni, Ia., was organized there in February, 1891. Among the twenty charter members were: E. B. Teale, S. A. Ferguson, G. H. Teale, J. M. Ashburn, Henry Stoddard, D. F. Crave, Robert Turner and David Ennis. They continued as a working body for several years, but deaths and removals then caused a discontinuance of the



Herald Publishing House



The Coliseum



Main Street



Linden Street

VIEWS IN LAMONI

post. Later other old soldiers moved to Lamoni and the post was reorganized in October, 1909, with the following as charter members: E. A. Stedman, John McElroy, John Smith, Robert Turner, H. A. Stebbins, Frank Hackett, John Spaulding and others. The post has remained active ever since and every year observes Memorial Sunday and Decoration Day with befitting ceremonies.

THE METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Lamoni was originally built on a farm near Lamoni and was removed to town in 1884. The membership in Lamoni is not very strong at the present time, but the church itself is well housed and practically free from debt, thus insuring life though small in membership.

CHAPTER XII

THE BEGINNING OF THE LATTER DAY SAINTS CHURCH

By Heman C. Smith

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, sometimes called the "Mormon Church," was organized in Fayette, N. Y., on the 6th of April, 1830. Joseph Smith was chosen its first presiding officer, which position he held until his death in 1844.

In the autumn of 1830 missionaries were sent from headquarters in New York to the western country, principally to preach to the Indians, but to also preach to others by the way. These missionaries were Oliver Cowdery, Parley P. Pratt, Peter Whitmer, Jr., and Ziba Peterson.

Pratt had previously been associated with the Disciples, in what was known as the Western Reserve, Ohio, and was personally acquainted with one Sidney Rigdon, the pastor at Mentor, Ohio, so called upon Mr. Rigdon en route. After a few weeks spent in that vicinity they baptized Mr. Rigdon and many others and organized a flourishing church in the vicinity of Mentor and Kirtland.

In 1831 Joseph Smith and a large part of the church in New York moved to Ohio, and Kirtland became the headquarters of the church.

The missionaries before mentioned moved on to Western Missouri, and a portion of the church soon followed them there, locating at Independence, in Jackson County, from whence they were expelled by a religious persecution in the autumn of 1833. The body of the church located in Clay County, but subsequently the County of Caldwell was set apart or organized with the understanding that the Latter Day Saints were to have control. Consequently they bought out the few settlers there, entered the land, and rapidly settled up the county, and founded the City of Far West, which soon became quite a flourishing place.



THE ORIGINAL HERALD OFFICE AT LAMONI
Constructed in 1881



THE PRESENT HERALD BUILDING
Erected in 1907

All this time the organization at Kirtland was maintained.

Joseph Smith removed to Missouri in 1838, and the settlement at Far West was then considered the central church or headquarters.

Soon after this friction again arose which resulted in the church again being driven by mob force from their homes. (I am not entering into the causes of these disturbances, real or supposed, as I suppose that is not the subject in which you are interested.)

In the winter of 1838 and 1839 the great body of the Latter Day Saints left the State of Missouri and found a temporary asylum near Quincy, Ill.

Soon after they purchased two large farms in the vicinity of Commerce, subsequently called Nauvoo, in Hancock County, and there enjoyed a season of great prosperity, the City of Nauvoo at one time having a population of about thirty thousand, and was said at the time to have been the largest city in the State of Illinois.

Large portions of the surrounding country were also possessed by members of the church and extensive settlements made on the Iowa side of the river.

Their former enemies in Missouri were industrious in stirring up their new neighbors against them and after a few years of comparative prosperity they were again beset by violent opposition.

This culminated in the murder of Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum, by a mob of ruffians at Carthage, Ill., on June 27, 1844. The church then broke up into many factions, following different leaders. One of the most bold and unscrupulous was Brigham Young, who with his faction afterwards settled in Utah and has been a continual source of trouble to the Government on account of the practice of polygamy and other questionable things. This practice, by the way, was not taught, nor indulged in during the lifetime of Joseph Smith, as the evidence abundantly shows, though Young and his followers have dated the practice back to 1843, doubtless to give this criminal practice the prestige of Joseph Smith's name among those who believed in his claims. It was this faction under Brigham Young who first settled at Mount Pisgah in Jones Township.

The Latter Day Saints, with headquarters at Lamoni, have always strongly advocated the original faith on the marriage question, and ever since 1862 have maintained a mission in Salt Lake City, Ut., protesting earnestly against the doctrine of polygamy practiced there. One of the articles of faith of the Latter Day Saints reads: "We believe that marriage is ordained of God and that the law of God provides for but one companion in wedlock for

either man or woman, except in case of death or where the marriage contract is broken by transgression.”

THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE CHURCH

The little City of Lamoni, Ia., is the headquarters, the center, of the Latter Day Saints Church in the world. Here are located the general offices, the main church and the official publications. Besides the church at Lamoni there are in Decatur County branches of the church at the following places: Six miles southwest of Lamoni, four miles north of Lamoni, seven miles east of Lamoni, one at Davis City, one at Pleasanton and one at Leon.

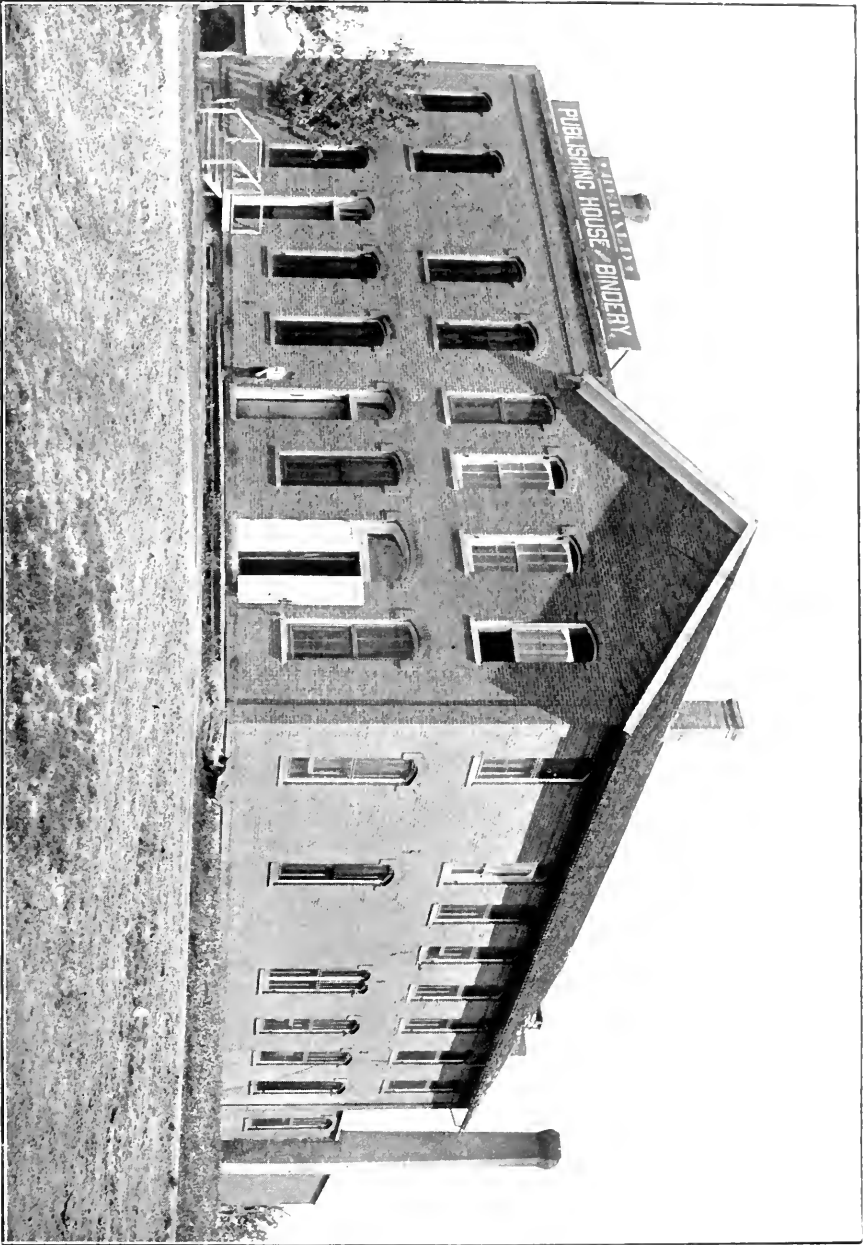
Among the general church officers at Lamoni are: Elbert A. Smith, one of the presidency of three men; R. S. Salyards, secretary; Heman C. Smith, historian, and Claude I. Carpenter, recorder. These officers are located in the Herald Building. The present church building, a handsome and commodious structure, was built in 1882-83.

The church in Lamoni maintains two homes for old folks and one home for homeless or unfortunate children. The old folks' homes are under the charge of a board of control, consisting of Joseph Roberts, Richard J. Lambert and Lorenzo Hayer. The Children's Home is incorporated as such, approved by the state authorities, and is under the control of a board of trustees. Heman C. Smith is president of this board; Oscar Anderson is secretary; Joseph Roberts, treasurer; Richard Bullard, Mrs. L. L. Resseguie, Mrs. C. B. Stebbins and Mrs. Minnie Nicholson. There are forty acres of land in connection with this latter home, and over one hundred acres connected with the homes for the aged.

THE SAINTS' HERALD

At the semi-annual conference of the Church of Latter Day Saints of 1859, October 6th to 10th, it was resolved that the church publish a monthly church paper and continue it six months, called the True Latter Day Saints' Herald.

This publication was inaugurated at Cincinnati, Ohio, where it was continued as a monthly until March, 1863. At this time the office was removed to Plano, Kendall County, Ill., and the first issue from this place was in April, 1863. Beginning in July of the same year the Herald was issued as a semi-monthly and continued so until



THE HERALD OFFICE, WITH ADDITION BUILT IN 1891-2

the end of the year 1882. Then, beginning with the first week in January, 1883, it was issued weekly.

In the latter part of the year 1881 the plant was removed from Plano to Lamoni, Decatur County, Ia., and the first issue from this place was run off the presses November 1, 1881.

The first editor of this paper was Isaac Sheen, and he served until May 1, 1865. Then Joseph Smith took charge of the editorial department of the paper. Associated with him at different times as assistant editors have been: M. H. Forscutt, M. B. Oliver, H. A. Stebbins, Daniel F. Lambert, W. W. Blair, R. S. Salyards, F. M. Smith, Leon A. Gould and E. A. Smith; in April, 1893, the office of corresponding secretary was created and Joseph Luff took the position, to be succeeded by Heman C. Smith, and later by David W. Wight and T. M. Sheehy. Joseph Smith came to his death on December 10, 1914. The board of publication consists of Edwin A. Blakeslee, president; Albert Carmichael, business manager; Thomas A. Hougas, Oscar Anderson and Frederick B. Blair; J. A. Gunsolley, secretary. Elbert A. Smith and John F. Garver are editors of the Herald; Heman C. Smith is editor of the Journal of History; E. A. Smith is editor of Autumn Leaves; Mrs. Estella Wight is editor of Stepping Stones, a juvenile paper; Ethel I. Skank and Miss Wight are editors of Zion's Hope.

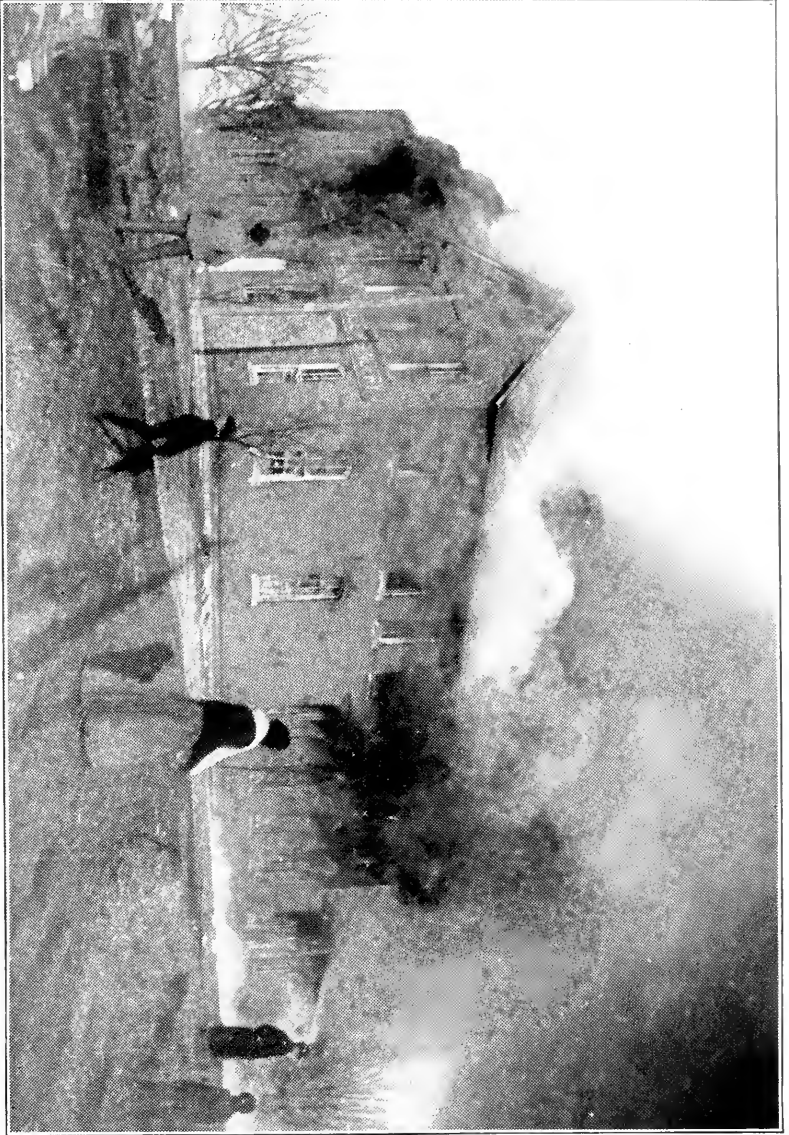
The first Herald monthly was a 24-page paper, 4 by 7 inches; then was reduced to sixteen pages. In 1876 it was made a 32-page paper, and the next year again reverted to sixteen pages. The name has now been changed to the Saints' Herald, and each issue comprises twenty-four pages, 8 by 10½ inches.

The Herald office as first erected in Lamoni during the summer of 1881 was built of bricks burned in Lamoni. During the years 1891-92 a wing was added on the west, consisting of two stories and a basement. On the morning of January 5, 1907, this building was completely destroyed by fire, but before the day was done steps were taken toward rebuilding. At a citizens' meeting in Lamoni the following Sunday \$17,000 was subscribed toward a new structure. The work of rebuilding began during the last week in May, considerable work in excavating and cleaning away debris having been prior to that date. The new building consists of two stories and basement. The top floor is used by the editors, proofreaders, church library and offices of general church officers; the ground floor contains the manager's office, composing room, mailing room and bindery; in the basement are the presses, repair shops and storerooms. The power,

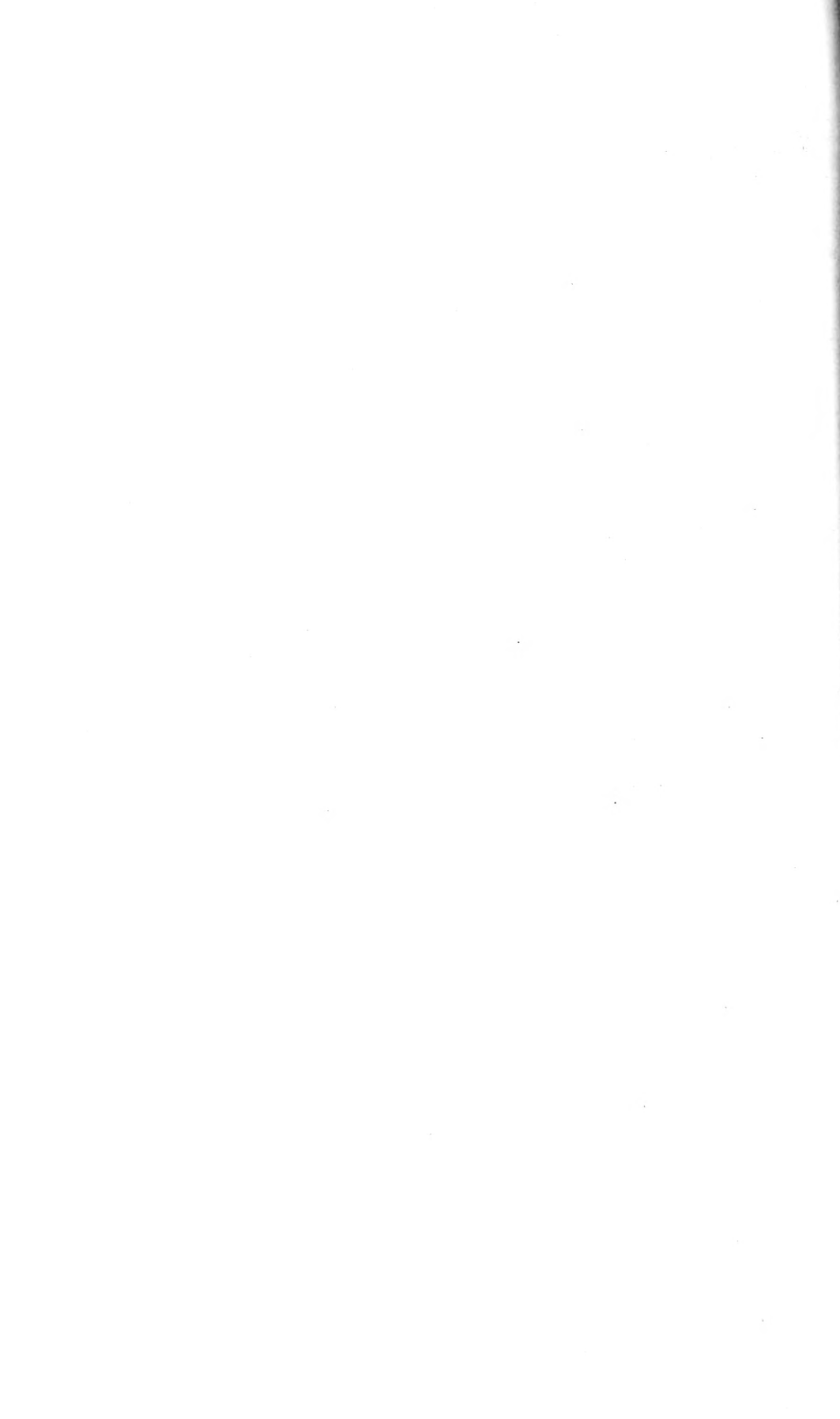
heating and lighting plant is in a separate building. This plant not only supplies Lamoni with electricity, but also Kellerton and Davis City. The new building was dedicated in November, 1907.

The present circulation of the Herald is about ten thousand, these papers going all over the world.

In the Herald Building there is located the general church library. This library is controlled by a library commission and is open to the public. The number of volumes in the institution is small, owing to the fact that the most of the valuable books were destroyed by the fire of January, 1907, when the whole Herald Building was consumed.



THE BURNING OF THE HERALD OFFICE. JANUARY 5, 1907



CHAPTER XIII

EARLY SETTLEMENT AT GARDEN GROVE

By Heman C. Smith

It appears that what is now known as Decatur County, Ia., has had attraction for the oppressed, not only of other nations, but of our own. Five years prior to the advent of the Hungarians a settlement was made at Garden Grove by exiles from a sister state. To enter into the merits of the controversy which caused them to be expelled from their homes is not our province. It is the old story of long-established organizations objecting to the formation of new ones, and of protesting to the point of violence. Without entering into discussion of the issues, it will be sufficient to present the condition of this people as they left their former homes and arrived within the precincts of what is now Decatur County. In doing this we cannot do better than to quote from an address delivered by Col. Thomas L. Kane before the Pennsylvania Historical Society, on the 26th of March, 1850:

“A few years ago, ascending the Upper Mississippi in the autumn when its waters were low, I was compelled to travel by land past the region of the rapids. My road lay through the half-breed tract, a fine section of Iowa, which the unsettled state of its land titles had appropriated as a sanctuary for coiners, horse thieves and other outlaws. I had left my steamer at Keokuk, at the foot of the lower fall, to hire a carriage, and to contend for some fragments of a dirty meal with the swarming flies, the only scavengers of the locality. From this place to where the deep water of the river returns, my eye wearied to see everywhere sordid, vagabond and idle settlers: and a country marred, without being improved, by their careless hands.

“I was descending the last hillside upon my journey, when a landscape in delightful contrast broke upon my view. Half encircled by a bend of the river, a beautiful city lay glittering in the fresh morning

sun; its bright, new dwellings, set in cool, green gardens, ranging up around a stately dome-shaped hill, which was crowned by a noble marble edifice, whose high, tapering spire was radiant with white and gold. The city appeared to cover several miles; and beyond it, in the background there rolled off a fair country, chequered by the careful lines of fruitful husbandry. The unmistakable marks of industry, enterprise, and educated wealth everywhere, made the scene one of singular and most striking beauty.

“It was a natural impulse to visit this inviting region. I procured a skiff, and rowing across the river, landed at the chief wharf of the city. No one met me there. I looked, and saw no one. I could hear no one move; though the quiet everywhere was such that I heard the flies buzz, and the water-ripples break against the shallow of the beach. I walked through the solitary streets. The town lay as in a dream, under some deadening spell of loneliness, from which I almost feared to wake it; for plainly it had not slept long. There was no grass growing up in the paved ways; rains had not entirely washed away the prints of dusty footsteps.

“Yet I went unchecked. I went into empty workshops, ropewalks, and smithies. The spinner’s wheel was idle; the carpenter had gone from his work-bench and shavings, his unfinished sash and casing. Fresh bark was in the tanner’s vat, and the fresh-chopped light wood stood piled against the baker’s oven. The blacksmith’s shop was cold; but his coal heap, and ladling pool, and crooked watering horn, were all there, as if he had gone for a holiday. No work people anywhere looked to know my errand. If I went into the gardens, clinking the wicket-latch loudly after me, to pull the marigolds, heart’s-ease, and lady-slippers, and draw a drink with the water-sodden well-bucket and its noisy chain; or, knocking off with my stick the tall, heavy-headed dahlias and sunflowers, hunted over the beds for cucumbers and loveapples—no one called out to me from any opened window, or dog sprang forward to bark and alarm. I could have supposed the people hidden in the houses, but the doors were unfastened; and when at last I timidly entered them, I found dead ashes white upon the hearths, and had to tread a-tiptoe, as if walking down the aisle of a country church, to avoid rousing irreverent echoes from the naked floors.

“On the outskirts of the town was the city graveyard; but there was no record of plague there, nor did it in any wise differ much from other Protestant American cemeteries. Some of the mounds were not long sodded; some of the stones were newly set, their dates recent,



STREET SCENE, GARDEN GROVE

and their black inscriptions glossy in the mason's hardly dried lettering ink. Beyond the graveyard, out in the fields, I saw, in one spot hard by where the fruited boughs of a young orchard had been roughly torn down, the still smouldering remains of a barbecue fire that had been constructed of rails from the fencing around it. It was the latest sign of life there. Fields upon fields of heavy headed yellow grain lay rotting ungathered upon the ground. No one was at hand to take in their rich harvest. As far as the eye could reach, they stretched away—they sleeping too in the hazy air of autumn.

“Only two portions of the city seemed to suggest the import of this mysterious solitude. On the southern suburb, the houses looking out upon the country showed, by their splintered woodwork and walls battered to the foundation, that they had lately been the mark of a destructive cannonade. And in and around the splendid temple, which had been the chief object of my admiration, armed men were barracked, surrounded by their stacks of musketry and pieces of heavy ordnance. These challenged me to render an account of myself, and why I had the temerity to cross the water without a written permit from a leader of their band.

“Though these men were generally more or less under the influence of ardent spirits, after I had explained myself as a passing stranger, they seemed anxious to gain my good opinion. They told the story of the dead city; that it had been a notable manufacturing and commercial mart, sheltering over twenty thousand persons: that they had waged war with its inhabitants for several years and had finally been successful only a few days before my visit, in an action fought in front of the ruined suburb; after which they had driven them forth at the point of the sword. The defense, they said, had been obstinate, but gave way on the third day's bombardment. They boasted greatly of their prowess, especially in this battle, as they called it; but I discovered that they were not of one mind as to certain of the exploits that had distinguished it; one of which, as I remember, was, that they had slain a father and his son, a boy of fifteen, not long residents of the fated city, whom they admitted to have borne a character without reproach.

“It was after nightfall when I was ready to cross the river on my return. The wind had freshened since the sunset, and the water beating roughly into my little boat, I hedged higher up the stream than the point I had left in the morning and lighted to where a faint glimmering invited me to steer. Here, among the dock and rushes, sheltered only by the darkness, without roof between them and the

sky, I came upon a crowd of several hundred human creatures, whom my movements roused from uneasy slumber upon the ground. Passing these on my way to the light I found that it came from a tallow candle in a paper funnel shade, such as is used by street venders, and which, flaming and guttering away in the bleak air off the water, shone flickeringly on the emaciated features of a man in the last stage of a bilious remittent fever. They had done their best for him. Over his head was something like a tent, made of a sheet or two, and he rested on a partially torn straw mattress, with a hair sofa cushion under his head. His gaping jaw and glazing eye told how short a time he used these luxuries; though a seemingly excited and bewildered person, who might have been his wife, seemed to find hope in occasionally forcing him to swallow awkwardly, sips of the tepid river water, from a burned and battered bitter-smelling tin coffee-pot. Those who knew better had furnished the apothecary he needed; a toothless old bald-head, whose manner had the repulsive dullness of a man familiar with death scenes. He, so long as I remained, mumbled in his patient's ear a monotonous and melancholy prayer, between the pauses of which I heard the hiccup and sobbing of two little girls, who were sitting up on a piece of driftwood outside.

"Dreadful, indeed, was the suffering of these forsaken beings; bowed and cramped by cold and sunburn, alternating as each weary day and night dragged on, they were, almost all of them, the crippled victims of disease. They were there because they had no homes, nor hospital, nor poorhouse, nor friends to offer them any. They could not satisfy the feeble cravings of their sick: they had not bread to quiet the fractious hunger-cries of their children. Mothers and babes, daughters and grandparents, all of them alike, were bivouacked in tatters, wanting even covering to comfort those whom the sick shiver of fever was searching to the marrow.

"These were Mormons, in Lee County, Ia., in the fourth week of the month of September, in the year of our Lord 1846. The city -- it was Nauvoo, Ill. The Mormons were the owners of that city, and the smiling country around. And those who had stopped their plows, who had silenced their hammers, their axes, their shuttles, and their workshop wheels; those who had put out their fires, who had eaten their food, spoiled their orchards, and trampled under foot their thousands of acres of unharvested bread; these were the keepers of their dwellings, the carousers in their temple, whose drunken riot insulted the ears of the dying.

"I think it was as I turned from the wretched night-watch of which I have spoken, that I first listened to the sounds of revel of a party of the guard within the city. Above the distant hum of the voices of many, occasionally rose distinct the loud oath-tainted exclamation, and the falsely intonated scrap of vulgar song; but lest this requiem should go unheeded, every now and then, when their boisterous orgies strove to attain a sort of ecstatic climax, a cruel spirit of insulting frolic carried some of them up into the high belfry of the temple steeple, and there, with the wicked childishness of inebriates, they whooped, and shrieked, and beat the drum that I had seen, and rang in charivarie unison their loud-tongued steamboat bell.

"They were, all told, not more than six hundred and forty persons who were thus lying on the river flats. But the Mormons in Nauvoo and its dependencies had been numbered the year before at over twenty thousand. Where were they? They had last been seen, carrying in mournful train their sick and wounded, halt and blind, to disappear behind the western horizon, pursuing the phantom of another home. Hardly anything else was known of them: and people asked with curiosity, 'What had been their fate—what their fortunes?'"

As stated by Colonel Kane, these people whom he visited on the banks of the Mississippi were but the remnant of the people who had inhabited the city described by him, most of whom had already departed for the West.

Iowa, with her magnificent resources, was then but little known. In December, 1853, George William Curtis wrote to a friend in the East from Milwaukee, Wis., saying: "I have seen a prairie, I have darted all day across a prairie, I have been near the Mississippi. I have been invited to Iowa, which lies somewhere over the western horizon."

It was into this almost unknown region that this unfortunate people launched in those early days to find a resting place where they could again build their homes and enjoy the freedom of which their country boasted. Several companies had left the City of Nauvoo, taking a westward course into this unknown region. The particular company of which we speak left Nauvoo in the early part of February, 1846. It was composed of several hundred families. They made their first camp on Sugar Creek, a few miles west of the river, where they remained for nearly a month, during which time they had great difficulty in getting sustenance for themselves and their cattle and horses. Orson Pratt who was a leading spirit in the movement,

in his private journal, remarks concerning this time that they required many hundreds of bushels of grain daily; but as they had not yet launched into regions altogether uninhabited, they were enabled to buy large quantities of Indian corn from time to time with money and labor.

On March 1st the company moved on. The following day they camped on the banks of the Des Moines River, four miles below the Village of Farmington. Then they proceeded up the east bank of the river until they reached Bonaparte's Mills, where they crossed the river on March 5th. The weather was cold; and it being too early in the spring for grass, their teams subsisted upon the limbs and bark of trees. Heavy rains and snows impeded their progress, while frosty nights rendered the situation very uncomfortable. Their camp was organized thoroughly, with captains of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens; and all other necessary officers. Their condition was made more tolerable by the hunters finding game; and Mr. Pratt says they brought into camp more or less deer, wild turkeys and prairie hens every day.

The real condition of this company can be best described by quoting again from the address of Colonel Kane:

"Under the most favorable circumstances, an expedition of this sort, undertaken at such a season of the year, can scarcely fail to be disastrous. But the pioneer company had set out in haste, and were very imperfectly supplied with necessities. The cold was intense. They moved in the teeth of keen-edged northwest winds, such as sweep down the Iowa peninsula from the ice bound regions of the timber-shaded Slave Lake and Lake of the Woods; on the bald prairie there, nothing above the dead grass breaks their free course over the hard rolled hills. Even along the scattered water courses, where they broke the thick ice to give their cattle drink, the annual autumn fires had left little wood of any value. The party, therefore, often wanted for good camp fires, the first luxuries of all travelers; but, to men insufficiently furnished with tents and other shelters, almost an essential to life. After days of fatigue, their nights were often passed in restless efforts to save themselves from freezing. The stock of food proved inadequate; and as their systems became impoverished, their suffering from cold increased.

"Sickened with catarrhal affections, manacled by the fetters of dreadfully acute rheumatism, some contrived for a while to get over the shortening day's march and drag along some others. But the sign of an impaired circulation soon began to show itself in the liabil-



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
GARDEN GROVE



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GARDEN GROVE

ity of all to be dreadfully frost-bitten. The hardiest and strongest became helplessly crippled. About the same time the strength of their beasts of draft began to fail. The small supply of provender that they could carry with them had given out. The winter-bleached prairie straw proved devoid of nourishment, and they could only keep them from starving by seeking for the browse, as it is called, a green bark, and tender buds, and branches of the cotton wood, and other stunted growths of the hollows.

“To return to Nauvoo was apparently the only escape; but this would have been to give occasion for fresh mistrust, and so to bring new troubles to those they had left there behind them. They resolved at least to hold their ground, and to advance as they might, were it only by limping through the deep snows a few slow miles a day. They found a sort of comfort in comparing themselves to the exiles of Siberia, and sought cheerfulness in earnest prayers for the spring—longed for as morning by the tossing sick.

“The spring came at last. It overtook them in the Sac and Fox country, still on the naked prairie, not yet half way over the trail they were following between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. But it brought its own share of troubles with it. The months with which it opened proved nearly as trying as the worst of winter.

“The snow and sleet and rain which fell, as it appeared to them without intermission, made the road over the rich prairie soil as impassable as one vast bog of heavy black mud. Sometimes they would fasten the horses and oxen of four or five wagons to one, and attempt to get ahead in this way, taking turns; but at the close of a day of hard toil for themselves and their cattle, they would find themselves a quarter or a half mile from the place they left in the morning. The heavy rains raised all the watercourses; the most trifling streams were impassable. Wood fit for bridging was often not to be had, and in such cases the only recourse was to halt for the freshets to subside—a matter in the case of the headwaters of the Chariton, for instance, of over three weeks’ delay.

“These were dreary waitings upon Providence. The most spirited and sturdy murmured most at their forced inactivity. And even the women, whose heroic spirits had been proof against the lowest thermometric fall, confessed their tempers fluctuated with the ceaseless variations of the barometer. They complained, too, that the health of their children suffered more. It was the fact, that the open winds of March and April brought with them more mortal sickness than the sharpest freezing weather.

“The frequent burials made the hardest sicken. On the soldier’s march it is matter of discipline, that after the rattle of musketry over his comrade’s grave, he shall tramp it to the music of some careless tune in a lively quickstep. But, in the Mormon Camp, the companion who lay ill and gave up the ghost within view of all, all saw as he stretched a corpse, and all attended to his last resting place. It was a sorrow, too, of itself to simple hearted people, the deficient pomp of their imperfect style of funeral. The general hopefulness of human—including Mormon—nature, was well illustrated by the fact, that the most provident were found unfurnished with undertaker’s articles; so that bereaved affection was driven to the most melancholy make-shifts.

“The best expedient generally was to cut down a log of some eight or nine feet long, and slitting it longitudinally, strip off its bark in two half cylinders. These, placed around the body of the deceased and bound firmly together with withes made of the alburnum, formed a rough sort of tubular coffin which surviving relations and friends, with a little show of black crape, could follow with its inclosure to the hole, a bit of ditch, dug to receive it in the wet grounds of the prairie. They grieved to lower it down so poorly clad, and in such an unheeded grave. It was hard—was it right, thus hurriedly to plunge it in one of the undistinguishable waves of the great land sea, and leave it behind them there, under the cold north rain, abandoned to be forgotten? They had no tombstones: nor could they find rocks to pile the monumental cairn. So, when they had filled up the grave, and over it prayed a miserere prayer, and tried to sing a hopeful psalm, their last office was to seek out landmarks, or call in the surveyor to help them to determine the bearings of valley bends, headlands, or forks and angles of constant streams, by which its position should in the future, be remembered and recognized. The name of the beloved person, his age, the date of his death, and these marks were all registered with care. The party was then ready to move on. Such graves mark all the line of the first year of the Mormon travel—dispiriting milestones to failing stragglers in the rear.

“It is an error to estimate largely the number of Mormons dead of starvation, strictly speaking. Want developed disease, and made them sick under fatigue, and maladies that would otherwise have proved trifling. But only those died of it outright who fell in out-of-the-way places, that the hand of brotherhood could not reach. Among the rest no such thing as plenty was known, while any went an hungered. If but a part of a group was supplied with provision, the

only result was, that the whole went on the half or quarter ration, according to the sufficiency that there was among them: and this so ungrudgingly and contentedly, that, till some crisis of trial to their strength, they were themselves unaware that their health was sinking, and their vital force impaired. Hale young men gave up their own provided food and shelter to the old and helpless, and walked their way back to parts of the frontier states, chiefly Missouri and Iowa, where they were not recognized, and hired themselves out for wages, to purchase more. Others were sent there to exchange for meal and flour, or wheat and corn, the table and bed furniture, and other last resources of personal property which a few had still retained.

“In a kindred spirit of paternal forecast, others laid out great farms in the wilds, and planted in them the grain saved for their own bread, that there might be harvests for those who should follow them. Two of these, in the Sac and Fox country, and beyond it, Garden Grove and Mount Pisgah, included within their fences above two miles of land apiece, carefully planted in grain, with a hamlet of comfortable log cabins in the neighborhood of each.

“Through all this, the pioneers found redeeming comfort in the thought, that their own suffering was the price of humanity to their friends at home. But the arrival of spring proved this a delusion. Before the warm weather had made the earth dry enough for easy travel, messengers came in from Nauvoo to overtake the party, with fear-exaggerated tales of outrage, and to urge the chief men to hurry back to the city, that they might give counsel and assistance there. The enemy had only waited till the emigrants were supposed to be gone on their road too far to return to interfere with them, and then renewed their aggressions.”

Notwithstanding this suffering, however, they seemed to have been cheerful and devoted to their convictions. Under date of April 5, Elder Pratt says:

“It being Sunday, a portion of our camp met together, to offer up our sacrament to the Most High. After a few remarks by myself and Bishop Miller, we proceeded to break bread, and administer in the holy ordinance of the Lord’s supper. At 6 o’clock in the evening we met with the captains of companies to make arrangements for sending twelve or fourteen miles to the settlements for corn to sustain our animals.”

The next day, April 6th, his journal records the following:

“This morning, at the usual hour of prayer, we bowed before the Lord with thankful hearts, it being just sixteen years since the or-

ganization of this church, and we were truly grateful for the many manifestations of the goodness of God towards us as a people.”

On the same day they sent nine or ten wagons with four yoke of oxen on each wagon to the settlements to obtain corn. These teams were gone two days, returning on the 8th, most of them empty. Great difficulty was found in finding sustenance for teams as they moved slowly westward.

On April 16th they arrived at a grove, which is described by Elder Pratt as “a very pleasant grove which we called Paradise; and about a mile to the south found the grass very good.” Here they stopped several days and recruited their teams. Resuming their journey on the 22d they arrived at their temporary resting place on April 24, 1846. Under that date Elder Pratt records the following:

“Yesterday we traveled about eight miles, today six miles. We came to a place which we named Garden Grove. At this point we determined to form a small settlement and open farms for the benefit of the poor, and such as were unable, for the present, to pursue their journey farther, and also for the benefit of the poor who were yet behind.”

On the 27th he records that at the sound of the horn they gathered together to organize for labor. One hundred men were appointed for cutting trees, splitting rails, and making fence; forty-eight to cut logs for the building of log houses; several were appointed to build a bridge; a number more for the digging of wells; some to make wood for plows; and several more to watch the flocks and keep them from straying; while others were sent several days’ journey into the Missouri settlements to exchange horses, feather beds, and other property, for cows, provisions, etc.

On May 10th Elder Pratt’s journal records the following:

“A large amount of labor has been done since arriving in this grove; indeed the whole camp are very industrious. Many houses have been built, wells dug, extensive farms fenced, and the whole place assumed the appearance of having been occupied for years, and clearly shows what can be accomplished by union, industry, and perseverance.”

The recognized leader of this movement was Brigham Young; but Elder Orson Pratt, and his brother Parley P. Pratt, seemed to come more clearly into the limelight of history during the movement than did Elder Young. They were apparently the leading spirits. Elder Orson Pratt was a scholar of no mean attainments; and during their travels from Nauvoo to Garden Grove, frequently took ob-

servations from the sun by the use of instruments in his possession by which he ascertained the latitude of their camp and corrected their time. He ascertained that Garden Grove was in latitude forty degrees and fifty-two minutes. How nearly this agrees with later observations we are not able to say, but it is approximately correct.

Among the leading spirits was also Bishop George Miller, who was not always in harmony with others of the leaders, in consequence of which he finally left them at Winter Quarters on Missouri River.

Their meeting-house was located on what is now the northeast one quarter of the northeast one quarter of section 33, 70, 24, now a part of the farm of William Waters, and within the present corporate limits of the Town of Garden Grove.

Two farms were fenced and cultivated with an area respectively of 1,500 acres; a mill was erected for grinding corn on the south line of section 28, midway of the section.

The cemetery was located in the southeast part of the southeast quarter of section 28. There are now more than one hundred owners of the realty that was originally contained within the confines of these two fields mentioned above.

The leading men remained at Garden Grove but a short time, resuming their journey on May 11th, to pursue their western pilgrimage and form other settlements for like purposes at what they called Mount Pisgah, in Union County, and at Kanessville (Council Bluffs), Ia. Such were the people, and such were the circumstances under which the first town was founded in Decatur County. Leaving this place these leading men left behind them a sufficient company to cultivate these fields and raise grain for the sustenance of other parties who were to follow them in the exodus.

The colony was maintained until the spring of 1852, some going and others coming from time to time, and it is estimated that at times there were as many as 300 families at Garden Grove.

Finally they all disappeared, leaving their temporary homes to be occupied by the later emigrants who came to that fruitful land, until now there is no vestige left of the early settlement except the name Garden Grove, which is appropriately perpetuated. During the time of the settlement Garden Grove was a recruiting station for emigrants coming from Europe and the eastern states en route for Utah.

CHAPTER XIV

DECATUR COUNTY TOWNS

DAVIS CITY

The Town of Davis City is located on the west bank of Grand River, on section 33, Burrell Township. The town was laid out in 1855 by W. H. Cheever. The autumn before, however, William Davis had constructed a log residence and a sawmill, the latter operated by water power. In the spring of 1855 he built a frame dwelling and in the autumn of 1856 he erected the first store in the town. In this store the first stock of goods was placed on sale by G. W. Jenre, who later sold out to Arnold & Davis, which firm was in turn succeeded by Davis & Bowman. Henry Bowman built a hardware store in 1872, the same year in which J. R. Frisbie put up the second store building in the town. At this time there were no more than fifty people in Davis City. Oscar Severe's harness shop was opened soon after, and then came Archibald Rankin's drug store, Young & Wren's "Chicago Store" and Morris & Clark's store, the latter being the first brick structure here.

The original Town of Davis City contained just four blocks, each 60 by 124 feet, and about the year 1870 Clark's Addition was laid out. Other additions have since been made. The postoffice was first at the house of W. F. Craig, the first postmaster. Henry Bowman, James Teale, Carter Scott were other early incumbents. The railroad was constructed through the town in 1879.

The first school was taught in 1857 by Mrs. J. S. Warner. A brick schoolhouse, with three rooms, was constructed soon after, costing \$2,200.

A church was constructed in 1878 by John Clark at a cost of \$4,500. The Methodists and United Brethren held alternate meetings in this building, and it was occasionally used by the Latter Day Saints, Christians, Baptists and Adventists.



VIEW IN THE PARK, DAVIS CITY



MAIN STREET LOOKING SOUTH, DAVIS CITY

LODGES

Davis City Post No. 306, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized March 31, 1884, with twenty-two members, and was mustered in by Hugh White, of Mt. Ayr, under the direction of the department mustering officer, W. T. Wilkinson. In the spring of 1885 the post purchased a building for meeting purposes.

Davis City Lodge No. 375, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was organized in 1874. Davis City Lodge No. 314, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized in 1876 and William Asbach was the first noble grand. Davis City Lodge No. 89, I. O. G. T., was organized in December, 1885, with fourteen members.

BANKS

The Citizens Bank was established here in 1879 by the Decatur County Banking Association.

The Farmers Bank, a private institution, was established first in 1894 with S. Radnich as president, and A. C. Dorn as cashier. The bank commenced business under the present name August 1, 1902. J. A. Frazier is president; O. L. Frazier is cashier. The capital stock is \$10,000 and the deposits amount to \$94,000.

The Valley Bank began business May 15, 1900. J. N. Gates is president and owner. It is a private bank. The capital is \$10,000 and the deposits amount to \$90,000.

NEWSPAPERS

The first paper to be started at Davis City was the Clipper and was started in 1876 by D. Frank Knapp. Its life expired after eighteen months. J. C. Stockton started the Commercial in 1879 and sold to C. W. Lillie. The last proprietor was C. C. Bartlett. He moved away and the paper was taken to Kansas. The Press was established in March, 1884, by J. W. Mather and discontinued in June, 1885. The office material was taken to Weldon and used by the Hornet at that place. The Tidings was established in October, 1885, by Adams Brothers, as an independent paper. The Davis City News, the present weekly paper published here, was started in 1910 by Grant Mallory. The paper has a good circulation and is a four page, five column sheet.

The location of Davis City has many natural advantages. Good building stone can be found in abundance, lumber in plenty, one of the finest water powers in the county, plenty of good limestone water under the town, sand in abundance, brick clay, and excellent farming

and grazing country surrounding. It is thought that the wheat lands on the bottom lands near and south of the city are as good as any in the state; they are also splendid for corn.

The town is situated on what is called and known as the second bottom land, partly level and partly undulating, and above the high water mark of Grand River by twenty or thirty feet.

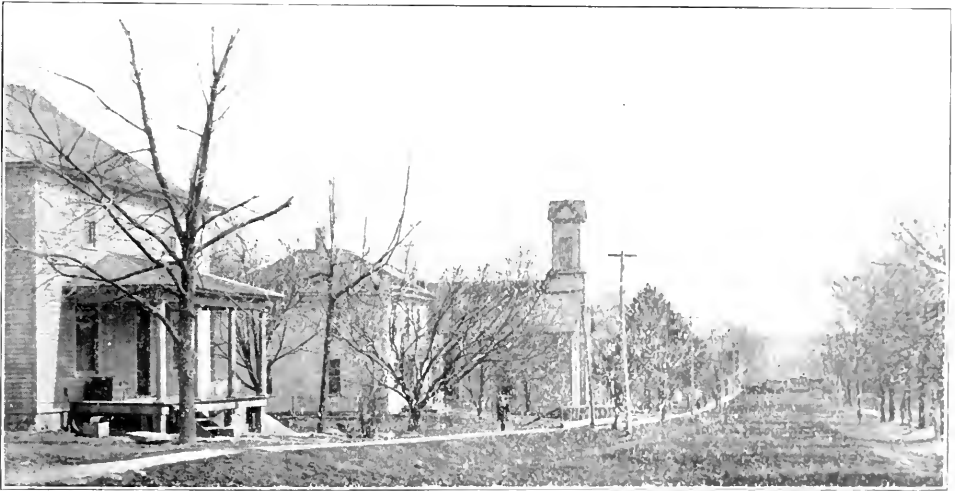
Near the western limits of the city there was once located a famous spring, where in the early days the Indians came from all directions, claiming for it great medical properties. In later days the spring was neglected, and the surrounding timber having been burnt and scarred to a great extent, while sand has covered all traces of the spring. The water then issued forth from under the edge of a limestone rock and it is now over a half century since the Indian trails led to this place from every direction.

Another legend is that about three miles southeast of Davis City, on section 13, township 67, range 26, stood an oak tree, near ten feet in circumference at the surface of the ground and not more than thirty feet to the topmost limbs, and spreading out fully twenty-five feet each way, while a person could step from the ground up the limbs like stair steps. This tree stood out alone, with no forest nor brush near. It has been said that the Indians claimed this as their sacred tree and brought the sick for many miles, hanging them in hammocks at the top of this tree and claiming that they would not die while in the tree. Some of the old settlers have claimed to have visited the sick in this tree.

About the year 1832 this point became known as the Falls of Grand River, and for many years was a noted point. During this time the falls became famous, an enterprising citizen of Missouri, one of the Jackson County Mormons, under the laws of Missouri, having pre-empted the Grand River Falls by commencing to improve the same for mill power. This power was held until the state boundary line question was settled, and when the line passed south of the falls several miles, the pre-emption and claim became void and the claimant never appeared again in the vicinity. Allen Scott, seeing immediately the value of this water power, at once pre-empted the same under the territorial laws of Iowa, and held the same, entering the adjoining land with the expectation of improving the power at some future time. In the year 1855 William Davis heard of the falls and their value and, wishing to erect a mill, came from the East, examined the property and entered into a partnership with Scott in erecting a mill. This was in the spring of 1856



PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING, DAVIS CITY



RESIDENCE STREET SCENE, DAVIS CITY

and within three months the mill was running. Davis purchased Scott's interest in the mill, also eighty acres of land, and at once laid out four blocks of lots, with the intention of bettering the prospects of those who would work for him.

A GERMAN VILLAGE

In the early days of the town and vicinity a colony of German immigrants settled on land about one mile northwest of Davis City. The colony contained mechanics, merchants, physicians and laborers. They seemed to be in a flourishing condition for a time, but the change of climate and manner of living soon had a disastrous effect. Fevers broke out among them. The physicians did not understand the nature of the disease and nearly all of those attacked died. Their remains were buried in a grove near the site of the community. The few survivors became scattered and the very location of the village lost.

GARDEN GROVE

Newspapers published in 1869 have this to say of Garden Grove:

This is a handsome village, located in the township of the same name, in the northeast part of the county, and on the road from Chariton to Leon. It is on a fine, rolling prairie, adjacent to a splendid grove of timber, on the Weldon Fork of Grand River. It was first settled by the Mormons in the spring of 1848, but the town plat was not recorded until within the last year (1868). The land was sold off in parcels by metes and bounds. Many of the early Mormon settlers remained until 1851. The place now contains two general stores, one drug store, two hotels, one harness shop, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, one flouring mill and four physicians. There are flourishing lodges of Masons and Odd Fellows here.

A minute and interesting account of the Mormon settlement at Garden Grove may be read in the article by G. P. Arnold, entitled "Early Days," to be found elsewhere in this volume.

Among the early and actual settlers in this town were Enos Davis, O. N. Kellogg, William Davis, Amasa J. Davis and probably a few others. Prior to 1856 there also came to this town the following: S. F. Baker, C. R. Lampman, Ben Wooley, G. W. Piper, Hiram Chase, Edward Dawes, R. D. Kellogg, D. Stearn, A. B. Stearn, J. R. Cary, Hugh Brown, J. H. Woodbury, Thomas Chamberlin, Nathaniel Shaw, Dan Bowen, Sylvanus Arnold, J. D. Burns, S.

Metier, Hiram Chase, Thomas Lilliard, John Vail, S. P. McNeil, Robert McBroom. A number of these men brought their families.

The village never had a sudden growth and, in fact, did not appear at all promising until the construction of the railroad in 1871. The first shipping into this town by railroad occurred on January 10, 1872. By the year 1885 the population had increased to 625. G. W. Piper was the first postmaster, and A. B. Stearn was the second. Other early men in this office were J. S. Brown, Hiram Chase, F. D. C. Shaw, J. W. Boyle, J. O. Parrish and John D. Burns.

Garden Grove was incorporated in the fall of 1879 and John D. Burns was the first mayor.

SCHOOLS

The first school in Decatur County was taught here in the winter of 1848-49. No building for school purposes was erected for several years. A frame structure was then built and was soon after destroyed by fire. In 1856 a brick building was put up and was then considered the finest school in Southern Iowa. In 1873 a new frame building was erected, costing \$7,000.

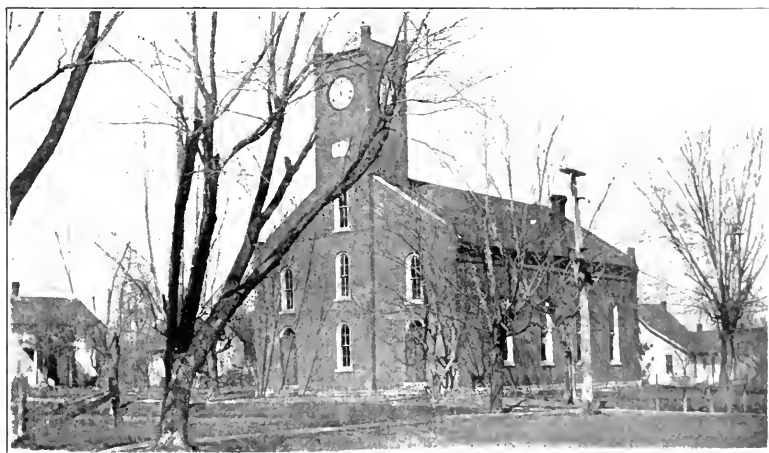
The Garden Grove Normal School was started in 1881, under Prof. R. A. Harkness, with two assistants. A building, costing \$5,000, was erected on grounds west of the depot. The school had good attendance from this and surrounding counties until Harkness was called to the professorship in Parsons College, Fairfield, Ia., and then the school was discontinued.

CHURCHES

The Presbyterian Church was organized July 9, 1856, at Stephen Carrither's, six miles west of Garden Grove, by a committee appointed by the Des Moines presbytery, consisting of Rev. J. M. Batchelor and Elder Wills. Calvin Johnson and Thomas Chamberlin were chosen elders. The first members were Calvin and Sarah Johnson, Thomas and Elizabeth Chamberlin, James and Sarah J. Irvén, Joseph and Eliza Johnson, Maria L. Brengle, Anna A. Moore, Elizabeth Carrithers, Harriet Brown and Mary Burns. This was then called the Leon Church and preaching was by turns at Leon, Calvin Johnson's place, Prairie City and Garden Grove. Afterward the name was changed to the Garden Grove Church. The pastors have been Revs. James P. Brengle, Craig Van Emmon,



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, DAVIS CITY



UNION CHURCH, DAVIS CITY

Reuben Hahn, Fred Rea, George Ensley, Robert Beer. During the war a frame church was built at a cost of \$1,300. A fine brick church was constructed in 1882 and cost \$4,000.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized at an early day in the house of Sylvanus Arnold, a mile west of the village. Reverend Carey formed the first class, among the members being Arnold, his wife and daughter, and Carey and wife. Charlotte Shaw and her father were received soon after. Until 1868 the society held their meetings in the Presbyterian house of worship. In the spring of that year plans were made for the erection of a church of their own, and the cornerstone was laid on July 26th. The property cost \$4,000.

LODGES

Temple Lodge No. 170, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered June 7, 1865, with B. W. Richards as the first worshipful master, E. H. Alexander as senior warden, and A. Culver as junior warden. A hall was built in 1869 which cost the lodge the sum of \$1,600.

An order of Independent Order of Odd Fellows was maintained from 1864 to 1872 and then removed to Humeston.

Henry Walton Post No. 312, Grand Army of the Republic, was mustered April 8, 1883, with about twelve members. Bryson Bruce, S. L. Wood, W. H. Kehler, C. D. Wheeland, V. L. Chester, Willis Hine, C. R. Hall, C. E. Mater and Michael Sullivan held the first offices.

BANKS

The Garden Grove Bank was established in July, 1880, by the Decatur County Banking Association (D. and A. B. Stearns and L. P. Sigler). G. J. Woodbury was the cashier. C. S. Stearns & Brothers began in the banking business in November, 1883. The Stearns family were probably the most influential people in the development of Garden Grove. The elder members of the family, D. and A. B., came here in 1854 from Ohio and in July of that year A. B. was hired to G. W. Piper, the only merchant in the town, Sylvanus Arnold making the contract in favor of Mr. Stearns. At that time whiskey was freely sold and Sunday was the big day for disposing of the liquor. Mr. Arnold stipulated that Stearns would not sell whiskey on Sunday, an agreement which Piper accepted. This had the effect of breaking up the Sunday whiskey traffic. Dan

Stearns at this time was breaking prairie for the wage of \$12 per month. In two months A. B. Stearns bought out Piper's store and the two brothers went into partnership.

In 1900 the First National Bank was established with C. S. Stearns as president and F. E. Stearns as vice president. This bank has been merged into the institution now known as the C. S. Stearns Commercial Bank, with C. S. Stearns as president; H. J. Culver, vice president. The capital stock is \$25,000; and the deposits are \$200,000.

NOTES

William Davis is said to have bought the entire Mormon claim for \$400. The Mormons also sold 400 head of sheep to the settlers at an average price of 45 cents per head.

About two hundred Pottawattomie Indians encamped on the creek west of Young's farm in the winter of 1851-52.

The first trees planted in the village were two willows. They were cut in Davis County, Ia., by Tom Knapp and O. N. Kellogg and after being used for more than three days for riding switches they were planted.

The nearest settlement to Garden Grove in 1850 was at Didge's Point, now in Appanoose County, forty miles away.

The first meadow of tame grass cut in the county was a twenty acre lot of which Professor Harkness' home later occupied the southwest corner.

Josephine Kellogg, daughter of O. N. Kellogg, was the first child born in the village.

In the winter of 1848-49 the nearest postoffice was at Priceton, Mo., and for three months there was no communication between the settlers and the outside world. At the end of these three months a couple of strangers passed through from Princeton and A. J. Davis and John Brown took advantage of their tracks in the snow and visited the postoffice, forty miles distant.

The first sawmill was drawn from Keokuk by Tom Knapp with an outfit of sixteen yoke of cattle, a pair of horses and two wagons built in Keokuk for the purpose. The mill was set on the banks of the Weldon, west of town, and the freight bill paid by Knapp was \$560.

In February, 1884, fire destroyed a solid block in Garden Grove, from the corner of Main and Jefferson east, including Jennings' general store, Woodbury's drug store, Craig's barber shop, Knapp's

meat market, Brown's grocery, F. E. Stearns & Co's. general store, McCaull's boot and shoe shop, Rideway's harness shop and the post-office.

NEWSPAPERS

The Garden Grove Bulletin was an advertising sheet issued from 1854 until 1869 at irregular dates by D. and A. B. Stearns.

The Garden Grove Enterprise was established in 1869 by H. M. Belvel. He sold to W. J. Whiteman, who discontinued the paper in 1873. It was a republican paper.

The Garden Grove Express first came into existence on May 5, 1875, but was called The Iowa Express until December, 1882. J. O. Parrish was editor and proprietor until March 1, 1881, when he disposed of the property to Bryson Bruce.

EARLY DAYS

The following is from the pen of G. P. Arnold:

The words that follow do not purport to reveal new subject matter, or to contain anything heretofore unknown, but rather to attempt to fix the location of certain landmarks in the early history of the Township of Garden Grove, to correct a somewhat hazy conception of the whereabouts of the temple and other matters allied to the early times of this locality. Whenever numbers are used for land sub-division it is understood to apply to the township mentioned above.

The writer first saw Decatur County in June, 1853, and cannot, therefore, claim that he came here with the first installment of the Gentile invasion. The temple I saw, of course, but when it had fallen into a prosaic and practical state. "To what base uses we may descend, Horatio." It was used to stable horses and at this time, to make it respectable, would have required the services of a pocket edition of Hercules in the original Augean stable act.

Later on this narrative will give location and uses to which this temple was dedicated. It is the regret of good men, peace men, like Tolstoi, Quakers, Dunkhobers and the like, that to install great reforms or to set up a new religion, streams of innocent blood must be shed. The list is long, but the mind readily recalls Calvary, the Roman Martyrs, Smithfield and the Tower, Reign of Terror, and but yesterday in Moscow and Petrograd, the snow was reddened with the blood of working men. The followers of Joseph Smith, known as the Latter Day Saints or Mormons, had their tragedy, too. When

Joseph and Hyrum Smith were killed by a mob at the window of Carthage Jail, then the doom of Nauvoo as chief city of the faithful, a manufacturing center, utilizing the waters of the great river near at hand, was sealed.

The exodus began in the early months of the year 1847. Small parties crossed the river on the ice, driving westward. The presidency now developed on Brigham Young and about this time the idea must have been conceived of pushing on to Salt Lake, as it was called upon the maps, for Young and party arrived there in the latter part of the same year 1847. One party of refugees came to Decatur County, arrived in this township in 1847, named the place Garden Grove and established a "Stake in Zion" or perhaps it was a "Stake of Zion." The establishment of the stake was to utilize the forces of the people and found a kind of theocratic-communal life.

When called together under a tree in that April day, in the year 1847, some were tolled off as bridge builders, others were to cut the logs for cabins, others were set to prepare the ground for planting. For the most part they were poor folk and the work animals were thin and unequal to the task of breaking prairie. This is usually given as the reason why the settlement was made in or near the timber skirting the streams. Although substantial cabins and a few minor industries were built it never was the intention to make the stay permanent. After Nauvoo, all other than Salt Lake were resting places only.

Practically all left here during 1853. I have alluded to the theocratic-communal character of the settlement. At one time a little less than three sections were fenced in one field. This was subdivided into plots of arable land eighteen acres in extent. The farmer paid in kind tithings to the church. Those otherwise employed tithed themselves in like manner. It is believed that no white man lived in the township when the Mormons came; no courts, no law, and the land had not been sectionized. It is a matter of fact that they grew hemp and being a peaceful people, one is in doubt for what purpose, until he remembers the great cable for the great trek in May, 1851. No murders are of record or within the memory of any remaining Gentile, although rumor is to the effect that a body was found hanging to a tree in a secluded spot. It may have been a case of suicide; at least there was no investigation or attempt thereto made.

As a rule the Mormons and Gentile neighbors lived in peace together, and the exceptional case was that of a man who sought his plow shortly after the departure of a delegation for Salt Lake and found

only the woodwork in the brush while the share, mouldboard and all other iron parts presumably were journeying to the Promised Land. He, the possessor, argued, perhaps, that it was a sight easier for his neighbor to get another from John Deere than he far away in the wilds to find one there. The mill, too, where the community ground their corn, merits description. The motive power was oxen or cows and the burrs turned by reason of the specific gravity of the animals. It was a treadmill of a peculiar type. Imagine a wheel with an axle ten feet in length, having spokes mortised into the axle in an irregular manner. When the axle already spoked, and a gudgeon in each end was raised perpendicularly, the spokes covered with plank, the result was an inclined plane upon which the animals walked, thereby driving the burrs. Belts and cogwheels were of wood and rawhide and except a few bolts and bits of iron around the stand of burrs, there was little besides. Evidently the iron age had not yet arrived.

Before this mill was made and set up near the south line of section 28, they tried to make out of a hard granite glacial boulder a millstone. The work progressed so far as to face the boulder for the nether stone and there the work ceased. It is said that the local blacksmiths could not temper the steel hard enough to cut the granite. The "Big Field," so called, comprised major parts of sections 32, 33 and 34. There were cabins and improvements scattered along the smaller streams, called branches. The temple was located near the west line of the northeast of the northeast of section 33, about thirty rods south of the town residence of the late Sam Metier. This structure was built of logs and had a puncheon floor. The logs forming the sides of the building were pinned together, forming a solid side without side brace, and the roof was of clapboards. It was three or four stories, all on the ground, as was the current witticism, used in describing the Paris mercantile establishment at High Point. The temple was used for secular as well as sacred purposes. With these people dancing was held to be very near a means of grace.

I am not apprised whether authority for the practice or the art terpsichorean was found in the new revelation delivered by Joseph Smith, or rested on the Old Testament text. Evidently the New of the authorized version did not sanction it. It mattered little to the young saints, I imagine, where lay the authority if the local fiddler was proficient in scraping the Arkansas Traveller, Fisher's horn pipe or Money Musk. Conservative Gentile opinion is, that the population at its height was about two thousand souls. The industries were a rope walk, wagon and blacksmith shops and the mill. Critchlow,

Doctor Roberts and Blanchard were leading lights. Orson Pratt, also, as the records in Salt Lake show, tarried here for a season. It is mooted whether President Brigham Young was ever here; if he was it was while passing through on the first trip to the Salt Lake Basin. It is said that Lee, of the Mountain Meadows episode, abode here, too. No credit for that. Brigham Young is usually credited with having received the revelation concerning polygamy. This new light must have come to Young about the time of the dispersion from Nauvoo, because two or three of the leaders practiced it while living here. This is Gentile testimony. With a short account of what I am pleased to call the great trek I will close this part of the early township history. On May 20, 1851, the start was made from Garden Grove with a train of 120 wagons, all made in shops here out of white oak, whip sawed, near at hand. One outfit of two wagons, one of which was a trailer, drawn by eight yoke of oxen, carried 1,000 feet of hemp rope, 2½ inches in diameter. The hemp was grown here and worked in a local rope walk. The cable was intended for ferrying unbridged streams. Pontoons were also a part of the luggage. Accompanying the wagon train was a battalion of 500 uniformed, armed men, mounted and commanded by a colonel and other officers. It is noticeable that whenever these people tarried for a short or longer period they began the building of temples. Witness the Ohio Station, Nauvoo, Garden Grove, perhaps Pisgah and Council Bluffs, and at last Salt Lake where very early, maybe the first year, it is recorded that Young drove his walking stick in the ground and declared "that here shall a temple be built;" and after many years the pretentious, many-pinnacled structure fulfilled the prophecy.

This closes the short account of the Mormon phase of the early settlement. The Gentiles came here as early as 1848 and later. The well known names Kellogg, Davis, Chase, Knapp, Baker, Piper, Bowen and others are recalled. O. N. Kellogg built a hotel out of Mormon cabins and added another story atop. It is this ancient hospitality that departed this life twenty-five years ago which by many was supposed to have been the ancient temple. At this time good feeling existed between the Hungarian colonists of New Buda and the people here. I remember that July 4, 1854, witnessed a great out-pouring of colonists joining with the people here in honor of the day. Seats were used in the peach orchard adjoining the Kellogg Hotel. It seems as if New Buda had appeared in force. I recall the presence of Pomutz, Varga, Mitani, Madarasz and many others whose names

have slipped through the meshes of the years. The peach orchard bore fruit that year to the extent of fifty bushels, it is said.

Jonathan Creek was named after a pioneer swine-herd who drove his half wild, mast fed hogs to the Missouri River to find a market. His cabin was in Center Township near the stream which bears his name. Weldon, although the ancestral acres of this family were in Burrell Township, was probably named in like manner. Maybe it was Cherry Creek, too, after a person, as one of the name lived here. It was almost the universal rule to hear, in those days, Grand River spoken of as plain Thompson, Thompson's Fork of Grand River, never Grand River. Personality counted for much in those days. One who has lived in a gold mining camp has been impressed with the imaginative, optimistic nature of many of the gold hunters. A story spreads quietly that Crazy Dick, or a drunken sailor, was seen with a big sack of dust and the dust never came from this camp; then Dick or the sailor is followed and in a short time a stampede is under headway. Almost every camp has its old-time story of stampedes and stampeders. Stories are floated about, oftentimes with a basic deal of truth, how Lucky Bill took a chance in his claim at Last Chance. Struck it rich. It was the merest chance that Bill went mining there at first. This desire to "strike it" is ingrained in human nature and no nationality or race is exempt. The manifestations are the same whether at Moosehead in the far North, Gold Lake of the California Sierras, Cool-gardie or the Rand of South America. One would not expect to find mystery and even a bit of stampede here in Decatur County. First as to the mystery. Artillery Grove, in the early days, was a prominent landmark situated in Clay Township, Wayne County; a high bluff covered with oak trees near Steele Creek could be seen from afar. The legend is that troops on their way from the fort at Raccoon Forks to Fort Leavenworth buried here two pieces of artillery to save them from falling into the hands of the Indians. This story is at least sixty years old and moss-backed. Another is that a paymaster buried his trunk somewhere in Long Creek Township to save his wealth from the savages. This, too, is as old as the former and hoary with years. The real stampede occurred before the war during the late '50s when men flocked to the gold mines on Steele Creek in High Point Township. Less than twenty years ago there remained at the said mines the rotting side of a long tom as evidence of the rush.

It is a fair presumption that the artillery were not 16-inch pieces and the mines of the Steele Creek basin were not Cripple Creek

claims of the first water. Here ends the chapter. This is, the writer believes, a fair account of the early days, not complete and perhaps not entirely free from error, but undertaken with the hope that the great field, temple and cognate matters of interest, as to location, at least might be fixed in the minds of the rising generation ere the last living witness had passed in his checks. Sometimes it is necessary to jog the memories of the old-timer, "Lest we forget, lest we forget."

MISCELLANEOUS

During the winter of 1848 William Davis bought the church property at a very small price per acre and resold the land in eighty-acre lots at \$50 for first choice and down to \$30 for the last choice. He also formed a partnership with Don C. Roberts and furnished a few hundred dollars, which his partner invested in staple commodities, mostly groceries, which was quite a convenience, but proved a loss to the senior member of the firm as the groceries were partly stolen from the cabin fitted up for their occupancy.

Mrs. Enos Davis kept a school in their cabin at \$1.25 per scholar, for a term of three months, the pay mostly in provisions.

O. N. Kellogg bought the first choice of lots and in the spring of 1849, in company with Enos Davis, bought the gardens and the use of two cabins of a couple of families living on the tract, and moved into them. In September of that year Hiram Chase and his family came to join the little colony. They were the first to come direct from Dodge's Point over the new road just staked out. About that time Daniel Winters and Mordecai Smith, with their families, came from Lee County and went about four miles northwest. Winters moved to land that he had entered and as he was the first settler there and a minister of the Missionary Baptist Church the settlers named it Gospel Ridge. In the spring before O. N. Kellogg had entered a quarter section there, the first entered in the county. The citizens were formed into a society for mutual protection, as many of the claims had valuable improvements. Josiah Morgan and a few others, with their families, reached the grove in the fall. The latter settled on Jonathan Creek, a few miles southwest, where Jonathan Stanley, from Tennessee, had lived a hermit life for several years, dressing in buckskin and living by hunting and trapping. Morgan bought a claim just west of the town and the Mormon Mill which had failed. He fixed the mill and it became a great convenience to the people of the community. He built a good, hewed log house adjoining his cabin in

in 1853 and soon after sold and settled on Gospel Ridge. The place was afterwards owned and occupied by Sylvanus Arnold and called White Oak.

During the winter of 1849 and 1850 a gentleman named Gwinn, from Virginia, visited the place, looking for locations for his children, three of whom, two sons and a daughter, made homes here the following year.

Henry B. Notson came and brought a stock of goods, opened a store in an extra cabin moved up for the purpose by Enos Davis, with whom he boarded. Jehu Blades also sold goods in the lower part of town, near the creek.

There were many Indians, chiefly Pottawattomies, in the vicinity during the early days, under the control of Chief John Kish Kosh.

At the time the Mormons left the grove the weather was very inclement, roads almost impassable; and groceries, flour, meat and clothing were sold for small prices in order to lighten the weight of the wagons. Along at this time, also, came the need of accommodations for travelers. Accordingly O. N. Kellogg added another log house to the one he occupied with space between, and an additional story over all, the upper part in one room when used for a hall and divided by curtains when used for sleeping rooms. A sign told the seekers for shelter that this was the California House and a little board nailed to the fence marked Entertainment, showed that E. Davis' cabin, a little east, might hold a limited number. The first hotel stood where Doolittle's home later was erected. The Mormon young people assembled in the hall sometimes, as their church had been taken for a stable. The lumber was whipsawed for doors and floors.

In the summer of 1849 John M. Whitekar of Van Buren County made this place his headquarters, being one of the three appointed to select the 500,000 acres of school land. He also located the ninety-six sections of university land. There was some saline land here, but it finally went back to the Government.

R. M. McBroom settled here in 1850.

The first election was held in 1850. William Davis, Victor Doze and Hiram Chase were the judges. Hiram Chase was elected justice of the peace and served twenty years.

Daniel Hankins came and was the first settler at High Point, also brought a hand mill to grind corn. For a number of years it was at least forty miles to a good flouring mill. Most of the goods, flour included, came from Keokuk—Cleghorn & Harrison, Bridgeman & Reed, Cox & Shelley were among the principal houses dealt with.

The Des Moines Valley Whig was the first paper taken after a post-office was secured.

S. F. Baker and wife came in 1851 on their bridal tour. Z. W. Knapp and family joined their friends, Chase and Kellogg, and many others also came in 1852. The next year brought an even greater number, many of them locating around Gospel Ridge, most of them from Illinois. A school district had been organized and Mrs. Enos Davis taught in the east room of the California House. Hiram Chase had a school in their kitchen the preceding winter.

The year 1854 brought a great influx of valuable settlers. William Davis and Hiram Chase built a two-story frame schoolhouse and Rev. J. R. Cary began school there. While soldering some tin on the cupola a workman dropped a coal which ignited the shavings and the building was consumed. Sylvanus Arnold replaced it with an octagonal brick, which in turn was supplanted by another frame structure.

E. W. Dawes purchased the first hotel property and it was then called the Dawes House. The Ohio House and the Amos House were later hotels.

Garden Grove was incorporated in 1879.

D. L. Bowen and George Douglass built the first flouring mill. John Avis, an Englishman, and his wife walked from Keokuk, carrying their small child and luggage and built the first frame house in Garden Grove. This home was later improved and became the residence of A. C. Shaw. The first sawmill was built by a company and operated by John Marshall, west of town, on Weldon, in 1855-56.

PLEASANTON

The Town of Pleasanton is situated on the divide between Grand River and Little River on the south line of Decatur County. The surrounding country is a rolling prairie, fertile and in a good state of preservation.

One account states that the town was laid out in the spring of 1854 by Daniel Bartholow and called Pleasant Plain. Another authority states that the town was founded in 1854 by William Snook and William Loving. The town was first known as Pleasant Plain. There was a postoffice $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles northwest of the place called Nine Eagles, which was subsequently moved here and the name changed to Pleasanton.

The first business house erected for use as a general store was owned by a Mr. Hinkle. It was located on the lot where the Painter

store later stood. The next building was constructed on the present site of the Tye Building, by Green Watson. The village had a very slow growth until 1883 when the Des Moines & Kansas City Railroad was built through the place. This is now a part of the Burlington. When the railroad first reached Pleasanton the town was christened Harding, but this name did not remain very long.

The first hotel or public house was conducted by Joel Painter and in 1860 the second hotel was erected by Royal Richardson, which he managed for twenty-two years. The first postmaster was Captain Warnock. The first schoolhouse, which also served as a meeting house, was a log building erected in the early days of the town. The logs are still in use in the framework of a barn erected by H. A. Cowles.

The college, a building 30x60 feet, two stories high, was next erected, but was destroyed by a tornado in 1865. After this a brick schoolhouse was built and in 1898 after being pronounced dangerous gave way to a frame school of two stories, costing \$1,500.

The first paper was the Index, established in 1900 by J. B. Bennett.

The Bank of Pleasanton was opened for business on March 6, 1905. It is now known as the Farmers and Merchants Bank. William Woodard is president and J. W. Chew cashier. The capital is \$20,000 and the deposits \$112,000.

Several times in the history of the town there have been destructive fires. The south side was burned at one time and the north side has suffered twice.

In an issue published in 1868 the Decatur County Journal has this to say of Pleasant Plains, now Pleasanton:

“This village is situated on the divide between Grand River and Little River, on the south line of the county in Hamilton Township. An addition to the village is situated in Missouri. The surrounding country is a rolling prairie, fertile and in a good state of cultivation, with timber about a mile distant, both east and west. Some years ago a building was erected here for a college. An institution of learning was duly organized with flattering prospects, but in June, 1855, the building was blown down and has not yet been rebuilt.

“The town was laid out in the spring of 1854 by Daniel Bartholow. It now contains four general stores, one drug store, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, two hotels, one shoemaker, three physicians, and one attorney. Its population is about two hundred and fifty. One of its substantial and enterprising citizens is Royal Richardson,

proprietor of the Richardson House, and also the owner of a fine farm, on which he this year cut sixty-five tons of timothy hay and harvested 1,000 bushels of oats. There is a good brick schoolhouse and a Masonic lodge known as Emblem Lodge No. 189. There is an organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church with a Sabbath school in connection. The place is twelve miles south of Leon and twenty miles northwest of Princeton, the county seat of Mercer County, Mo. It has a daily mail north and south and semi-weekly east and west. The postoffice here is called Nine Eagles, for the reason that mail matter directed to Pleasant Plains often miscarried, there being a place of that same name in Jefferson County, Ia."

PLEASANTON AND ITS PAST

By Royal Richardson

I was born in Phillipston, Worcester County, Mass., February 12, 1827, and my parents were natives of the same state. I was reared on a farm, and received my education in my native town. I was married to Martha Johnson and in 1854 I came to Batavia, Ill., where I worked at the carpenter's trade for two years. We located at Pleasanton, Decatur, County, Ia., in May, 1856.

The town was then called Pleasant Plains, had been laid out in the spring of 1854 by Daniel Bartholow and contained about fifty inhabitants. At that time the towns in Decatur County were Decatur, Garden Grove, Leon and Westerville. Allen Scott was postmaster at Nine Eagles, 2½ miles northwest of Pleasanton. In 1859 the postoffice was moved to Pleasanton and W. S. Warnock became the first postmaster. The writer held the same office for eighteen years. Among the early settlers of Pleasanton and vicinity I recall the names of Patrick Willis, Joseph Tong, A. W. Moffett, William Hamilton, William Acton, William Loving, George Morey, Ebenezer Robinson, William Alden, John Clark, Elijah Crawford, Wyllis Dickinson, G. P. Walker and Abner Marks.

Dr. George Hinkle started the first store and conducted it for three years. Greenville Watson started the second store and afterwards moved to California. Jeff Gardner started the third store. He died after the war in Mercer County, Mo. A. Works afterwards had a store and Joel Painter kept the first hotel. The village blacksmith was William Snook whose daughter afterwards married Dr. E. C. Macy. A. W. Moffett mended shoes. Tom Majors, after-

wards candidate for governor of Nebraska on the republican ticket, had a large stock of goods in 1859.

Some time during the war a two story frame building was built by private subscription for educational purposes. It was generally known as the College. In June, 1865, it was destroyed by a cyclone which blew down and unroofed thirteen buildings.

Several persons have lost their lives by violence in Pleasanton and vicinity. The first was Edward Purell who was shot and killed on the street in 1864 by Dike's Missouri militia. Purell was required to hurrah for Lincoln but he refused to do so and was fired on with fatal result.

Dr. Parmentus Mullinnix was killed in 1866 at a dance seven miles southeast of Pleasanton in Mercer County, Mo. John Crawford was charged with the deed, but was tried at Princeton and acquitted. At the preliminary Joe Warner of Leon represented the prosecution and Judge Orton of Princeton and Judge Forrey of Leon the defense. Crawford afterwards moved to Kansas and became a county treasurer.

James Allfrey, a school teacher and lawyer, was shot and killed in 1867 by Jake Williams, about three miles southwest of Pleasanton. Williams immediately disappeared and never was tried. He is now dead. Allfrey was a dead shot and had two Colt's revolvers with him when killed, but was taken unawares.

At the breaking out of the Civil war the spirit of patriotism pervaded the entire community. Much of the spring of 1861 was occupied in drilling and preparing for war. The drill master was Capt. Jeff Miller, a veteran of the Mexican war, and who was afterwards wounded at the battle of Pea Ridge. There was no draft in Hamilton Township and the people responded patriotically to every call for troops. Pleasanton and vicinity supplied soldiers to the Federal Army and the following is the roll of honor:

J. W. Allfrey, Thomas Acton, W. H. Acton, Jesse Batchelder, Alfred Brant, B. F. Bard, Manson Bird, G. W. Blakesley, Burr Brown, Bird Brown, Wesley Cavanaugh, Stephen Crouse, Henry Collins, James Crawford, James Dunleavy, M. J. Dale, J. M. Gammill, Lieut. E. Horn, David Horn, John Holden, Peter J. Hamilton, W. H. Harrison, M. V. Helton, Henry Houk, Jr., J. B. Harris, George B. Kelley, Marion Marks, Benjamin Marks, David Monk, W. H. Mills, George W. Mills, Lieutenant Maxwell, James May, John McIntosh, William McIntosh, Elijah Newell, Dan Ockerman, F. M. Peterson, George W. Rutherford, Seth Roe, C. H. Sullivan.

David Snook, Ira Steward, Ross Scott, T. D. Scott, Ed Seymour, John Seymour, Robert Snodgrass, Frank Turpen, Byron Waldrup, Leslie Works, J. S. Wilson, James Wakefield, Burr Watson, Abe Vandel, John Alexander, James Acton, Aaron Acton, Asa Burrell, W. H. Barnes, Abe Blakesley, Jerry Blakesley, Howard Brown, J. M. Broadbrook, T. J. Brant, Henry A. Cowles, W. J. Clark, John W. Crawford, Henry Craig, W. H. Dunleavy, Fleming Dale, James Dunham, Capt. J. C. Gammill, T. J. Graves, George Hedrick, F. M. Hamilton, James Holden, W. H. Hatfield, James Humphress, Henry Houk, John H. Helton, John Hutchinson, John May, John Marks, Ezra Marks, C. E. Macy, Lewis Mills, Capt. J. F. Miller, William May, Henry Morris, Aaron McIntosh, M. C. T. Newell, Pompa Niles, Eph Pardun, Thomas Perkins, James Reynolds, W. J. Sullivan, John Snook, William Snook, Brison Scott, Allen Scott, John D. Scott, Willard Seymour, W. H. Snodgrass, Harrison Swander, W. D. Wilson, Orville Works, Gardner Works, W. S. Warnock, Green Watson, Joe Vandel.

VAN WERT

Van Wert is an old town on the Humeston & Shenandoah, now the Burlington, and is located on section 12, Long Creek Township. It was first settled about 1853 and was called Florence. On June 29, 1855, the town lots were sold at public auction. George W. Bigford built the first store about the same time. A steam mill was constructed by George Douglass. The original town contained fourteen blocks and additions have been added from time to time. The name was afterward changed to Prairie City, then to Prairieville and on April 1, 1880, to Van Wert.

The village possessed but one store, that of John Gimmel, until 1880, when the Missouri, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad was built to that point. The western portion of that road was sold to the Humeston & Shenandoah, and they extended the line westward to Shenandoah. This gave the town an impetus and stores were erected by W. E. Stone & Company, D. Tharp & Company and M. R. Sanger. The Des Moines & Kansas City Railroad was built to this town in 1882.

This was made an independent school district in 1872 and a frame building, 22 by 28 feet in size, was erected at a cost of \$465. The building soon proved too small for the needs of the district and it was sold in 1885 and a fine two-story frame costing \$2,700 was built. It contained three rooms.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, VAN WERT



CHURCH OF CHRIST, VAN WERT

The Methodist Church was built in the summer of 1861 by the members. The Christian Church was first built in 1886 at a cost of \$1,700.

The town was incorporated fifteen years ago with P. K. Hall as the first mayor.

Several newspapers have been published in Van Wert with indifferent success. C. S. Fulmer established the Van Wert Record in 1905 and made of it an excellent publication. There are no papers published here at the present time.

Another authority on the early history of Van Wert states that the first store was opened by J. Irving in the east end of his own dwelling house, in the year 1853. The second venture was claimed to have fallen to the lot of Paul Ord and the next to George Bickford, followed by Jehu Blades. W. E. Stone was in business for himself for about a year and a half, after which he took J. C. Fletcher into partnership. They continued in business for two years when they dissolved partnership, Stone continuing alone until 1886 and then selling out to Tallman & Blair. This latter partnership broke up after six months, Tallman retaining the business and entering into another partnership later with Ed Hall.

In 1875 a novel and unsuccessful attempt was made to operate a gristmill by wind. By the application of steam this mill was afterwards made a success.

THE PRESENT TOWN

The Town of Van Wert, with the latest improvements necessary to a town of its size, such as telephones, railroads, good mail service, etc., has grown into a prosperous and enterprising community. The citizens of the town have used every effort to make the community a substantial one and have formed several organizations with this purpose in view. The lodges and clubs are also engaged in the work of civic betterment. The railroad is the means of making Van Wert an excellent trading point, quite an amount of grain and stock being shipped to the markets from here.

The first bank was organized in 1898. It was called The Farmers & Merchants Bank. Mark M. Shaw was the cashier. In 1900 the Bank of Van Wert purchased this institution and on December 10, 1900, organized with W. F. Blair as president, E. O. Stearns as cashier and Mrs. Ada L. Stearns as assistant cashier. The capital was first \$10,000. Those interested in its organization were: W. F.

Blair, Morris Brown, G. S. Barr, G. A. Hamilton, F. L. Hall, J. Stearns, M. F. Thompson, E. O. Stearns, William Goodman, Lester Gould.

The capital stock at present is \$10,000 and the deposits \$100,000. L. Gould is vice president and A. E. Blair, assistant cashier.

Van Wert, like many other towns in the county, has been the victim of destructive fires at different times. In September, 1903, a fire consumed everything on the west side of Main Street and north of the tracks. In February, 1915, another bad fire occurred in the business section of the town, practically a whole block being consumed.

Van Wert Post No. 205, Grand Army of the Republic, was mustered in July, 1883, with thirty members.

GRAND RIVER

Grand River is located about a half mile from the west bank of Grand River, on section 33, in Richland Township, on the Burlington Railroad which was formerly known as the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad. It is in the heart of a fine agricultural district, inhabited by the most substantial and progressive farmers of Southern Iowa. The soil in this district is very rich. Also, as a trading point, Grand River is of considerable importance.

This town was laid out in 1881 by E. C. Perkins for a corporation then known as the Town Lot Company, a company organized for the purpose of laying out towns along the route of the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad. The first business house was constructed by the firm of Bosworth & Milligan and was known as the Blue Front. It was used continuously as a general store until the building was destroyed by fire in the spring of 1905. G. W. Bradshaw started the first store, according to account, and later entered partnership with Mr. Lamb. S. C. Jennings started a general store in 1886. A school building was constructed in the town in 1876 and a union church building in 1881.

Some of the first residents of the town were Schuyler Jennings, C. H. Chapman, A. R. Taylor, John Burham, Dr. H. C. Bone, Doctor Landes, W. J. Beck, H. C. Jennings. Several of the above assisted in selecting a name for the new town in its early days. At a public meeting held in 1881, Beulah, Westerville and other names were proposed and rejected in turn. A motion made by C. H. Chapman, later proprietor of the Chapman House, to call the town Grand River prevailed and so the town was named.

Soon after the town was started lots were offered for sale and were taken very rapidly. Dwellings, store rooms, hotels, etc., were at once erected and soon the community had the appearance of a fast growing city. During the first year the presence of the hands who were at work on the extension of the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad from that place westward across the state, helped to give the merchants of the place a good trade until the business of the town could be built up from the surrounding country. The new town, however, had a good trade from the very start. One thing which at first very materially retarded the growth of Grand River was the difficulty in crossing Grand River at that point, there being no bridge and the river having to be forded. This tended to cut off a large part of her legitimate trade. In the summer of 1887, though, an iron bridge was constructed across the river one-half mile east of the town, and the difficulty was removed.

Among the early improvements was a fine church building, erected by the Presbyterians, but which was open to other denominations when not in use by the builders.

The State Savings Bank at Grand River was originally established in 1889 by Patrick Griffin who conducted it as a private institution under the name of Bank of Grand River. Ten years later Mr. Griffin disposed of the business to A. L. Ackerly who conducted it as a private bank under the same name until July 1, 1900, when it was incorporated under the title of State Savings Bank of Grand River. This is now known as the First National Bank. A. L. Ackerly is president; Patrick Griffin, vice president; J. C. Brothers, cashier; and Charles Kelley, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$25,000 and the deposits amount to \$118,000.

The Farmers Bank was established in 1903. J. Switzer is the president and A. R. Switzer is cashier. The capital is \$10,000 and the deposits amount to \$128,000.

DECATUR CITY

Decatur City, another of the county's substantial towns, is located very nearly in the center of the county. As a trading point it is an important one with many natural advantages. Decatur City is one of the oldest settlements in the county and was first designated as the county seat. Two years later, in 1853, the county seat was moved to Leon.

A common school district was maintained at a very early day. In 1864 it was made an independent district and a frame building.

32 by 40 feet, was built at a cost of \$3,000. This building was burned in 1885. The structure was insured for \$1,000. The next building was erected in 1885 and cost \$3,200. It was 30 by 60 feet and was divided into two rooms.

Several newspapers have been published in Decatur City at different times. The *Commoner* was published from 1859 to 1861 by F. A. C. Foreman; the *Decatur Enterprise* in 1866-7 by C. S. Wilson. Foreman went to Chicago from here and later died at Marengo, Ia. Wilson afterwards became editor of the *Des Moines Daily News*.

The *Des Moines, Osceola & Southern Railroad* was built to Decatur City in 1882 and then on to Leon and thence south. The name of the road was afterwards changed to the *Des Moines & Kansas City*, under which it operated until acquired by the *Keokuk & Western* and made a standard gauge road. The road is now owned by the *Burlington Route System*.

The first church built in the town was in 1856 and was dedicated by the Methodists. Later there were four societies here and all used this one church for their services.

AN EARLY DESCRIPTION

The following description of this town was published in the *Decatur County Journal* of March 4, 1869, and gives a correct idea of the town at that time:

This place is situated on a high prairie in Decatur Township, 2½ miles east of Grand River, and on the line of the *Leavenworth & Des Moines Railroad*. It contains three general stores, one drug and grocery store, one family grocer, one stove and tinware store, three hotels, one milliner, two blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, one chair maker, two cabinet makers, one wheelwright, one harness maker, two shoemakers, and three physicians.

The following are prominent and leading citizens of the place: *Dicken & Mechem*, *S. W. Johnston & Company*, *P. S. Dicken* and *A. Miles & Son*, general merchants; *A. Gill*, dealer in drugs and groceries and also proprietor of the *Decatur House*; *Hogue & Caldwell*, dealers in stoves and tinware; *Sam Schenck*, wagon maker and postmaster; *J. H. Horner*, harness maker; *Thomas Waller*, military and general claim agent; *C. Schenck* and *J. W. Laney*, physicians; *William Kew*, shoemaker; *Col. H. W. Peck*, chief engineer, *I. & M. Railroad*.

Decatur City being on the main road east and west, enjoys the advantages of a daily mail, with a semi-weekly mail south via Eagleville, Bethany and Gallatin to Cameron on the Hannibal & St. Joe Railroad.

There is a Masonic Lodge and a lodge and encampment of Odd Fellows.

BANKS

The Citizens State Savings Bank of Decatur City was organized in the year 1892. At the present time James Creswe is president; H. T. Rauch, vice president; E. W. Townsend, cashier; and O. F. Walker, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$20,000; the deposits are \$173,000.

The Decatur State Savings Bank was established in 1908 and at the present time has a capital stock of \$25,000 and in deposits the sum of \$180,000. W. H. Loyd is president; F. J. Eurritt, vice president; James C. Cozad, cashier; and L. D. Shoemaker, assistant cashier.

Both of these banks are doing an excellent business in that section of the county and both have a reputation for strength and integrity.

WELDON

This is another town whose existence was begun by the advent of the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad. In the summer of 1880 about July the railroad company purchased of J. P. Kline seventy acres of fine farm land adjacent to and south of the railroad for a town site. On August 3d it was laid out in streets and lots which were rapidly purchased. The proprietors of the town were formed into a company composed of L. P. Sigler, J. L. Young, of Leon, Drake and Hill of Centerville. Doctor Mitchell built the first house in the town; Merritt French and family were the first to begin house-keeping. Doctor Wall also constructed a house about the same time. A railroad depot was soon put up and became headquarters for many of the town people. L. G. and F. M. Jamison moved their store building and stock of goods from Smyrna and were the first business firm in the town. After some delay a postoffice was established, the delay being over the name of the town. L. G. Jamison was appointed postmaster and to accommodate the office he constructed an addition to his store. This building, with all its goods, was destroyed by fire several years later. The second general store was that of Ledger-

wood & Hodges. The first lumber yard was that of Baldwin and Williamson. The former member of the firm soon sold to John Bullard of Fort Madison. Mrs. Wolever who had kept a boarding house at Greenbay for several years soon built a hotel near the depot and did a good business. Weldon was incorporated in 1902.

BANK

The Bank of Weldon was organized in the spring of 1881 by the Decatur County Banking Association and conducted by it until January 1, 1886, when it was sold to a company consisting of Thomas J. Eals, Cyril C. Wood, A. E. Chase, S. O. Hingston, Oscar Judd, J. Z. McAllister, E. L. Chase.

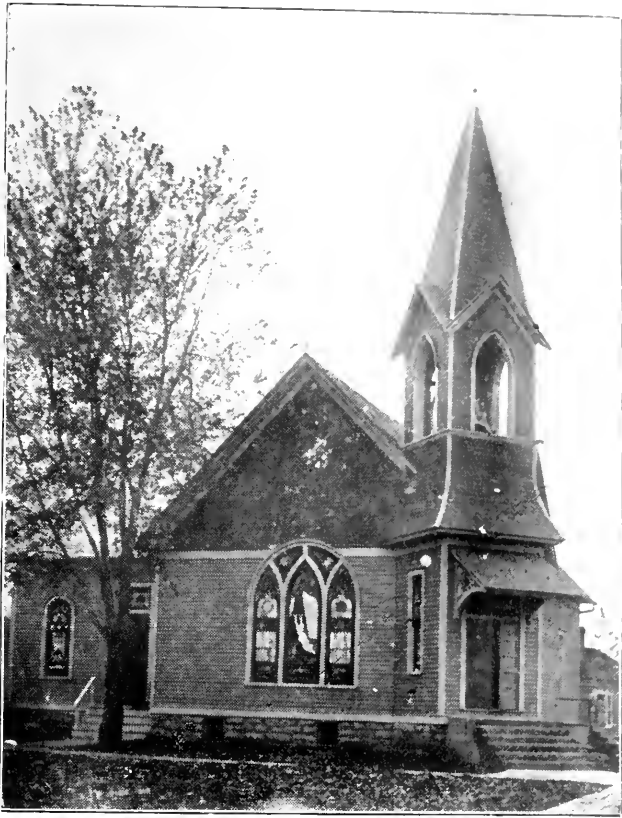
The Weldon Savings Bank was organized in 1901. H. E. Stevens is president; W. R. Warren, vice president; F. L. Hall, cashier; C. T. Newell, assistant cashier. The capital is \$20,000 and the deposits amount to \$127,000.

OTHER EARLY BUSINESS

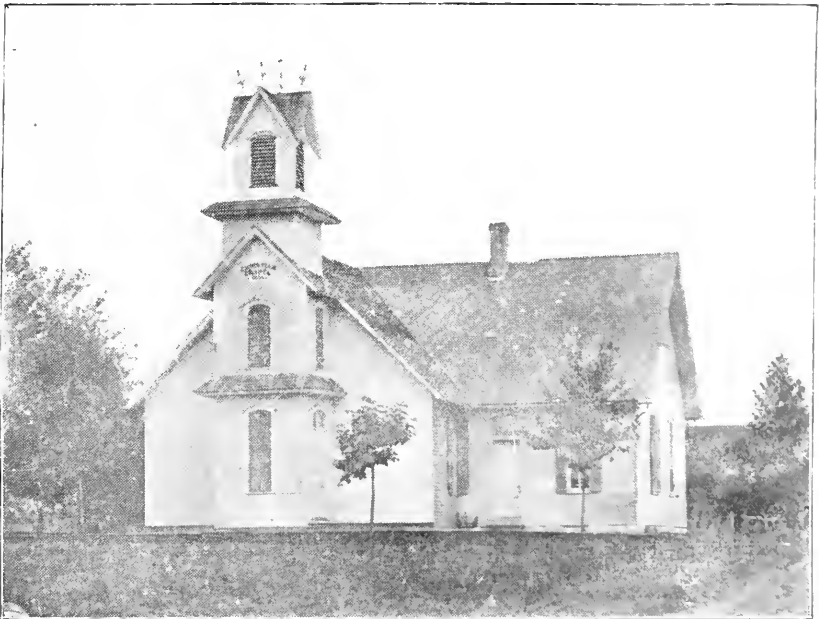
M. Hughes, before the first holiday season came, had put up a two story business house on the east side of Main Street, using the upper story for living rooms and the ground floor for hardware and agricultural implements. A. L. Dilsaver was the first on the ground with an exclusive stock of groceries. His family living rooms were back of the store. Doctor Wall soon saw that a drug store was a necessity and set one going under the firm name of Wall & Fippin, but soon sold out to C. B. Chase & Company. Dr. George A. Stuart who had located here for practice had his office in this store. John Metier owned the first livery barn, selling out to Howard & Rudd, and with Lee Matheny went into the hardware and implement business. In the early spring of 1881 John Barnard moved his shop from Smyrna and became a blacksmith of Weldon. William Baker constructed a large store room at that time and stocked it with general merchandise. The Rogers sisters opened a millinery establishment. T. L. McVay and Ol Mayer had charge of the market; Frank Doolittle, jeweler; Dick Murphy, furniture; Dick Murphy, G. W. Hester, M. French and Joseph Coffey, carpenters.

NEWSPAPERS

On May 26, 1881, the first newspaper in the Town of Weldon was issued. It was called the Weldon Witness and was edited by



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WELDON



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, WELDON

Ed Burleigh. The paper was a newsy little sheet, but was short lived, passing into the hands of S. L. Daily of Humeston in March, 1883. The paper was printed in a store building which then stood on the present site of the Christian Church, but which was moved later. Three terms of school were taught in the same building before a schoolhouse was constructed.

After the demise of the Witness the Weldon Hornet was published and edited by J. R. Crichfield. Then came the Weldon Messenger, edited by G. M. Smith. F. W. Durnal next published a sheet, also called the Hornet. The next paper was the Expositor by W. R. Boardman. He left town in 1893 under a cloud. Next was the Weldon News by E. E. Graham. The Weldon Bulletin was then started by H. J. Reger, assisted by his daughter, Blanche.

SCHOOLS

W. E. Morrow taught the first term of the above mentioned school; Doctor Mitchell taught one term, as also did Mr. Witmarsh. In 1883 the first schoolhouse was built in East Weldon. J. H. Jamison probably taught the first term in the new building. Ira Condit, Roy, Wingett, Cozad, Palmer, Rateliff, Latta and Hill were other teachers. As the years passed and the number of school children increased a new building, an elegant two story modern structure, was built.

CHURCHES

Until the beginning of the second year of the town's existence Sunday school and all religious services were held sometimes in the waiting room of the depot, sometimes in the bank parlor, or wherever a room large enough could be had. Early in 1882 both the Methodist and Christian Church peoples united their efforts and built the Methodist Episcopal Church which was dedicated in August of the same year, the dedicatory sermon being preached by President Park of Simpson College, Indianola. Rev. D. O. Stuart was the first pastor of the new church. The members of the Christian Church decided after a time that they were strong enough in numbers, as well as financially, to build a chapel. Consequently, in May, 1886, they dedicated their church building, L. L. Carpenter preaching the dedicatory sermon. In 1902 an annex was built to the structure. A heating and lighting plant was also added. Both of these churches now have a substantial membership.

LODGES

At one time Weldon was called the city of lodges. Some of them flourished for a day and then died. Jacinth Lodge No. 443, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was chartered June 5, 1884. Weldon Lodge No. 441, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized in December, 1881. Doctor Greenlee who came here in the spring of 1882 was instrumental in organizing a Grand Army of the Republic Post in 1883. Other lodges which have existed here are the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, Good Templars, W. C. T. U., W. R. C., and Rebekahs.

FIRST VITAL STATISTICS

The first child born was John Lewis Mitchell, son of Rev. G. E. Mitchell and wife. The first marriage was that of C. B. Chase and Blanche Roach.

LEROY

Another of Decatur's prosperous towns is Leroy. It is located on section 11, Garden Grove Township, and is but 4½ miles from Garden Grove. The town lies in the center of a good agricultural district.

Leroy was laid out in 1880 upon the building of the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad, now the Burlington, as were several other towns in the county. Maj. J. L. Young, L. P. Sigler and E. S. Buffum established the town on land owned by Buffum. Some time later they disposed of their interests, or a part of them, to ex-Governor Drake and his business associates. Mr. Buffum still owns considerable of the town site.

The first business house erected in Leroy was built by Flannigan & Perrin, who conducted a general store therein. Other business houses followed, residences were built and the little town began to show sturdiness and progress. The town has made much gain during the past few years and is one of the best trading points in the county. As a shipping point it is also excellent. The country surrounding this town is well adapted for stock raising of all kinds.

A modern schoolhouse was erected in the summer of 1904.

The Leroy Exchange Bank was founded in 1896 by F. E. and C. S. Stearns of Garden Grove with B. D. Barger as cashier and Mrs. Barger as assistant cashier. C. S. Stearns acted as president

and F. E. as vice president. On the first of March, 1903, J. W. Stearns of Garden Grove succeeded Barger as cashier. E. H. Blair is president at this time; H. E. Stevens, vice president; D. C. Thurlow, cashier; and Edna Thurlow, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$5,000 and the deposits amount to \$50,000.

NEW BUDA

The following description of this extinct town appeared in a county newspaper in 1868:

This place is located on the west side of Grand River, on a beautiful second bottom, about a half mile from the river. It was laid out in November, 1855, by Ernest Drahos. It was the center of a settlement of Hungarian exiles, who landed in this country in the year 1852, under the leadership of General Ujhazy, one of the companions of Kossuth. Seeking a refuge and asylum in this far land of the West, they could not forget the associations of the land of the Magyar and so called their adopted prairie home New Buda and gave to the public park in their village the name of Kossuth Square, while one of their streets they christened Magyar Street. The village contains sixteen blocks of eight lots each. There are two general stores, one blacksmith shop, one hotel and a good schoolhouse. The population is about one hundred.

TERRE HAUTE

This is another village which has disappeared. An early account describes it thus:

This is a primitive looking village on the west bank of Grand River, some five miles southwest of Decatur City, at the point where the survey of the I. & M. Railroad crosses, and on the road leading to Eagleville and Bethany, Mo. It has two stores, one blacksmith shop, one hotel, one shoe shop, one cooper shop, schoolhouse and postoffice. Its population is about seventy-five.

TUSKEEGO

This is only a station on the Burlington Railroad. It was laid out in 1879 on section 20, Bloomington Township, the land being owned by A. M. Jackson. The town was laid out in business and residence lots. The first building was erected in 1879 and the first

merchant was S. W. Hurst. A postoffice was established there in 1879.

HIGH POINT

This is an old postoffice village in High Point Township. At one time there were several stores there, but now there is little left except the name.

WESTERVILLE

Westerville is an old town situated on Grand River, on section 28, in Richland Township. A postoffice was established at this place in 1853 and Theron Westervelt was appointed postmaster. He named the town. In the following year a village was laid out by William Henshaw and named Milford. This name was afterwards discarded.

Richland Township was settled early by such men as Alexander Brammer, Michael Foland, Theron Westervelt and others. In 1852 a colony from Tennessee settled in the northeast corner of the township, in what was afterward known as Little Tennessee.

Another authority on the early history of this section states that the Town of Westerville was first settled by Henshaw, and was known by the name of Milford until 1855, when Theron Westervelt came from Ohio and built a gristmill and changed the name to Westerville. I. P. Lamp was another early settler, also Samuel Landis.

CHAPTER XV

POLITICS IN DECATUR COUNTY

When the County of Decatur first became a definitely organized territory of the State of Iowa, there were but two great parties in power in the country—the democratic and the whig. Decatur County generally favored the former of these. This obtained especially in state and national issues, but, however, in the affairs of the county there was a different status. Until the year 1858, or until the opening of the Civil war, a political candidate for a county office depended largely upon his personal popularity and known ability rather than upon his particular party affiliation. The people willingly supported the man whom they thought best, although the majority were possibly adherents of the opposite faith. With the opening of the war, though, it became necessary for each man to be either a supporter of the Government or a secessionist; there was no middle ground. A man claiming to be strictly neutral would be considered doubtfully and very probably hostilely. After the struggle with the South the personal side of county campaigns again became evident, although in not such a pronounced manner as before. It is today that a worthy man may be successful in his home county politics even if his party is not the party of the majority of the people.

HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL REMINISCENCES OF DECATUR COUNTY

By An Old Politician

Possibly the political history of Decatur County does not differ materially from that of the other counties of the state, but it will not be denied that our political campaigns have been more of the strenuous variety, mainly because the two parties have always been very nearly even in numbers. The democratic organization has ever been under the strictest discipline and led by shrewd and in many instances unscrupulous leaders. In no other county in the state is the opposition more alert and aggressive, and under such circumstances republican victories are only won by united effort and under a wise general-

ship. Both parties have always charged the other with machine rule, and bandying back and forth the epithets "boss" and "ring" are prominent features of every campaign.

Party lines were not closely drawn in our county prior to the presidential campaign of 1856. The pioneer settlers were too busy building homes and cultivating fields to attend the caucus and convention, and candidates for office were selected almost solely with reference to their personal popularity. A county seat fight which overshadowed every other issue, prevailed for several years prior to the location of the county seat in Leon in the spring of the year 1853. Voters divided into the east and west sides and candidates on the east side ticket were generally successful as the members of that faction were more numerous.

Quite a number of pioneers settled in the southern part of Decatur County prior to 1840. Among them were the Hamiltons, Harfields, Stanleys, McDaniels, Logans, Scotts, Millers and Burrells. Allen and Andrew Scott arrived in the year 1836. Immigrants settled in the southern portion of the county because the boundary line had not been located and that section was supposed to have been in Missouri. Allen Scott, who then resided near the present site of Davis City, was indicted by the grand jury of Buchanan County, Mo., for selling whiskey to the Indians. The prosecution was not pushed, however, for the settlement of the boundary line question followed very soon after. Prior to this settlement which occurred in 1853, a number of slaves were held in the southern part of the county. In 1852 John McDaniel owned George, a colored man, and Mr. Duncan who lived near Lineville, owned a number of slaves. George died in slavery and was buried in the Pleasanton cemetery, where a neat monument has been erected to his memory.

The first court case (mentioned elsewhere) was tried by Judge William McKay. Judge McKay's knowledge of law was limited and he was strongly addicted to the use of intoxicants.

Samuel Forrey came to our county in 1855 and began to practice law in Leon. He organized the republican party in this section and was the first person who made republican speeches over the county. Up until the time he was appointed judge he was influential in the selection of county candidates and practically dictated the platforms of the party organization. Judge Forrey was born in Columbia, Penn., in 1825.

Party lines on sectional issues were more closely drawn in 1856 than ever before. The republican party that year conducted its first

national campaign with its first national standard bearer, Col. John C. Fremont, popularly known as the pathfinder. The republican party was in process of formation and practically absorbed the strength of the old whig organization. The main issue was, of course, the slavery question. At the election in 1856 Decatur County polled 650 votes and Buchanan received 240 plurality. There was a strong know nothing sentiment in Hamilton Township and it cast a majority of its votes for Millard Fillmore. The county continued strongly democratic for many years, although in 1864 the republicans carried the most of the county ticket by small majorities. It may not be out of place in this connection to venture the opinion that the county always has been really democratic from the commencing of its history down to the present time.

The campaign of 1856 brought into the limelight of publicity a young man of more than ordinary ability who afterwards became a successful soldier, an able lawyer and jurist, a millionaire and a member of the United States Senate. When nominated for the Legislature by the district composed of the counties of Decatur and Wayne, Thomas M. Bowen had not obtained his majority, though he has commenced the practice of law at Corydon. He was a native of Iowa, gifted as a speaker, a handsome, well-formed young man. After serving one term in the Legislature he lived successively at Bedford and Clarinda. On the breaking out of the Civil war he entered the Union army and was promoted rapidly on account of his soldierly qualities. He was the friend and protege of Gen. James Lane of Kansas and at the close of the war he was a brigadier general commanding. Having been mustered out of the military service he began the practice of his profession at Little Rock, Ark., and was soon afterwards made one of the judges of the Supreme Court. At the expiration of his term of office he was appointed governor of a western territory where he served several years and then located in New York City. Having lost all he possessed in speculation he returned to Arkansas, but finding the republican party out of power he remained but a short time, and finally located in Colorado. He began to practice and soon became a district judge. He made some remarkably lucky ventures in mining property and was soon reckoned among the wealthy men of that state. His election to the United States Senate is within the memory of all.

The democratic ticket in 1856 was constituted as follows: senator, John W. Warner; representative, Thomas M. Bowen; clerk, George T. Young. The republican candidates were: Mr. Duncan, senator;

George A. Hawley, representative; Samuel Forrey, clerk. Dr. Samuel Dunn was an independent candidate for clerk. A series of joint discussions were arranged between the opposing candidates and in pursuance of said arrangement meetings were held at Garden Grove, High Point, Funk's sawmill, Decatur City, Leon and Pleasanton. The meetings were well attended and all of the candidates participated in the discussion except Doctor Dunn. At the Garden Grove joint debate R. D. Kellogg, afterwards a major in the Thirty-fourth Iowa Infantry, made an attack on Mr. Duncan and charged him with bringing slaves into the state. Samuel Forrey replied that Mr. Duncan's course showed that he was a good anti-slavery man inasmuch as he had set his slaves free by bringing them into the State of Iowa. Mr. Bowen usually paid special attention to his dress, but during this campaign his attire was so seedy that it attracted attention. Before the Decatur joint debate occurred I. N. Clark and other democrats went to Bowen and suggested that he improve his dress, as it hardly comported with the dignity of his position and to the one to which he aspired. Bowen replied that the clothes he wore were the best he had and intimated that if they were not satisfactory he was willing to accept a donation. So the democrats chipped in and bought a new coat for Bowen in order that he might present a creditable appearance for his joint debates.

The candidates traveled from one meeting to another on horseback. The joint debate in Leon was held in a building on the lot on which is now located the Advent Church. The entire democratic ticket was elected that fall by a good majority. The campaign was an educational one, free from personalities and charges of rings and bossism.

In the olden times the duties of the county treasurer and recorder were performed by the same person. The two offices, however, were separated in 1865 by provisions of law. The first treasurer and recorder was John Brown who served in 1852. Abner Harbour served in the same capacity in 1853 and his successors in office were John Jordan, Rev. Ira B. Ryan, Samuel C. Cummins, and J. C. Porter. John Jordan served from 1854 to and including the year 1857. He was the father of Charles Jordan later of Enid, Okla., who served as deputy treasurer under Doctor Thompson. John Jordan was a man of more than average ability and accomplished in business matters. He became a prominent member of the Methodist Church and was always a zealous democrat. He was a fair representative of a large class of democrats in the county who never ceased work for their party. Mr. Jordan was considered quite

wealthy at one time, but lost his wealth during the hard times of 1857. He owned the Reed farm north of Davis City.

The first recorder of Decatur County was Luman N. Judd who served in 1865 and was elected as a republican. He also served as county judge. He was a brother of Norman B. Judd, one of the founders of the republican party and who probably did as much as anyone to insure the nomination of Lincoln for the presidency. Luman N. Judd was a fine looking man whose abilities were marred by his eccentric conduct. He served in the Union army during the Civil war.

J. C. Porter served the county as treasurer during the years 1864 and 1865. He was succeeded by S. C. Thompson who served from 1866 to 1871. W. W. Ellis was recorder from 1866 to 1868 and W. J. Sullivan from 1869 to 1876. George T. Young was clerk of courts from 1856 to 1862; Nathan Perdew during the years 1863 and 1864; Francis Varga during 1865 and 1866; and Ed K. Pitman from 1867 to 1870. George Woodbury was sheriff from 1860 to 1863; Ira B. Ryan in 1864 and 1865; and then Woodbury was re-elected and served from 1866 to 1869. Major Kellogg was representative in 1860, Capt. John Andrews in 1864, T. H. Brown in 1866 and Colonel Peck in 1868. C. G. Bridges of Decatur City served as state senator from 1864 to 1868. Bridges could make a fair speech and was recognized as a man of ability. He was admitted to the bar and practiced law for a time at Decatur City. He was prominently identified with a railroad project which was to have been built from Duluth to Des Moines, then to Kansas City via Decatur and then on to Galveston. Considerable grading was done on the line between Decatur and Terre Haute. Bridges died several years ago in Kansas, having left the county shortly after his term of office expired.

In the pioneer days the republican party had but a slender following in the county and no conventions were held until the Civil war, when the party received many accessions. In the old days the republican party was controlled by Samuel Forrey, Dr. John P. Finley and George W. Hale and year after year these three men met together and selected the candidates for the county ticket. Generally the tickets were very shrewdly made up and the party grew stronger until victorious at the polls in 1864. In 1862 Mr. Hale caused to be selected as republican candidate for clerk of the courts I. P. Martin, who was at home fresh from the battlefield of Shiloh where he was severely wounded. Mr. Martin had always been a

democrat and went to the polls that fall and cast a straight democratic ticket. Not long afterwards, however, he experienced a change of heart and was always afterwards known as a staunch republican.

The political campaign of 1871, though not commencing until September, was one of the most acrimonious ever known in the history of the county. For the first time the existence of a courthouse ring was claimed and that the democratic party was dominated by a machine used for the benefit of an office-holding faction of the party. The democrats held their county convention September 2d and nominated the following ticket: Auditor, George Burton; representative, Dr. S. C. Thompson; treasurer, George Woodbury; sheriff, C. T. Frazee; county superintendent, E. S. Buffum; supervisor, Jacob Hiner; and Mr. Jennings for surveyor. John W. Warner and Doctor Thompson delivered addresses which elicited much enthusiasm among the faithful.

The republicans held their convention a week later and there was a good attendance, every township being represented in full except High Point. Candidates had previously announced themselves in the columns of the Journal. The ticket selected was as follows: F. Teale, representative; Francis Varga, treasurer; R. E. Dye, auditor; E. J. Sankey, sheriff; J. L. Harvey, superintendent of schools; A. B. Stearns, supervisor; L. H. Northrup, surveyor; J. S. Horner, coroner. A County Central Committee was then selected as follows: P. O. James, Albert Hale, H. G. Stiles, A. M. Post and E. W. Curry.

In the campaign which followed both parties made desperate efforts to win the victory. The democratic organ, called *The Pioneer*, was edited by the late Ed Pitman and he made a vigorous defense of his party. The democrats had control of the offices and their officials were charged with incompetence and boodling. Acting in the capacity of county attorney at this time was J. B. Morrison, a lawyer of more than ordinary ability and a lifelong democrat. He joined the republican party and threw the weight of his influence against the democratic ticket. The following is an extract from a letter written by Mr. Morrison shortly before the election: "I have no quarrel with Colonel Burton, but as the attorney of the county, I say to the people that I believe that there is some mismanagement. The taxes have been too heavy. I believe that illegal taxes have been placed on the books and collected off of a confiding public. The yoke has become so heavy that it cannot be borne longer. No official shall dodge responsibility and secure another election by calling 'mad

dog' and then distracting attention in another direction. Our county has lost a thousand dollars or more by his mismanagement of road matters. Any man that will deny that will make a certificate that is untrue or scratch a record. I do not oppose the auditor on personal grounds, but because in common with others I want an investigation of the affairs of the county, as conducted in this office. He admits the accounts of the school funds were not correctly kept, because he could not deny it. The auditor of state sent a man here who straightened him and his books both out. Couldn't come that game with the Des Moines chaps. If the school fund has been wrongfully kept, may there not be something else wrong?"

The election occurred on the 10th of October and resulted in the success of the entire republican ticket.

It must be acknowledged in the light of subsequent events that the republican charges were entirely justifiable. There existed a political machine, with official incompetence and peculation, and the public interests demanded an entire change of officers. Fortunately the people acted none too promptly. The logical outcome a continuously organized ring is invariably prejudicial to the interests of the people. It means official incompetency and graft.

Rings have existed more or less ever since these days described above. Where there is politics there will be factions in either party, one undergoing the accusations and criticisms of the other. The solution and remedy is not yet in sight.

CHAPTER XVI

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

There is no profession, no trade, no enterprise, which did not have a beginning in darkness; there is no effort to which the forces and energies of mankind have been directed but that did not first combat the obscurity of ignorance, pardonable ignorance, it is true.

In this enlightened age of medical science one regards the early doctor as a person with little knowledge of the profession, one who applied the home remedies of calomel, castor oil and blue pill with the abandon of a solicitous grandmother and one who wielded the lancet with artistic indiscrimination. However one regards the early physician, there must be taken into account the times in which he worked, in other words the knowledge of medicine and surgery which then existed in the world. Secondly, there are the physical conditions under which the early doctor worked. Thirdly, there was distinct character of disease among the early settlers, and, lastly, the remedies with which the doctor had to work were scarce and many times not the best antidote for the ailment.

In the matter of world knowledge of medicine at that time it can safely be said that little or nothing was known in comparison with the present status of the science. In fact, medicine has made more rapid strides in the past decade than in the past century. In the early days of this state and county the doctors had strong faith in the use of the lancet, believing that by letting a copious amount of blood from the patient, the object of which was to destroy the tenement of the disease, a cure could be effected. Then there was the Spanish Fly blister which was applied for all sorts of ills; there were calomel and blue pills as the universal internal remedies. During the convalescent period of the patient, if such a period were ever reached, gamboge, castor oil and senna were administered in generous portions to work out of the system the effects of the first course of treatment.

It would be difficult to describe in limited space just how far the step has been taken from those early theories to the present day

theories. A glance at the daily newspapers and magazines will invariably prove by concrete instance the wonderful cures being effected today, both in medicine and surgery. Operations upon the heart, upon the brain, upon the other delicate and vital organs of the body are becoming of daily occurrence, whereas a quarter century ago they would have been ridiculed. The day of serums has arrived and the disease is thus throttled in its inception. The present day doctor assists nature to repair the break and is a man of thought and initiative.

The physical conditions under which the early doctor worked is another point in his favor. There were no roads, bridges and in many places there was not even a marked place of travel. His trips were made on horseback through intense blizzards, soaking rains, bitter cold and in the face of the high winds which swept across the prairie. Ofttimes his sleep was snatched while in the saddle. In reward for this torturous service he received a very meagre fee and the fact is known today that in the majority of cases he received nothing, for the settlers as a class were too poor to pay for his aid. Then again, he would receive his fee in potatoes, apples, flour or whatever commodity the settler could best give him. These facts have placed the doctor of the early times on the pedestal of fame, for it is upon his sturdiness and vitality that the whole medical profession is built.

The diseases common to the early settlers were distinctive. The rough life they led and the exposures they endured did not permit entrance to the many ills and pains attendant upon civilization and large city communities. Fevers and ague, with an occasional stomach ache, were nearly all the ills they bore. Accidents there were which required the use of splints of wood and bandages and also the early doctor needed a good knowledge of obstetrics, although the latter wisdom was not always called into use. The hardy pioneer mother many times endured the birth of her child without assistance. When sickness broke in the family the doctor was called if within distance, but if not, the stock of simple remedies in every cabin was put into use. If it were nothing more than a cold among the children the application of hot lard and bacon rind and the internal use of quinine and onion juice completed the treatment.

DOCTORS IN DECATUR COUNTY

One of the first physicians in the county and one of the most respected was Samuel C. Thompson. He was a very prominent

figure in the early development of the county. The year 1851 brought him here from Davis County, Ia., although he was a native of Ohio. For twenty years he resided in this county, practicing his profession, and at different times serving as county judge and also county treasurer. Doctor Thompson was not a graduate of a medical college, but he possessed enough native ability to offset this disadvantage. He is now deceased.

In 1853 J. R. McClelland located at Leon and practiced continuously until his death.

W. J. Laney, a very intelligent physician, came to Leon in the early days and practiced here for two years, then moved to Decatur City. He served one term in the legislature as representative of Decatur County. He has been dead several years.

L. H. Sales, one of the best known of Decatur County pioneers, practiced to some extent in the early days, but gave the majority of his attention to other lines of business. For about twenty-five years he was the proprietor of the Sales House and also traded to some extent. At one time he filled the position of county judge. He has long since passed to his death.

John P. Finley was a native of the State of Ohio, but came to Leon from Galena, Ill., in the spring of 1854. He was an able physician and won considerable reputation during his long sojourn in Decatur County. He served as examining surgeon at Des Moines during the war. His death occurred in March, 1883.

C. P. Mullinix practiced for over thirty years in the county.

Robert D. Gardner, known as a botanic physician and now deceased, practiced for several decades in or near Leon.

G. W. Baker located at Decatur City about the year 1858, but later moved to a place a mile north of Leon. Here he largely gave up the practice of medicine and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. He is now dead.

B. F. Raiff, an eclectic, came to Leon before the beginning of the Civil war. During the latter struggle he served in the Union ranks as assistant surgeon. About 1869 he moved his business to Osceola, where he practiced until his death.

Harry R. Layton, a native of Lee County, Ia., came here in 1874 and entered the practice of his profession, which he still continues in Leon with a high mark of success. He is well known not only as a doctor, but as a surgeon of ability and courage.

H. C. Van Werden, of Dutch parentage, and a native of Keokuk County, Ia., located at High Point in 1878 where he practiced for

two years, then moved to Garden Grove, staying there two years also. Then he located at Leon and formed a partnership with J. P. Feenly, which continued a year, then practiced alone until entering partnership with his brother William. H. C. Van Werden is now deceased, but his brother William is yet living and engaged in practice.

A Doctor Macey practiced medicine for a number of years in the early times. After the Civil war he removed to Missouri and there died. He had a son to practice in Pleasanton later.

Another early physician of Pleasanton was Doctor Burns, who died there after a few years. Elijah Glendenning, a prominent physician of Pleasanton and afterwards of Wayne County, studied with Burns. He is now dead. Doctor Mullinnix, a brother of C. P. Mullinnix of Leon, was killed at Pleasanton during the war by shooting.

The first physician at Garden Grove was a Doctor Smith. He settled there in the early day, but did not remain long. In saying that he was the first physician on the spot where is now located Garden Grove may give rise to some doubt. When the Mormon invasion came there were in all probability several doctors accompanying them. The names of these men have been lost.

Doctor Johnson came to Garden Grove about 1857 and after several years work here went to Corning where he died. He had one son, Richard, who continued the practice at Pleasanton until his death.

John Sigler came to the Grove shortly before the outbreak of hostilities in 1861. He practiced a few years and then retired. His death occurred in 1883.

W. A. Todd came to Garden Grove in 1866, after completing a very excellent course in medicine at the University of Michigan and the Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis. He practiced in this vicinity for fifteen years, then moved to Chariton. He is now deceased.

John Carder practiced in partnership with Todd for some time, and then practiced alone. He then removed to Central Iowa, where he died.

V. L. Chester began the practice of medicine at Garden Grove in 1875, but later moved away.

E. W. Doolittle graduated at the University of Iowa and came to Decatur County in 1879 and was in partnership with Doctor Todd until the latter removed to Chariton. He remained in the practice alone until his death at Cainesville, Mo.

W. D. Duff came to Garden Grove in the spring of the year 1866. He has been dead for several years.

At Decatur City W. J. Laney is credited as having been the first physician.

O. A. Day practiced there for several years, or from 1856 to 1865. He then moved to Kansas, where he died.

Samuel Day, a brother of the above, was here from 1865 to 1868 and then moved to Tennessee. Doctor Stringer was in Decatur City from 1868 to 1870. H. C. Bone came here in 1875 and practiced here one year and is now still in the practice at Grand River. E. Meacham was here from 1868 to 1882, and then moved to Kansas, where he died in 1885. Joseph Puckett practiced from 1856 to 1879, when he died. J. R. Teller was here in 1876-77 and then moved away. H. Parrish came to the town in 1877 and practiced continually until his death. David R. Springsteen began medical work here in 1883 and continued all of his life.

At Van Wert there was a Doctor Darneille in 1855 and 1856 and a Doctor Powell after him for a short time. Both of these early doctors are, of course, deceased. B. R. Walker practiced at this point for over thirty-five years. Doctor Pugh came here from Green Bay Township, Clarke County, remained a short time and left in the autumn of 1882. N. J. Hyatt came in 1882, also W. H. Todd.

At Weldon T. M. Wall was among the first. He did not stay long, nor did he stay long in any place. David R. Springsteen was at Weldon during 1884 and then went to Decatur City. George A. Stuart was here from 1880 to 1883 and then went to Greene County, Ia., where he practiced until his death. O. W. Foxworthy came in 1884. Enos Mitchell came to Weldon in 1880, but has now departed from the county. L. P. Greenlee, from Promise City, Wayne County, located here in 1882 and practiced, also sold drugs.

The first physician at Davis City was I. O. Day, and he remained for about two years. His son-in-law, Murphy, practiced here one year. N. M. Smith was here for two or three years, then went to Kansas. J. B. Horner came here in 1873 and is now practicing at Lamoni. J. H. Barber was also here many years ago, then went to Kansas. In the fall of 1885 he returned to Davis City and resumed his practice, which he continued until his death several years ago. W. C. Wheeler, from Pleasanton, practiced in Davis City for several years.

At Lamoni the first physician was Doctor Bissell. J. W. De-Noon came there in 1880; J. J. Stafford in 1882; J. H. Hansen in

1884 and D. D. Steiner in 1886. All of these men are either dead or removed to some other locality.

DECATUR COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

This society was organized June 8, 1875, for the first time. The men present at that time who became members were: Doctors Chester, Stuart and Todd of Garden Grove; Sanford, Finley, McClelland, and Layton of Leon. Doctor Todd was chosen temporary president and Doctor Finley the first permanent president. Doctor McClelland was vice president and Doctor Layton secretary. Doctors Laney and Bone of Decatur City became members at the second meeting, when a constitution and by-laws were adopted and a fee bill selected.

Regular meetings of this society have been held ever since the day of organization and a great amount of interest has been taken in the work of the society. The society is automatically affiliated with the Iowa State Medical Association and occupies a high rank among the societies of the different counties in the state.

THE PHYSICIANS' REGISTER

In the physicians' register at the county courthouse there are the following doctors registered, which undoubtedly comprise about all who ever practiced in this county.

A. J. Ayres, 1888; H. C. Bone, 1880; M. L. Boyer, 1880; Thomas Brenizer, 1880; G. W. Baker, 1880; I. N. Barber, 1880; T. B. Bullock, A. Brown, C. S. Bishop; Fred A. Bowen, 1898; William Oliver Bye, 1899; T. L. Chester, 1880; A. B. Hornell; J. W. Crofford, 1885; Benjamin D. DeKalb, 1880; Emmett W. Doolittle, 1880; J. W. DeNoon, 1880; A. S. Davison; W. D. Duff; W. P. Emerick; Thomas Emley; J. P. Finley; O. W. Foxworthy; R. F. Fellows; R. D. Gardner; Calvin Grim; L. T. Greenlee; T. W. Grace, 1891; J. W. Greenman, 1898; J. B. Horner, 1880; I. F. Hildreth, 1880; H. Higgins, 1881; A. Hamilton; N. J. Hyatt; John H. Hansell, 1884; L. R. Hinsdell, 1897; J. W. Helton, 1907; G. C. Jewett, 1888; W. G. Jeffries, 1906; William T. Kelley, 1881; W. J. Laney, 1880; Q. M. Lindsey, 1880; H. R. Layton, 1880; C. W. Lillie, 1881; L. J. Landes, 1892; C. T. Mullinnix, 1880, J. N. McClelland, 1880; E. C. Macey, 1880; R. Miller, 1880; Enos Mitchell, 1880; W. L. Minton, 1880; J. E. Minton, 1880; J. Maxwell, 1881; N. McNicho-

las, 1883; E. N. Mullinnix, 1884; R. M. Miller, 1886; John O. Mote, 1896; B. R. McAllaster, 1896; Otto E. Macy, 1899; H. Parrish, 1880; William Plested; John W. Pugh; A. C. Reynolds, 1885; James J. Stafford, 1880; John W. Shell, 1880; George A. Stuart, 1881; D. R. Springsteen, 1883; A. Scott, 1890; A. W. Sherman, 1892; William A. Todd, 1880; O. G. Tremaine, 1881; W. H. Todd; H. C. Van Werden, 1880; W. Van Werden, 1880; B. R. Walker, 1880; A. Wilson, 1880; W. C. Wheeler; T. M. Wall; S. J. Wright; W. H. Wilson; J. W. Wailes, 1891; R. A. Wilson, 1892; W. F. Wright, 1896; T. J. Wilkins, 1906; G. W. Youdin, 1915; W. H. Zieber, 1890.

CHAPTER XVII

HISTORY OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION

The Decatur County bar has ever been a reputable one. Lawyers who have practiced their calling in this county, have, with possibly a few exceptions, been of a high class and of recognized ability and integrity. There has not been so many of the practitioners here as in larger counties, but there has been a sufficient number to keep the legal wheels of the county running smoothly.

In the early '40s there settled in the southeastern part of the county a man by the name of Henry Berge. He was an active man and was known to be very eccentric. He styled himself an attorney, but it is said that his business was confined to a justice's court. Granting that he was a lawyer, even after a fashion, he will have to be given the honor of having been the first in Decatur County. His death occurred before the opening of the Civil war.

Another man, by the name of Tucker, settled in the county some time between 1840 and 1850. He lived in a log cabin two miles southwest of the later site of Leon. He possessed some ability in the legal trade, but was considered as much or more eccentric than Berge, and his legal practice was as much limited. He left the county very soon and moved to Trinidad, Colorado, where he lived until quite old.

Gideon P. Walker came to Decatur County in the late '40s and lived alone on the southern border of the county. He was excellently educated for the day and was noted as a fine penman. He, too, is said to have been very eccentric and odd in his habits. His practice of law was probably confined to the four walls of his cabin, but nevertheless he was known as an attorney and a good one.

The first lawyer to practice at Leon was George A. Hawley, who located here in 1854 and practiced for a period of eight years. He had quite an amount of ability and was well liked on account of his affable disposition. He was active in the politics of the county. During the early years of the war he moved to Chillicothe, Mo., afterward to Atchison, Kan., and then Hamilton, Ill. He is now deceased.

Andrew J. Baker came to the county early and practiced a short time in partnership with Hawley. During the Civil war he served as lieutenant and when hostilities ceased he located in Putnam County, Mo. He took a prominent part in the Liberal movement which carried that state in 1870 and became attorney-general, which position he held for four years. He afterwards removed to Centerville, Ia., and formed a partnership with General Drake and in 1884 was elected attorney-general of Iowa.

The three Warner brothers came to Leon from Ohio about 1856, together with several other lawyers. John W. Warner was perhaps the leader of the party. Soon after coming here he erected a cheap structure for the care of travelers and for several years he alternated the practice of law with the duties of a host. He was an excellent speaker and very popular, but his success in dollars and cents was not very great. He moved to Colorado finally and engaged in mining.

Joseph S. Warner was at first simply known as a carpenter. While working with his brother, John W., on the building afterwards called the Sales House he accidentally fell from the top to a scaffolding below. He was not hurt as much as he was disgusted and he immediately declared that he would never do another day's work as long as he lived. He studied law, entered the practice and was very successful. At the height of his career he was stricken by death at his home in Leon. Politically, he was a democrat.

A. J. Warner started to practice law as his life's work, but soon grew tired of it. He became of a peculiar turn of mind and soon became an agnostic, which made him very unpopular. Soon after the war he started farming in Knox County, Ill. He is now deceased as are all the Warner brothers.

George S. Adams was an attorney for a short time in Decatur County, then became a Presbyterian preacher and then went to Colorado. He is now deceased.

P. H. Binckley came to Leon with the purpose of starting the Leon Pioneer, the first newspaper in the county, in partnership with his brother, George. He also practiced law. He was a well educated man and equally well versed in the law, but he was not successful. However, as a man he was popular and took a very active part in politics. During the administration of President Johnson he was appointed to a clerkship in Washington, D. C. and afterward moved to Dayton, Ohio, where he died.

Samuel Forrey, one of the best known of the men of Decatur County in the early days, came to Leon in 1855. He immediately began to practice law and continued until his death. Eight years of this time he was on the bench as district judge and for several years served as justice of the peace. He was at first a republican, but finally changed to the democratic party while led by Cleveland.

Fred Teale was at one time a lawyer, but soon retired from that profession, and now is in the banking business.

Vincent Wainright began practice in Leon about 1856 or 1857. He was considered a splendid lawyer. He held the office of county superintendent for one term, having been elected on the democratic ticket. At the beginning of the Civil war a company was formed in Leon under the captaincy of George Burton. This company soon became enlisted to full strength and consequently there were many men left. These were kept at regular drill. Wainright was captain of this body of men until he removed to Winterset. He is now deceased.

W. S. Warnock settled in Leon about the same time as Wainright and practiced for about fifteen years, earning a reputation for ability. He subsequently went into business at Davis City and then into the pursuit of farming. He served one term in the Iowa General Assembly. During his life he was affiliated with both the democratic and the republican parties.

James S. Alfrey came also about the same date and practiced irregularly for ten years. He served one term as county superintendent. He was enlisted in the army for a short time during the war and after the war taught school. He was murdered by a man named Williams on May 20, 1866.

Jesse W. Penny came to Leon during the early years of the Civil war and practiced for five or six years, or until his death. He was an excellent scholar and was successful during the short time he was permitted to work. He was democratic in politics and served one term as county superintendent.

About 1850 A. J. Evans settled in the southeastern part of the county, near Lineville, on a farm. In 1854 or 1855 he was elected prosecuting attorney, when the district including Decatur County extended to the Missouri River, and took in about one-fifth of the State of Iowa. Mr. Evans assisted in holding court in Decatur County before the erection of the first courthouse, but did not remove his residence to the county seat until 1865, when he devoted himself entirely to the legal practice, gaining a good reputation in the same.

He removed to Alabama in 1871 and afterwards decided to go to Kansas. While en route to the latter state he was seized with small-pox and died.

John W. Harvey came to Leon from Jasper County, Ia., in 1868 and was in partnership with Major Young until 1882, when he was elected judge of the District Court. He was a republican. He is now deceased.

R. L. Parrish was a school teacher before he was admitted to the bar. He graduated at Iowa City and was admitted to the bar at Leon. He was first in partnership with C. W. Hoffman, then with E. W. Haskett and in 1883 with Major Young. He is still living, and is practicing in Des Moines, Ia.

E. W. Haskett began the practice of law in Leon in 1874. During the administration of President Arthur in 1883 he was appointed United States district attorney to Alaska. He held this position for two years, until relieved by Cleveland's administration, and on his way home was accidentally killed at Needles, Cal.

C. W. Hoffman was born and raised in Decatur County and was admitted to the practice here in 1876. He is very prominent in democratic politics. He is still living, and practicing his profession in Leon.

N. P. Bullock located here in 1867 and was in partnership at different times with John W. Warner, Joseph S. Warner and C. W. Hoffman. He belonged to the republican party.

W. H. Albaugh read law with Harvey & Young and was afterward admitted to the bar. He was mayor for two terms and justice of the peace several years. Mr. Albaugh is still living.

Marion F. Stookey and his cousin, Millard F. Stookey, came, at the same time from Marion, Ia. The former was in partnership with E. W. Haskett for a time. He was chairman of the Republican Central Committee for several years and was one of the proprietors of the Decatur County Journal for many years. He is now practicing law in Leon. Millard F. Stookey was in partnership for a time with W. H. Robb, but separated when elected clerk of the courts. He held this office two terms and then was a deputy in the same office. Mr. Stookey has been postmaster at Leon for the last nine years.

W. H. Robb was reared in this county and was admitted to the practice in 1868. He engaged also in the abstract business with his son-in-law, Charles Jordan, until 1874, when the books and business were sold to the Leon Loan and Abstract Company. Mr. Robb

was for several years postmaster at Leon, and was succeeded by W. J. Sullivan. He was then given an appointment by the Interior Department of the United States and given duties in the West with the Indian bureau. He held this office until Cleveland's administration. He then removed to Kansas. Mr. Robb is now deceased.

In the '70s a man named Black settled in the western part of the county and practiced law with good success. He died just a few years after coming here.

M. A. Mills came to Leon about 1868 from Indiana. He graduated at the Iowa Law School and practiced successfully for several years. In 1878 he removed to Nebraska and afterwards served a term in the Senate of that state. Politically he was a democrat.

Albert Hale, a young attorney, practiced at Leon for several years, then moved away. He is now dead.

Another prominent lawyer of Decatur County was E. W. Curry, who practiced for many years.

J. B. Morrison came about 1868 from Indiana, resided and practiced law in Leon for about ten years, was mayor two terms and then moved to a farm west of Grand River. He is now deceased.

S. A. Gates and John N. Gates were among the early lawyers of Leon. S. A. Gates began the study of law in 1872 with J. W. Penny, of Leon, who died in the spring of 1874. He then continued his studies with A. M. Post, who was sent as consul to the Cape Verde Islands. He completed his studies with N. P. Bullock. After being admitted to the bar Mr. Gates opened an office, and in June, 1884, was joined by his brother, John N. John N. Gates is not in active practice at present, but S. A. Gates still retains an office in Leon and is continuing a lucrative practice in the county, also is engaged in the real estate business to some extent.

Maj. John L. Young settled in the county in the fall of 1859. In the previous year he had been admitted to the bar in the Supreme Court at Des Moines. He practiced at Bloomfield until he came to Leon. After coming here he immediately began the practice of his profession with Victor Wainright. This partnership was formed in February, 1860. During the Civil war he won a great deal of prominence and for gallantry reached the rank of major. He then returned to Leon and resumed the practice of his profession, and later formed a partnership with John W. Harvey, which continued until 1869. Through his efforts at this time a national bank was secured and he was made cashier. He retained this position until 1871. He then organized the Peoples Bank at Leon, which was not

successful. He was then engaged for a time as traveling attorney for Dood, Brown & Co., of St. Louis. In 1877 he came back and reformed a partnership with Judge Harvey, which continued until the latter was nominated for judge in 1882, when Stephen Varga became associated with him. Mr. Young is now deceased.

W. S. Shepherd located at Garden Grove during the '50s and lived there for several years. He went to California to settle up the estate of his father-in-law and there died in 1871.

W. W. Miller located at Garden Grove in 1880 and practiced two years, when he was appointed a pension clerk in Washington.

S. H. Amos came to Garden Grove in 1877 from Wayne County, where he had been teaching school. He taught a term in Decatur County and kept a hotel for a time. In the meantime he was studying law and completed his course under Judge John W. Harvey, of Leon. In 1878 he was admitted to the bar and located at the Grove.

Marion Woodard began the practice of the profession in 1883 at Decatur City. He is now engaged in the practice at Leon. C. W. Bridges also practiced here for a time.

R. J. Critchfield began the practice at Weldon in 1883.

W. W. Peasley, from Eagleville, Mo., practiced in Davis City from 1875 to 1885 and later became a banker at Kellerton, Ringgold County. He is now deceased. J. H. Kling was in practice at Davis City for three years. W. A. Williams also practiced at Weldon for a time.

THE PRESENT BAR

The following is the present bar in Decatur County: S. H. Amos, Garden Grove; R. B. Hawkins, Van Wert; B. M. Russell, Lamoni; George W. Baker, S. A. Gates, J. F. Harvey, C. W. Hoffman, V. R. McGinnis, A. P. Olsen, J. S. Parrish, Marion F. Stookey, E. H. Sharp, W. J. Springer, Stephen Varga, Francis Varga and Marion Woodard, all of Leon. The total is sixteen members.

THE FIRST COURT

The first District Court in the county convened at the house of Daniel Moad, as ordered by the Board of County Commissioners, on May 19, 1851. This home was about six miles southeast of the present location of Leon. William McKay presided as judge, and

Daniel Moad served in the capacity of clerk. John J. Stanley was the sheriff. The following were the first grand jurors: Mordecai Smith, Anthony Vanderpool, Elijah B. Hole, Oliver Hoskins, Alfred Stanley, Hiram J. Stanley, John Price, William Oney, John Jordan, Charles Jordan, Simon H. Harmon, John Vanderpool, Stanley Hatfield, Isaac Craig, Andrew Hatfield, Andrew J. Randolph. Mordecai Smith was foreman; Thomas Kilgore was bailiff. William H. Bramfield was appointed as prosecuting attorney for the term.

The first case to come up before this court was a suit for divorce, entitled John Blades vs. Maria Blades. The case was continued until the next term and the plaintiff was finally successful. Perhaps the second case to come before the court was also a divorce proceeding, Ann Knapp vs. Zelatus W. Knapp. Ann won, according to record.

The first marriage license was issued on May 18, 1850, to Henry Hall and Eliza Ann Ewing. On the same day also a license was given to Thomas Ewing and Mary Ann Carson. No return of the marriage certificate was made in either case. The first marriage certificate on record is that of John Zimmerman and Harriet L. Lamb, married by William Cutchlow, justice of the peace, on September 22, 1850.

CHAPTER XVIII

THE NAMES OF DECATUR COUNTY STREAMS

By J. E. Vail

This, which I opine may consistently be called our county, is very near the great Mississippi-Missouri water shed, and according to the best geological evidence, has its formation both from glacial drift and from the wind-blown soils. The former with the tendency to level off, the latter to irregularly deposit immense strata of variable fine dust like silt, this as time passed on, became subject to great erosions and has left our section of the state generally rough and broken in topography, and crossed by numerous streams, sloughs and branches.

These prevailing conditions are the more apparent when a carefully drawn map of Decatur County is compared with that of Pochontas, or any of the counties which lie in the later Wisconsin glacial formation, and which were not subject to the wind-blown, or Loess drifts and the subsequent great erosions. These conditions therefore, being the geologically attributed cause of the numerous streams which traverse our county, the origin of the names of these may worthily be the subject of a sketch.

It is a matter of regret that the wandering folk who possessed the land while the aborigines remained, left so little upon which to build. The very name of a stream or settlement—and all is said. The stream name continues long after advancing civilization has swept away the rude huts called "settlement." To preserve the vestiges which remain, to compare with others the available data that at this late day must be sought in the memories of men, is the excuse offered for this writing.

Decatur County's principal system of water courses comprise, Thompson's Fork of Grand River, Weldon Creek, Little Creek, Elk Creek and Steel's Creek, all of which are constantly augmented at nearly every mile of their meandering course by some branch feeder, and as most of these have at some time received a name to designate

the one from the other, and as many of these names were given in the early pioneer days and were generally taken from those of the early settlers who were attracted to their bottoms because of the natural necessity of all pioneers—wood and water—and as these early settlers by common instinct, almost invariably soon pushed on to the unexplored, and because of the age of the county, their memory now forgotten, the meagre data to be obtained, must be taken with at least certain doubts, and it is more than likely that the true facts may be in a large measure forgotten.

As to Grand River, this stream traverses the west part of the county. In an early day it was not thus called, but went by the name of Thompson's Fork, which was later on contracted to Grand, unquestionably because of its being a prominent branch of the river so named. There are those today of the early settlers who in referring to it, always call it Thompson's Fork.

Thompson settled at Edinburg, Mo., about the year 1840 and gave his name to the stream. He was a contemporary of Peter Cain and probably the two made settlement at about the same period. He appears, by the way, to have been one of the class of hardy hunters, trappers and traders who have ever been immediately in the rear of the vanishing Indian. By reports, he led a strenuous life, making various excursions of discovery, mingling with the distant settlements, hunting, trapping and trading and at times acting as guide, well known over a wide area of country and especially well acquainted with the river as he is reported to have often been met with in the vicinity of Afton, Ia.

Likewise, Weldon Creek, or River as it is sometimes called, was named after one Weldon who came into the county in the early '40s and is reported to have first settled in or near Burrell Township. He, too, was constantly mingling with the settlements and probably made various excursions into the country tributary to the stream and traded with and had much association with the Mormons who passed through Iowa about 1846, and most likely from these associations, and knowing the country and the different trails and fords thoroughly, the creek was called after him.

Steel Creek, which has its rise in the northwest part of Richman Township, Wayne County, and which enters Decatur County, at Section 13, High Point Township, and joins with Weldon at Sandy Point on the land commonly known as the Beaumont farm, was named after one Steel.

The site of his cabin is placed as being located in the bend of the creek about a quarter mile north of the bridge on the state road and on the farm now known as the Captain Alexander estate. Little if anything is remembered of him and he probably left the county at a very early period. It might be added in connection with this stream that many years ago there was no small excitement of the finding of gold on some of the deep slough branches and that colors were quite readily shown in the pans, and indeed it is reported that one particular day there were more than one hundred men congregated and engaged in the quest, and that a rough sluice box was constructed and all preparations of an extent indicating permanency, but the excitement was short lived.

Likewise, Artillery Grove, a high wooded point of ground near this creek, was for many years a landmark and there are many legends of buried cannon, of a battle between emigrants and Indians and of a skirmish between Missouri Militia and Mormons, and last and most reasonable, that the point was on or near the old trail leading to Fort Des Moines and that passing troops being encumbered, buried two pieces of small cannon here. It is certain that these have never been found, though on several occasions treasure hunters have vainly sought them. On the whole, the various stories lack corroboration.

Jonathan Creek, which rises just southeast of Van Wert, and joins with Weldon about the Gardner farm in High Point Township, was named after one Jonathan who settled at a point just east of the Capt. J. D. Brown homestead. T. J. Knapp, who came to Iowa about 1851, states that he distinctly remembers the site of the log cabin, which was a few rods north of the Leon-Garden Grove road where the same winds up the hill after crossing the creek. Here he lived and made a small clearing and was engaged in raising and feeding hogs. His last drive to Brunswick, Mo., was made in the fall of the year 1851.

Just north of his ranch and near the present Scott farm lived one Cherry, likewise an early settler and neighbor, and from him was named Cherry Creek, which branch traverses along the line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad.

Kilgore Branch, named from the Kilgores, early settlers and who are referred to by early settlers as being "hoss-traders" and of whose various exploits alone a volume might be written, but is passed for want of space. Mormon-Pool or Brush Creek, north of Garden Grove, probably took its name after having been used for baptismal purposes. The old trail to Chariton passed at a rocky ford just

above which was a deep pool of water, probably seven or eight feet deep in places in an early day, the west bank of same being a long, gradual and gravelly slope naturally made it a favorite point for these ceremonies.

While there are many other branches in the county, at this late day it is difficult to get the information and to select the true from the legendary stories. In obtaining data as to names of our county streams, one is surprised even in our comparatively recent settlement, in the meagerness of the actual or authentic facts to be obtained. Very frequently, after interviewing a half dozen old settlers, one only learns that "Old Jim So-and-So lived down there on the bottoms when he came to the county and as he was the only fellow near, we just called the creek Jim Creek after him—he left just about the time we landed here. He was a sort of reticent cuss, anyway, and they say he had mighty good reasons for living away from white folks"—and so it goes.

Aside from Grand River, which is merely an overgrown creek, the remainder of the drainage streams of the county, while numerous, comprise small branches and sloughs, many of them unnamed, and of the named not a few are self-descriptive of local conditions through their course, such as Sand Creek, of which there are several so-called, all of which that I have crossed being with sandy bottoms; Brush Creek, very suggestive from the name; Big Creek; Long Creek; Short Creek; Spring Branch and Turkey Run and a host of similarly designated branches, some of which would hardly bear witness to being other than a dry arroyo unless caught in the very act of earing for a three or four-inch rainfall. I have committed from the more commonly called, a little stream in Center and High Point townships called Granny Branch. An inquiry as to the reason for the name brought forth the following: "Well, all I know about it is that when we came here there was about the biggest lot of old women living in that settlement of anywhere else in these parts; there was Granny Smith and some five or six other women whose names I don't now exactly recollect who used to go out nursing and doctoring—mighty handy those days to have them—and just as far back as I can remember we called the creek Granny after the whole bunch of them."

As to Elk Creek, the very name is suggestive. This stream was unquestionably named after the animal long extinct in our county. I have never been able to meet with anyone who remembered seeing a herd of elk in our section. There are, however, various reports passed around of straggling elk having been killed along Grand

River. The early settlers of the western townships very vividly describe of the early '50s "that the country was a great expanse of prairie with luxurious growth of grass, and timbered along the rivers and most of the branches—no underbrush—thanks to the yearly fires which swept the plains, and possible to drive almost any place with team and wagon; the creeks and prairie sloughs abounded in small fish, with comparatively clear water and deep holes, many good hard bottom fords, and last of all, the western prairies marked with horns and teeth of elk, these remaining vestiges of this noble creature being plentifully found near the timber line along the creeks and frequently quite far out on the prairies, thus showing that there was a period when they were here in numbers, as the life of the horns and teeth, exposed to existing conditions, is variously estimated from twenty to thirty years, we may assume that the elk quit this range some time in the '30s or early '40s, as our early settlements hardly date further back than 1847." The stream probably took its name, not from some stray specimen, but from the remains of a herd.

Dickinson Branch in Burrell Township took its name from a hermit settler, Wylis Dickinson. I am not informed as to when he came to the county, but probably during the '50s. He was a peculiar character, a New Englander by birth I believe, reported to have been disappointed in a love affair. He settled in the then glades, later to be quite heavily timbered land not far from Davis City and on the upland east of Grand River. He was a quiet, mild-mannered man. He lived in a small cabin surrounded, when I first became acquainted with the man and the place, by native trees and quite hidden from view from the road. There were only two small fields of four or five acres each in culture at the time, one of which he allowed to lie fallow each alternate year, the other cultivated. There were many squirrels and birds in the trees, for he killed nothing himself and permitted no hunting on his premises, nor did he clear any more of his land than the two little fields before mentioned. The decayed and fallen trees supplied him with wood and the water supply was from the branch which bears his name. He was very affable with his neighbors and might never have been called hermit except for the fact that he shunned the villages and society, and so he lived—almost unknown personally except to a very few, surrounded by his trees and with his stock and the squirrels and the birds as company.

CHAPTER XIX

MISCELLANEOUS

EARLY FARM METHODS

The following description of agriculture in the early days of the county was prepared by J. N. Machlan.

My parents erected a little cabin in the brush near the present site of the county bridge, on Little River, west from the Fairview schoolhouse, and called it home; before long my father with a good team of horses and an old-fashioned sod plow began to cut and turn the virgin soil preparatory to raising a crop. The plowman's necessary equipment for success were as follows: Plenty of patience, a whip, a plow file, a heavy hammer and a hunk of iron, to use as an anvil to cold hammer the plowshare occasionally; the file with which to put the finishing touch on; and the patience came into good play when he encountered a stone, a root, or some other obstacle that jerked the plow, plowman and all clear out of the furrow. There were also numerous snakes to contend with, the rattlesnakes, the bull snake, the hissing viper, the blue racer, the house snake, the garter snake, the horn snake, the yellow joint snake, the green joint snake, the blue-black joint snake and a few other species, besides the nasty lizzards which could be seen by the hundreds.

Now, as the virgin soil had been turned bottom side up and time had arrived for corn planting, we proceeded to plant corn by one of the following methods: By axing it in, hoeing it in, healing it in or dropping by hand following the plow every third round and dropping the grain on top of the furrow, at such a place that the next furrow would barely cover it with its upper edge. This would produce what we called a crop of sod corn, either good or bad, according to the season and condition of the sod. Plenty of rain was essential to a good crop. It was also essential for the sod to be well rotted. Scores of snakes would be cut in twain by the plow every season, among them a great many rattlesnakes. The early settlers did not have implement

stores to which they could go and purchase farming tools, but were compelled of necessity to make them. When the ground was in condition for harrowing we set to work with three sticks of timber some four or five inches square and perhaps six feet in length and frame or bolt them together, which when joined would be a good representation of the letter A. Next with an inch and a half or two-inch auger we bored holes in the side pieces and cross section, into which we inserted huge pegs made from oak or hickory, then sharpened the lower ends of the pegs and our harrow was completed. Our wooden harrow rotted down in the fence corner after many years of good service. A few years later the sod tearer was invented. It was such a peculiarly constructed instrument that to the writer it baffles description.

Much of the virgin soil contained so many tough roots that it was not uncommon to see a furrow of sod one-half mile long without a break in it. Some of the toughest roots were the wild indigo, shoestring, blue stem, rosin weed and sometimes a patch of hazel or buck brush. The rosin weed produced a white gum which was used as chewing gum by the lads of the early day.

After a few months spent in the little cabin in the brush we decided to venture out on the broad, bleak prairie and erect another log cabin. A well was dug, which supplied water for the house, but for years our stock had to be taken across the prairie to some creek or spring to quench their thirst and as for ourselves when working in the fields or on the prairie making hay we have many times drunk from a puddle containing many angle worms, crawfish and bugs, and the water would often be warm enough for dish water. Time rolled on and it became necessary to fence our farm; father proceeded to the timber some eleven miles distant and split rails and hauled them, and a worm fence built, which when completed was from seven to ten rails in height, but soon a new difficulty arose. More settlers were coming in, fires were started in the prairie grass, some were started by accident, some purposely, and on quite a few occasions campers have left fire where they had stopped for the night; the wind would rise and the fire would be scattered. Soon a conflagration would be raging across the prairies and perhaps hundreds or even thousands of acres would be burned over before the fire went out. In many cases the fires would burn all night. It was at such times that our rail fences would suffer destruction. Then an idea came to us how to prevent this loss.

The fires, of course, would do most of the mischief in the spring, and at some convenient time we would plow a few furrows around the farm near the fence, then perhaps two or three rods farther from the fence we would plow a few more, the strip between called the fire land. At a favorable time, when the wind was not blowing, generally of an evening, father would say, "Well, boys, this is a good time to burn out those fire lands." This pleased the boys and after the day's work was done we equipped ourselves with small boards and brush to fight fire and on some occasions we would take along from one to three barrels of water, in case fire should get into the fence, we were fixed for it. All things ready, we commenced firing along the side, so the fire would have to burn against the wind, but it matters not how calm it was when the fire was started, the hot air rising creates a vacuum and the cool air rushing in to take its place would cause a breeze and sometimes the fire would get beyond control despite our best efforts and sometimes we would not reach home until a very late hour in the night. A weed well known to early settlers called the tumbleweed or careless weed which grew in great numbers on these new cultivated lands, the tops of which were almost spherical in shape and ranging in diameter from twelve to thirty-six inches, when assisted by the breeze, would carry fire for some distance. They were so near round they would roll for miles without stopping when a stiff wind was blowing.

When the soil had become well rotted and the corn big enough to need attention we plowed it with a cultivator having but one shovel, which was made from a triangular-shaped piece of iron, with which it was necessary to plow two rounds to each row of corn. The cultivator was used in the field more or less until the silk made its appearance on the young ears of corn. The worst weed we had to contend with in the cornfield in those days was a species of smart weed, rarely seen except on new land. It grew down close to the ground and had a firm grip upon it. Hoes were extensively used in those days in the cornfield. Another advanced step was taken in the method of planting corn. The cultivator referred to was used to draw a shallow furrow for each row of corn, the corn is then dropped into the furrow, about every three feet, then covered either with a hoe or by cross harrowing, three of us dropping and one furrowing off, planting as much as seven acres in one day.

The time came when we were raising a little spring wheat, oats and flax. The method of threshing grain, after it had been harvested with the cradling scythe and was well cured, was to prepare a circular

piece of ground, usually from sixteen to twenty feet in diameter, by taking a sharp spade and shaving off the surface until it was quite smooth and level; after this was done a pole some eight or ten feet high was set upright in a hole dug in the center of the circular patch of ground. To this pole usually two horses were tied with long ropes and a lad mounted on one of the horses with a small gad. The grain had been evenly spread upon the prepared ground and the horses were started on a long tramp, tramping out the grain on the ground, a process which was very monotonous to the horses and, speaking from experience, the writer was very glad when the noon hour or nightfall had arrived. The grain, during the tramping process, was turned over with a forked stick, and as soon as the grain was tramped out the straw was removed and the grain gathered up and winnowed out. A fresh supply was spread upon the floor and the tramping process was continued.

The snowfall during some of the winters was very heavy. I believe that it was in the winter of 1866 that we arose and discovered that the snow had drifted to the eaves of the little cabin. Our fences were all snowed under and our stock scattered hither and thither and our enclosures for stock were all under snow. After the snow fell the weather turned colder and the snow froze hard. We could drive in any direction across the prairie over high fences. We had just put out a washing before the snow and it was six weeks before we were enabled to find all of it. Heavy snows were common, but this one was the heaviest that I ever saw. Our cabin was covered with clapboards, as was the custom in those days, and the snow would blow between them and sift down through the loft into our faces as we lay in bed during the snowstorm. The last thing the good mother would do before retiring was to see if the five children were in bed, covered up head and all so that the snow would not lodge in their faces. It was a common occurrence after a snowstorm had subsided for some one of the family to ascend to the loft and scoop the snow out before it melted.

As we pass along it might be well to describe the bedsteads installed in some of the cabins. One method of constructing a bedstead was to place a log in the walls angling across a corner of the cabin at a convenient height, into which pegs were set about six inches apart. A small rope was then procured and strung back and forth from the pegs in the logs to corresponding pegs in the cabin. A later method of construction was to procure two round poles to serve as side rails, set the pegs into them, fasten them to corner posts, nail on

end rails, then string the pegs with the rope, and the bedstead was completed.

No cabin was complete without the fireplace. The hearth was laid with brick or stone and the chimney usually built of the same materials, or wooden slats built up in mud or lime mortar. In our cabin the hearth was made of flat limestone under which the rats burrowed and made nests and reared their young, and as their disgusting habits are nocturnal, the saucy little rodents would emerge from underneath the hearth during the night, especially in the winter, and skip about the fire, evidently warming themselves and eating such things as suited their taste. They would sometimes bite some of the family or anyone who chanced to be there during the night. My brother, who resides in Des Moines, was bitten on the great toe while asleep. A servant girl who was employed to assist in the household duties was also bitten, whereupon she cried "Murder!" But as that was a common expression with some people in those days when they were frightened, hurt or alarmed, the family thought nothing, but someone proceeded to make a light to ascertain how badly she was bitten.

The various kinds of lights used in those days were first the grease light, then the grease lamp and then the tallow candle.

When the sod had become well rotted, watermelons, pumpkins and potatoes did quite well. Among the various kinds of potatoes grown were the calico, white meshanic, California peachblow, long red, and ladyfinger, the long red being the most prolific.

For several years after Iowa became a state apples were hauled in from Missouri, many of them coming from what was known as the famous crab orchard, so called because the apple scion were grafted into the root of the wild crab. The first apples the writer ever saw grown were in a small orchard of young trees planted on the old homestead. I think there were less than a dozen of them, which were guarded very closely, lest something befall them before they were matured.

After the chaff-piling threshing machine was introduced the threshing of grain was not so great a task as it was formerly, but as the straw carrier had not yet been invented it became necessary to remove the straw and chaff from the rear end of the machine, either with horses or by some other method, any of which were very disagreeable, as the chaff and dust would fill the eyes, nose, ears and mouth; but being as it was, it was quite an improvement.

Thinking there might be profit in sheep raising, we purchased a flock of two or three hundred, with a guarantee from the owner that none of them were more than four years old, but soon they began to die of old age and we discovered that we were beaten in the deal; however, we kept on trying. We had plenty of range, but they must have a shepherd, which lot usually fell upon the writer, and permit me to say that it was a very monotonous, lonesome occupation, watching sheep on the broad prairie and not a human being in sight for hours at a time. For years we were compelled to lot the sheep at night near the cabin, to prevent the wolves from killing them, but even then they would get among them and kill the lambs. One day while the writer was tending his sheep a short distance from the cabin a wolf came into the flock and seizing a lamb by the back of the neck, trotted off with it. I waved my stick, which I usually carried, vigorously in the air and yelled with all the force I could summons. The wolf dropped the lamb and I took it to the cabin, but it was so badly injured that it only lived a few days. Our flock increased and the extremely old ones died off and we had better success for a time. In our flock was a large fellow with curled horns; he had been teased quite a little and had become quite mischievous. On a certain occasion by accident the sheep became imprisoned in the smokehouse; some member of the family had closed the door, not knowing that he was in there. The servant of the kitchen, who was commonly called an old maid, went to the smokehouse for something to serve for the dinner meal and on opening the door the sheep made a dive for her, running between her feet, carrying her for a short distance and bleating as if in great agony, while the maid was screaming and trying to alight from his back. The situation seemed to be a critical one, as the sheep did not know how to unload his burden and the maid feared trying to let loose for fear of getting hurt in the attempt, but finally by some kind of maneuvers they came out of the fracas none the worse for wear.

Another advance had been made in the corn cultivator, which then had two shovels instead of one, and a row of corn was plowed every round of the horse and plowman, which was quite gratifying to the farmers, but while this was true new and additional weeds were added to the farmer's list of pests, among which were the milkweed and the black-eyed swan, both of which are with us unto the present day. The latter was introduced into this country as a garden flower by some English people.

Time rolls on and the rats under the hearth having increased in numbers and boldness, they became almost unbearable and father set traps and caught quite a number of them. The cabin all being in one room, we could watch them by the light of the fireplace from all quarters of the room, and I must say that it was amusing to see father spring out of bed on hearing the trap spring and kill the rat, set the trap again, and retire, sometimes only remaining in bed but a short time, when he would repeat the operation. Someone prescribed a remedy. It was as follows: Catch a rat, singe it over the fire and turn it loose and the rats would all take a leave of absence. Father caught the rat, but his heart failed him when it came to the singeing process and the rat never got singed. So much for rat-trapping around the old fireside.

Other improvements had been made to facilitate corn planting. A farmer a few miles distant had purchased a two-horse planter for about seventy-five dollars, and we could hire it for about fifteen cents per acre. The ground when ready to plant was first marked off with a kind of sled; the first one to appear made two marks at once and in a few years someone made an improvement on the marker and it made three marks. About this time we thought we would cap the climax. We made two wooden axles that would fit our wagon wheels, one short and one long one, coupled them together and made four marks at a time, which was easy on the team and by this improvement forty acres could be marked off in a few hours. The ground being marked, two persons, a driver and a dropper, a team of horses and the new corn planter, would plant from ten to fifteen acres per day. The most common variety of corn planted during those days was the bloody butcher, although more or less white corn was grown.

A threshing machine had been introduced with a short straw carrier attachment known as the buffalo pitts, which was quite an improvement over the old chaff piler. In connection with this thresher was introduced a system of tallying the number of bushels of grain threshed. It consisted mainly of a board attached to the side of the machine where the grain came out. It had a number of one-fourth-inch holes in it, arranged in rows, into which pegs were moved for each bushel of grain threshed. The board would tally up to 1,000 bushels, when it became necessary to begin again at the first.

By this time Osceola had a railroad. The Leon merchants had their goods shipped to Osceola and hired them hauled in wagons across the country. Engaged in the hauling of goods was a Mr. Hughes, Mr. Goins, Mr. Lindsey and others, all of whom were

residents of Leon. Hughes was engaged at a certain time in hauling shingles. One day while en route to Leon with a load of shingles his horses became frightened and ran away, scattering shingles along the highway for some distance. Mr. Hughes received the name of "Shingle sower."

Another step forward was taken and the two-horse cultivator was introduced to the farmers. We bargained for a Black Hawk walking cultivator with the firm of Richards & Close, whose advertisement appeared in the Decatur County Journal of that time. The plow was delivered at our gate at the old homestead by the Mr. Hughes above referred to, while en route to Leon. The plow cost \$35 and was the first two-horse cultivator the writer ever saw.

In the early days of Decatur County considerable hay and grain were stolen. Movers and travelers going across the country would often steal their horse feed and take rails from the fences with which to make fuel. One farmer, however, got even with a mover. He had missed some rails from his fence and mounting a horse, went after them, and overtaking the mover before he reached Oseola, made him pay fifty cents each for the rails he had burned. The farmers would often see them in the act. The writer on one occasion caught some young, well-dressed fellows stealing hay. I asked what they did that for and they asked me to set a price, which I did. They said that it was not any too much and paid and drove on.

Good-blooded horses were very scarce, but at the same time there were a good many serviceable horses on the farms, among which were the Canadian horses as they were called.

The first hogs were the well-known hazel-splitters or razor-backs that were allowed to rove the prairies at will, and you might imagine yourself among the brush or in the tall prairie grass with a salamander in your hand searching for a hog to butcher or one that might have a family of pigs to care for. It was not uncommon to fail in finding a young litter of swine until they were several days old. As to cattle there were just cattle and a conglomeration of colors and kinds. They all had horns and most of them good long ones. There were some excellent milkers and some expert kickers among them.

RAILROADS

In the year 1870 the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company was organized to build a railroad from Burlington west. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company soon took over a

controlling interest in this road, and since this time has been under this ownership. The greater part of the line east and west through Iowa was built in 1871 and at the same time a line was built from Chariton to Leon, under the name of the Chariton Branch. To obtain this branch line the localities through which it passed had to raise considerable money. Over eighty thousand dollars was raised in Decatur County. Garden Grove Township gave \$25,000, while Center gave \$50,000 and the right of way between Garden Grove and Leon. At Leon the road stopped for eight years. In 1879 it was extended south as far as Bethany, Mo., and in the following year a branch was built from a point in New Buda Township, now called Togo, through Mount Ayr, in Ringgold County, to Grant City, Mo. This was done under the name of the Leon, Mount Ayr & Southwestern, but really by the Burlington company. New Buda voted a 5 per cent tax, which yielded \$27,000, and Davis City also voted a tax, besides the private subscriptions which were obtained. The Bethany Branch has been extended to St. Joseph, Mo., and farther southward since.

The Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad was built in 1879 and 1880. The Missouri, Iowa & Nebraska Line extended its road to Van Wert, in Decatur County, and then turned over the line from Humeston to Van Wert to the Humeston & Shenandoah Company, which company then built on to Shenandoah. Franklin and Long Creek townships voted aid in the form of taxes, with the understanding that the road should be built through the center of the townships. However, the road extended along the northern border and the townships which had voted the money opposed the collection of it. Franklin won out, while Long Creek paid only enough to cover court costs. This line is now owned by the Burlington System.

The Des Moines, Osceola & Southern Railroad, which was at first known as the narrow gauge, was projected and constructed by Osceola parties, aided by subscriptions along the line. The company was organized at Osceola in 1880 and the actual work of construction was begun in the spring of 1881. In 1882 the road was built south from Osceola to Decatur City, in Decatur County. There it stopped for some months, the officers of the company apparently undecided which way to go. Decatur Township contributed over twenty thousand dollars in tax, besides the subscriptions. The following year the road turned at a right angle and came to Leon, arriving October 1, 1883. Leon gave \$30,000 and also the right of way to the south line of Eden Township. In the spring of 1884 the line was started

south again and completed to Cainesville, Mo. Eden Township gave \$6,000 and Hamilton Township \$11,000 and the right of way. This line later passed into the hands of a receiver and then was taken over by the Burlington System, which owns all the railroads in Decatur County at present.

GRAND RIVER OUTLAWS

In all the realms of human fancy it is impossible to conceive of a more desperate band of incendiaries, cattle thieves and insurance fraud promoters than that which for years infested the regions adjacent to the little Town of Grand River, in Decatur County, Ia.

Even the Cantril band of grave robbers was not more daring in its movements, more diabolical in its plans and more devilishly shrewd in putting those plans into action than what were called Frank Greenland's barn-burners and horse-killers who held sway for perhaps ten years until finally run to earth by men who represented insurance companies in Iowa and other states. Now the band is broken up. Greenland is under indictment for shooting two horses and has also been convicted of cattle stealing and is now serving a term at Fort Madison. Other members of the gang, among them Dick Pray, the chief lieutenant, confessed after awaiting until the statute of limitations made them immune from prosecution. The terrorism which hovered over Grand River in a cloud has been dispelled, and the frauds, unique and cunning, have ended. Here in brief is the system employed by the gang:

Members would purchase horses for a couple of dollars each. They would remove good animals from their barns and place within the plugs. The barn would be mysteriously destroyed by fire, the insurance companies would be forced to pay for the barn and for the destroyed animals, and the good horses would then be sold at the highest market value in some distant point. Still further it developed, when Dick Pray took the witness stand, that these men would knock horses in the head, singe the hair on the neck and faces with matches, place the carcasses near barbed wire fences and collect insurance for the supposed lightning struck animals.

In one case, it came to view, two horses were tied to a tree, knocked in the head, dynamite was exploded in the branches, and the insurance companies paid \$190 on the alleged victims of lightning. And that on horses which cost less than \$5 apiece.

In the territory around Grand River, the gang numbering perhaps a dozen, ruled with absolute power. No one dared oppose or

speak against the methods employed. Whenever a resident had the courage to say what he thought, his barn or other property would mysteriously catch fire. The power of the gang was endless. And thus for several years it pursued its course of burning, destroying and collecting until hundreds of dollars were filched from the treasuries of the insurance companies. Within the year 1901 alone thirty-three horses were destroyed by the fire or lightning and the insurance was collected for them, notwithstanding the fact that suspicion pointed an accusing finger at some of the owners.

To I. N. Corbett, of Des Moines, the claim adjuster of the State Insurance Company, more than to any other is due the credit for unveiling the mystery and dispersing the band. In 1901 Greenland's barn burned and with it nineteen head of horses. The State Insurance Company claimed that fraud had been used. It refused to pay the \$4,000 insurance. The case was taken into District Court and judgment was given Greenland for that amount. Mr. Corbett redoubled his labors. For three years he searched for evidence against what he believed to be the gang at the bottom of the work. Finally the statute of limitations having intervened, members of the gang confessed, and in October, 1904, Judge Towner set aside the judgment. Judge Towner's decision in setting aside the judgment was a masterpiece. It scored members of the band in a manner delightful to the residents of Grand River district.

After the night of September 8, 1901, when Greenland's barn burned with the nineteen head of horses, Mr. Corbett was sent to the scene to look over the situation before the money for insurance was paid. The first suspicious sign that struck Corbett was the fact that the horses had been buried before being examined. He secured a veterinarian and went to the spot where the horses were interred, with the intention of digging up the carcasses and inspecting them. By looking at their teeth the veterinarian was expected to tell the age and sex of the animals. Fancy the surprise when out of the nineteen horses exhumed but one had teeth. The other eighteen were headless. This looked like fraud to Corbett, and after a little further investigation he recommended that the claim not be allowed and thus resulted the law suit. Since then it has developed that the highest price paid for any animal in that barn was \$11 and the lowest \$1. That was the value of the \$120 horses. Later it became known that the night before the fire Greenland had taken all of his good stock out of the barn and had hidden them nearby. In their places he put nineteen plugs.

The number of other fires convinced the insurance companies that crime was afoot, so Corbett was kept on the trail for the next few years. He was known to the gang and his way was not replete with success by any means. In his search for evidence he traveled considerably over the Middle West. Finally, in October, 1904, the men confessed.

The change wrought by the elimination of the criminals was remarkable. Before Grand River and vicinity had been in a state of lawless disorder, saloons ran without license, and shooting scrapes and destruction of property passed without trial because there could be found no witnesses who had the temerity to speak what they knew. In natural order, the country around settled down after the apprehending of the desperadoes and has been peaceful ever since.

PIONEER REMINISCENCES

The article following is from the pen of C. B. Jordan, now a resident of Oklahoma. In this story he finds exception to many things which have heretofore been legion in the history of the county:

Speaking of the first term of court, of which Daniel Moad was clerk, I will never forget seeing him use the county seal for the first time. There was no frame or lever about the seal, simply the brass circle. He smoothed a piece of a log in the woodpile with an axe and placed the paper thereon, then placed the brass piece only containing the letters thereon, then struck it with the axe to make the impression.

Much of the election of relocation of the county seat I remember distinctly. The general advertised understanding up to within forty-eight hours of the date of the election was that two points only were to be voted on; one was the point at Decatur City, then there was a strong element who were going to vote for a point at the center of the county; and about forty-eight hours prior to election day John Vanderpool, William Oney, Hiram J. Stanley, Doctor Thompson and my father, John Jordan, all being interested east of Little River, counted noses and they believed that they could defeat both the other places by a little quick work, and locate the county seat on the high prairie east of Little River, so they selected three of their number with good horses and saddles and ordered them to see every voter east of Little River and east of range 25, south of Little River, between that and election morning and tell them about this game, and swear them not to let anyone west of the same lines know a thing

about it, but to go up early the morning of the election and vote for a point named Independence. Decatur City did not hear of it until the next day. My memory is that it carried by eight votes over all others.

Now to Lamoni. I left that country in the year 1875, and Mr. Banta, as president of the colony, accompanied by Mr. Dancer, as vice president, purchased the first land of me, as agent of the land that the church bought, they having made purchases of other agents who had no authority to sell, and returned to Leon expecting some deeds to have been there, but not one deed had arrived. Then they came to my office, and I assured them if they bought land of me that the deed would come, except in case the owner had died since my authority. The third day after they gave me some money two deeds arrived by mail, and they were so well pleased they made my office their headquarters until I had sold them something over one hundred and ten thousand dollars worth. I found them a nice set of men. I think the Joe Smith of Mormon reputation has been in my office several times. Mr. Banta delighted in being called a Mormon.

Now as to changing the name from Independence and from South Independence to Leon. I was at that meeting, and George L. Moore, at that time a merchant in partnership with Seth Richards, was empowered fully by the meeting to select some suitable short name, and he selected Leon. The present generation do not know how awkward that name seemed to be at first. The first house, built by Thomas H. East, was built before the town was located and was just immediately south of the present Methodist Church, between that and the alley, if there is an alley there. The schoolhouse that Mrs. Delilah Loe thinks was a mile east of town, in 1853, was in the east edge of Leffler's Addition; if my memory is right, the teacher's name was Hastings. Along about those years there was a school taught in what was known as the old Blair courthouse building, by Josephus C. Porter, who nearly scared me to death for whispering to my girl. But the first school was taught in a loghouse on what was known later as Hurst's Store Corner, by Humphrey Fullerton, a brother of Mrs. F. F. Thompson, and one term by Carrington S. Porter.

It has been stated that Charles B. Jordan, of Enid, Okla., started the abstract books, and the clerical work was performed by Albert Hale. I wish to state that the real blank books that were up to date were bought and commenced at a date (which I have forgotten) by George Burton and J. Barr Morrison. About the same date and

unknown to either party Albert Hale and W. E. Dawson purchased a set of blanks of another book firm, all of the blank books arriving in Leon at about the same time. If either had known of the other's action there would have been but one set purchased. Soon the former firm disagreed and quit work; soon thereafter I bought Burton's interest, without consulting Mr. Morrison. About the same day William H. Robb bought Mr. Morrison's interest, without consulting Mr. Burton, so unknown to each other the firm of Jordan & Robb was established. Later I purchased Mr. Robb's interest. I worked steadily along for three years in my books, employing Albert Hale to complete the last record book. I paid him \$5 per day. It took twenty days in which to complete them up to date. You will find that set of books mainly in my handwriting. After a time Dawson and Hale did not hitch good, and Mr. Dawson coaxed me to buy Mr. Hale out, which I did, and later I bought Mr. Dawson out. This set of books were mainly in Mr. Hale's handwriting, but I never used them, as they were not up to date.

CHRISTMAS FIFTY YEARS AGO

By an Old Timer

The Christmas spirit is doubtless the same today that it was forty years ago, though manifested in different ways of feasting and serving.

One of the first Christmas entertainments within my recollection was held in the old Methodist Episcopal Church, where the Carnegie Library now stands. The tree was not a graceful evergreen, but a wild crabapple from the backyard of Ira B. Ryan's home on West Commercial Street. The children covered its branches with bright-colored paper and strands of popcorn.

Aunt Patterson made tissue paper snowballs with which to adorn it.

The teachers made silver paper baskets, which were filled with nuts and candy for each scholar. Of the program I remember that Jennie Blodgett directed the music; I. P. Martin made a speech about the use of profane language. Uzz Tharp and Heck Sanford sang a comic song. Pretty little Alice Dilsaver recited in trumpet tones, "Hang Up the Baby's Stocking." Dan Portor picked a fandangle (I think that was what he called it) on a guitar. Rosy-cheeked, blue-eyed Emma and Ollie Gillham, looking like big "chainy" dolls, sang a song about a lost kitten. Then J. L. Young,

representing Santa Claus, distributed the presents. The most popular little girls received sugar apples and china dollheads (dolls had no bodies in those days).

The larger girls received bottles of choice perfumery, such as musk and bergamot. The big boys received bear-shaped bottles of hair oil and candy hearts bearing sentiments of affection, the latter creating much merriment, being read by Santa Claus before they reached their owners.

On the top of the tree was a huge turkey for Rev. G. P. Bennett.

But the crowning event of the holiday week was the annual "festible" held in the old brick schoolhouse. Every man, woman and child that could raise the necessary four bits attended. Long before dark the crowd began to arrive. The tables extended the entire length of the room and were filled with every product the village and countryside afforded. In those days we had no smothered or fricasseed chicken, but great platters of fried and roasted fowls; no veal loaf or jellied beef, but stacks of old-fashioned roast beef, home-cured ham and plenty of crisp, juicy turkey. No salads, olives or celery, but pickles galore, cucumbers, beets, mango, pickled eggs, piccililli and cold slaw. No patties, but each plate was supplied with a little jelly tart.

For dessert we could boast no sherbet, ices or frappe, but oceans of preserves, pies and cakes. Stem glass dishes were passed back and forth containing crabapple, tomato, ground cherry, plum, wild strawberry, watermelon and citron preserves.

The pies were equally as varied, gooseberry, blackberry, elderberry, squash, pumpkin, grape and vinegar.

Beside each plate was a goblet filled with float, ornamented with a bit of currant jelly. Conspicuous among the viands were Mrs. Uriah Bobbit's and Mrs. S. C. Thompson's sugar-coated rusks, Mrs. J. B. Lunbeck's and Mrs. S. H. Gates' golden crulls, Mrs. S. W. Hurst's white mountain cake adorned with a bouquet of artificial flowers, Mrs. L. H. Sales' big fruit cake, Mrs. I. N. Clark's cake trimmed with red gum-drops, Mrs. Udell's pyramid cake formed of forty-two small cakes, Mrs. Craigo's fine marble cake, Mrs. Hildreth's white-frosted cake with the date, "1869," outlined in red sand sugar.

In place of carnations and roses the center of each table was decked with baskets of Aunt Rhoda Hawkins' feather flowers of brilliant hues.

The baskets were made of crystallized alum and glittered and sparkled under the blinking candles, making a veritable Jack Frost scene. How merry everyone seemed as they marched around viewing the tables. There was no changing of plates; everything to eat in sight. How "smelly" the coffee and the baked beans and mashed potatoes when the lids were lifted from the big tureens!

Hettie Rogers, Ada Kirk, Anna Gardner, Ester Sanger, "Doc" Warner and Wesley Silvers poured the coffee—not in little china shells, but in big heavy cups that held nearly a pint, and that completed the serving. After supper we had some singing led by Jabez Dawson; then the young folks played "Needle's Eye;" Billy Boone, Wade Wood, Billy Smith and Cass Sales got "choosed" the oftenest. While Kittie Givens, Hattie Lindsey, Emma Vaughn and Hila Fishburn were the belles of the evening—perhaps on account of their beautiful curls, the kind that curled naturally—around a hot poker. Among the little misses that caused much envy by the prettiness of their dresses were Katie Finley, in bright Scotch plaid; Emma Elsworth, in flowered Marsellaise; Helen Dawson, in red alpaca, and Etta McClelland, in blue wool delaine trimmed with cloverleaf tetter. There were many little boys present, but none attracted more attention than little Harry and Orra Long, in velveteen sailor suits, with red sashes tied military fashion.

Next came Aunt Jane Miller's big cake containing a gold ring. The cake was cut in many pieces, each piece selling at 10 cents. Sam Ellis drew the ring and gave it to Mollie Miles or Emma Schaffer—I have now forgotten which. Then a cane was voted to the laziest man, and a cake to the handsomest lady. Albert Hale carried off the cane, and Mrs. E. J. Close won the cake. The big "festible" netted over one hundred dollars for the schoolhouse organ, and thus closed the holiday season of 1869, which probably for good fellowship and real enjoyment is not far surpassed by the more elaborate festivities of the present day.

DECATUR COUNTY IMMIGRATION SOCIETY

In September, 1869, an organization was effected which was called the Decatur County Immigration Society. The officers of this association were: President, H. C. Bechtold; vice president, G. W. Baker; treasurer, S. C. Thompson; secretary, H. Kompe; assistant secretary, W. W. Ellis. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and quite a sum of money was subscribed towards paying the expenses

of the association. One of the principal objects of the association was the publication of a newspaper called *Die Wage*, to be printed in the German language, to induce Germans to settle in the county. The editor, H. Kompe, guaranteed that it would bring 200 Germans into Decatur County. Although the association did not, through lack of means, accomplish all it desired, yet it proved that the projectors of the plan were enterprising and had the interests of the county at heart.

DECATUR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION

The first two or three fairs in Decatur County were held in the years before the war, but none were held during the progress of the struggle. After the war was over the society was revived and fairs were held regularly. In 1875 a reorganization resulted in the formation of the Decatur County Agricultural and Live Stock Association as a stock company. The capital stock was fixed at \$6,000, with \$10 shares. The property owned by the association consisted of eighty acres, finely improved for fair and racing purposes. It was located one mile north of Leon and was purchased from U. L. Shafer and J. B. Lunbeck.

THE DECATUR COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Heman C. Smith

The Decatur County Historical Society enjoys the distinction of being the second county society in the State of Iowa to be organized, and hence has been spoken of by the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* as being "a pioneer among local organizations." (*Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, Vol. V, No. 3, July, 1907, page 433.)

The society was organized in 1901, only a few weeks after the organization of the Lucas County Historical Society at Chariton, Ia., which was the first organized in the state.

The organization of the Decatur County society was due, to an extent, to the influence of the Hon. Charles Aldrich, deceased, in this way: As we remember it, it was early in the spring of 1901, while on a visit to Des Moines, that we paid our usual visit to this grand old man in Iowa history, as was our wont while in the City of Des Moines. And in talking over matters pertaining to the preservation of things historical, we asked him why it would not be a good plan to

organize county societies to work in conjunction with the state department. He at once told us of the organization of the Washington County Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and gave us a copy of the constitution adopted by that society, and he further urged us, at as early a date as possible, to perfect the organization of Decatur County.

Acting upon his suggestion, but delaying the matter somewhat, we organized, but, as before said, shortly after Col. Warren S. Dungan, now also deceased, had called together some of his friends and organized the Lucas County Historical Society. We called in four of our friends whom we thought would be interested in historical work, and organized ourselves by adopting the constitution of which you are all more or less familiar. It is a noteworthy fact that the entire membership, as represented at the first meeting, was given office. The writer was elected president; E. L. Kelley, Jr., secretary; Miss Carrie Judd, assistant secretary; R. C. Kelley and Israel A. Smith, curators. At meetings held subsequent to this there were admitted to membership Mrs. F. M. Smith, Miss Mabel Horner and Dr. J. B. Horner.

Unfortunately for the cause of accuracy in getting the history of our early organization, our records have become lost or destroyed, we fear having been destroyed in the fire which destroyed the Herald office in Lamoni. The few organizers of the society were earnest, and they organized with the full intention of doing systematic and earnest work in the way of interviewing early settlers in the county, and getting a record of events which live only in the memory of the older settlers, and which are lost to us as these settlers pass away without being interviewed or enabled to write. But unfortunately for the work of the society, fate ruled that the membership was to be widely scattered, and at one time while the president was doing church work on the far eastern coast of Maine, the assistant secretary was teaching in the far-away Philippine Islands, while the secretary and one of the curators were doing educational work in Iowa City, and the other officer at work in Nebraska.

It was early appreciated that for the society to do its best work the organization must be county wide, and hence, a meeting held at the home of Doctor Horner, the president was authorized to enroll, as members any whom he deemed proper to become members. This authority was given him with a view to his making visits to Leon, Decatur City, Pleasanton and other places in the county to extend the organization. It was while acting under this authority that the

president called a meeting in Leon of June 1, 1907, to arouse interest in Leon, and at which some thirty-odd members were enrolled, the newly enrolled members at once entering into business session and electing a new corps of officers.

After the society had been organized some three years, at the invitation of Dr. Benjamin F. Shambaugh, editor of the Iowa State Historical Society, the Decatur County Historical Society became affiliated with the state society, its certificate of auxiliary membership being dated August 3, 1904, we believe.

CHAPTER XX

GEOLOGY OF DECATUR COUNTY

The following detailed description of the geology of Decatur County is taken from the Iowa Geological Survey, Vol. VIII, annual report 1897, pages 255 to 314. The survey was made by H. F. Bain.

INTRODUCTION

Decatur County lies in the southern tier of counties, almost midway between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Ringgold bounds it on the west, Clarke on the north, Wayne on the east, and Harrison and Mercer counties, of Missouri, on the south. In area it includes 528 square miles, with some fractional pieces of land, the total being 343,910 acres. The townships run from 67 to 70 north, the southern tier being fractional, and the ranges from 24 to 27 west. The county is, as usual, divided into sixteen civil townships.

To the geologist Decatur County is of especial interest, because of the fact that running through it is the heavy limestone which forms the base of the Missourian series and which derives its interest to the economist from the fact that it divides the productive from the unproductive coal measures. This limestone, or assemblage of separate limestones, is known as the Bethany or Bethany Falls limestone, a name first used by Broadhead. In Iowa the exposures have been mainly studied are in the vicinity of Winterset, and to the strata at that point White gave the name of Winterset limestone. The beds outcropping at Bethany, Mo., and Winterset, Ia., have for some time been believed to be identical, and the actual continuity of the two has, in fact, been recently proven. Between the two points mentioned, however, no detailed sections have been published, and it was mainly to supply this lack that the study of Decatur County was taken up at this time.

Previous to the present survey White seems to have been the only geologist who had worked in the county. His notes¹ include sec-

¹ First and Second Ann. Repts. State Geologist, pp. 42-43. 1868. Also Geology of Iowa, Vol. I, pp. 318-327. 1870.

tions at a few points along Grand River and its tributaries, but the short time allowed for the work precluded anything like a detailed study of the area. The adjoining counties of Iowa were also described by him in the report cited. In Missouri, Harrison and Mercer counties, which adjoin Decatur on the south, have been visited by various members of the Missouri Geological Survey. The earliest notes are those of Swallow, descriptive of certain fossils collected in Harrison County.² The coal beds of both counties are noted by Winslow.³ The character of the surface deposits are noted by Todd,⁴ and the altitudes and topography discussed by Marbut.⁵ Broadhead has also published notes on the coal measures of the region, which will be more particularly referred to in the body of this report.

PHYSIOGRAPHY

TOPOGRAPHY

Decatur County lies well up on the Mississippi-Missouri divide. The streams belong to the Missouri River system, but the country belongs rather to the high land between the rivers than to the Missouri Valley proper. It is a broad, even, but much dissected plain, with little or no slope, and includes the northern continuations of the Warrensburgh platform and the Lathrop plain, defined by Marbut.⁶ In the country under discussion the two physiographic areas are not very distinct. The influence of the drift seems to have been such as to obscure the divisions which here may perhaps never have been so sharply defined as farther south. In a general way it is true that as one passes west from the Des Moines to the Missouri River the ascent is made by a series of steps. This is shown by the profile of the main line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway. This road runs across the drainage lines of the region and accordingly crosses a series of intermediate upland stretches. These bits of upland are approximately level, but stand successively higher toward the west. The divide between the Des Moines and the Chariton runs from Maxon to Albia at 959 A. T. and is about three hundred feet above Ottumwa. The second upland is almost level from Russell, 1,037, to Chariton, 1,042; being ninety feet above the plain just men-

² Trans-St. Louis Acad. Sci., Vol. II, pp. 81-101. 1863.

³ Missouri Geol. Surv., Vol. I, p. 99. 1896.

⁴ Missouri Geol. Surv., Vol. X, pp. 143-181. 1896.

⁵ Missouri Geol. Surv., Vol. VII, pp. 225-316. 1895. *Ibid.*, Vol. X, pp. 45-49. 1896.

⁶ Missouri Geol. Surv., Vol. X, pl. ii. 1896.

tioned. The third upland, from near Brush to Murray, has a slight rise to the west, being at Osceola, 1,132, and at Murray, 1,216. West of Murray the railway dips down into the Valley of Grand River, just touching the level of the top of the Bethany limestone (1,051) at Afton Junction. At Creston, 1,312, it is again on an upland which extends with slight slope to Hillsdale, 1,189, not far below the crest of the Missouri River bluffs. Into this latter plain the Nishnabotna and Nodaway rivers have cut 200 to 250 feet, while the Missouri bottom land at Pacific Junction lies at 962 A. T.

From Creston west to the edge of the Missouri Valley there is a long gentle slope not broken by marked escarpments. To the east the country first drops down to the Osceola platform, 1,132 A. T., and then by a further drop of about one hundred feet to the Chariton platform. The Albia platform lies about one hundred and twenty-five feet still lower and from there the slope to the Des Moines is gentle. At Chariton, Osceola and Creston there is a great thickness of drift. At Chariton, as shown by drill holes, the rock is found at 882 to 897 A. T. At Osceola the top of the limestone quarried northwest of town lies 140 feet below the railway station. At Creston there are no exposures and the drift is known to be very thick. The nearest exposures lie 260 feet below the level of the town. The rock then rises between Chariton and Osceola from 882 to 1,092 feet, while from Osceola west present evidence seems to indicate that it maintains an approximately even surface. This would apparently indicate that in preglacial time the Bethany limestone formed in Iowa, as it does now in Missouri, a marked escarpment. The distribution of the drift, however, is such that this escarpment is almost wholly concealed.

The major portion of Decatur County, being underlain by the Missourian, would belong to Marbut's Lathrop plain. The portions of the Warrensburgh platform penetrating the county are confined to the river valleys, and hence form but an insignificant fraction of the whole. It is the general upland plain which is most obvious as one travels through the county. The valleys are all clearly erosional and the roughness encountered when one descends from the upland is indicative of the completeness with which the streams have dissected the area.

The major streams of the county have a north-south direction. Their tributaries follow the main streams and do not usually travel from far to the east or west. The result is that the original upland plain has been cut by a series of long, relatively narrow river valleys with high narrow ridges between. The resulting topography was

quite fittingly described by the early settlers who spoke of the region as the "devil's washboard." An east-west traveler must cross a series of alternating ridges and valleys. The north-south traveler may usually find a ridge road. From the latter, looking off over the country, the tops of the successive flat-topped ridges appear rising to an even surface and restoring the old plain in which the valleys have been carved.

By examining the following table of elevations the position of this plain can be understood. Weldon and Van Wert, 1,147, are upon the upland. Leroy, 1,107, and Garden Grove, 1,114, occupy similar positions. Lamoni, 1,126, and Tuskeego, 1,175, in the southwest are on divides which form a portion of the plain. Decatur City, near the center of the county, at 1,111, is also on the plain. De Kalb, 947, Grand River, 957, and Davis City, 914, are all on flood plains. Blockley, 1,042, and Leon, 1,025, are on partially dissected land. Pleasanton, 1,173, on the extreme southern line of the county, again marks the upland. The differences in these upland levels are not important and may be to a limited extent due to errors arising from comparing different surveys. On the whole they indicate a very even surface with little, if any, slope.

For convenience of reference these elevations are put in tabular form.

TABLE OF ELEVATIONS

Station	Authority	Feet
Blockley	D. M. & K. C. Ry...	1,042
Cainsville (Mo.)	D. M. & K. C. Ry...	936
Davis City	C., B. & Q. Ry.....	914
Decatur City	D. M. & K. C. Ry...	1,111
De Kalb	H. & S. Ry.....	947
Garden Grove	C., B. & Q. Ry.....	1,115
Grand River	H. & S. Ry.....	957
Lamoni	C., B. & Q. Ry.....	1,126
Leon	D. M. & K. C. Ry...	1,025
Le Roy	K. & W. Ry.....	1,107
Pleasanton	D. M. & K. C. Ry...	1,173
Tuskeego	C., B. & Q. Ry.....	1,175
Van Wert	K. & W. Ry.....	1,147
Weldon	K. & W. Ry.....	1,147
Westerville	K. & W. Ry.....	987

DRAINAGE

The streams of Decatur County are all tributary to Grand River, which flows into the Missouri in Chariton County, Mo. Grand River itself has two main branches coming together near Chillicothe. The eastern fork alone penetrates Decatur County, though certain of the tributaries of Big Creek, which is independent of this eastern fork, tap the southwestern portion. It is the eastern branch of Grand River proper which is known in Iowa as Grand River. In Missouri, when the term is used without qualification, the western or the united stream is usually referred to. Grand River in Iowa is an important stream having its headwaters in Adair County and crossing Madison, Union, a corner of Ringgold and the western part of Decatur County. As far south as Afton Junction in Union County there is no reason to believe that the stream is preglacial. Throughout its course in Decatur County it is quite certainly older than the Kansan drift, since the latter is found undisturbed in its valley, while the rocks rise in the hillsides a considerable distance above the flood plain. It has a broad valley whose width is suggested by the outline of the Des Moines formation where the river has cut through the Bethany. From Terre Haute to Davis City the Des Moines area shown on the map outlines the bottom land. It will be noted that the river runs close along the south bluff, where it has an east-west trend. On the north the slope is long and gentle and the bottom land is broad. The south bluff is abrupt, rising in section 28 of Burrell Township, 140 feet above low water. This is true again north of Westerville, where the south bank of the river is a sharp bluff, while the north side of the valley shows a long, gentle slope. Where the stream runs from north to south it shows no especial predilection towards either bank.

This tendency of east-west streams in Iowa to run along their southern bank has been noted by McGee,⁷ Tilton⁸ and Calvin.⁹ The latter has suggested that it is due to the greater activity of weathering agencies upon a southward facing slope. McGee was evidently inclined to consider the phenomena as due to structural agencies. In Decatur County, however, there is no evidence of structural peculiarities adequate to account for the phenomena, and its almost universal presence throughout Southern Iowa, regardless of the character of the rocks, which the stream may be eroding, seems warrant for the

⁷ Eleventh Ann. Rept. U. S. Geol. Surv., Pleistocene Hist. N. E. Iowa, p. 412. 1891.

⁸ Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. V, p. 307. 1896.

⁹ Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. VII, pp. 49-50. 1897.

conclusion that the climatic cause suggested by Calvin is a true one. The phenomena cannot be due to individual tilted blocks of strata, as suggested by McGee, and any other structural agency competent to the task could only be a prolonged uplift to the north, which would induce a migration of the divides toward the uplift, as has been shown by Campbell.¹⁰ This would account for the larger number and longer course of the tributaries flowing from the north into an east-west stream, but would hardly account for the marked difference in the slopes of the valley sides proper. It is probable that while uplift to the north has been a potent factor in providing the phenomena, the climate factor is also to be taken into account.

That Grand River in this portion of its course is an old stream will be readily believed by anyone familiar with this valley. The size of the latter, and the fact that much of it is cut in rock, is alone convincing. The distribution and character of its tributary drainage lines afford additional proof. Still further evidence tending to prove its great age may be adduced from the great bend in the river in the northwest portion of Burrell Township. (See Fig. 1, Plate xxi.) This has originated as an upland meander and has been cut through the Bethany down to the Fragmental limestone. It is characteristically developed, but the tongue of rock running out into the bend has been very largely cut away. Only a low spur protrudes from a high bluff at the base of the bend. Such a spur would, in any case, be short lived, as it is exposed to vigorous erosion on three sides, but the fact that it has here been almost completely cut away seems to be of more than usual significance. Upon Middle River, in Madison County, and Raccoon River, in Guthrie County, as well as on other rivers which cross the Bethany escarpment, upland meanders are well developed,¹¹ but in no case is the rock tongue so much eroded as in the Decatur County example. Here it has been so nearly cut away that at first it was thought to be absent. Upland meanders are developed by a long and slow process,¹² and where they have not only been developed, but almost destroyed, they indicate a considerable lapse of time. The meander and the stream valley are, of course, of later age than the peneplain, and they indicate that the time of stream cutting anterior to the drift was long, and that the peneplain is, relative to the drift, old. Further than that it seems impossible, at present, to fix its age.

¹⁰ Jour. Geol., Vol. IV, pp. 567, 657. 1896.

¹¹ Geol. Madison County, Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. VII, pp. 500-501. 1897.

¹² Marbut: Mo. Geol. Surv., Vol. X, p. 98. 1896.

Within the county the most important tributaries of Grand River are Elk Creek from the west, and Long Branch from the east. Both are important streams, cutting through the drift and into the rock. Exposures of Carboniferous are found along the branches of Elk Creek from sections 21 and 22 of Grand River Township to the mouth, and along Sweet Creek, a tributary, from section 23 of Bloomington Township to the main stream. The minor tributaries show exposures for corresponding distances. Elk Creek with its branches drains most of Bloomington and Grand River townships, but in addition to it Grand River receives from the west Sand Creek near Westerville, Bad Run near Grand River, Roaring Branch and Russell's Branch between there and the north of Elk Creek, Pot Hole Creek or Potter's Branch near Terre Haute, Dickerson Creek near Davis City, and some minor streams between that place and the Missouri State line. These streams with their tributaries reach out into all that portion of the county west of Grand River, except portions of Bloomington and New Buda townships and all of Fayette, which are drained by Shane and Seven Mile creeks, streams having courses through Big Creek to the main branch of Grand River near Pattonsburg, Mo.

Long Creek, with its tributaries, Bee and Wolf creeks, is the most important stream flowing into Grand River from the east. It receives Short Creek near De Kalb, and at the latter place has cut 200 feet below the upland at Van Wert. There are rock exposures along the lower portion of its course.

Aside from Grand River there are two important rivers in the county, Weldon and Little rivers. Weldon River has its source in Franklin Township and flows east through Garden Grove, and thence almost due south to the state line, receiving Jonathan, Brush and Steel creeks with Turkey Run and List Branch. Little River has its source near Van Wert and a course from there south past Leon, Blockley and Spring Valley.

The streams of the county are almost entirely preloessial in age. Only the minor tributaries have had a later origin. The major streams, Grand River, Weldon River, and probably Little River, are preglacial, or at least pre-Kansan. Some of the tributaries are perhaps as old as the main streams; but most of them are merely preloessial.

It seems probable that the preglacial drainage of the county was in outline quite similar to the present. In contrast with most of Iowa the present streams seem to be working on a lower level than that which obtained in preglacial times. They are cutting in the

rock and usually show no important drift filling below low water. The bridges over Weldon River and Steel Creek in Morgan, Woodland, and even sections 13 and 25 of High Point Township, rest on rock or shale foundations. The same is true of the Little River bridges in Hamilton Township and of the Grand River bridges as well as those over Long and Elk creeks. Yet in the valleys of Weldon, Little and Grand rivers there are places showing undisturbed drift down to low water level. The entire absence of great drift-filled channels in this region as compared with that farther east¹³ would indicate that in later glacial times, and perhaps in the present, the surface of Iowa has been warped, the west rising more than that to the east. This is in accord with other observed phenomena.

The effect of the varying hardness of the underlying rocks upon present valleys is shown in the alternate widening and closing of their valleys, though the latter is probably also due in part to other agencies, as already suggested. The effect is also shown in the ponding of the streams as each of the members of the Bethany is crossed; phenomena first observed and described by White.¹⁴

STRATIGRAPHY

GENERAL RELATIONS OF STRATA

The geological formations occurring in Decatur County fall into two series, differing widely in character, origin and age. The underlying rocks are indurated. They include principally shales and limestones, and record the time when what is now a beautiful prairie plain lay beneath the waters of the Carboniferous Sea. They are the products of the destruction of an older land and were laid down by the action of marine agencies. Partially at that time and partially since, under the influence of circulating waters and slight pressure, they have been changed from relatively loose, unconsolidated sea deposits to the firm, hard rock now found.

Over these older rocks are the loose and unconsolidated gravels, sands and clays which form so common and conspicuous a feature of the surface. These are of very much later age than the indurated rocks, belonging indeed to the Pleistocene period, and have been in part deposited in present time. They are the product not of the sea, but of ice; an incursion of immense glaciers or a sheet of land ice, which spread over much of the northern hemisphere. In part

¹³ Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci., Vol. II, pp. 23-26. 1895.

¹⁴ Geol. Iowa., Vol. I, pp. 318-320. 1870.

these deposits were made by the ice itself, and in part by the waters from its melting. Some of the beds present were formed by the present rivers by ordinary processes, such as may even now be seen in operation. Some were laid down by waters of uncertain age and extent, and some perhaps by winds. The relations and ages of these beds are indicated in the subjoined table. Their distribution and character will be described later.

Group.	System.	Series.	Stage.	Sub-Stage.
Cenozoic.	Pleistocene.	Recent.		Alluvium.
		Glacial.		Loess.
				Gumbo.
			Kansan	Drift.
			Pre-Kansan(?).	Drift(?).
Paleozoic.	Carboniferous.	Missourian.	Bethany.	Westerville(?).
				De Kalb.
				Winterset.
				Earlham.
			Fragmental.	
		Des Moines.	Pleasanton.	

CARBONIFEROUS

The Carboniferous of the Mississippi Valley is divided into two major divisions long known respectively as the upper and lower. The latter does not occur within the county and its only importance in this connection arises from the fact that the St. Louis limestone, one of its members, forms the floor upon which the coal measures rest. In any future deep drilling for coal the St. Louis will indicate the horizon below which it is inadvisable to prospect.

The upper Carboniferous is commonly known as the coal measures, and the term Pennsylvanian series has been proposed to cover the same beds. In this immediate region it consists of two major members, known as the Des Moines and the Missourian, each divisible into subordinate groups. These correspond respectively to the lower or productive and to the upper or unproductive coal measures. Keyes has proposed¹⁵ to consider each of these divisions as independent series; dividing the Carboniferous of the interior into the Mississippian, Des Moines, Missourian, and Oklahoman. While it is not certain that these different divisions are of strictly equivalent rank, and probably some include more than others, it is a great convenience in discussion and in mapping to use the terms in the sense proposed, and for these reasons they are adopted here, leaving to future critical paleontologic studies the adjudication of the rank of the divisions.

DES MOINES SERIES

PLEASANTON SHALES

The Des Moines formation is but sparingly exposed within Decatur County. The best exposures are on Weldon River. Immediately south of the state line (township 67 north, range 24 west, section 28), at the wagon bridge over the Weldon, a thin sandy limestone is exposed about four feet above the water. The rock carries *Productus costatus*, but seems to show no specimens of *Chonetes mesoloba* which is usually found in the Des Moines strata. In physical characteristics it very closely resembles a bed found at the corresponding horizon in Madison and adjoining counties and it is confidently referred to the Des Moines formation.

At the bridge in section 15 of Morgan Township there is an exposure showing twelve feet of blue sandy shale of Des Moines character and differing from anything found in the Missourian of the region. The basal portion of the Bethany outcrops high in the hills on the west side of the river, and beds probably representing the Earlham horizon have been opened up in a small quarry. In the first ravine west of Little River (section 16, southeast southeast) a sandy limestone corresponding in character to that found on Weldon River, near the state line, outcrops. It is here fourteen inches thick, and, as usual, non-fossiliferous. About six inches above it are traces of a three-inch black shale, an unusual member of the section and perhaps only locally developed. The arenaceous limestone outcrops again

¹⁵ Am. Geol., Vol. XVIII, pp. 22-28. 1896.

about two miles west of Weldon River on Lick Branch (southwest of southeast, section 17, Morgan Township), at which point it has more of the shaly character.

Along Grand River there are few exposures of the Des Moines, the fragmental limestone of the Bethany, or the Earlham, outcropping usually at the edge of the flood plain. Near Davis City, however, the upper portion of the lower beds may be seen. Along the small ravine leading down past the old lime kilns north of town (northwest of southeast, section 35, Burrell Township) below the base of the Bethany is the following exposure:

	FEET
5. Shale	3
4. Shale, black, "slate".....	1
3. Shale, drab, sandy.....	4

Farther down and near the mouth of the ravine is the following:

2. Shale, sandy, yellow.....	6
------------------------------	---

On the main stream near the mill, and accordingly below the above, the following beds are exposed:

1. Shale, drab, clayey, with several thin bands of blue-black non-fossiliferous limestone.....	4
--	---

It is stated that before the dam was put in, limestone used to show in the bottom of the river below these beds, and it is known to extend below the bottom land as far across the valley as the trestle opposite town extends. Limestone has also been encountered in wells north of Davis City under the low platform reaching out from the hills to the west and under the bottom land (northwest of southwest, section 7, and northwest of northwest, section 12, New Buda Township). Since the fragmental limestone is exposed on Dickenson Creek at a level above this bottom land (southwest, section 3) this lower limestone would correspond to the arenaceous limestone exposed on Weldon River. No. 1 of the section as given would correspond to the same number in White's section¹⁶ at this point. The other numbers give details of the beds comprised under No. 2 in his section. He mentions finding here specimens of *Beyrichia americana*, which he also collected

¹⁶ Geol. Iowa, Vol. I, pp. 321-322. 1870.

from corresponding beds in Guthrie County. This would strengthen the reference of the beds to the Des Moines.

The beds here referred to the Des Moines form the top of that formation. With the exception of the arenaceous limestone already mentioned they are predominantly shales. They are usually arenaceous to a noticeable degree. They correspond in general facies and in stratigraphical position to the Pleasanton shales of Kansas.¹⁷ While the actual equivalent has not been proven, it has been suggested¹⁸ and it seems quite likely to prove the correct correlation. In the interests of simplicity of nomenclature the name applied by the Kansan geologists may be used for these beds. They are not extensively exposed in Iowa, though they have been described in Guthrie,¹⁹ Dallas²⁰ and Madison²¹ counties, and are known at other points. It is, perhaps, significant that to the east of the Bethany limestone one finds in Wayne, Lucas and Clarke counties a broad, open prairie, such as would readily be formed over the area of outcrop of these shales by step and platform erosion.²² The actual surface is, of course, due to the drift, and the underlying step and platform is correspondingly obscured. The topography, nevertheless, serves to outline the probable outcrop of these beds and would suggest that they are of greater importance than knowledge derived from their outcrops alone would indicate. Their probable thickness and the character of the underlying beds is discussed in connection with the subject of coal.

MISSOURIAN SERIES

As will be seen by the maps, the major portion of the county is underlain by the Missourian, or upper coal measures. This formation, as here developed, consists of several beds of limestone separated by shales of various types. This assemblage of shales and limestones taken together constitutes the Bethany limestone, the lowermost of the several subdivisions of the Missourian. The Missourian as a whole has not yet been much studied, though the Bethany limestone and its equivalents have received considerable attention in Kansas, Missouri and Iowa.

¹⁷ Haworth: Kansas Univ. Quart., Vol. II, p. 274. 1895; Univ. Geol. Surv. Kansas, Vol. I, pp. 154-155. 1896.

¹⁸ Keyes: Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci., Vol. IV, pp. 22-25. 1897.

¹⁹ Bain: Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. VII, 443-444. 1897.

²⁰ Leonard: Ibid., Vol. VIII, pp. 78-82.

²¹ Tilton and Bain: Ibid., Vol. VII, 504-509. 1897.

²² Marbut: Mo. Geol. Surv., Vol. X, p. 29. 1896.

BETHANY LIMESTONE

At Bethany, Mo., where the limestone was first studied by Broadhead,²³ the beds as now exposed yield the following sequence as shown along a small tributary of Big Creek running through the town. The first exposure, which shows the top of the Bethany, is near the railway bridge north of the depot, the top of the limestone being at about 888 A. T.

	FEET
6. Limestone, fragmental, loosely cemented, with many specimens of <i>Meekella striato-costata</i> , <i>Chonetes verneuillanus</i> , <i>Productus costatus</i> , <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Productus longispinus</i> , <i>Spirifer cameratus</i> and <i>Dielasma bovidens</i>	6
5. Shale, clayey, green to drab, with thin bands of limestone	2
4. Shale, clayey, drab to black.....	2
3. Limestone, dark blue, two ledges, 9 and 3 inches thick respectively	1
2. Shale, black	1
1. Shale, black to drab, with irregular nodular and thin layers of impure black limestone, carrying large, well-formed <i>Productus cora</i> , <i>Productus nebrascensis</i> , <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Myalina subquadrata</i> (?), <i>Schizodus</i> sp? In the shale itself are <i>Myalina subquadrata</i> , <i>Productus nebrascensis</i> , <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Rhombopora lepidendroides</i> and plates of <i>Eupachyrinus verrucosus</i>	6

Below this exposure for some distance there are no outcrops, but in the western part of town there are some small quarries which show the following beds:

	FEET INCHES
7. Shale, clayey, drab.....	6
6. Shale, calcareous, transition beds, with <i>Spirifer cameratus</i> , <i>Meekella striato-costata</i> , <i>Productus cora</i> , <i>Productus cos-</i>	

²³ Trans.-St. Louis Acad. Sci., Vol. II, 311, 1862; Mo. Geol. Surv., "Iron Ore and Coal Fields," pt. ii, p. 77 et seq. 1873.

FEET INCHES

	tatus, <i>Productus nebrascensis</i> , <i>Rhombopora lepidodendroides</i> , <i>Fistulipora nodulifera</i> , <i>Myalina subquadrata</i> , <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Derbya crassa</i>	1	6
5.	Limestone, heavy ledge, many <i>Fusulina cylindrica</i>	2	10
4.	Limestone, thin bedded, with many of the fossils collected above, particularly <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Productus cora</i> , <i>Productus costatus</i> , <i>Spirifer cameratus</i> and <i>Meekella striato-costata</i>	10	
2.	Unexposed	8	
1.	Limestone, thin bedded, with <i>Productus costatus</i> , <i>Productus cora</i> , <i>Productus longispinus</i> , <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Spirifer lineatus</i> , <i>Spirifer cameratus</i> , <i>Spiriferina kentuckensis</i> , <i>Chonetes verneuili</i> , <i>Hustedia mormoni</i> , <i>Dielasma bovidens</i> and <i>Fusulina cylindrica</i>	12-15	

Not far from here is the mouth of the stream which enters just above the falls of Big Creek. The rock forming the falls lies probably six to eight feet below the base of the limestone just described. It is about twenty feet thick, the upper eighteen feet being made up of a coarse but finely cemented limestone breccia, such as is shown in Fig. 2, Plate xxi. It is marked by long dark streaks which suggest corals, but which fail to show structure. The only fossil collected from it was *Productus cora*. Below the breccia is about two feet of fine-grained gray limestone, carrying large, well-formed *Spirifer cameratus* with *Productus cora*. The brecciated character of the limestone and the absence of marked sedimentation planes has yielded, under water action, rounded forms and knob and pot hole surfaces. (See Plate xxii.)

The general sequence found here with the four bodies of limestone, separated by shales, is the same as has already been found in central Iowa. The exposures in the latter region were first studied by White²⁴ and have been more recently reviewed by the present sur-

²⁴ First and Second Ann. Repts. State Geol., pp. 71-72. Des Moines, 1868. Geol. Iowa, Vol. I, pp. 245-250. Des Moines, 1870.
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vey.²⁵ In many of the minute details even there is a close correspondence between the Bethany section and that of Madison and adjacent counties. The latter may be summarized as follows:

	FEET
8. Limestone, thick and thin bedded, characterized by a particular abundance of <i>Fusulina cylindrica</i> , and hence called the <i>Fusulina</i> limestone.	15-30
7. Shales, predominantly dark colored and argillaceous, containing several thin bands of bituminous limestone, which are usually quite fossiliferous. About midway of the shales is a horizon which is particularly fossiliferous. The more usual forms, including <i>Athyris</i> , <i>Productus</i> and <i>Spirifer</i> , occur in great abundance and perfection. With these forms are vast numbers of <i>Derbya crassa</i> with <i>Myalina subquadrata</i> , <i>Myalina kansasensis</i> , <i>Myalina swallowi</i> , <i>Aviculpecten occidentalis</i> , <i>Productus nebrascensis</i> , etc. Not far above this horizon is usually a thin band of limestone literally made up of <i>Chonetes verneuillanus</i> . The whole thickness of the shale is	10-20
6. Limestone, medium grained, thin to thick bedded quarry rock, with <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Productus cora</i> and <i>Meekella striato-cosata</i> . Best exposed near Winterset, and hence called the Winterset limestone	12-15
5. Shale, usually dark and including a black bituminous horizon	8-12
4. Limestone, well shown near Earlham, and hence called the Earlham limestone. Carries an abundant fauna, which will be noted later.	20
3. Shale, with bituminous horizon, and at many points a thin, black limestone.	3-8
2. Shales, sandy, light colored, very variable thickness	2-16
1. Limestone, fragmental, made up of irregular bits of lime rock, filled in with calcareous clay. In places the rock can be picked to pieces with the	

²⁵ Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci., Vol. I, pl. iii, pp. 26-271, 893; Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. III, p. 137, 1895; Ibid., Vol. VII, p. 416-451, 1897.

FEET

fingers, elsewhere it hardens up into massive, thick-bedded layers. Along a small tributary of Deer Creek, in Guthrie County, it is quite fossiliferous, yielding *Spirifer lineatus*, *Spirifer cameratus*, *Athyris subtilita*, *Hustedia mormoni*, *Productus longispinus*, *Naticopsis alto-nensis*, *Lopophyllum proliferum*, *Orthis pecosi*, *Bellerophon* sp., *Straparollus* sp., *Archæocidaris* sp. 10-15

As the Earlham limestone is particularly well shown in Decatur County and presents there many analogies to the beds at the type locality, the following details regarding the latter may be quoted.²⁶ The typical section is given below:

FEET INCHES

- 11. Bed of soft, yellowish, magnesian, earthy limestone, decomposing readily when exposed to weather 4
- 10. Limestone in three heavy ledges at west end of quarry 4
- 9. Buff shale with *Chonetes verneuili* 4
- 8. Limestone, like No. 4. 2
- 7. Ashen shale with very few fragments of brachiopod shells 6
- 6. Earthy limestone, decomposing readily, yellowish, carrying large individuals of *Athyris subtilita* 3
- 5. Drab shale, with *Productus longispinus*, *P. costatus*, crinoid stems and fragments of other fossils 6
- 4. Quarry limestone, in thin layers, irregularly bedded 8
- 3. Unexposed 20
- 2. Sandstone, in heavy layers. 7
- 1. Base of sandstone to creek, unexposed. 17

At one point the quarrymen had worked down in the bottom of the quarry and exposed, below No. 4, drab and black shales to the

²⁶ Geol. Madison County, Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. VII, pp. 514-515. 1897.

depth of three feet, and below the shales a ledge of limestone six inches in thickness.

Distributed through the limestone beds No. 4 are the following:

Lophophyllum proliferum, McChesney.

Meekella striato-costata, Cox.

Productus punctatus, Martin.

P. costatus, Sowerby.

P. longispinus, Sowerby.

P. cora D'Orbigny—*P. prattenianus* of authors.

Athyris (*Seminula*) *subtilitia*, Hall.

Hustedia mormoni, Marcon.

Spirifer cameratus, Morton.

Spiriferina kentuckensis, Shum.

Allorisma subcuneatum, M. & H.

Stem segments and body plates of crinoids.

Various species of Bryozoa.

Chonetes verneuili N. & P. is somewhat common in No. 9, but is very rare in the other members of the section. *Spirifer cameratus* and *Productus longispinus* are most abundant near the base of No. 4, while *Productus costatus* and *Athyris subtilita* are more common in the upper layers. All the species enumerated, however, with the exception of *Allorisma subcuneatum*, range through all the beds making up No. 4.

The best exposures of the Bethany limestone in Southern Iowa are found along Grand River and its tributaries. From the outcrops found here a complete section can be made from the Fragmental limestone at the base up to and above beds which farther north have been called the Fusulina limestone, but which, from their excellent development in that vicinity, may now perhaps be best called the De Kalb limestone.

In Union County there is an important bed of limestone which, from the fact that it is well shown on Sand Creek near Westerville, may be called the Westerville limestone. It lies some little distance above the De Kalb horizon. In Jones Township of Union County (section 28 and farther south along the river) the beds are exposed, showing the following section:

5. Limestone, ash gray, fine grained, thin bedded, becoming almost shaly at the top, with *Productus cora*, *Productus costatus*, *Spirifer cameratus*, *Athyris subtilita*, *Chonetes verneuili* cf. gla-

	FEET
bra, <i>Lophophyllum proliferum</i> , <i>Straparollus subquadratus</i> and <i>Fenestelloid bryozoa</i>	10
4. Shale, gray, calcareous, with thin nodular bands of limestone	4
3. Shale, drab to black.....	10
2. Limestone, impure, nodular, in two bands.....	2½
1. Shale, drab to black, well exposed at Westerville	8

These beds extend into Decatur County, being seen near Westerville, on Sand Creek, and on Grand River. It seems probable that the shale (No. 1) extends down to the top of the De Kalb or *Fusulina* limestone which is exposed near Grand River and was at one time quarried at the old Madarasz quarry. (Section 36, township 70 north, range 27 west.) The best exposures of the latter limestone, and the ones which may be taken as typical, are found a short distance east of De Kalb station. (Section 28, township 70 north, range 26 west.) The section at this point is given below:

	INCHES
5. Limestone, irregularly water worn.....	6
4. Shale, hard, drab.....	6
3. Limestone, irregularly bedded.....	8
2. Shale, calcareous, becoming in places a poor grade of limerock.....	2
1. Limestone, in thick to thin ledges.....	48

The limestone is quite fossiliferous, the forms collected including *Productus costatus*, *Productus longispinus*, *Athyris subtilita*, *Spirifer camerata*, *Spirifer kentuckensis*, *Dielasma bovidens*, *Derbya crassa*, *Lophophyllum proliferum* and *Fusulina cylindrica*. This fauna is more abundant than is usually found in the same beds farther north, though no exhaustive collections have been made in Madison and adjoining counties, and many of the species collected at De Kalb are known to be present, sparingly at least, in the former regions. The marked predominance of *Fusulina cylindrica* which is so striking a characteristic of these beds in Madison County, is not so noticeable at De Kalb. This is probably due as much to the greater abundance at the latter point of the other forms mentioned as to any real decrease in the numbers of the *Fusulina*. It is, nevertheless, true that in the earlier advent, or at least culmination, of *Fusulina* the Decatur County

outcrops show much closer relations to the rocks as developed at Bethany, than to the Winterset section. It is for this reason, in part, that the term, De Kalb limestone, is to be preferred to Fusulina limestone, since neither the presence nor the abundance of the latter form is found to be consonant with a constant stratigraphical horizon.

The beds below the De Kalb limestone are shown near the wagon bridge just north of the railway station. The section exposed is as follows:

	FEET
5. Limestone, De Kalb, thin bedded, very fossiliferous	2
4. Shale, soft, gray.....	2
3. Shale, fine black "slate".....	1
2. Shale, black, soft.....	2½
1. Shale, drab	4

These shales are not particularly fossiliferous, as the section does not extend down to the Myalina horizon already noted. The latter is well shown on Grand River at the bridge about three miles west of Decatur (township 69 north, range 26 west, section 30, southwest, southwest). The section at this point is as given below. Fig. 1, Plate xxiv.

	FEET
5. Limestone (De Kalb) lower ledges only.....	3
4. Shales, drab to black, carrying <i>Derbya crassa</i> , <i>Myalina subquadrata</i> , <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Productus nebrascensis</i> , <i>Lophophyllum lepidendroides</i> and plates of <i>Eupachycrinus verrucosus</i> , exposed as a slope. Thin ledges of limestone found on the slope made up of <i>Chonetes verneu-</i> <i>ilanus</i>	15
3. Limestone, blue to black, with <i>Productus cora</i> , <i>Productus nebrascensis</i> and <i>Athyris subtilita</i> ..	3
2. Shale, drab, clayey.....	12
1. Limestone (Winterset), coarse bedded, with <i>Athy-</i> <i>ris subtilita</i> , <i>Productus costatus</i> and <i>Meekella</i> <i>striata-costata</i>	10

The Winterset limestone dips north here about five feet per hundred and its maximum thickness is not exposed. The dip seems to be local only. The Winterset is exposed south from the bridge as far as the abrupt turn of the river in the southeast corner of section 36,

Grand River Township. Within a mile the Earlham rock appears, and at the ford in section 7, of Burrell Township, the Fragmental rock is seen in the bed of the river.

The Winterset rock at the Decatur bridge is quite similar to the typical beds at Winterset, both in physical characteristics and the character and relative meagreness of its fauna.

The shales between the Winterset and the De Kalb limestone form one of the most marked stratigraphic horizons in the section, and their close resemblance in all particulars to the corresponding beds at both Winterset and Bethany will be at once seen. The same fossils occur and in the same perfection and abundance.

The shales below the Winterset and extending down to the Earlham limestone are not well shown on Grand River. Elsewhere they are usually about ten feet thick and carry about their middle a one-foot black slate horizon. The Earlham limestone is quite well shown near the bridge in northeast of northwest of section 5, Burrell Township. The exposure, which is on the east side of the river just south of the bridge, shows the following beds:

		FEET INCHES
6. Limestone, coarse grained, with <i>Fusulina cylindrica</i> and <i>Athyris subtilita</i>	2	
5. Shale, clayey, carrying <i>Athyris subtilita</i> and <i>Chonetes verneuianus</i>		6
4. Limestone, quarry rock, 4 to 12-inch ledges, with <i>Productus cora</i> , <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , <i>Hustedia mormoni</i> , etc.....	8	
3. Shale, argillaceous, drab.....	1	
2. Shale, black "slate".....	1	6
1. Shale, drab, soft.....	4	

The very strong resemblance of this section to the typical Earlham section as already given will be noticed at once. The partings in each case are of the same character and carry the same fossils. *Hustedia mormoni*, which is abundant wherever the Earlham is exposed, has not been collected from any of the higher beds along Grand River, although at Bethany it is found frequently at higher horizons.

The fragmental rock is not shown at the exposure just described though it is exposed a short distance below at water level. On Pot Hole branch, south of Terre Haute (township 68 north, range 26 west, section 29, southeast of northwest), it is present about ten

feet below the base of the Earlham, being firmly cemented and non-fossiliferous. A thickness of four feet is shown in the bed of the creek and more may be present. The Fragmental rock is also below the base of the quarries opened up southwest of Davis City (township 67 north, range 26 west, section 3, southeast of southwest). Here it is also non-fossiliferous.

The exposures in and near Davis City show the Earlham beds excellently. They are the ones which have been much opened up, though the Winterset and the De Kalb are present high in the hills. From the Earlham limestone on Dickenson Creek, southwest of Davis City, the following forms were obtained: *Productus longispinus*, *Productus costatus*, *Athyris subtilita*, *Spirifer cameratus*, *Chonetes verneuili*, *Fusulina cylindrica*, *Hustedia mormoni* and plates of *Archæocidaris* and *Zeoerinus*.

In the eastern portion of the county, on Weldon and Little rivers, it is apparently the Earlham which is exposed, though the rock has not been opened up enough to make the determination sure. The Fragmental does not show, being concealed by talus and drift, but has been encountered in bridge excavations. A short distance south of Spring Valley, limestone, apparently the Earlham, is exposed along a small stream running into Little River from the east (southeast of southeast section 13). The stone is fine-grained, ash gray, breaks with irregular fracture and weathers white. One ledge as much as eighteen inches in thickness is indicated by the blocks found on the surface. The rock is said to be underlain by shales. The fossils found included *Athyris subtilita*, *Productus longispinus*, *Productus costatus*, *Chonetes verneuili*, and *Spirifer cameratus*.

Beds corresponding to those just described outcrop about a mile north (northwest of northeast section 13) along a tributary of Little River, and have been in fact opened up at several points in the vicinity. At the old Cole mill (northwest of northeast section 14) the section given below is exposed in the west bank of the river. The limestone is probably the Earlham.

	FEET
4. Limestone, thick bedded, with <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , very abundant corals, and plates and spines of <i>Archæocidaris</i>	5
3. Shale, gray to drab.....	4
2. Shale, black "slate".....	1
1. Shale, gray, sandy.....	6

The limestone found on Weldon River (southeast section 15, Morgan Township) is probably also the Earlham. The only fossils collected were *Athyris subtilita* and *Archæocidaris*. The outcrops indicate that higher limestones occur.

In the western portion of the county there are a number of excellent exposures of the various members of the formation. Many of them will be referred to in the notes on the quarries. The exposures in the eastern portion of the county are rare and with the thick drift present it is difficult exactly to locate the eastern limits of the formation. As laid down upon the accompanying map the line is subject to some correction. The limit in the southeastern corner of the county is probably quite correct, though there may be an outlier east of Caleb Creek. Farther north it is fixed by some exposures on Whitebreast Creek in Clarke County. Between these points it may be found to extend a little farther to the east or west than is indicated.

PLEISTOCENE

In recent years the unconsolidated materials which so generally form the surface formations have attracted considerable attention. This is particularly true of those beds which were laid down by, or in connection with, the great glaciers or ice sheets which, in the period immediately preceding historic times, spread over much of North America as well as certain portions of the Old World. The deposits made by the ice sheets are well displayed in Iowa and have been found to be of peculiar interest. Within the last year or two it has been shown that the drift deposits of this state have had a much more complex history than has been heretofore ascribed to them. Near Afton in Union County to the north, and again in Harrison County, Mo., to the south, certain phenomena of more than local interest have been observed. When the study of Decatur County was taken up it was hoped that in the exposures along its deep cut valleys decisive evidence on certain mooted questions would be obtained. The result of the investigations are neither altogether satisfactory or altogether disappointing. Their value and bearing upon general questions may, however, be better estimated after a review of the evidence.

The drift deposits of Decatur County include the Kansan boulder clay, with certain possibly older beds, the gumbo, the loess and the alluvium. The latter is the most recent deposit and is found along all the streams, occupying the lowlands. The loess is the surface formation over the upland and runs over the divides and down into

the valleys in the form of a mantle. The gumbo is under it and has the same stratigraphic relations as the loess. The drift deposits proper are under the gumbo and often under the alluvium. They cover the whole of the upland region to a variable depth, averaging probably 150 to 200 feet. The drift also runs down into the pre-glacial valleys.

KANSAN AND OLDER DRIFT SHEETS

The drift sheet left by the major advance of the Keewatin ice sheet and extending out from under the later Iowan and Wisconsin tills is known as the Kansan drift. It is believed to have extended on the south to the Missouri River and on the southwest across that stream into Kansas. When named²⁷ it was thought to be the oldest drift sheet in North America. Dawson²⁸ has since shown that in Canada there is an older drift, named by him the Albertan, and the evidence of two drifts in Southern Iowa, long since noted by Chamberlin²⁹ and McGee, has been interpreted as indicating a pre-Kansan drift³⁰ in that region.

The interpretation accords with the results obtained from a study of the Alps³¹ to the extent that it postulates two old drift sheets. In the latter region there is, outside the moraine of the last glacial period, evidence of two older and widely separated invasions of the ice, the younger of the two apparently representing our Kansan. The interpretation here offered is also in harmony with numerous other phenomena. In a word it may be stated that under the Kansan drift there are traces of a still older drift, though the limits of this older drift are not known, nor is the evidence with regard to its existence everywhere as satisfactory as could be desired.

The surface drift throughout Decatur County is old. This is shown not only in the topography, but in the condition of the drift itself. Where the surface of the boulder clay has not suffered recent

²⁷ Chamberlin: Gekie's "Great Ice Age," pp. 773-774. 1894. Jour. Geol., Vol. III, pp. 270-277. 1895.

²⁸ Dawson: Jour. Geology, Vol. III, pp. 507-511. 1895.

²⁹ Chamberlin: Loc. Cit. McGee: Pleistocene Hist. N. E. Iowa, Eleventh Ann. Rep. U. S. Geol. Surv., pp. 493-499. 1891.

³⁰ Chamberlin: Jour. Geol., Vol. IV, pp. 872-876. 1896. Calvin: "Annals of Iowa" (3), Vol. III, No. 1, pp. 1-22. 1897. Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. VII, pp. 18, 19. 1897. Amer. Geol., Vol. XIX, pp. 270-272. 1897. Bain: Trans. Iowa Hort. Soc. 1896. Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. VI, pp. 463-467. 1897. Ibid., Vol. VII, pp. 335-338. 1897.

³¹ See "Le Systems Glaciaire des Alpes, guide publie, a de occasion du Congres geologique International, 6 m Session, Zurich, 1894, par M. M. Penck, Brückner et du Pasquier. (With references.)

erosion it is uniformly highly colored. The iron content has been oxidized until a reddish-brown surface corresponding to the "ferretto" of Italian geologists has been produced. This reddish-brown grades through orange to yellow below, and the yellow in turn gives place to blue, which is the fundamental color of the Kansan boulder clay. Often the yellow is seen following down into the blue along cracks and fading out from their edges. All the evidences indicate that here, as elsewhere, the blue and yellow clays belong together. The change in color is a matter of oxidation, and is most marked when the oxidation has been most active.

The blue boulder clay and much of the yellow contains a large amount of calcium carbonate, fine limestone dust. This causes it to give a vigorous reaction when tested with acid. The upper surface of the boulder clay gives no reaction, and the strength of the reaction, increasing from nothing at the surface to full vigor at a depth of 7 to 9 feet, is proportional to the amount of leaching which the clay has suffered, which in turn is approximately proportional to the depth below the surface. The boulder clay contains a considerable variety of pebbles and boulders, they being in most cases flattened and planed, and often showing striations.

In a cut on the Humeston & Shenandoah Railway, near De Kalb, the following kinds of rock were observed in the till: Gray and red granite, red porphyry, Sioux quartzite coarse and fine-grained, quartzite with pebbles of clean quartz and red jasper, gabbro, fine-grained greenstones, iron concretions, bits of clear, white quartz, small pieces of limestone, chert and very small bits of sandstone. The sandstone and limestone doubtless come from the coal measures of the adjacent region. The quartzite, including that with the quartz and jasper pebbles, probably came from the Sioux Falls region. The granites and greenstones came from farther north. Many of the granite cobbles, both large and small, are so badly weathered that they may be easily picked to pieces with the fingers. This is particularly true of those near the top of the formation and becomes less noticeable toward the bottom. It is not confined to particular kinds of rock which might be supposed to weather easily, such, for example, as coarse-grained granites with large feldspars, but is true of a wide variety of stones.

It is believed that the weathering of the granites, the oxidation of the iron and the decalcification of the boulder clay, in view of their obvious relationships to the original surface of the latter, are to be interpreted as evidence of a long period of subaerial decay after the

bowlder clay was deposited. The ferretto surface maintains itself under the loess and outlines the present topography, so that this period of exposure, which the advanced stage of the topography indicates, must have been a long one, occurred after the bowlder clay was laid down, and before the overlying gumbo and loess were deposited. It is this drift which forms the bulk of the Pleistocene deposits of the county and which has been called the Kansan. Relative to the question of a possible pre-Kansan there are certain exposures of interest.

In section 36, Pleasant Township of Union County, the following exposure is seen in the bank of Grand River near the ford. This is within a mile of the northwest corner of Decatur County:

	FEET
4. Loess-like top soil.....	1
3. Sand, fine to coarse, with some gravel below.....	6
2. Gravel, sandy, much weathered material:.....	10
1. Bowlder clay, blue-black, in physical character resembling the older bowlder clay at Afton Junction	12

The sand and gravel are evidently waterlaid beds and belong together. They graduate laterally into a reddish clay and these into a drab to blue bowlder clay. This shading off of the gravels into a bowlder clay is true as well of the gravels at Afton Junction. The gravel found at this exposure is similar in every regard to that found farther up the river. It wants only the bowlder clay over the gravel to make the exposure complete, and as the exposure is some distance below the high land, there can be little doubt of a higher bowlder clay. Between the two exposures there are traces of the same beds, and it is evident that what explains one exposure must serve also to explain the other.

About three miles northwest of Davis City (center of section 28, Burrell Township) a bluff at another ford across Grand River shows an interesting drift exposure. The hills here on the south are close to the river. A spur runs out a little from the bluffs, as indicated on the sketch map.

The nose of this spur has been cut across by the river, making the exposure. At the water's edge stratified sands are exposed. Fifteen feet above the water is a well marked soil horizon buried beneath thirty feet of yellow bowlder clay sloping up to the bluff 150 feet high. The bowlder clay is evidently Kansan. From the fact, however, that it

shows a certain amount of rude stratification, as well as the fact that the soil horizon is about on a level with the present flood plain, the exposure may perhaps be thought to represent side filling in over the bottom land. The absence of direct evidence favoring this, and the fact that so large an amount of bowlder clay could hardly slip down without leaving direct evidence of the fact except by a remarkably slow and uniform movement, while the bottom land is evidently young, seems sufficient reason for rejecting this hypothesis.

There is another exposure of interest found in the east bluff of the river near the bridge, about four miles southeast of Davis City (southwest of northwest section 18, Hamilton Township). Above the bridge there is a small ravine coming in from the east and cutting in two what was once apparently a continuous exposure. The portion of this exposure south of the ravine shows at the base a blue black bowlder clay with many pebbles. This clay has the typical characteristics of the pre-Kansan. Its blackness here is quite noticeable and leads one on first view to expect a Carboniferous shale. It does not extend along the entire base of the exposure and seems to be separated from the remainder of the latter by a zone of weathering. Over it where first seen are beds of stratified sand, gravel, and loess with at least one pretty well marked zone of weathering. North of the ravine is a blue bowlder clay, not so dark in color, breaking cubically rather than in flakes, and passing upward into a yellow bowlder clay containing masses of highly weathered gravels of Aftonian aspect. Then yellowing, resultant on oxidation, here follows the cracks well down into the blue clay. In the adjoining region the usual succession of loess, gumbo, yellow and blue bowlder clay is seen. The compact black flaky bowlder clay is unusual. At the exposure itself the facts are not altogether clear, but this much may be stated definitely, that there is here a bowlder clay of a type uncommon for this region but of physical character very like that of the older drift at Afton Junction.

Directly west of Leon, on the main road to Decatur City (south west southwest section 29, Center Township), a long westward facing slope shows the exposure sketched below.

On the top of the hill is the usual upland loess (1) running down over the edge of the rather steep slope. Below it is the normal gumbo deposit (2) eight to ten feet thick. Under this is a yellow bowlder clay (3) with all the usual characteristics. So far the section is exactly the same as occurs throughout the county. The bowlder clay is, however, only about fifteen feet thick, and below it is found a

second gumbo about twelve feet thick. This is a dark blue-drab clay. At its upper limit it contains humus and a distinct soil three to five inches thick. The soil is quite black and well marked, though thin. It contains some roots which do not seem to come down from the bowlder clay. The latter shows slight evidence of water action for as much as a foot above the gumbo, but above that is the normal unstratified bowlder clay. Under the gumbo is a second yellow bowlder clay (6) not differing in any known particular from that above. It carries cherts, red and gray granites, limestones, greenstones, iron concretions and quartzites. The same sorts of rocks are found in the clay above. Both show evidence of age and carry much weathered material. At the foot of the slope is the alluvium of the bottomland.

The ravines at the side of the road have cut back far enough to show that the beds lie directly under each other as indicated. The upper bowlder clay (3) where it rests upon the lower gumbo (4) is not the hillside wash or the result of creep. The material brought down by these processes is shown at 5 and is quite distinct. It includes smaller pebbles, is sandier, very gravelly, and distinctly waterlaid. It can be distinguished at a glance. No hypothesis of slipping seems able to account for the arrangement of the beds and they seem to indicate true and original superposition. This is the more probable from the fact that exactly similar exposures, except that the relations are even clearer, may be seen about one and a half miles east of Osceola in Clarke County. At several points in the ravines north of Weldon the same phenomena seem to be present though the exposures are not good. Only at the Leon exposure was the soil on top the lower gumbo noted. It has here the appearance of a buried soil with the upper portion removed, leaving only a little of the soil proper over the subsoil. There is no sufficient evidence of erosion at any point in the section lower than the top of the upper bowlder clay.

In regions where the superimposed drift sheets occur, buried forests are not uncommonly encountered. This is particularly true in regions near the edge of an upper drift, where, probably as a result of the fact that but little ice passed over the forest, it is better preserved. Buried forests are not of equal significance. They may readily occur as a result of temporary retreats and advances of the ice where only one drift sheet is present. It is only when they throw light upon the climate or physical conditions obtaining during the interrum that they have important bearing. It should always be remembered, however, that the simplest explanation is not neces-

sarily the true one, and that where the facts are capable of explanation equally well by the hypothesis of one or of two ice sheets, it is by no means necessarily true that the former hypothesis is to be preferred.

There are evidences of a buried forest in Decatur County, and in the adjoining region. Indeed, such evidence is found at a number of points in Southern Iowa, and has been reviewed at another place.³² In Decatur County the forest bed is best known in the vicinity of Lamoni, where it has been encountered in several wells. In the elevator well at that place it was struck at a depth of eighty-five feet, and below it there was a thickness of 100 feet of bowlder clay. It is clear that this forest bed is far below the base of the loess and is in the bowlder clay. There are no specimens of wood at hand, though the material examined by Prof. T. J. Fitzpatrick was found to be coniferous. The climatic bearing of the find is unimportant. The significant facts are that the bed is of some thickness, occurs commonly in the deep wells over quite a wide region, and is in the bowlder clay. It evidently neither represents adventitious wood in the latter, nor any pose-Kansan accumulations.

In Harrison County, Mo., Dr. C. R. Keyes³³ reports a nine-foot forest bed struck at a depth of about one hundred and twenty feet and in the drift. The evidence here would seem to be of the same nature as at Lamoni, but the thickness of the bed makes more impossible any reference of the deposits to adventitious sources, and indicates some little time of accumulation.

These two cases represent the better examples of buried forests in Decatur and its immediate vicinity. Other cases are reported, but do not seem so reliable. In Union County good specimens of peat have been obtained from wells near Afton, but the horizon is not well fixed and may be of later age. Setting aside for the present the buried gumbo near Leon, it will be noted that there are in this county or its immediate vicinity the following evidences of two drifts.

1. Waterlaid deposits between tills.
2. Buried forests and soil horizons.
3. Traces of an underlying till of peculiar and marked physical character.

In considering the first of these it will at once suggest itself that the large amount of ice necessitates considerable water-action (though not necessarily "great floods"), and that accordingly waterlaid beds

³² Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci., Vol. V.

³³ Private communication.

may be expected to occur at various horizons in and about the drift. It is possible, however, that the deposits should be of such a nature as clearly interdict any reference to ice-derived floods in their formation, or their distribution might be such as to show that they followed a considerable period of erosion. Neither is exactly true in this case, but it is true that the gravels found above Westerville are of the same character and occupy the same position as those found at Afton, and there are some reasons for believing that the latter accumulated during a considerable period of erosion.

Regarding the evidence derived from buried soils and forest beds but little can be added to what has already been said. It is manifestly uncertain and of slight independent value.

The third point is one hard to estimate. It is true, however, that whatever one may think of correlations based upon the color and physical characteristics of bowlder clays, there is certainly some significance in the fact that at every known exposure in Iowa, of bowlder clays which for various reasons are considered as probably older than the Kansan, the physical character of the bowlder clay is the same, and that it is markedly different from that of the Kansan.

This is true not only of such clays in southwestern Iowa but of the exposures at Albion in Marshall County, Oelwein in Fayette, and at Muscatine. It is certainly a fact of some significance. Probably none of these classes of evidence at this point would independently prove the presence of a pre-Kansan drift, but it must be remembered the facts have a cumulative value. If, for example, a single exposure showed a forest bed, a soil and waterlaid deposits between drift sheets of markedly different physical characters, and there were no opposing phenomena in the surrounding region, but one inference could be drawn. In the same way when the three classes of phenomena occur not in the same, but in contiguous exposures, they gather weight from the association. For this reason it is believed that the evidence from Decatur County, meager though it admittedly is, supports the hypothesis that there are traces of a pre-Kansan drift sheet in the region, separated from the Kansan by an unknown but probably important interval.

The exposures near Leon, it is believed, are best interpreted as results of changes in the front of the Kansan ice sheet. The gumbo alone proves only that there was a period when fine sedimentation such as is characteristic of still waters could go on for some time. The soil has been so nearly removed that its original thickness can only be guessed, and it is recognized that soils alone do not necessarily

indicate an especially long lapse of time. The thickness of the overlying till and the total lack of distinguishing marks between it and that below the gumbo throws the exposure out of harmony with those of the Aftonian and pre-Kansan beds. The apparently local nature of the phenomena, confined as they are to a relative narrow belt stretching from Osceola to Leon, suggests a local cause.

In the recent railway cuts of the D. M. & K. C. Railway there are, at a few points, gravels suggestive of the Buchanan. The gravel consists of small well rounded pebbles, is highly stained, carries weathered material, and occurs apparently in pockets in the top of the Kansan and under the gumbo. It has the appearance at times of local hillside wash; but its occurrence at such widely scattered points as Leon, New Virginia, and Truro, together with the fact that in Eastern Iowa the Buchanan gravels often occur some miles out from the edge of the later Iowan drift, suggests the advisability of keeping in mind the alternative hypothesis.

Glacial striae.—The limestone on Pot Hole Creek at one point shows stria as indicated in Plate xxiii. As measured by Prof. T. J. Fitzpatrick these have a direction of $s. 1^{\circ} w.$ magnetic. They are upon the Winterset limestone and below the Kansan drift.

LOESS AND GUMBO

The only general deposits occurring throughout the county and later than the drift are the loess and the gumbo clay. They are of the general type familiar throughout Southern Iowa and Northern Missouri. The loess is of the older or white clay phase, and as compared with that found along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers as well as inland farther north, is less porous, more plastic, and non-fossiliferous. It carries lime nodules but is free from pebbles. It graduates upward into the black loam which forms the prairie soil.

The gumbo belongs stratigraphically with the loess. It occurs below the latter, and has a blue to drab color. It is even more plastic and less porous than the loess. When damp but not wet, it has a mealy appearance which is quite deceptive as to its real character. It rarely carries pebbles though a few have been found in it. It often contains small lime balls but these are neither so large nor so numerous as in the loess. It has the appearance of being finer grained than the latter and suggests a quiet water deposit which has since been compacted or puddled by water. In general the gumbo is about ten feet thick and rests on the ferretto horizon of the Kansan. The

loess is from ten to as much as twenty feet thick. Both deposits passed down the flanks of the hills into the larger valleys.

ALLUVIUM

The alluvial deposits of Decatur County while extensive have little that is peculiar. They cover the broad bottoms of Grand, Weldon and Little rivers, and occur along many of the minor streams. As a rule the alluvium is not of any remarkable thickness. Along Grand River the flood plain is usually about fifteen feet above ordinary water stages. The alluvium is necessarily made up in the main of material derived from the loess and gumbo. South of Davis City, however, along Dickerson Creek, it contains large bodies of sand and gravel, derived apparently from beds of the same age as the gravels above Westerville. Inasmuch as the river does not show this material in the region between Westerville and Davis City, it is highly probable that the beds which formed the source of the Dickerson Creek deposits are concealed below the drift in the hills west of Davis City.

STRUCTURE

The rocks of the county have been subject to very little disturbance. The dip noted west of Decatur (see Plate xxiv) is the most pronounced in the county. It is entirely local and throughout the area the rocks lie very nearly horizontal. Apparently the general dip to the southwest which characterizes the rocks of so much of the state is here almost entirely absent. There are no data which warrant considering it here to be more than one or two feet per mile. The base of the Bethany, so far as Decatur County is concerned, seems to occupy a practically horizontal plane.

ECONOMIC PRODUCTS

Coal

That Decatur County lies within the limits of the coal measures has long been known. The exposures of black shale outcropping along the streams in various portions of the county, and already discussed, have led to considerable exploration in a small way, and have been the basis of various local coal excitements. As has already been stated the shale seen along the ravines belongs almost exclusively to the upper or barren coal measures. In a few cases it carries with

it a little coal. Along Weldon River in early days some coal was taken from the horizon below the Earlham limestone. Near the Cole Mill (section 14, Hamilton Township), in excavating for the bridge, it is stated that as much as eight inches of coal was found at this horizon. This thickness is quite exceptional. At no place in the county does coal of workable thickness outcrop. Any supplies which may be obtained must come from lower horizons. As has already been stated the Des Moines formation extends under the Missourian. The dip is such as to bring the various coal horizons worked in the counties northeast of Decatur some distance below the base of the limestone here.

The Des Moines formation in Southern Iowa is composed of three members. (1) The lowermost beds of shales, sandstones and coal exposed along the Des Moines River, and from there west to the Chariton, and probably the equivalent of the Cherokee shales of Kansas;³⁴ (2) the Appanoose formation consisting of a series of limestones and shales, and carrying the Mystic coal outcropping west of the Chariton River in Appanoose County³⁵ and extending under the eastern portion, at least, of Wayne County; (3) a shale sequence, as yet but little studied and infrequently exposed, extending over Western Wayne County, and outcropping immediately below the base of the Bethany in Decatur and adjoining counties. It is probable, but as yet unproven, that this formation is to be correlated with the Pleasanton shales of Kansas.³⁶ The Pleasanton shales in this region, at least, are not coal-bearing. Their thickness is not certainly known, but is probably not less than seventy-five feet.

The Appanoose formation carries a much worked and valuable coal bed, thirty inches thick. This coal thins, however, to the west; being at Harvard in Wayne County but twenty-two inches in thickness. The dip of the bed if persistent is such as to bring the Mystic coal horizon about 100-150 below the base of the Bethany limestone in Decatur County. It is not certain, however, that the Appanoose formation maintains itself so far to the west. Toward the north in Lucas, Warren, Madison, Guthrie and Dallas counties, its equivalents take on a character somewhat different from that of the typical expo-

³⁴ Haworth and Kirk: Kansas Univ. Quart., Vol. II, p. 105. 1894. Haworth: Univ. Geol. Surv., Kansas, Vol. I, pp. 150-151. 1896.

³⁵ Geol. Appanoose County, Iowa Geol. Surv., Vol. V, 378, et seq. 1896.

³⁶ Haworth: Kansas Univ. Quart., III, 274, 1895; Univ. Geol. Surv., Kansas, I, 152-153. 1896. Keyes: Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci., Vol. IV, 24-25. 1897.

tures. The general facies, however, of the formation remains the same; i. e., it consists of argillaceous shales, thin limestones and thin but persistent coal beds. Its normal thickness is usually about eighty feet. Its base should be about one hundred and sixty feet below the Bethany.

The coal output of Iowa, with the exception of that derived from the Mystic bed, comes almost entirely from thick coal beds of the Cherokee shales. The workable coal occurs in this formation along certain fairly persistent horizons marked in general by the presence of bituminous matter in some form, but varying much and rapidly in the thickness of actual coal. The better horizons are uniformly near the base of the formation. The best, perhaps, may be called the Wapello horizon from its considerable development in the county of that name.

The Wapello horizon has been proven through much of Keokuk, Mahaska, Marion, Wapello, Monroe and Lucas counties. The old Whitebreast mines at Cleveland in the last county mentioned, were the farthest west of any mines which have worked this horizon. From its proven extent and general richness it is the horizon most likely to yield returns to prospectors. Near Chariton, it occurs at about 675-700 feet above sea level and approximately 200 feet below the base of the beds corresponding to the Appanoose formation. At Centerville it should be at approximately 525 feet above sea level or 400 feet below the base of the Appanoose. Making the proper allowance for dip, the horizon should occur at a depth of approximately 500 feet below the base of the Bethany in Decatur County.

Whether or not it would carry workable coal so far to the west can not be foretold and can only be determined by careful work with the diamond drill. In the region where the horizon has so far been opened up it has been found to be generally rich but to be often entirely or practically barren. Even where the field is best known and has been most largely developed it requires careful and extensive drilling to locate the coal accurately enough to warrant opening a mine. The coal is not evenly distributed along this horizon but lies in a series of partially or wholly disconnected basins. Within the limits of a single square mile it varies in thickness from nothing to seven feet. In a recent set of twenty diamond drill holes through this horizon only ten showed coal of more than three feet in thickness and seven showed no coal at all.

The attempts so far made to locate coal, in or near Decatur County, have not been tirely successful. At Davis City a boring was

put down about twenty years ago. Starting near the base of the Bethany limestone it was carried to a depth of 212 feet and is said to have shown only two seams of coal four inches and six inches thick respectively. Near De Kalb a hole was sometime since put down without success. This started at the base of the De Kalb limestone and ended apparently in the Pleasanton shales. An examination of such of the drillings as have been preserved shows the usual limestone and shale sequence.

At Bethany, Mo., a hole was drilled in 1895, starting at the base of the Bethany limestone. It was carried down to 650 feet and should accordingly have reached the Wapello horizon. No coal more than nine inches thick was reported. Winslow³⁷ who reports the drillings, casts some doubts on its accuracy.

In 1897 Mr. C. Woodruff of High Point, in drilling for water reported three beds of coal respectively one foot, three feet and four inches in thickness. The hole was located upon the highland and started accordingly approximately 1,125 feet above sea level. It was carried to a depth of 412 feet and seems to have stopped in the Cherokee shales.

So far as known all drilling mentioned was done with the churn or jump drill. In the last case at least, coal was not sought, so that no special preparations were made for the accurate determination of its thickness. As is easily understood, results, particularly at such depths, based upon churn drill records have very small value. The method does not permit, except under the most favorable circumstances of fine discrimination. Results of real value are only to be obtained by means of the core drill.

There has been some recent discussion in the county as to the advisability of direct prospecting for coal, and because of this fact, as well as the further facts that the conditions here are very similar to those obtaining over a considerable portion of Southwestern Iowa, it may be advisable to say a little as to the cost of such work. From what has been said it will be readily understood that there is no coal to be obtained in the surface formations. Also that below these is a thickness of seventy feet of shales which are practically, if not entirely, barren. Below these in turn is a thickness of 150-200 feet which from all previous experience may be expected to carry thin coal, but no thick seams; probably no coal as much as two feet thick. There is accordingly a thickness of at least 200 feet under the lowland or 400 feet under the high table land which for practical pur-

³⁷ Mo. Geol. Surv., Vol. I, p. 99. 1891.

poses may be expected to prove barren. Below this is a thickness of 300-400 feet in which coal may be found; the chances of thick coal increasing toward the bottom. To explore the strata thoroughly a hole running from 500 to 600 feet in depth would have to be drilled even if one could so locate the work as always to drill from the lowland. If the prospecting company owned its own drill and were not unfortunate in the loss of diamonds, the cost would probably average \$1 to \$1.25 per foot provided 5,000 to 10,000 feet were drilled. To locate 400 to 600 acres of workable coal, provided the strata prove as rich as farther east, a matter unproven, once could hardly count on less than twenty and might need 100 drill holes. The work would accordingly cost \$10,000 to \$40,000 or more. In the end it might prove that the money would be lost, though on the whole it seems probable that some coal at least would be located, though perhaps not enough to warrant a large mine. In some exploratory work in Iowa where the holes are about half as deep as they would need to be here about seven thousand dollars was spent and work was carried on for nearly two years before a good coal basin was located. If a suitable coal basin were located the cost of working it would probably not be prohibitive. It would depend more upon the amount of railway track necessary than the depth to the coal, and if it should chance that the shaft could be located near a present railway the mine might even cost less than some now operated. The amount of capital invested would depend largely upon whether the mineral rights were leased or purchased, and upon the equipment of the mine. It might perhaps be as low as \$60,000 under very favorable circumstances, or as much as \$150,000. A large percentage of this would necessarily be invested before any return could be expected.

It will hardly be seriously thought that the present local market, or any probable local market of the immediate future, would warrant such an investment. It remains to examine the chance for a shipping mine. A mine in Decatur County would have the theoretical advantage in competition of nearness to Missouri River points. Practically this advantage would not be entirely realized. The C., B. & Q. Railway would furnish a direct line to St. Joseph and when the D. M. & K. C. Railway is extended, a short line to Kansas City would be open. Both of these markets are, however, well supplied, and competition is so keen as to offer few attractions to prospective investors. Coal would not, of course, be sold north or east to advantage. In reaching the Omaha, Sioux City and Nebraska markets, a

local railway tariff would always tend to destroy any slight advantage which the location gives.

Under present circumstances it will be seen that the opening of the Decatur County coal field would be too hazardous to be a legitimate business venture. One might put down one hole and strike workable coal, and open up on such slender prospects. Such things have been done occasionally with profit, often with loss; but the undertaking would be a gambler's chance, not a business proposition. For the present it is probably better not even to put down random search holes. If good coal were found in such a hole it probably would not serve to interest capital and if no coal were found it would discourage future work, even though such a result is entirely unwarranted by the conditions of the field. Some time in the years to come when the demand for coal is greater, Southwestern Iowa will be prospected and then the Grand River Valley will prove the most inviting field, not so much because of any better prospect of coal occurring there rather than under the hills or in other valleys, but because the depth to which the river has cut will make the prospecting cheaper and easier. Until that time Decatur County's wealth must come, as in the present and past from its other resources.

Clays

The clays so far developed in Decatur County have come entirely from the surface formations. The loess present throughout the county, is of the older type common in Southern Iowa. It has become somewhat changed for a depth of twelve to eighteen inches from the surface, losing some of the finer and more soluble constituents and acquiring a considerable proportion of humus. The soil resulting is admirably adapted to the production of hand brick, having all the usual characteristics of alluvium. It is now used at Garden Grove and Leon. The main body of the loess below the soil, and the gumbo clays below the loess have not so far been worked. The gumbo clays are not of any value for manufacturing except in the production of clay ballast. For this purpose they are unexcelled, their plasticity and high tensile strength causing them to shrink considerably in burning and so by cracking, open up the pieces of clay to thorough interior burning. These very properties make them unavailable for use in ordinary clay works. The gumbo clays are widely distributed throughout the county and their ready accessibility makes them a valuable source of burned clay. So far they have been used only by the C., B. & Q. Railway, for which several kilns have been

burned at Davis City. The material here is obtained from lowland forming a long gentle slope on the west side of Grand River. It may represent, in part at least, redeposited gumbo worked over by the river. The earliest kilns here were burned by hand and required a large force of men. Ballast is now being hauled out which, however, was burned about five years ago with the aid of machines.

The material is light, porous and yet strong. It seems probable that in the future it will become an important source of road metal and be applied to the improvement of the wagon roads. The wide distribution of the clays, the ease with which it can be obtained and the cheapness with which it can be burned, all render it worthy of serious investigation.

The shale clays occurring in the county have never been utilized. From the point of view of accessibility the shales at Davis City and De Kalb are the only ones at present worthy of consideration. In each case the thickness is not great, and the shales carry limestone nodules. At De Kalb an important portion of the section (page 278) consists of bituminous shale or slate, which would need to be thrown aside. The clays would in all probability yield a good hard brick, and possibly pavers could also be made. They could not, however, be worked by open pits, but would need to be mined. This would impose no especial burdens at De Kalb as there is a good limestone roof and a fair thickness of clay above water level. It would, however, make the work more expensive than at many competing plants.

The brick made at present are the common salmon brick, bringing about six dollars per thousand. The Foster Mullinix yard is located in the northeastern portion of Leon. The brick are hand made from the surface loam and burned with wood in a cased kiln. South of Leon (township 68 north, range 25 west, section 9, southwest of southeast) W. H. Mills has burned brick of the same character. None were burned here in 1897. W. H. Jenkins runs two kilns having a capacity of 100,000 each, in the northern part of Leon, and Mr. G. C. Dilsaber burns brick of the usual character at Garden Grove. Mr. Dilsaber has recently installed a brick machine and intends to work the loess under the surface loam. The loess here should make a good hard brick of cherry red color if properly handled. It will doubtless, as usual, require extra care in drying, but there is no reason to doubt that here, as at other upland points in the county, a considerable and profitable industry in the manufacture of standard building brick can be built up.

Building Stones

The great limestone formation which underlies so considerable a portion of the county has been opened up and quarried at a number of widely distributed points. In the main, the quarries are located in the western half of the county. In the southeastern townships a little stone has been taken out, but none of the openings there are extensive enough to be called quarries in a commercial sense. Indeed nowhere in the county is stone quarried upon an extensive scale. A majority of the openings are for local and temporary purposes. Few enjoy a regular trade and all are worked intermittently. Nevertheless the aggregate amount of stone taken out in any one year is fairly considerable. For the most part it is used rough for foundations and for well rock. A considerable amount is used in the county bridge work. Some is sold as dimension stone and some has been dressed and used for monumental purposes.

The quarry appliances are of the simplest. In general the stripping is removed by hand and wheelbarrow; occasionally scrapers are employed. The rock is pried loose by wedges and crow-bars, or where these means are ineffectual, the jump drill and blasting powder are called into requisition. In most instances perhaps, the quarries are worked on short leases; royalties being paid to the fee holder, and the quarryman deserting the opening so soon as the stripping becomes heavy or the bedding too massive for his tools. For these reasons the stone has not been opened up enough to allow its real value and character to be positively determined. That which has so far been placed upon the market has been almost entirely obtained from the croppings.

So far as shown by the natural outcrops and the quarries now open, the stone is predominantly thin-bedded. Ledges of over twelve inches are rare, though stone of fourteen and eighteen inches may be found. The majority of courses, however, show four, six and eight inch stone. In this particular there seems to be but little difference between the various members of the formation, except that in general the Winterset seems to include heavier courses than either the De Kalb or the Earlham, which are the main quarry rocks. In physical characteristics there is considerable uniformity. The rock is fine-grained and usually ash-gray to buff in color. It breaks with a conchoidal fracture showing smooth surfaces set with inclosures of clear calcite. It is a non-magnesian stone of great purity and contains little or no pyrites. So far as its mineralogical constitution is

concerned it is well adapted to withstand weathering agencies. As a matter of fact the stone so far quarried does not usually withstand weathering so well as its general appearance would lead one to expect. It splits and cracks under frost action, the fault apparently being in the physical structure of the rock. It is cut by minute cracks which allow the absorption of water, while the close texture prevents this from freezing out, so that the full force of the expansion, which has been calculated to be as much as 138 tons per square foot, is expended upon the rock. Since this rock has a crushing strength only of about four thousand, five hundred pounds per square inch, a good deal of it gives way before this strain. Some of the ledges naturally withstand frost action better than others, but it is doubtful whether it would be practicable to quarry them separately with a profit. For the purposes to which the stone is now applied it answers well enough, but its use in large and important structures or in bridge work, except after careful selection, can not be recommended.

It is quite probable that the Winterset rock would yield an average stone of better quality than that now marketed; but so far it has been but little quarried.

The Westerville limestone occurring in the hills along Sand Creek, has not been quarried to any great extent. In general it is very similar to the De Kalb in character. A thickness of about ten feet is present and the stone is readily accessible. The rock showing near the water at the mill is the same as is exposed at Reynold's ford. It is a thin bed of impure nodular rock and has only a slight value.

In the vicinity of Grand River Station there are numerous quarries working the De Kalb limestone. Among them are the quarries of S. C. Jennings, Blair Brenneman and C. Miles. The Miles quarry is east of the town near the railway bridge over Grand River. The total thickness of the stone is about three feet, the ledge yielding rock six and eight inches thick. It is a hard blue stone somewhat similar to the Reynolds' Ford rock and may represent the same horizon, though apparently at Grand River it is not far above the De Kalb proper. The most pretentious attempt to quarry the De Kalb limestone was at the old Madarasz quarry, now abandoned. This quarry is located on the river about three miles northeast of town, in section 36. It was opened near the Humeston & Shenandoah Railway and at one time had a switch from that road. It is said that considerable rock was taken from the quarry for railway construction. Nothing can now be seen of the quarry face, which is said to have shown ten feet of stone with the base five feet above the river.

East of De Kalb station are the typical exposures of the De Kalb rock. A section has already been given but the following details from a neighboring quarry will show the thickness of the individual ledges.

	FEET	INCHES
6. Stripping, bowlder clay.....	6	
5. Limestone, irregular and waterworn.....		6
4. Shale, hard		6
3. Limestone, irregularly bedded.....		8
2. Shale or bastard rock.....	2	
1. Limestone in five ledges that are respectively 9, 12, 6, 13 and 8 inches in thickness.....		4

The upper courses yield little of value and the main output is of stone from the lower ledges. There are two quarries here, the south one being owned by Mr. B. D. De Kalb and the north one by Martha Fry. A short distance west of De Kalb station the stone has also been opened up on Short Creek (northeast of northwest section 32, Long Creek Township). In the quarries here the following section was observed.

	FEET	INCHES
10. Shale, gray to green.....	2	6
9. Limestone, shaly		6
8. Limestone, solid		9
7. Shale, drab to yellow.....	2	
6. Limestone, thin, shaly		4
5. Clay parting		2
4. Limestone	1	
3. Limestone		5
2. Limestone		4
1. Limestone		6

The rock is the usual character and carries *Productus nebrascensis*, *Productus cora*, *Productus costatus*, *Meekella striato-costata* and *Chonetes verneuilianus*.

Along Hall Run and Elk Creek, in Grand River and Bloomington townships, there are numerous exposures of the De Kalb and Winterset, and, near the mouth of Elk Creek, the Earlham limestones. The exposure shown in Fig. 2, Plate xxiv, is one of the best and shows the Winterset limestone to a thickness of fifteen feet with the shales below it and extending down to the Earlham. This

exposure is almost five miles northeast of Lamoni on Pot Hole or Potters' branch. The section at this point includes the following beds.

	FEET INCHES	
6. Limestone (Winterset) with <i>Spirifer came-rata</i> , <i>Productus punctatus</i> , <i>Productus costatus</i> , <i>Athyris subtilita</i> , etc.....	15	
5. Shale, gray to drab.....	3	6
4. Shale bituminous	2	6
3. Coal		1½
2. Shale, gray	6	
1. Limestone (Earlham) in bed of creek.		

A few miles north of here at the Millsap quarries (section 34, Grand River Township) the base of the De Kalb limestone shows again with some ledges of rock thirty-six inches thick. Below the limestone is a drab to gray shale carrying *Athyris subtilita* and *Productus longispinus*. About five feet below the base of the limestone, and in the shale, is a third band of limestone very full of *Chonetes verneuili* and overlying an irregular ledge of nodular blue limestone carrying large well formed *Productus cora*. The exposure does not seem deep enough to expose the *Myalina* horizon though *Derbya crassa* is present. In the southeast corner of the same section the blue limestone shows again and a short distance farther down the Winterset is exposed.

In the northwestern portion of Burrell Township the Fragmental, Earlham and Winterset limestones and associated shales are exposed on the west side of the river (section 7, west half northeast quarter). On the east side of the river the Earlham has been quarried on the Anton Rauch land. This quarry has not recently been worked but the stock pile shows some excellent eighteen-inch rock. The stone from the quarry has been dressed and sold for monumental work.

South of Terre Haute on Pot Hole Branch, near the exposure of Winterset figured above, there are the S. A. Ferguson, N. N. Hazelton, and Isaac Toney quarries, all in the Earlham rock. The section here is as follows: .

	FEET
3. Limestone, ash gray to brown, fine-grained, thin-bedded, with courses up to 1 foot in thickness and shale partings	6-10

	FEET
2. Shale, drab, imperfectly exposed, but showing 1 foot of black slate.	10
1. Limestone, brecciated or fragmental type, firmly cemented and apparently non-fossiliferous.	4

It is the upper rock which is quarried and which carries *Athyris subtilita* (abundant) *Productus cora*, *Productus cameratus*, *Productus costatus*, *Rhynchonella uta*, *Hustedia mormoni* (rare) and the usual stems and spines of crinoids. The rock dips to the west, and the Winterset present in the hills above is exposed farther up the stream.

Near Davis City there are quarries both north and southwest of town. The main quarry north of town is the S. Radnick, which is opened in the Earlham. The quarries southwest of town are along Dickerson branch and include the W. Rickards, Hugh Sutherland, Jos. Boswell, and C. Noble openings. These are all small openings in the Earlham.

As seen at the Boswell quarry the section is as given below.

	FEET	INCHES
6. Stripping, loess-loam	2-4	
5. Limestone	1	
4. Rotten stone and shale.	2	
3. Limestone, 14-inch ledge carrying a 3-inch ledge below	1	5
2. Shale and rotten stone.	1	
1. Limestone, with wavy bedding, ledges running from 3 to 16 inches.	6	

The bedding in the lower stone is quite irregular. The courses are persistent but vary rapidly in thickness so that the surface lines are wavy. In the roadway, about ten feet below the stone, are traces of a black slate; and in the stream, about twenty feet below the quarry, the Fragmental rock outcrops. It is unfossiliferous except for the presence of *Productus cora*, is loosely cemented and crumbles so readily that it does not form a ledge. The Winterset limestone is present higher in the hills and possibly also the De Kalb.

The location of the various outcrops in the southeastern portion of the county and the character of the stone has already been sufficiently indicated.

Lime

In the earlier years of the settlement of the county lime was burned at several points. The rock is not, however, adapted to the manufacture of the best grade of lime, owing to its non-magnesian character, and with the better transportation facilities now enjoyed by the region the trade has passed into the hands of producers in other sections of the country. The non-magnesian rocks burn to a clear white lime of good appearance, but which really affords a weaker bond than that furnished by the magnesian lime. It is also difficult to handle and can only be worked by exercising great care in slacking and by using an abundance of water. For these reasons it would compete upon unequal terms with the lime now on the market, and except in especial instances the old industry is not apt to be revived. The purity of the stone suggests that it would be an excellent source of lime for cement production whenever it becomes economical to grind limestone for that purpose. For the present the chalks and marls shut it out of that field.

A partial analysis made for the survey by Dr. J. B. Weems gave the following results.

Ca CO ₂	91.96
Mg CO ₃	1.99
H ₂ O .....	.07

This sample was from the De Kalb limestone as shown at the type locality. It emphasizes the fact of the purity of the stone which is essentially calcium carbonate and would yield 51.25 per cent of lime (Ca O). While, as has been stated, this would be a non-magnesian lime, it may be remembered that the St. Louis and other Missouri limes, which enjoy a large trade, are of this character. Analyses of several of these are given below.³⁸

	I.	II.	III.	IV.
Carbonate of lime.....	99.815	92.75	97.76	98.80
Magnesia	Tr.	3.26	.12	.02
Oxide of magnesia.....	Tr.	.....	.....	.....
Alumina .....	.054	.48	.....	.....
Oxide of iron.....	.011	.40	.20 }	.40
Silice and insol.....	.12	.495	.26 }	.08
Phosphoric acid	None.	.....	.....	.....
Sulphuric acid	Tr.	.....	.....	.....
Calcium sulphate .....	.....	Tr.	.....	.....
Water .....	.....	.675	.....	.....
Alkalis and loss.....	.....	1.94	.....	.....
Total	100.00	100.00	98.34	99.30

- I. Ash Grove white lime.
- II. Champion white limestone, Ash Grove, Mo.
- III. Limestone from St. Louis County.
- IV. Limestone from Marion County, Mo.

³⁸ Minn. Res. U. S., 1889-90, pp. 406-107.

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FOREST TREES AND SHRUBS OF DECATUR COUNTY

By T. J. Fitzpatrick

Decatur County is essentially an expanse of prairie with narrow sinuous belts of timber stretched along Grand River and its tributaries. Unbroken prairie is being slowly occupied by forests. In such places the hazelnut, ground oak, laurel oak, red oak, bur oak, white oak, and the elms are slowly establishing themselves. Many of these embryo forests exist and are annually drawn upon for fencing material and firewood. While perhaps the larger number of such forests are being reduced in size or destroyed, in order to increase the area of tillable soil or of pasture, yet these forests, if carefully husbanded, would be sufficient for future needs. The older forests are confined to the main water courses and are of limited extent. Here the soft timber predominates. The white oak, hard maple and other trees of like character are too few in number to be of consequence in the manufacture of lumber. A few sawmills are located in the county and produce annually a small amount chiefly of soft lumber which is used locally.

The nomenclature of the following list of trees and shrubs is that of the sixth edition of Gray's Manual.

TILIACEÆ

Tilia americana L. Basswood, Linden or Linn. Common in river bottoms and frequent in rich uplands.

RUTACEÆ

Xanthoxylum americana Mill. Northern Prickly Ash. Frequent in woods.

CELASTRACEÆ

Celastrus scandens L. Climbing Bitter Sweet. Frequent in upland woods.

Euonymus atropurpureus Jacq. Burning-Bush. Rich woods, infrequent.

RHAMNACEÆ

Rhamnus lanceolata Pursh. Buckthorn. Common along fence rows bordering woods; frequent in thickets along highways.

Oeanthus americanus L. New Jersey Tea. Prairies and upland woods, rather rare.

C. ovatus Desf. Prairies and roadsides, common.

VITACEÆ

Vitis riparia Mx. Wild Grape. Rich woods, common.

V. cinerea Englm. Downy Grape. Waste places, rare.

Ampelopsis quinquefolia Mx. Virginian Creeper. Rich woods, frequent.

SAPINDACEÆ

Æseulus glabra Willd. Ohio or Fetid Buckeye. Rich woods, common but less so than formerly.

Acer saccharinum Wang. Hard or Sugar Maple. Frequent along Grand River but disappearing. Frequent in cultivation.

A. dasycarpum Ehrh. Soft Maple. Common in river bottoms, a frequent grove tree.

Negundo aceroides Moench. Box-Elder. Rich woods, common. Frequent in cultivation.

ANACARDIACEÆ

Rhus glabra L. Smooth Sumach. Upland open woods, common.

R. toxicodendron L. Poison Ivy. Fence rows, woods: frequent.

LEGUMINOSÆ

Amorpha canescens Nutt. Lead-Plant. Prairies and open woods, common.

A. fruticosa L. False Indigo. Rich soil in sloughs and low places, common.

Robinia pseudacacia L. Common Locust. A frequent tree along roadsides and in waste places.

Cercis canadensis L. Red-bud. Wooded bluffs. Frequent along Grand River below Woodmansee bridge.

Gymnocladus canadensis Lam. Kentucky Coffee-tree. A few in low woods below Woodmansee bridge.

Gleditsia triacanthos L. Honey-Locust. River bottoms and rich uplands, frequent.

ROSACEÆ

Prunus americana Marsh. Wild Plum. Upland woods, common.

P. serotina Ehrh. Wild Black Cherry. Upland woods, frequent.

P. virginiana L. Choke-cherry. Rich woods, common.

Physocarpus opulifolius Max. Nine-bark. Rocky banks; infrequent.

Rubus occidentalis L. Raspberry. Fence rows, thickets, not common.

R. villosus Ait. Blackberry. Uplands, not common.

Rosa arkansana Porter. Common Wild Rose. Prairies, common. Determined by Mo. Bot. Gar.

Pyrus coronaria L. Crab-Apple. Thickets, common.

P. malus L. Apple. A frequent escape into fields and waste places.

Cratægus coccinea L. Red Hawthorn. Thickets, common.

C. tomentosa L. Scarlet Thorn. Thickets, frequent.

C. crus-galli L. Cockspur Thorn. Thickets, common.

Amelanchier canadensis T. & G. Service-berry. Wooded bluffs, frequent.

SAXIFRAGACEÆ

Ribes gracile Mx. Missouri Gooseberry. Open low woods, frequent.

CORNACEÆ

Cornus sericea L. Silky Cornel. Rich soil, frequent. This and the following were determined by the Mo. Bot. Gar.

C. paniculata L'Her. Paniced Cornel. Waysides, thickets, frequent.

CAPRIFOLIACEÆ

Sambucus canadensis L. Elder. Rich soil, frequent.

Symphoricarpos vulgaris Mx. Coral-berry. Rich open woods, common.

RUBIACEÆ

Cephalanthus occidentalis L. Button-bush. Swampy soil, frequent.

OLEACEÆ

Fraxinus viridis Mx. Green Ash. A frequent tree in low or rich upland woods. Determined by the Mo. Bot. Gar.

F. americana L. This species is undoubtedly present but has not been observed.

BIGNONIACEÆ

Catalpa speciosa Warder. Catalpa. A frequent tree in cultivation, rarely an escape.

URTICACEÆ

Ulmus fulva Mx. Red or Slippery Elm. Rich woods, frequent.

U. americana L. White Elm. Rich woods, common.

Celtis occidentalis L. Hackberry. Low woods, frequent.

Maclura aurantiaca Nutt. Osage Orange. Formerly cultivated for hedge fences, frequently spontaneous.

Morus rubra L. Red Mulberry. Wooded bluffs and low woods, frequent.

PLATANACEÆ

Platanus occidentalis L. Sycamore, Buttonwood. An infrequent tree along Grand River and its tributaries.

JUGLANDACEÆ

Juglans nigra L. Black Walnut. Rich woods, frequent.

Carya alba Nutt. White Hickory. Upland woods, common.

C. sulcata Nutt. Shell-bark Hickory. Low woods along Grand River, once frequent but disappearing.

C. amara Nutt. Bitter-nut or Pignut Hickory. Rich woods, common.

CUPULIFERÆ

Corylus americana Walt. Hazelnut. Uplands, common.

Ostrya virginica Willd. Ironwood, Hop-hornbeam. Wooded bluffs, frequent.

Carpinus caroliniana Walt. Ironwood, American Hornbeam. Wooded bluffs, frequent.

Quercus alba L. White Oak. Uplands, frequent.

Q. macrocarpa Mx. Bur Oak. A large tree in rich woods, shrubby on the prairies; common.

Q. bicolor Willd. Swamp White Oak. Bottom woods, common near Woodmansee bridge and elsewhere.

Q. muhlenbergii Englm. Chestnut Oak. Upland woods, infrequent.

Q. prinoides Willd. Ground Oak. Uplands, common.

Q. rubra L. Red Oak. Upland woods, frequent.

Q. coccinea Wang. Scarlet Oak. Upland woods, common.

Q. palustris Du Roi. Pin Oak. Low woods, frequent.

Q. imbricaria Mx. Laurel Oak, Shingle Oak. Upland woods, common.

Q. nigra L. Black Jack or Barren Oak. Uplands, frequent.

SALICACEÆ

Populus tremuloides Mx. Quaking Asp. Upland woods.

P. monilifera Ait. Cottonwood. Low woods, frequent.

P. alba L. White Poplar. A cultivated variety of this is becoming a frequent escape.

Salix humilis Marsh. Prairie Willow. Prairies, common. Determined by the Mo. Bot. Gar.



