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1968

HAGEMAN, *Lucille*

PARTIAL ENCYCLOPEDIA
OF WAVERLY. 2nd ed.



HISTORY OF



1836
1968

ILLINOIS

PARTIAL

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WAVERLY

Second Edition (Revised)

1968

SESQUICENTENNIAL YEAR

OF THE

STATE OF ILLINOIS



Compiled and arranged by Lucille Hageman, M.A.

Edited by Mrs. Allen Burns, M.A.

Typed by Arnolda N. Duewer

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FOREWORD

In an effort to preserve data of Waverly, this material has been assembled. During 1968 many interesting facts and stories have been added to the previous history. In our study there have been many leads which we have been unable to follow, for lack of time, and we sincerely hope that from time to time in the future more information will be added to this revision.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Librarians of Illinois College, Waverly Carnegie Library, Waverly High School Library and the State Historian of Springfield.

We are grateful to Bruce Twenhafel and Connie Potts, chairmen and members of the Senior and Junior classes for their reports on sports in Waverly through the years. To those who furnished letters, newspaper clippings and historic records from personal files, many thanks.

To each and every person who contributed so graciously to this book, the response we received was more enthusiastic than we had anticipated, a very appreciative thank you.

Waverly can justly be proud of her citizens.

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Waverly Pioneers

Across the sweeping prairie land
Came the early pioneers,
The land was rich with promise
As they thought of future years.

Men of vision, men of courage
Saw a city on the plain
To them it would be Waverly
A homeland rich to gain.

From east to west, high-minded men
With will to undertake.
With labor built and tilled the soil
A prairie home to make.

They planted many lovely trees
Which have been the city's pride,
Broad reaching fields of golden grain
Stretch out from every side.

A homeland built with loving hands
With strength, with pride, with care,
And all who call it home today
Are glad its joys to share.

Mrs. N. E. Baldwin
1957

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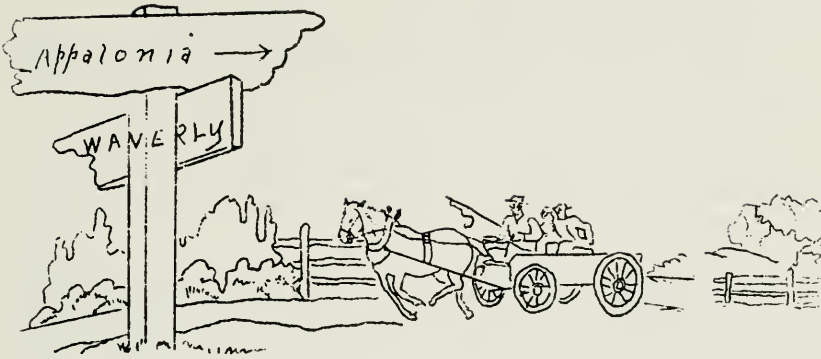
The Illinois story, written by our state historian, Harry E. Pratt, is exciting and inspiring. Geographically, Illinois is located at the heart of the great interior river system of the continent — a level land of large fertile prairie and numerous groves. One author has called it the second “Garden of Eden”, because of the richness of its natural resources and its abundance and variety of products.

Automatically it became well known in early history, because explorers, adventurers, and settlers, in turn passed this way.

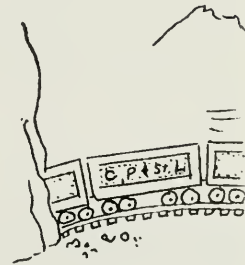
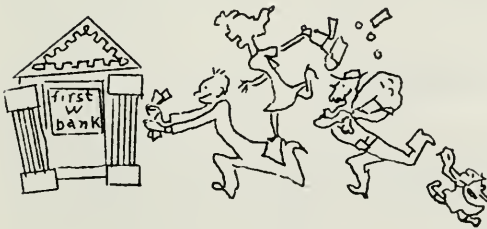
An act of Congress, April 18, 1818, was passed enabling the people of the territory to form a state convention for the purpose of drafting a constitution. The convention was held in Madison County which included Morgan County. Benjamin Stephenson, Joseph Borrough, and Abraham Prickett were members of the convention. The constitution was adopted August 26, 1818, in convention at Kaskaskia. December 3, 1818, Congress passed a law, declaring admission of Illinois into the Union. Thus Illinois became the 21st state in the Union, July 4, 1819.

Many small settlements had been made along the streams and protected areas during the years 1820-21-22; and at the session of the Legislature in the Spring of 1823, Morgan County was created. The county was named for General Daniel Morgan. In 1837 it was the most populous county in the state.

The county seat was selected by a committee of men appointed by the State Legislature. After several changes, it finally was permanently located in Jacksonville.



EARLY SETTLEMENT OF WAVERLY



EARLY SETTLEMENT OF WAVERLY

The "Range", a log cabin of three or four rooms, a half dozen rude cabins scattered near, and a mill — this was Waverly in 1835.

It was on Monday, April 20, 1835, that Deacon Tanner and his family reached this, their destination, having been exactly three weeks on the journey from Warren, Connecticut.

The log cabin was built just west of what is now called West Waverly on the old road to Appalonia. Humble though it was, that log house was known for its God-like spirit, and it became a haven of rest and a stronghold of courage.

The coming of this sturdy New England family had a wide influence not only on the future of this community but on this part of the Central West as well. During that first year, each Sunday Deacon Tanner called together the scattered families of the prairie and conducted religious services in his own log cabin, which one of his daughters had called the Range.

It was Dr. J. M. Sturtevant who first saw the spot where Waverly now stands, in April 1830. He thought the location pleasant and favorable for a town. It was probably due to his influence that the sturdy New England families, now on their western trek, chose this beautiful spot in which to make their homes. What hardships were encountered, what determination it took to lay the foundation of a new life in Central Illinois between the years 1830 and 1840, the men of the present day can have little conception.

Waverly has many tender thoughts for those early families and is proud of her rich heritage.

APPALONIA

Prior to 1836, a village plot under the name of Appalonia had been surveyed and some attempts to found a town had been made. Several cabins, a blacksmith shop, and a post office has been established. A Methodist Church was subsequently erected. Although vigorous efforts were made to build up a prosperous town, the attempt was unavailing by reason of the location of Waverly in 1836, only two miles away. The post office, however, was retained until 1847; then it was removed to Waverly on account of a change in the stage route for passengers and mail. William Deatherage was the first postmaster.

Appalonia received its name from Apple Creek, near which it was situated.

WAVERLY

"Waverly was laid off May 18, 1836, by C. J. Salter, with James D. B. Salter, Alexander C. Twinning and J. A. Tanner. They appropriated one section (640 acres) for the educational interest of the town. A school building, with a boarding house was erected. Waverly is the second town in size in the County. It is situated in a most beautiful farming country, has many fine public and private residences, and is inhabited by a moral and industrious people."

THE EARLY GROWTH OF WAVERLY

The founding of Waverly is one of the results of the coming of several young men from Yale University, known as the "Yale Band," who established Illinois College at Jacksonville, the first college in Illinois. In 1835 Richard Yates and J. E. Spillman received the first college degrees conferred in Illinois. One of their acquaintances, Cleveland J. Salter, a young businessman of New Haven, became imbued with the same spirit and made a tour West in 1834, visiting Jacksonville. Upon the advice of his friends he purchased 5,000 acres of land in the southeastern part of Morgan County, having as associates his brother, James D. B. Salter, Alexander C. Twinning and Joseph A. Tanner, and they planned to build a town with a theological seminary as the centralizing force. Before the close of the year 1835 a brick seminary was erected and a boarding house built. The seminary was located just north of the present Congregational Church, and the boarding house on the southeast corner of the square, being occupied today as the residence of the Mr. Charles Dikis family. Mrs. Margaret Rodgers grandmother of Mrs. Dikis, in the early day operated the only public weighing scales. Early in 1836, the town having been platted, town lots were offered for sale. Mr. Salter and his associates were very busy, building their schools, selling lots in Waverly, and making a home for themselves. The money panic of 1837 seems not to have caused trouble, as the area was largely self-sustaining and news scarce, so life in Illinois moved calmly on.

For many years the seminary thrived and was known as one of the foremost educational institutions of the state, to which students came from great distances. Though successful for a time, the venerable institution could not withstand the competition of Illinois College which being located on a railroad, outstripped its younger rival.

With the closing of the seminary, Waverly was fated to a place of isolation and no importance, unless the great dreams of the young town were realized — the securing of a railroad. To this end the citizens put forth increased effort, their labors being crowned with success on that memorable day early in December, 1870, when the first train steamed into Waverly on the Jacksonville, Northwestern and Southeastern Railroad. Ten years later a second railroad, connecting the town with Springfield, was constructed, and Waverly's continued development was assured.

The story of the early days of Waverly reads like a novel, so interesting was the life of the people. In keeping with this romantic period, the town was named after Sir Walter Scott's famous Waverley novels, the name having been given by James D. B. Salter, who at that time was a young man in school and a great admirer of Scott. Life centered in those days at the Log Range (a name which had degenerated from "LaGrange") and Cook & Eastman's flour and saw mill, those two place of renown being located on the southwest border of the present confines of the city. The post office was known as Apple Creek.

The first store keepers were Carter & Starr, "Billy Rhodes and James Parkinson." In 1846, John S. Crain opened a store, and within the next few years others were opened. The first bank was established in 1870 by Crain, Manson & Company.

April 16, 1878, Waverly, which had heretofore been an incorporated village, began its existence as a city with Henry M. Miller as the first mayor.

The first newspaper was the Waverly Gazette, established June 24, 1869, by Miles J. Abbott and W. D. Pemberton.

The following are a few of Waverly's first and most prominent early settlers:

Professor Edward A. Tanner, A.M., was a native of Waverly, Illinois. He was the youngest child of Joseph A. and Ora Tanner, who were old settlers in Morgan County, though formerly from Warren, Conn. The ancestors of the family were English. They moved to Morgan County about 1834, and located on a farm.

Professor Tanner entered Illinois College at the age of fifteen, and graduated therefrom in 1857, receiving the degree of A.B. After finishing his collegiate course, he taught in the public schools of Waverly and Jacksonville for a period of three years. He was then called to the professorship of Latin in Pacific University, Oregon, and filled that position for four years. In the meantime, having studied theology, he was licensed to preach by the Congregational Association of Oregon in 1864.

In 1865 he was appointed Professor of Latin in Illinois College, and he officiated four years as chaplain of the Insane Asylum at Jacksonville. As an eminent educator, Prof. Tanner held front rank in the state, being a scholar of fine classical culture and solid erudition. He was married June 27, 1861, to Miss Marion L. Brown, daughter of Dr. I. H. Brown, of Waverly. Her parents were formerly from Connecticut. Prof. and Mrs. Tanner had a family of four children. In politics, the Professor was a Republican.

Honorable Newton C. Cloud was born in Stokes County, North Carolina, November 29, 1804. He removed, with his parents, to Logan (now called Simpson) County, Kentucky, where he remained until the fall of 1828, when he came to Morgan County, and settled on the farm. He was married, February 15, 1825, to Miss Elizabeth C. Wood, of Warren County, Kentucky. They had nine children. Mr. Cloud became a local Methodist preacher in 1827, and was among the pioneer clergymen who first preached in Morgan County. He had an active experience of forty-five years as a preacher, and a full record as a statesman. He was first elected to the legislature in 1830, and was re-elected for sixteen subsequent sessions, serving in both branches and making for himself a noble political record of thirty-four years. He was canal commissioner for a term of two years, and also a delegate to revise the State Constitution in 1847, over which body he was called to preside. He was speaker of the house during one session. His political record was brilliant, reflecting credit upon his constituents as well as himself. He acted fearlessly and honestly for justice and right, regardless of the fear or favor of men. He died in 1877 and is buried in Rogers Cemetery southwest of Waverly.

The book, "Old Settlers of Morgan County 1872", page 62, relates the following interesting life history of:

Henry M. Miller, the only son of Ebenezer Miller, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, January 23, 1826. He came to Morgan County with his father in the fall of 1840. His father was well known, for years, to most of the citizens of the county on account of his prominent position, which he in early life assumed, as an opponent of slavery. His wife, Pernelia, was a daughter of Joseph H. Hopkins of Litchfield.

Mr. Miller was among the prominent fruit growers of the county, and conspicuous in the nursery business, especially in the growing of Osage hedge plants. He had, for the spring trade of 1873, over 3,000,000 plants. He introduced the first plants into this part of the country, and with Professor Tanner, was one of the important pioneers in this new form of fencing. "Mr. Miller was highly esteemed for his upright business habits, honesty in his dealings, and for his many virtues as a Christian and citizen."

THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAVERLY, ILLINOIS

Revised and arranged by Richard Yates, Attorney at Law

Published by authority of the city council.

Viriden, Ills.

Record Book and Job Press — 1888

A N O R D I N A N C E

PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAVERLY.

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Waverly . . .

Section 1. That the ordinances governing said city including the ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance in Revision and Consolidation of the General Ordinance of the City of Waverly," Passed on the 12th day of October, A.D. 1888, and approved November 13th, A.D. 1888, as revised and published in book form, to be styled, "The Revised Ordinances of the City of Waverly."

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage.

Approved November 13th, A.D. 1888.

F. H. Wemple, Mayor

STATE OF ILLINOIS
City of Waverly, Morgan County,

I, Gelman Ford, City Clerk of the City of Waverly, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of an ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance in Revision and Consolidation of the General Ordinances of the City of Waverly", passed by the City Council of said city, on the 13th day of November, A.D. 1888.

I further certify that the original ordinance, of which the foregoing is a certified copy, is by law intrusted to my custody for safe keeping, and is on file in my office.

Witness my hand and the corporate seal of said city, this 13th day of November, A.D. 1888.

(seal)

Gilman Ford, City Clerk

CHAPTER I

A D D I T I O N S

Section 1. Any addition which may be made to the City of Waverly, or any lands within the same which may be surveyed and laid out into lots and blocks, shall be so laid out, surveyed and platted, as that the blocks or other subdivisions thereof shall conform to the regular blocks of the addition or additions adjoining which proposed addition or subdivision, and the streets and alleys shall correspond with, and conform to, the previously established streets and alleys with which they may connect, and shall continue the same.

Section 2. Any owner or agent of real estate, who may wish to lay out any addition or subdivision of lands, within said city, shall submit his map or plat of such proposed addition or sub-division to the City Council, and obtain their approval of the same, which approval shall be certified thereon by the city clerk, before selling or offering for sale any lot or block in such proposed addition or sub-division, under a penalty of one hundred dollars, and a further penalty of fifty dollars for each lot, or part thereof, so sold by him, contrary to the provisions of this section.

CHAPTER II

Animals

A R T I C L E I

animals — impounding and sale of

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any pig, hog, bull, steer, cow, heifer, calf, goat, jennet, horse, mare, or colt to be found herded, picketed or depastured or otherwise going or running at large on any street, alley, unenclosed highway, park, or other public or private property within the corporate limits of the city of Waverly, and every animal so found is hereby declared a nuisance.

Section 4. It is hereby made the duty of the City Marshal and all police officers of said city, to take up and confine in a secure pen, pound, or other place provided for that purpose any and every animal running at large in violation of the preceding section.

Section 5. Any adult person inconvenienced or injured, or who may be in danger of being injured, either in his person or property, by reason of the unlawful running at large in the city of any animal herein before mentioned, may (but without compensation) take and drive such animal to the city pound, and it shall be the duty of the pound keeper to receive and impound the same.

Section 415. Speed Limits: No person shall ride or drive, or cause to be ridden or driven, any horse or other animal, or drive or propel, or cause to be driven or propelled, any cab, carriage, wagon or other animal-drawn vehicle upon any street or public way in the city at a greater speed than at the rate of ten miles per hour under penalty of not less than Five Dollars nor more than Fifty Dollars for each offense.

Section 421. Auction of Animals: No person shall show or expose for

sale at auction, any horse or other animal in any public way in the City, under a penalty of not more than Five Dollars for every offense.

Section 425. Exhibition of Dangerous Animals: No person shall permit any bear or other dangerous animal to run at large, nor lead any such animal with a chain or rope, or other appliance, whether such animal be muzzled or unmuzzled, in any street, avenue, lane, highway or public place within the City, under a penalty of not more than Ten Dollars for each offense.

Section 430. Flipping Cars or Vehicles: No minor under the age of eighteen years shall climb, onto or cling to, or in any way attach himself or herself to any vehicle or any railroad locomotive or automobile or car of any kind while the same is in motion, under a penalty of not less than Two Dollars nor more than Ten Dollars for each offense.

Section 451. Possession of Burglar's Tools: It shall be unlawful for any person to have in his possession any nippers of the description known as burglar's nippers, pick lock, skeleton key, key to be used with a bit or bits, jimmy, or other burglar's instrument or tool of whatsoever kind or description, unless it to be shown that such possession is innocent or for a lawful purpose, under a penalty of not less than Fifty Dollars nor more than One Hundred Dollars for each offense.

Section 452. Loafing: No person shall obstruct or encumber any street corner or other public place in the City by lounging in or about the same after being requested to move on by any police officer; any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than Five Dollars nor more than Fifty Dollars for each offense.

Section 458. Killing Birds: No person shall kill or wound, or attempt to kill or wound, by the use of fire arms, sling shot, bow and arrow, or other weapons, any bird within the City limits; and any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than Five Dollars nor more than Twenty-five Dollars for each offense.

Section 460. Orange Peel, etc., on Sidewalk: No person shall throw, cast, lay or place on any sidewalk in the City the rind or peel of any orange, banana, apple or other fruit, under a penalty of not less than Two Dollars nor more than Twenty Dollars for each offense.

Section 473. Lottery Tickets: No person shall vend, give away or otherwise dispose of any lottery tickets.

Section 476. Sale and Use of Explosives: That no person shall sell or offer for sale, within the City limits of the City of Waverly, any dynamite caps, giant crackers, blank cartridges or toy cannons.

Section 477. Selling Goods on Sunday: Whoever keeps open any place of business for the purpose of vending goods, wares or merchandise on Sunday (except in case of necessity or charity, and except in the case of drug stores, which may be kept open for sole purpose of filling medical prescriptions and selling medicines) shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than Twenty-five Dollars nor more than Two Hundred Dollars for every offense.

That no person shall keep or run any shooting gallery or place for target shooting in the City of Waverly, and any person so offending shall be fined not less than Five Dollars nor more than Fifty Dollars for each offense.

No person, upon turning the corner of any street or crossing the intersection of any street in the City, shall ride or drive any horse or other animal with greater speed than at the rate of 4 miles per hour, under a penalty of not more than Ten Dollars for each offense.

No person shall spit upon any public sidewalk or upon the floor of any public conveyance, or upon the floor of any theater, assembly room, or public building, under penalty of not less than One Dollar nor more than Five Dollars for each offense.

Catalog of City Officers of the City of Waverly

April 1891 to April 1916

The following is a catalog of officers of the City of Waverly, Illinois, by year, beginning with those elected on the third Tuesday in April, 1891. On Christmas Eve, 1891, a fire occurred which destroyed all the buildings on the west side of the square as far north as the Crain building, and at that time the City records were destroyed.

At the election held on the third Tuesday in April, 1891, the following ticket was elected:

Mayor Edward Wemple	City Attorney F. H. Hanley
City Clerk F. S. Dennis	Treasurer C. A. Root

Aldermen

First Ward J. M. Joy and William Wright
Second Ward I. H. Coe and W. A. Jones
Third Ward William Zoll and Robert Bowyer

Shortly after this election, W. A. Jones, William Zoll, Robert Bowyer and William Wright resigned. At a special election held to fill the vacancies so created, the following were elected: C. Romang, J. R. Chamber, Wiley Todd, and D. C. Calhoun.

(Get the remainder on Page 8 — The Waverly Code 1916, Chapter 1, Page 7-12, Waverly Carnegie Library.)

From: ATLAS MAP OF MORGAN COUNTY 1872

Census of 1870 — Waverly Township

Population — 2464	Number of sheep — 1,672
Number of dwellings — 470	Number of swine — 4,726
Number of farms — 267	Bushels of wheat — 32,718
Acres improved — 33,573	Bushels of corn — 299,670
Number of horses — 1,266	Bushels of rye — 349
Number of mules — 644	Bushels of oats — 22,076
Number of voters — 560	
Population (census) of 1910 — 1,538	

ELECTIONS

Jacksonville Courier "News, Views, Century Ago."
April 14, 1968

"The municipal election at Waverly on Monday resulted in Democratic triumph. The Democrats elected a majority of the town trustees, as follows: W. W. Deatherage, S. S. Agard, J. P. Stice, J. B. Cooper. The radicals elected Robert McKee."

Waverly Journal, November 21, 1947 (Waverly Journal, April 18, 1878)

The Journal in 1878 was called Morgan Journal, published by Milton M. Meacham, father of Elmer Meacham. Judging from the amount of space given to it, the principal topic of interest in this and other central Illinois communities at that time was the temperance question. There were reports from Waverly and elsewhere about the temperance movement. Apparently, the nominating of candidates on Republican and Democratic tickets for the local city elections was not in vogue then as it is now, for the result of the caucus nominating candidate on the Temperance ticket was published, the list of candidates nominated being as follows:

Mayor — Ancil R. Dennis

Aldermen — H. M. Miller, N. J. Stratton, A. L. Kimber, R. L. Carter, E. Kent, F. H. Wemple

City Clerk — John H. Goldsmith

City Treasurer — William W. Hutchinson

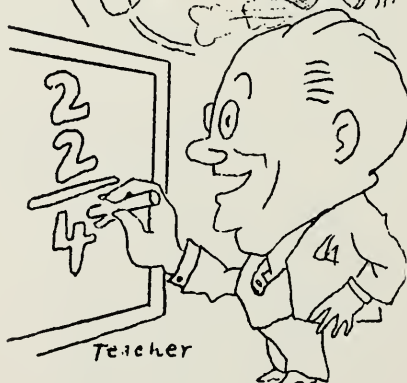
City Attorney — C. F. Meacham

Quoting Editor Meacham, "This was a good ticket and deserved the support of the voters."



OUR MANY

"FIRSTS"



OUR MANY "FIRSTS"

The first settler in this part of the county was Milton Shurtleff, who located on Section 11, about 1822. Among the other early settlers were John Hunt, James Lowden, Michael Miller, Jacob Beach, Rev. Isaac Conlee, Joseph Thomas, Nicholas Russell, Fleming C. Moupin, John Turner, Joseph Wise, and Jacob Caruthers.

The first marriage here was that of Mr. Christopher Columbus Ashbaugh to Miss Elizabeth Thomas. He was the grandfather of Mr. Fred Ashbaugh.

Into the Tanner family was born on November 29th, 1837, a son, Edward Allen Tanner, the first child who could claim nativity in the new frontier town of Waverly. Left fatherless at six months, this boy was to develop through years of struggle against hardship and dangers of a pioneer life. To a saintly mother, this son of pioneer parents looked for guidance. Perhaps it was her tenderness through the years that made the man what he was: sensitive, sound, fearless, and God-fearing.

Young Edward Tanner received his early education at the seminary in Waverly and at the age of thirteen entered the preparatory department of Illinois College at Jacksonville. After he finished school, he taught for some years "board around."

Rev. William Rogers preached the first sermon here, at the home of Rev. Isaac Conlee. He was a Baptist clergyman and was well known in this community.

The first school in this neighborhood was taught by John Scott. It was, like all other schools of the day, paid by subscription; the compensation was peltry and bees-wax, the currency of that period.

The first death was that of Henry, son of John Hunt, in 1827.

Elisha Filley resided in the southeastern part of Waverly; he was a carpenter by trade and built the first house in town.

The first Justice of the Peace was Thomas P. Ross.

The first Constable was Jacob Talkington.

First shipment of livestock over the new railroad was made from Waverly on Monday morning, December 8, 1870, by Mr. M. S. Kennedy. It consisted of about one hundred head of fine cattle.

City Mail Delivery established in Waverly in 1919.

June 20, 1922 — Mr. H. E. Funk of West State Street was the owner of the first radio. "Mr. Funk believed that what is worth doing at all is worth doing well." He installed in his home the best type of receiving set, with two stages of amplification, and Magnavox amplifying horn; and with the assistance of T. S. Harris, he was prepared to take care of the radio trade in Waverly.

The Waverly Journal of October 7, 1966, published an article stating Toastmasters International's wish to place an appropriate marker in Waverly in recognition of Mr. Ralph C. Smedley, founder of the organization. The son of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. (Doc) Smedley, he was born February 22, 1877, in the home now occupied by Miss Mattie Deatherage. The club organized in Santa Ana, California. Purpose: to teach and practice public speaking. Today there are 3600 clubs in 50 nations and territories. The marker is located near the northwest corner of Salter Park.

In June, 1968, three Toastmaster's Clubs and two Toastmistress' Clubs of Springfield, enjoyed a picnic dinner in Salter Park and conducted their business session at the monument to Dr. Smedley. District officers from Illinois and Missouri were in attendance. The district governor Adam Bock said district activities in the future will be held in Waverly.

Only isolated items have been placed in this chapter. Other "Firsts" have been included in the Chapters to which they were related.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

Memorial Day

In pursuance of a proclamation issued by the Governor calling upon the people of this State to observe the 30th day of May as Memorial Day, therefore

I, John F. Rice, mayor of the city of Waverly, do hereby request the people of this city to close their respective places of business between the hours of 1 o'clock and 5 o'clock p.m. of that day, and assist in the ceremonies to be observed in East Cemetery in honor of the dead heroes therein buried.

Given under my hand this 22nd day of May,
A.D. 1883.

John F. Rice, Mayor

MEMORIAL DAY

Program of Exercises

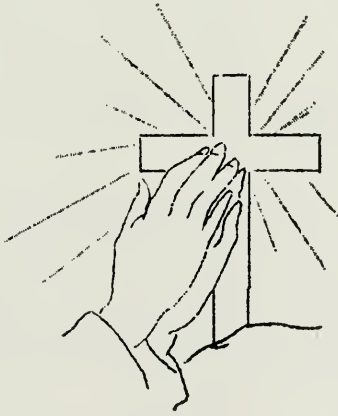
Assembly call in the Park at 1 o'clock, by Martial Band.
Forming of Procession, and music by Cornet Band.

AT THE CEMETERY

Music by Cornet Band.
Singing by Glee Club.
Prayer by Rev. W. A. Hobbs.
Oration, by Rev. G. E. Scrimger.
Singing by Glee Club.
Speech.
Music by Cornet Band.
Extemporaneous Speeches by Old Soldiers.
Singing by Glee Club.
Permanent Secretary's Report.
Report of Standing Committee.
Appointments for ensuing year.
Prayer, by Rev. J. K. Miller.
Decorating graves, and music by the Martial Band.
Military Salute, by Old Soldiers.
Music by Cornet Band.



OUR FOUNDERS



FAITH

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

This account tells of the organization and some history of the "Head of Apple Creek Church"; also of the part "Elder Isaac Conlee" had in the church, and some of his early life.

Isaac Conlee was born in Green County, Tenn., May 7, 1795, and he moved with his parents to Barren County, Ky., in 1801. He married Sarah McDonald in 1814, and in 1816 they with several other pioneer families settled ten miles south of Edwardsville, Illinois. In 1824 Isaac and family came to Morgan County and settled four miles south of the present site of Waverly, Illinois.

Isaac and his father, John Conlee, were both ordained ministers of the Primitive Baptist Church. Elder Isaac Conlee was one of the organizers of the Primitive Baptist Church in 1828, called "Head of Apple Creek," which is now located in Waverly, Illinois. Its first location was near Rohrer Station, 1828. A log building was first used in the edge of the timber with only trails by it. It is supposed the "Conlee Cemetery" was started near this old church, as many tomb stones have dates in the 1830's.

In 1832, after roads were laid out, a frame building was built about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north east of the log church, on the west side of the road on the James P. Stice farm 3 and $\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Waverly. A well on the east side of the road is all that marks that site.

The present building in Waverly was bought, remodeled, and dedicated in 1912, and the former building was sold. Services have been held continuously since the first organization.

Elder Isaac Conlee covered a large area in his preaching activities, churches being 20 to 30 or 40 miles apart, going horseback, for which he received no compensation. His support was derived mostly from tilling the soil, and earlier from mills. He built the first horse mill in the spring of 1829, another in 1837 in which business he was engaged until 1846. Elder Conlee lived many years in the north part of Waverly, having continued as a minister of the gospel for more than fifty years, quitting only when his health failed. He died July 19, 1879, and he and many of his descendants are buried in the Conlee cemetery.

Many other ministers have been pastors of this church down through the years. Elder John A. Conlee, a resident of Waverly and a grandson of Isaac Conlee, was pastor for many years; also Elder I. E. Sutton of Girard, Ill., and Elder Baxter Hale, Carlinville, Illinois, all deceased. More recently, Elder J. Bryan Adair of Atlanta, Mo., was pastor for 14 years. Elder James Harris of Palmyra, Illinois, is the present pastor.

Most of the present members live a distance from the church, but they attend services regularly on Saturday at 3 P.M. and 7 P.M. before the third Sunday of each month and at 10:30 on Sunday.

Dated March 1, 1968

Mrs. John M. Anderson

Great Granddaughter of Isaac Conlee

HISTORY OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAVERLY, ILLINOIS

The town of Waverly was first settled in 1835 and the church one year later, on June 15th, 1836.

The history of the Congregational Church really starts at the time of C. J. Salter's purchasing 5,000 acres in this part of Illinois.

Deacon Joseph Tanner, an agent for a business company headed by the Salters, arrived with a small band of settlers, and settled at the head of Apple Creek, west of the southwest border of the present town, on Monday, April 20, 1835. It took them just three weeks to come from Warren, Connecticut. They lived in a log cabin, which one of his daughters named the "Range." The cabin was built in 1829 by Mr. Shurtleff, who decided the weather was too cold and so went back where he came from.

The first Sunday after their arrival, April 26, 1835, he held a religious service in his home for the families that were scattered across the prairies.

A year later on June 15, 1836, Dr. J. M. Sturtevant helped organize the Waverly church. At that time there were only eight adults to become members. They were: Joseph Tanner, Mrs. Lucy Tanner, Theodore E. Curtiss, Miss Huldah Lucinda Tanner, Miss Lucy Swift, Miss Susan Eliza Tanner, Cyrus Tanner, and Mrs. Orra Tanner. Deacon C. J. Salter was out of town at the time, and was not present to become a charter member. However, he returned to Waverly and became a very influential leader in the church and community for over forty years. At this time the members voted to call it the "Church of Christ"; shortly after it was changed to the Congregational Church.

The first church services were held in the seminary from 1836 to 1851. The school was built in 1835 and stood north of the present Congregational Church. The school was to be a preparatory school for the college in Jacksonville. That dream never came true, but it was well organized and had good teachers. The settlers built a brickyard and made the bricks for the school and C. J. Salter's country home, which was the first brick home in Waverly. It is the present home of William Neuman.

In 1847 the plans were made for a building for church services. The site was the one where the church is now. The men of the congregation worked for over three years to build the church. They established a saw mill south of town, where there was plenty of timber to be had. The stones were brought by wagon from a quarry nine miles away. The contract for the labor was given in 1848 to Chauncey Root. Homer Curtiss, C. J. Salter, and George Carter were on the building committee. Most of the timbers were made by hand and put together with large frame bents. It is said that there is half a millstone from the old grist mill that stood southwest of town, in the foundation. The cornerstone was the hearthstone from the Joseph Tanner home. It cost \$2,260 to build, not counting the lot it is on. There was no prayer meeting room, nor outside vestibule in the original building. A gallery extended across the south end, and the vestibule was within the church under that.

On February 4, 1851, a new pastor, Rev. James Weller, was ordained, and at that time the building was also dedicated. Many ministers and delegates came from far and near to be present at this time.

A cabinet organ was bought in January, 1866, and was put over the front entrance in the gallery. The choir also sat up there.

In 1875, Rev. C. W. Clapp was pastor, and a pipe organ was bought in Boston, Massachusetts, for \$1,000. It was also put in the south end of the church. The organ is still in use, though it is now converted to electricity.

In 1879 to 1881, Rev. C. C. Salter was the pastor, and the church was remodeled. They removed the gallery and put the organ where it is today,

behind the pulpit. A vestibule was built on the front, and west of the prayer meeting room in the rear, they built a library. They had a library of several hundred good books for the use of the public. Years later, this collection was the start of a public library, which later became our present library.

The old parsonage was sold in 1882 for \$900, and they built a new one for \$3,000.

The church was again remodeled in 1925 with new floors, carpets, and heavy oak pews installed. They also put in new lighting, and a Sunday School room was made from the auditorium on each side of the pulpit. This made the main part a little smaller. While the work was going on, the services were held in the Episcopal Church for some weeks. The old Episcopal Church is now the Lutheran Church. Dr. F. S. Tincher was the pastor at the time, and the church was rededicated Sunday, May 2, 1926. He conducted a campaign which resulted in enough money to pay the whole cost of the repairs.

There is no record available of the musical service during worship, though in 1847, M. M. Peet was "empowered to control and regulate his school for singing in said building and to keep order in same during the nights of singing." The singing school was sponsored by the members of the church.

Organ music is a joyous part of worship service. Among the faithful organists during the past 30 years are: Miss Shirley Mader (Mrs. Wm. Lynch), Mr. Herbert Miller, Mrs. Roy Fairbanks, and Mrs. Ruth Wilson. We appreciate the guest organists also. During a number of years, Mrs. Wilson M. Smith organized and directed a teen vesper choir which enriched our services. We are happy to have Mrs. John Woods, our present organist.

The members of the Church have enjoyed new hymnals, individually purchased, and the reconditioned organ.

In 1968 the auditorium was given a "New Look." The carefully planned work of the decorating committee was most rewarding. The financial response from non-residents as well as from resident members was more than satisfactory. All the expenses of the decorating were fully met. We were "pepped up" a bit.

Five years later, 1963, the Church was damaged by fire, the amount of damage being \$3,000. The insurance and donations from the members took care of the disaster, even to the laying of new carpets. However, there was one loss that could not be replaced: The painting of the church by William Horstman, in memory of his mother. It was hanging in the badly damaged vestibule.

"During this 30-year period, the Congregational Church united with the Evangelical and Reformed Church, accepting the Constitution and Official name: The United Church of Christ. The parsonage on W. Tremont Street was sold and the church was painted again "New England Village White."

The Church is mindful of and appreciative of the gifts received during these 30 years: the new Communion Cup holders and the pulpit light by the late Mrs. E. C. Everett in memory of her daughter, Gertrude; a \$1,000 check and the porch step railings by Mrs. Mary Moffet; the Bulletin Board by Mrs. Alice Everett Gould and Mrs. Floyd Dossett in memory of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Everett, Miss Addie Everett, and Mrs. Dossett's brother, Edwin Busch, who died in service in 1943.

The Church is deeply grateful for being so well remembered by the late Samuel T. Smetters: under his will dated May 10, 1961, we quote, "a bequest was made that the net income from eighty acres of farm land be paid to the First Congregational Church of Waverly, Illinois, beginning in the year 1964, and until the younger David McConnell attains the age of twenty-five, his birthday being August 12, 1949," unquote. Therefore the church will receive the income annually until August 12, 1974, from the First National Bank of Springfield, Illinois which is acting as Trustee under the terms of the will.

In 1966 the entire Church building was insulated and gas heat installed.

The Church is very conscious of the thoughtfulness and careful planning of the Official Board during these many years. We say thank you all at this time.

The closing words of Rev. Mr. Kelly in completing his historical statement of the 100th anniversary were, "There are sacred memories clustering around this Church. We cherish these memories with warm affection and constant gratitude. We recognize the guiding hand of God in our years of service. We trust in his continued favor and blessing in the years to come."

METHODIST CHURCH

The following account is a synopsis of a history compiled and read by Mrs. Leslie Kumlir at the celebration of the 100th and 50th anniversaries of the Methodist Church in Waverly, in the Fall of 1967.

Peter Cartwright came to this section of Illinois in 1824 and in 1826 became the Presiding Elder of Sangamon District (Sangamon and Morgan Counties) of the Illinois Conference.

The Apple Creek Circuit was organized September 20, 1827. Newton Cloud came to Appalonia in 1827 and preached his first sermon in the home of John Wyatt. For three years the Circuit included all preaching points in Morgan County. After September, 1830, Morgan was divided into Apple Creek and Jacksonville Circuits. Waverly was one of the points in Jacksonville Circuit.

The Waverly Church was organized about 1840 at the home of James Hutchinson. This house was known as the old "Woodmansee" house. Meetings were held there until the house became too small to accommodate the growing Society. Through the kindness of the Protestant Episcopal Church members, the Methodists held services in the new Episcopal Church erected in 1844, on the corner of Elm and Prospect Streets. Later, this site was occupied by the M. E. Church South, also remembered as the Soule Chapel.

The first Methodist Church building was erected in 1845 on the site of the present Catholic Church. It was a frame structure called the Bethel Meeting House. Waverly had been changed from a "point" on a circuit to a "station," requiring a resident pastor, about 1853, and the first parsonage was purchased.

The dedication services for the new Church took place during the morning service; in the afternoon, two funeral sermons were preached in memory of two ladies, sisters of Mr. Samuel Woods, who had died some time previously. During the funeral services the foundation of the church gave way, causing the walls to sway. This condition caused a panic among the people, and they rushed pell mell through windows and doors being held open by the men. As a result of this accident the entire service was quite

ridiculous, and many stories, and even a poem or two, have been quoted, based on the happenings of this memorable day in Waverly.

About 1865 the church building was sold to the Catholic congregation. A substantial brick church was begun on the same site as our present building, and took nearly two years to finish. The cornerstone was laid in 1866, but the dedication was not held until 1867. It was quite an occasion. People began arriving by six a.m. and services were held continuously until midnight. Sermons, singing, and thanksgiving talks filled the day.

In 1908 improvements were made to the interior of the church. It soon was apparent a larger building was needed. After two or three years of discussion, definite plans developed. At an official board meeting, early in December of 1916, it was voted to start a campaign for sufficient money to justify the beginning of the work. On Sunday, April 6, 1917, the farewell services were held, and soon the old building was torn down. During the following months regular services were held in the Crain Opera House.

The new building was ready for dedication November 25, 1917. Bishop Quayle had charge of the services. Many former pastors attended this service.

The first organ was a gift to the church. It had only one stop, which, when pulled out, threw on its full power. In 1908, when improvements were made to the interior of the church, a new Hook Hastings pipe organ was installed at a cost of \$1600. This project was sponsored by the Queen Esther Class.

September, 1960, the official board appointed a committee to investigate the repairing, rebuilding or purchasing of a new organ, either pipe or electronic. The committee decided to purchase a new organ and to remodel the Chancel. The dedication on November 24, 1963, was in the form of a recital given by the organist from the First Methodist Church of Springfield. Miss Mattie Deatherage served many years as organist, and Mrs. Wilson Smith is directing the choir for the second time and deserves much praise for her excellent work.

There are many important activities connected with the church — the Sunday School with classes for all ages, and the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

The Vacation Bible School has been a strong factor in Christian education and one of the strongest assets of the church.

There have been numerous bequests from members over the years, that have helped immeasurably in the growth of the church.

In 1938 the M. E. Church North and the M. E. Church South united under the name Methodist Church, and at a conference held at Dallas, Texas, in the spring of 1968 the Evangelical United Brethren united with the Methodist and the name was changed to the "United Methodist Church."

Many pastors have served the Waverly Church efficiently, and faithfully over the years.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Christian Church records reveal that the first meeting was held on February 10, 1849, and plans were made to erect a church. The second meeting was held May 13, 1849. An odd note about the second meeting was that Waverly was 13 years old at this time; the meeting was held on the 13th and 13 members were added to the congregation that day.

The original thirteen members were: J. M. Thrasher, Caroline R. Thrasher, M. M. Lane, Caroline Lane, William Campbell, Ruth Campbell, Silas Sims, Rachael Heaton, A. Kinkead, Amanda Sims, G. Kinkead, Dianna Ham and Mary Hanley.

The first church clerk and secretary was J. M. Thrasher. The first church meetings were held at the Methodist church and the old brick school. The rent for the use of the Methodist church was fifty cents.

A number of the members of the church died during the cholera epidemic of 1851.

In the early days of the local church, members were often 'excluded' for dancing, swearing, neglect of meeting, and drinking. The records reveal that some were 'reclaimed.'

Communion in the early days was served from two silver goblets. The Deacons filled the goblets from a silver pitcher. The church has one of the original goblets.

The first church stood on the same corner as the present church — Tremont and Brook. Robert Smith, father of the late Wilson M. Smith, purchased the first church and moved it to Prairie Street. It is now a part of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Romang. Services were held in the first church until 1891.

John Henry laid the corner stone of the present church, and the Masonic lodge took part in the ceremony. The contractors for the second church building were Wm. D. Meacham and Floyd Epling. The second church was dedicated October 25, 1881, and Rev. F. M. Rains, of Topeka, Kansas, gave the dedication address.

The basement of the second church was added during the pastorate of Rev. E. C. Lucas.

Miss Bea Harney (the late Mrs. Guy Williamson) organized the first Christian Endeavor group and also served as president of the first Missionary group.

Some of the early organized Sunday School classes were the Loyalty, Baracca, Delta Alpha, and N. G. U. The Loyal Volunteer class was organized March 23, 1923, at the home of Rev. and Mrs. James N. Thomas, with Mrs. Nora W. Challans as class president. Mrs. Dora Edwards is the present teacher of this class. This class has given much to the church through the years. Mrs. E. W. Crum was the teacher of the class for many years.

The J.O.Y. Class was organized in 1940 with Mrs. Guy W. Martin as teacher. The present teacher is Mrs. Harold J. Lowery. Among the gifts to the church from this class are the pews and the first electric organ.

One of the highlights in the history of the church was the ordination in 1901 of Miss Bea Harney. She was married the same day to Guy B. Williamson. She was present at the rededication of the church in 1959.

On May 17, 1959, during the pastorate of Rev. Robert L. Foster, the dedication of the remodeled and enlarged church was held. It was also the 110th anniversary of the church. Rev. John Elliott Foster, father of the pastor, gave the dedication address. At the morning service Rev. Robert L. Foster led the congregation in the dedication of the new chancel furniture, baptistry and a number of memorial gifts.

The building committee members for the remodeled church were: Ralph Bivin, Chairman; William Neuman; Clifford Woods; Leo Lowery;

Harold J. Lowery and Guy W. Martin. The contractors for the remodeling were Leo Lowery, Clifford Woods, H. C. Duewer, and Watson Chance. Mrs. Arlene Bernardini, of Taylorville, was the artist who painted the baptistry mural.

Other special events in the church history include the dedication of the bulletin board on May 21, 1961; a note-burning service on November 18, 1962; the dedication of the new communion service on October 2, 1966 — this was given in memory of Mrs. Ella Bradley Weedman; dedication of a candelabra and candle lighter on December 22, 1963 — this was a memorial to Mrs. Wilma Doerfler Bateman; and a special service on February 9, 1964, to honor members who had belonged to a church for 50 years or more. Ten members were honored: Mrs. Ethel Ritter Hunt, Mrs. Mabel Gates Moulton, Miss Effie Ritter, Mrs. Ada Elliott Jackson, Mrs. Grace Turner Ritter, Mrs. Mae Bridges Brown, Mrs. Lily Lyons Teaney, Miss Vena Ashbaugh, Mrs. Rebecca McIntyre and Fred Bateman.

The hymnals used at the present time were given by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bivin in memory of their daughter, Connie Lou.

There are 44 known ministers that have served the local church. The present minister, Rev. James Martin Flanagan, has been with the church since December 4, 1960. Rev. Flanagan is associate editor of "The Christian."

Among those who left bequests to the Waverly Christian Church were: Mrs. Nora Winifred Challans, Mrs. Stella Vandever, and Miss Jennie Hudson.

The present church officers are: Harold J. Lowery, Chairman of the Board; William Neuman, Treasurer; and Mrs. Margie Lemmons, Church Clerk. The Sunday School Superintendent is Paul Sadler, and the Junior Department Superintendent is Charlotte Gaillard.

The church history would not be complete without the mention of a few that gave years of service to the church: Mrs. Ida Wells, Mrs. Irene Smith, C. L. Gates, Miss Anna Laws, Miss Lucy Hughes, Mrs. Minnie Bateman, Misses Jessie and Effie Ritter, Mrs. Wilma Doerfler Bateman, Mrs. Edward Nichols, Dr. and Mrs. E. W. Crum, Ed W. Ashbaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Harney. Mrs. Wilma Doeffer Bateman served as organist, pianist, teacher, and primary superintendent for many years. Mrs. Mabel Neuman Chance also served for several years as pianist. The present organists are Mrs. Norma Woods and Gary Ross.

Mrs. Ethel Ritter Hunt is the oldest member of the church in years of church membership. She joined the local church on January 2, 1900.

HISTORY OF THE WAVERLY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Baptist Church first organized August 11, 1855. Worship Service was held twice a month. J. M. Wells became the first pastor. When first organized, the church was called the Waverly Missionary Baptist Church of Jesus Christ and was held in the home of Willis Meacham.

In April, 1861, the house of the Christian Church was rented. The lot across from the square was bought for the purpose of building a church.

A revival was held from January 20 — February 19, 1873, during which seventy people found the Saviour. Baptism took place at a pond on E. D. Meacham's farm.

February 26, 1875, the Providence Baptist Church united with the Waverly Baptist Church. Collection on Sabbath Day began February, 1875.

June 19, 1875, the Baptist Church building was erected and dedicated in the service of God. A house and two lots were purchased for a parsonage in Waverly on December, 1881.

First Sunday School officers were elected January, 1887, and Sunday school was held after the morning worship service. Plans for a new church took place in April, 1897. November, 1900, the new church was dedicated.

A pipe organ was purchased in June, 1901. Vacation Bible School first started in May, 1929. During May, 1932, there were fifty-eight baptized at Moffet's pond. A new basement was completed for the church and dedicated in June, 1940.

The church bell was installed in March, 1945; and during June, 1952, redecorating inside and painting of the outside of the church took place.

A painting of Jesus was presented to the church by Mrs. Ollie Dale and Mrs. Ethel Beatty.

Since 1954, several additions to the church included: New organ purchased by Senior BYF and the Davenport Estate in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Davenport. Senior BYF also purchased several road signs and an outdoor bulletin board. The Centennial Celebration was held in August, 1955. February, 1957, the basement of the church was redecorated.

On June 29, 1958, the church voted to construct an educational building. The estimate of the approximate cost was \$23,000. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held the next month — July, 1958. On May 27, 1962, the church participated in a service of Dedication. At that time, a mortgage-burning ceremony was held.

In June 1962, Rev. Kater accepted the call of the First Baptist Church of Delavan, Illinois. Rev. Eugene Owsley became pastor in August of 1962, and served until October, 1965. At that time, he became pastor of the First Baptist Church in Virden, Illinois.

In 1965, a speaker system was installed in the Bridges Nursing Home, which is just across the street to the south of the church. Residents there may participate in both the morning and evening Sunday worship services of the church.

During the past few years, certain physical improvements have been made in the appearance of the church. New sidewalks have been added; wrought iron hand rails have been installed on the sidewalk steps; storm windows of aluminum construction have been placed on the educational building; and a new outdoor sign has been constructed.

Gerald Cooper has served as minister of the church since June 19, 1966.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF WAVERLY

The first Catholic priest came to Waverly in 1857, from Carlinville. In 1858, a congregation was organized and they purchased one of the Methodist houses of worship, which was afterwards known as St. Sebastian Church of Waverly, under the charge of Reverend Francis X. Schreiber of New Berlin. In 1873, it was attached to Virden and in 1866 to Franklin. It has been attached, at different times, to New Berlin, Franklin, Virginia, and Greenfield. In 1925, it was again attached to Franklin, with Reverend E. D. Butler in charge.

The first resident pastor was Reverend P. J. O'Reilly in 1836. It then became a mission of Franklin, Virginia, and Greenfield, in turn. Father McCauley was the resident priest from 1907 to 1912. In 1912, Father L. C. Ryan succeeded Reverend P. R. McCauley. He started to repair the church. He changed it from a wooden church to a brick veneer building. In 1919, Father Ryan built a sanctuary and installed a new heating plant. Father Amos E. Guisti was the pastor from 1920-22.

In 1937 the basement was excavated, and a new heating plant and electric lighting were added. In 1946, the church was decorated and in 1956 it was redecorated.

Father Michael Kearns was the pastor for 21 years, from 1936-57, having his residence in Franklin. He was also the pastor at Palmyra.

Father Michael Kearns was succeeded by Father Hugh Cassidy as Pastor in January of 1958. In 1958 the basement hall was remodeled, with new kitchen facilities installed. In the same year the sanctuary of the church was remodeled. In 1967 the interior of the church was painted, with a new portable altar purchased for the implementation of the Liturgical Decree of the Second Vatican Council.

Father Cassidy resides in Franklin and is also Pastor of Holy Rosary Church, Palmyra. Since 1959 he has been Director of the Catholic Rural Life Conference in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

During the summer of 1937 a group of Missouri Synod Lutherans in and around Waverly met at the home of E. H. Wiese and discussed the possibility of establishing a Church. After consulting with officials of the Missouri Synod, it was decided to rent the Christ Episcopal Church in Waverly from the Springfield diocese and to secure the service of Prof. Richard C. Neitzel, of Concordia Seminary of Springfield as pastor.

The first service was conducted by Prof. Neitzel on February 6, 1938, with sixty-four in attendance.

The official organization of the Church was February 5, 1939. At this time it adopted the name "Christ Lutheran Church" and was affiliated with the Central Illinois District of Missouri Synod. The following is a list of the Charter Members and their families: Wm. H. Ladage, Jr., Edward Ladage, Carl Duewer, Fred Duewer, George Duewer, Wm. A. Duewer, Louis German, David Gerhardt, Marvin Piercy, Charles Rector, Henry Scheele, Fred Seiz, Wm. A. Duewer and Louis German; Chairman, Ed. H. Wiese; Miss Rose Luken. Of this group there were 34 communicant members and 60 souls. The following are the first officers of the Church: Board of Elders; David Gerhardt, Fred Duewer and Wm. H. Ladage, Jr.; Board of Finance; Fred Ceiz, Wm. A. Duwer and Louis German; Chairman, Ed. H. Wiese; Vice Chairman, Wm. H. Ladage, Jr.; Secretary, Carl Duewer; Financial Secretary, George Duewer; and Treasurer, Edward Ladage.

On Sunday, May 14, 1939, the congregation gave the young people permission to organize a Young People's Society. The Society meets every two weeks with an average attendance of 18 members.

The first confirmation class was confirmed by Prof. Nietzel on May 28, 1939. The first Baptism was on October 23, 1938, by Prof. Nietzel. The first couple from the Congregation united in marriage was David Gerhardt

and Rose Luken, February 7, 1940, by Prof. Nietzel. The first funeral service was November 29, 1945, by Rev Edward J. Schick.

The former Episcopal Church was rented until June 23, 1939, when it was purchased and dedicated August 20, 1939, by Prof. R. C. Nietzel. The exterior of the church was improved shortly afterwards. In 1944 the basement was dug out and fixed up for Sunday School Classes and Social gatherings. In 1949 the interior of the Church was redecorated. The year 1958 saw the front of the Church remodeled, and Rededication Services were held October 12, 1958. In 1952 a new oil furnace was installed in the place of the old coal furnace, and it was converted to gas in January, 1963. In 1966 the old slate shingles that had been on the Church since it was built in 1898 were removed and new shingles applied. In 1967 the Church and parsonage received a coat of paint.

A new organ was purchased in 1951 and replaced by another organ in 1964.

On September 11, 1949, the property at 344 North Grove Street was purchased for a parsonage and sold in August, 1959, when the property at 181 East Tremont was purchased.

This small group was supported by the Central Illinois District (Mo. Synod) Mission Board until January, 1940, then by the Southern Illinois District (Mo. Synod) Mission Board until January, 1949. The Church has been self supporting since that time.

The first pastor was Prof. Richard C. Nietzel, who served from the beginning until June, 1942. He was assisted by students of Concordia Seminary of Springfield, some of whom resided in Waverly, including Rev. Frank Schultz. Rev. Otto F. Strothman was the first resident pastor, serving from January 10, 1943 to May, 1945. Rev. O. J. Klinkerman, Jacksonville, was vacancy pastor. Rev. Edward Schick served from September, 1945 to January, 1949. Prof. Martin Naumann, Springfield, vacancy pastor. Rev. Alfred O. Pautsch served from June, 1951 to June, 1954. Rev. Arthur Wiegert, Farmersville, vacancy pastor. Rev. Edwin Wuehle served from November, 1955 to July, 1963. Rev. R. Dean Mues, Auburn, and Rev. Louis Knief, Girard, were vacancy pastors until Rev. Arno C. Meyer came as resident pastor in February, 1967.

During the time of vacancy, students from Concordia Seminary assisted the vacancy pastor.

The Christian Fellowship League had its organization in 1951. In 1954 the Church joined the Southern Illinois District (Mo. Synod). Family night was started in 1954 and still continues.

Since the beginning of Christ Lutheran Church the following boys have or are serving their country via military service: Otto Horn (who was killed at Manila, February 28, 1945), Russell Ladage, Orville Ladage, Robert German, Gerald German, Vincent Maher, Marvin F. Conrady, Bernard Conrady, Donald Duewer, Roland Gunn, David Seiz, Kent Seiz, Stephen Ladage, Donald Mueller, Jacob Mueller and Wyman Bess.

The original Christ Episcopal Church is the only wood structure church in the United States built by the Episcopalians. All their other churches were built of brick or stone. The Church was built in the shape of a Cross.

The present membership is 140 souls, including 98 communicants and 30 voting members.

CEMETERIES

The history of a people who settled a community in the early years is often found in its burial grounds. Records were not kept as accurately as now, and often valuable information could be found on the stone in the family plot. Especially is this true from Kentucky thru the Eastern Colonies, where interesting details of a person's life have been etched on the stone, often frank and not too flattering.

Waverly has many private cemeteries as well as four that represent the later growth of the community.

The Rogers Cemetery is one of the oldest in Morgan County, located west and south of Waverly.

The next is the Old West Cemetery, known by several names. It is south of town and no longer used for burial, but still a possession of the Methodist Church.

The Catholic Cemetery is located a short distance west of the city limits. It was probably established near the time the church was organized in Waverly. It is well cared for and used for burial by its members at this time.

The East Cemetery located just east of the city limits is the largest of all and is the one currently in general use.

Since much of the material is available at the Morgan County Court House, it is not necessary to go into details. However, there are two ordinances regulating behavior in the cemeteries around Waverly that are very interesting and should be more carefully observed.

REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAVERLY, ILLINOIS

Virden, Ill., 1888. Revised and arranged by Richard Yates, Attorney at law.
Cemetery — Page 72

Section 200:

"Whoever shall hunt, discharge firearms, set off or explode fireworks in, or otherwise trespass upon any cemetery or burying ground within the City of Waverly or within or under the jurisdiction of the City Council of said city, shall, on conviction, forfeit and pay to said city not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred for every offense."

Section 201:

"Whoever shall remove or carry away, or shall willfully or negligently break, deface, destroy or otherwise injure any monument, tombstone, tree, shrub, plant, vase, railing, fence, gate or other property article or thing belonging to or placed or erected in, any cemetery burying grounds within said city, or within the jurisdiction of the City Council thereof; or whoever shall pluck any flowers therein, or trespass upon, or maltreat any grave therein, or drive over or upon the grass therein or violate any of the established rules and regulations for the government of any such cemetery, shall be subject to a penalty of not less than five dollars or more than one hundred dollars for each and every offense."

ROGERS CEMETERY

Rogers Cemetery, one of the oldest in Morgan County, is located about one mile west of Waverly and a half mile south of Route 104. It is in T 13 N, R 7-8 W, Sec. 10.

The land was set aside for a cemetery by John Cook Caldwell. It was named in honor of his wife's parents, Rev. and Mrs. William Rogers. The cemetery measures about 320 x 220 feet. There are over four hundred persons buried at Rogers, and this includes over 100 Morgan County Pioneer families. There are fourteen men buried at Rogers that entered land from the United States Government.

Among the honored dead sleeping at Rogers are three pioneer preachers, Rev. William Rogers, Rev. Austin Sims, and Rev. Newton Cloud.

Rev. Rogers, a Baptist minister, preached the first sermon at the home of Rev. Isaac Conlee. He was born about 1783 and died in 1850. Rev. Austin Sims, belonged to the Christian Church and was the 'first speaker' of the Waverly Christian Church. He was born in 1790 and died in 1878. Rev. Newton Cloud was born in 1804 and died in 1877. He was a Methodist minister and preached for over fifty years. He also served sixteen years in the Illinois Legislature, and was Speaker of the House. The funeral for Rev. Cloud was held at his home on 'Cloud's Lane' west of Waverly, with Rev. Peter Akers delivering the funeral sermon. A special train from Jacksonville was run to bring friends and fellow Masons to the funeral. It was estimated that a thousand persons attended the service. Rev. Newton Cloud was laid to rest at Rogers beside his wife and some of his children.

There are more Deatherages buried at Rogers than any other family. The first family of Deatherages buried there were Milly Deatherage, who died in 1855, aged 90, and her sons Coleman, William, James, George and Schilles.

There was a cholera epidemic at Waverly in 1851 and it claimed many lives. There are a number of graves in the northwest corner of Rogers Cemetery marked only by field stones and it is presumed they died of cholera.

The first known burial was that of David Watkins on November 7, 1831, in the 31st year of his life. The last known burial was of William H. Campbell, who died May 4, 1940, aged 84 years. The oldest known person buried at Rogers was the Revolutionary soldier, Augustine Sims, who was born in 1763.

Veterans of three wars are buried at Rogers — Revolutionary War: Augustine Sims; Mexican War: Ananias D. Sevier; Civil War: Henry Beason, Jr., James K. Beason, Richard Berry, Edward W. Deatherage, Richard T. Mansfield, Wm. H. H. Scott, Richard H. Smedley, Wm. T. Walker, James H. Waid, and Mason Whitlock.

For many years this was a beautiful cemetery and then it was neglected for many years. Trees, brush and briars grew until the stones were no longer visible. Vandals pushed over many of the stones and the ground hogs did a great deal of damage. The fence was broken and livestock had been in the cemetery.

In 1962, Mrs. Guy W. Martin became interested in the cemetery while in search of the Revolutionary soldier's grave. Through her efforts money was raised to hire members of the Waverly American Legion to cut off the heavy brush. On April 14, 1963, members of the American Legion and a few interested persons met at the cemetery and started the restoration work. Since that time Mrs. Martin and her husband, Guy, and Mr. and Mrs. W. Otis Sims have worked at Rogers each year to restore the cemetery.

No records existed, so Mrs. Martin read all the tombstone inscriptions and recorded them. She searched courthouse records, old newspaper files

and census records and now has a fairly complete record of the persons buried at Rogers. The records have been filed in Washington, D.C., at the Library of the Daughters of the American Revolution as well as with the State.

Since the restoration work began, the brush and briars have been removed, all ground hog dens leveled and filled, new fence put up, all tombstones set up, a flag pole erected, the road has been graded and oiled, and a tool shed built. Annual Memorial Day services have been held, and the grave of the Revolutionary soldier, Augustine Sims, was marked by the Springfield Chapter of D.A.R.

On May 24, 1965, an anonymous donor placed \$2,000 in Wemple State Bank with two provisions. First, that Rogers Cemetery receive the interest from the money for three years. Second, that the donor would match any portion of the money that was raised by May 24, 1968. It is expected that the money will be raised by the final date.

The cemetery was incorporated on June 21, 1963, with the State of Illinois as a Foundation. The incorporators were: Judge Dee Brown Walker of Dallas, Texas, Myra N. Martin, Guy W. Martin, W. Otis Sims and Chester H. Ashbaugh. Judge Walker donated all his legal services to the cemetery. On August 16, 1963, a meeting was held at the Waverly Christian Church and bylaws for the cemetery were adopted. The following officers were elected: President, Chester H. Ashbaugh; Vice President, W. Otis Sims; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Guy W. Martin. The Trustees elected were: Mrs. Guy W. Martin; W. Otis Sims; Miss Marion Caruthers; Mrs. Clayton Anderson; Mrs. Clarence Wiggins; Grover Caldwell; Starr Edwards and Guy W. Martin. The same officers serve today except for Grover Caldwell. Mr. Caldwell died and his son, Nelson Caldwell, was elected to fill the unexpired term of his father.

Through the interest, faith, and donations of many friends and descendants, Rogers Cemetery is being restored. After many years of neglect it can now give some dignity to the final resting place of many Morgan County pioneers sleeping in "God's Little Acre."

Rogers Cemetery Trustees



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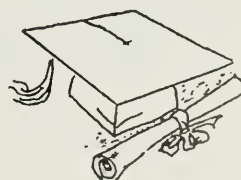
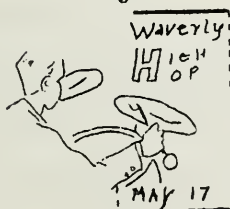
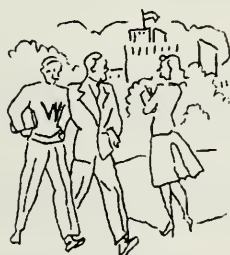
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EARLY SCHOOLS

The first attempts at popular education in Morgan County were made in the winter of 1820-21. That winter a school was taught in a cabin of one of the settlers. But few scholars attended—there were few to attend and the term lasted but a short time. The teacher received his pay in the currency of the time — coonskins and beeswax — and probably, as in after years, “boarded round.”

The schools were always “pay schools”; that is, each patron paid a certain amount per scholar, for the quarter.

In the summer of 1874, the first Institute for teachers was held in the county. The purpose of these institutes was advancement of teachers. They were held each year, lasting from three to six weeks and were well attended. An association at Waverly met monthly — having the same object in view.

WAVERLY SCHOOLS

Three schools opened in Waverly in 1838 — the seminary under the direction of John F. Brooks, as school master, and two private schools, one under the direction of Margaret Miller and the other under Ellen Thayer. An early account of the seminary states that Mr. Brooks, “applied both lickin’ and learnin’ with true Puritan faith.” Miss Thayer was forced to close her school in 1840.

In 1836 Mr. C. J. Salter set aside six hundred and forty acres for educational purposes. A school and a boarding house were built at a cost of approximately \$5,000. In the early history of the state, this was one of the prominent high schools and was attended by many who have since become prominent in the history of the state.

The seminary was not as successful as had been hoped, because of the nearness of Illinois College, and the lack of a railroad to connect Waverly with the outside world.

In 1858 a poster in the possession of Wilson M. Smith, an authority on Waverly history, relates that the seminary building had been repaired and reseated so as to accommodate an increasing number of students, and that Mr. C. C. Carter was engaged as principal, with Mr. E. A. Tanner as associate.

To those residing in the district the school would be free, the poster declared. Charges of \$4.00 a quarter for the “common Branches” and \$5.00 a quarter for “Latin, Greek and higher mathematics” were to be levied against students from outside that district.

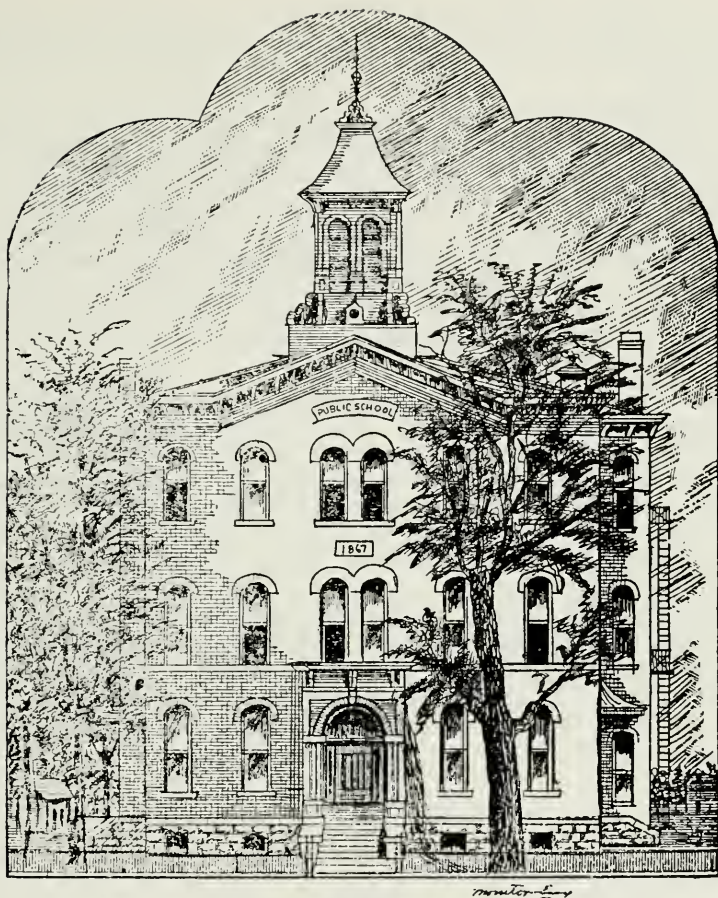
In 1867 plans and specifications were furnished by G. A. Randall, architect, for the building of the grade school located on the east side of the square.

The editor of the Waverly Gazette of October 20, 1870, gives a concise statement concerning Waverly at that time — quote:

“Waverly is situated in one of the richest agricultural sections of central Illinois, and contains a population of about twelve hundred inhabitants. It has six fine churches and one magnificent school building with a capacity for accommodating five hundred students.”

An item in the same issue of the Gazette states, “the colored children of Waverly were admitted to the Public Schools last Wednesday.”

As the years passed rapidly by, the people of Waverly saw the need of bigger and better schools. In 1881 there came a young educator to the town



Public School, 1867

who left a deep impression upon it. "That man was Joseph R. Harker."

Mr. Harker established a high school to take the place of the private school known as the Seminary. The first graduating class was in 1884.

Mr. Harker became principal of the Whipple Academy in Jacksonville; later in 1893, he became president of the girls' school, now known as MacMurray College.

The schools of Waverly continued their progress and another change noted: "Waverly Township High School District No. 191, was organized at a special election held March 30, 1915. The vote was 406 for organizing the new district, 34 against." The first board of education was elected April 27, 1915. The \$40,000.00 bonds for construction of the new building were approved at a special election held July 30, 1915.

Waverly Community Unit School District No. 6 was organized at a special election held November 7, 1947.

A \$400,000.00 bond issue for construction of the new grade school, was approved by the voters at a special election held March 14, 1949.

The Student Council in 1959 landscaped the campuses of both the Elementary School and the High School with evergreens. The low shrubs placed gracefully in front of both schools added greatly to the beauty of our schools.

In 1963 the first publicly supported kindergarten was established with classes scheduled in the High School Building. Kindergarten classes had existed intermittently for approximately seventeen years but were established on a private basis.

Early in 1966 the local school district indicated their willingness to participate in a feasibility study for a public community Junior College. In April, 1967, a referendum was held in 25 school districts to determine if a Junior College District was to be organized. The proposition carried with the Waverly Precincts showing a strong preference for the issue and voting in favor by a vote of 467 to 137.

The Waverly School District became a member of the Four Rivers Special Education District in 1967. This district includes 27 school districts with an estimated total of 33,000 pre-school and school age children, a population of about 4200 handicapped children and a geographic area of about 3750 square miles. Our school initiated special education in 1960 by employing a teacher qualified to teach the Educationally Mentally Handicapped children and accepted students from Virden, Auburn, New Berlin, and Northwestern.

On February 17, 1968, the voters of the Waverly Community Unit School District approved a referendum by a vote of 381 to 171 to issue bonds in the amount of \$375,000.00 for the construction of an addition to the Elementary School. The addition consists of band and music facilities, library resource center, and space for kindergarten and special education.



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RODGERS FORD DAY



In the early 1920's, H. J. Rodgers, Waverly Ford Dealer, annually held a public celebration, the highlight of which was a parade displaying the new model Ford cars. The picture above is proof that the events were popular and well attended.

TRANSPORTATION

One of Waverly's major problems of all time has been transportation. The early settlers came by boat or covered wagon. Later the stage coach, and then the bus were the approved modes of travel.

Ethel Peet ran a bus line and mail express from Waverly to Auburn and from Waverly to Alexander long before railroads came to Waverly.

One of the early railroads induced to pass through Waverly was the Jacksonville, Northwestern and Southwestern Railroad. It was completed in the summer of 1871 and included on its route Jacksonville, Waverly, and Virden. That enterprise gave a great impetus to business. Waverly gave in private subscriptions nearly \$50,000, and a corporation about \$30,000 additional.

Before the opening of the railroad, no grain was purchased here, save that used in the flouring mills. In 1872 an elevator was built and the shipment of grain began. Stock yards were also constructed, and stock which formerly went to Jacksonville or Alton markets, now was shipped from Waverly.

This marketing of livestock was before the days of trucks, and the animals were driven through the streets of Waverly. Riders went ahead warning everyone off the street and also attempting to keep stray animals off well kept lawns.

Trains were discontinued on the Chicago, Peoria and St. Louis Railroad (established 1831), and the track was taken up in 1941.

Buses and railroads have come and gone, and the last passenger service by railroad was discontinued April 27, 1957.

INDUSTRIES — BUSINESS

The pioneers of Waverly were a most courageous, uncomplaining group of men and women, who were filled with a vision of establishing homes and churches in the yet sparsely inhabited prairie of Illinois. They hoped to build homes similar to those they had left in the East. As early as 1836, a brickyard was started by Mr. Tainter, from which the brick for the seminary and the home of C. J. Salter were obtained. Alexander Edgmon started a second brickyard, and these two supplied the town.

The old saw mill was established by Cook and Easton and operated by William Chambers. It probably dates before 1838. It was run by steam, and in its day did a good business.

The History of Morgan County, Illinois, 1878, pages 420-7, enumerates the following stores and business places in town: "A. Thayer was keeping a general store in part of his dwelling, on the southeast part of the square; William Rhoads had a drug-store on the south side of the square, in a frame story-and-a-half building; R. H. Nelson and John A. Crane were selling dry goods, groceries, etc., in a frame building on the west side of the square; Andrew Kinkead and G. W. Garrett had a general store near Crane and Nelson; J. W. Ross and John Beatty had a small grocery and provision store adjoining the grocery store of Ross and Beatty; one flouring mill, in the western part of town, was in operation, run by William H. Coe."

"In 1848 Mr. James Hutchinson was operating a wool carding factory. Baker Ewing had a blacksmith and wagon shop in the western part of town, near its old business center and old saw mill, that had been in operation several years, and was still in use; James W. Manson had a blacksmith shop on the east side of the public square. A brick store and dwelling was built about 1849, by S. C. Woods; another soon after by J. A. Crane. These were the first brick business houses in town."

Waverly Gazette, No. 18, October 21, 1869: "New business — The great cry for some time in our flourishing town is that no regular clothing business is here, and that we have to go to the city to buy a respectable suit. Now the evil has been removed by the extensive firm of S. Benjamin & Co., who are going to open a branch store this week. We invite farmers and everyone to give them a call."

A new firm will carry on business at the old stand of N. R. Littlefield. The name of the firm will be Barrett and Company. We would urge our friends to make them a visit.

Waverly Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 44, April 21, 1870 — "Miss Sallie Challens has just returned from the City with one of the largest stock of millinery goods of all kinds ever on exhibition in Waverly."

The first steel walking plow made in this country was manufactured in the early 1830's by Peter Prawl and F. H. Wemple. They were the patentees of the first sulky plow in existence.

A cigar factory, established in Waverly, 1884, continued under different ownerships until well into the 20th Century; F. S. Reesor, last owner. The coming of mechanical cigar-making equipment put small factories out of business.

Deatherage, Allen and Co., (Waverly Tile Factory) — date of origin of this company is uncertain, but is considerably later than the brick yards established in the early days for building purposes. A special edition of the Morning Monitor of Springfield of October 22, 1892 mentions this company as "Manufacturers of Superior Drain Tile," and continues to mention the firm as an established factory of considerable years, though no dates are given.

The Waverly Grain, Brick and Tile Company was purchased in 1902 by E. T. Harrison and J. N. Hairgrove. Included in this purchase was the "flour mill" site (the mill had burned down prior to this purchase), the "Mill Pond," Waverly Tile Factory and the home of Prairie Street where the Harrisons came to make their home.

Mr. Harrison was manager of the Waverly Elevator until about 1914 when he bought out Mr. Hairgrove's interest.

Waverly was supplied with ice from the "Mill Pond." In winter from ten to fifteen men marked, cut and sawed blocks of ice which were raised on an elevator and stored near the pond in two buildings. Sawdust was used to pack the ice. In the summer the ice-man delivered ice to his customers in a covered wagon drawn by two horses.

The Tile Factory employed from nine to fifteen men with D. C. Calhoun manager. Bricks required at least seven days to bake or "burn," as was the expression in those days. Tile required at least three and sometimes as many as five days depending on whether they were stuffed or whether the kiln was "set" partly with brick. They used to stuff 12 inch tile with 8 inch tile with 4 inch tile. All this prevented the heat from getting down to the bottom of the kiln. The secret of "burning" was to get the heat to the bottom of the kiln without overheating the top layers.

By the same token, the kiln could not be opened too quickly or all the tile would crack. It would take two days of patrol (keeping the fire pickets full of ashes), then three or four more days of cooling before opening.

A cheese factory was started in February, 1932, at the sight where Shumaker Implement is now located, by the Lang Brothers, who came here from Wisconsin. It continued its operation until May, 1936.

The first creamery, in the eighties, was managed by D. C. Calhoun.

"An advertisement of rather unusual interest was that of A. Thayer & Son, established 1865, advertising furniture, burial robes, coffins, and wood and metallic burial cases."

Industries have thrived or changed ownership frequently during the last half of the 20th century. The merchants of today are modernizing their businesses and carrying on in a manner creditable to their ancestors.

BANKS

The first bank in Waverly was established in 1870, by John A. Crain, James W. Manson & Company, chartered as Crain, Manson and Company. They were alone in the business until 1872, when Sheffield, Hutchinson and Company was chartered. Cancelled checks from this bank were still available in 1957.

In 1874 the Bank of Waverly was organized by Brown and Company. This bank failed about 1897. Mr. A. C. Moffet then organized the First State Bank, which later became the First National Bank. It was liquidated in the early 1930's.

In 1877 Edward Wemple and Francis Holland Wemple organized the

Exchange and Loan office of Wemple Brothers, later to be known as Wemple Brothers Bankers. August 14, 1918, they incorporated to become Wemple State Bank. Charles Francis Wemple (better known as Frank Wemple) was elected the bank's first President. Vice President was Leland E. Wemple, and cashier was Paul Wilbur Wemple. Frank Wemple and Wilbur Wemple held their respective offices and managed the bank until its sale in June, 1962. Wilbur Wemple continues his association with the banking industry by serving as Vice President of Wemple State Bank.

Due to the sound management of the bank during the 90-plus years since its beginning, the Wemple State Bank survived the crash of 1929 and the uncertainties of the 1930's to become one of the largest and strongest banks in the area. It stands today in our modern world ready to give the Community modern service.

NEWSPAPERS

A newspaper, the "Gazette," was established in Waverly in June, 1869, by M. J. Abbott and W. D. Premberton. The paper frequently changed hands in the passing years and at times was suspended for months. In 1876 it again changed owners and the name was changed to "Morgan County Journal." The Journal was consolidated with the Enterprise prior to 1907. The Journal Enterprise was edited in 1907 by B. Reinback and published by the Waverly Journal Company (Inc.) — Independent in politics.

Mr. Wilson M. Smith purchased the Waverly Journal Company from the publisher of the Waverly Journal-Enterprise, November 16, 1910. Shortly afterwards the corporation was dissolved, and the ownership passed to Wilson M. Smith; the name of the paper was then changed from Journal-Enterprise to the Waverly Journal.

Mr. Smith continued publication until June 1, 1949, when ownership was transferred to Alfred A. Hodgson, under whose ownership the paper is published weekly.

ELECTRIC UTILITY HISTORY

In 1895, H. J. Rodgers and Frank Rantz bought the old flour mill property and started the Electric Light Plant. In 1896 electric service was inaugurated in Waverly. Night service, only, was provided from a small 90 kilowatt, 2 phase, 133 cycle steam electric generator operated at about 2,000 volts.

In 1896, the people voted for street lights, and on July 4th they were turned on officially. There were 72 lights.

George T. Rodgers operated the plant for 17 years. George (Dad) Rodgers started at the beginning when he was sixteen years old. He had practical operating control, and when the Central Illinois Public Service Company bought the property, George continued as Plant Superintendent. (Rodgers' Shop Talk — January 18, 1923, Vol. 2, No. 8.)

As of June 1, 1913, the Waverly electric plant was purchased by the Central Illinois Public Service Company. In 1913 that company constructed a high voltage electric line from Auburn through Waverly to Roodhouse. The steam plant was shut down and twenty-four hour electric service was supplied from the transmission system.

In 1913 electric service was furnished to 178 customers in Waverly and vicinity. At the end of 1967, the CIPS Company furnished electric service to 735 customers in Waverly and the suburban area.

TELEPHONE

The Waverly Telephone Company, incorporated 1898, included the following exchanges: Waverly, Franklin, Loami, and Palmyra. There were changes in ownership throughout the years, but the constant desire to improve service for the customer was ever present, culminating in the dial system of August 24, 1954. Direct Distance Dialing became available to Waverly customers on May 10, 1968.

WATCHMAKER

Fred Bateman, watchmaker since 1922, has been in business longer than any other merchant in town.

There have been changes in time-pieces during this span of time. At first there were the wooden sheel weight clocks, the regular eight day weight clocks, the Cuckoo, and the spring clocks, which were mantel, kitchen, wall, banjo, steeple, calendar and many other styles. Now we have the electric self-starting clocks. The alarm clocks are made in many types, spring and electric.

Forty-six years ago most of the watch work was on pocket watches (sizes 18, 16, 12, 6/0 and 3/0). The wrist watch became popular in World War I. Very few pocket watches are in use at present, most of the watches being ladies' and men's wrist watches.

The first watches were spring, key and stem wind, then the automatic, and now the electric wrist watch.

The first cases were hunting, screw back and front, then snap-on with glass crystals. Present day cases are water-proofed with unbreakable crystals.

The largest volume of Mr. Bateman's work was during World War II. There was a shortage of clocks and watches at that time, so everyone had old watches and clocks repaired. Mr. Bateman stated that he had 24 striking clocks in his work room at one time, and that on the hour it was a "striking time." Mr. Bateman had many alarm clocks to repair at this time, as they were a luxury and a luxury tax was put on them the same as on jewelry.

Years ago when a person bought a watch or clock he was told that it would last a lifetime if it was kept clean and oiled. This was a true statement, as good material was used and the workmanship was excellent. To-day it is different. Each day seems to find cheaper material and poor workmanship, so the clocks and watches do not last. The public purchases cheap clocks and watches, and when in need of repair they just throw them away and buy another timepiece.

Mr. Bateman remarked that a country can't move forward unless we do our best to produce quality and that we should improve tomorrow by what we do today.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The first studio was established by C. L. Gates, a photographer, who came to Waverly from Pennsylvania in 1876. He lived in a tent until the present building was erected. On October 4, 1922, Miss Ruth Walters, took over the studio.

She has on file the negatives made over the years and since 1931 has kept a picture file also. This file includes the soldiers from Waverly in World War II. This record will become more valuable with the passing of the years.

The studio has been discontinued for a few years.

HIGHWAYS

The invention of the automobile, at the turn of the century, created a whole new way of life. Many ways of making a living became obsolete, and in their place we find the filling station, garage, and hamburger stand.

In order that people could take their minds off the weather and their eyes off the ruts and bumps in the road, highways were built. Two such highways were built through Waverly over a period of years.

The Waverly Journal of September 12, 1930, states — "Bids were received by the State Highway Department, Wednesday, that included that section of Route No. 104 from Auburn to the Burlington Railroad, a short distance east of Waverly. The average price for paving the 8.48 miles from the Burlington Railroad to Auburn is \$16,286 per mile, bridges included bringing it to \$17,747 per mile."

Quoting from the Waverly Journal, July 10, 1931 — "Slab laying is rapidly approaching Waverly from the east on Route No. 104, and developments of the past week or so indicate that Route No. 111 will also be completed from Modesto to Waverly, much to the gratification of people hereabouts. Hedges are being uprooted and the right-of-way widened to the standard width of 80 feet. The Morgan County, Waverly-Modesto road will be completed first, the right-of-way across Macoupin County not having been secured at this time."

Route No. 104 appears to have been laid in rather small sections over a period of years, again quoting — "The laying of slab was begun at the Eugene Blair farm July 5, 1934, and a contract was let October 17, 1934, to pave the section from Franklin to Pisgah."

"July 7, 1936, finished laying slab on the Franklin gap — Waverly people will soon be able to drive all the way to Jacksonville on concrete, the gap having been completed Wednesday."

There was another long wait before a short gap in the pavement in Waverly was completed. This was due to the removal of the tracks of the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis Railroad. The contract was let September 26, 1941, to complete the gap between cemetery street and near the Ruble Garage. It was difficult to complete this gap due to excessive rains and the fill made where the railroad crossed Elm Street. However, the highway was completed Saturday, December 6, 1941.

Highways are constantly being studied by engineers in order that the increased volume of traffic can be handled with a minimum of accidents.

Both routes are now (1968) in need of repair due to winter freeze and thaw and the heavy freight truck through here to the river. Petitions are being circulated to get the repair work or new surfacing done this year.

WAVERLY LAKE AND WATER SYSTEM

The combined water and sewerage system represents a cost of \$186,300; of this amount \$81,000 is a P.W.A. grant from the government, and \$105,300 comes from bond issues.

The lake is west and slightly north of Waverly, the dam being at the south end of the lake and about three miles from town. The dam which closes Apple Creek, is a few feet north of the C.B. & Q. tracks, which are on a high fill at that point. The length of the dam is 450 feet.

It is estimated that when the lake is full to the 13 foot or spillway level, it covers about 55 to 60 acres, contains 120,000,000 gallons and is

sufficient to supply Waverly's needs easily for a full year without a drop of rain. Waverly Lake has also supplied Franklin with water, almost from the beginning of the project.

The water tower and tank, erected on the northwest corner of the park, will provide storage for 60,000 gallons of water. The foundation for the tower was laid in March and the tower and tank erected in June, 1938.

The sewerage disposal plant is located alongside the C.P. & St. L. right-of-way, a short distance south of town, on the A. D. Roberts land. The filtration plant and the pumping plant are located on Route No. 104 about three miles west of town.

The following changes have been made in the Waverly water system since 1957. The dam has been raised three feet; the water plant remodeled and larger pumps installed.

Complying with the State law, fluoridation was added in 1968.

NATURAL GAS FOR HEATING AND LIGHTING

Fuel is a problem in any community. This is especially true where a supply of good coal is not available or the cost prohibitive. After discussing its possibilities, the City Council passed an ordinance on March 3, 1955, authorizing the use of natural gas. The plan was submitted to the people in an election April 19, 1955, and carried.

The contract for construction of the gas system was awarded and work started July 10, 1956.

The dedication of the system was held on November 10, 1956, "Blue Flame Day." Miss Sandra Harney was elected "Miss Blue Flame" queen during the ceremonies.

The first gas was turned on to consumers November 9, 1956. There were 140 taps in use by November 30, 1956.

Gas mains have been laid as necessary, to accommodate additional consumers. There are 580 users of gas in Waverly as of March, 1968.

An item of interest to the consumers of gas is the fact that the tax on the monthly gas bills has been absorbed by the city. Although the Panhandle Gas Company has raised its rates to the City at various times, the City has not raised rates to consumers.

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

Waverly, Illinois 62692

The post office was established as Apple Creek on December 19, 1832. The name was changed to Waverly on April 15, 1847. On November 18, 1962, the new Post Office Building was dedicated.

BUSINESSES

Two business firms in Waverly have been making extensive changes in their stores in recent months.

The Waverly Variety Store, formerly owned by Mr. R. R. Deatherage, who came to Waverly in November, 1937, from Minneapolis, Minnesota, bought and operated the Variety Store from 1937 to January, 1965, at which time he sold his business to Mrs. Mildred R. Carr, who continued the name of Deatherage Variety Store. January, 1965, the property was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stewart, who changed the name to Waverly Variety

Store. They bought the building on the north side of the store and enlarged the floor space, making room for additional merchandise.

During the remodeling of the Star Store building in 1968, a paper was found containing an interesting advertisement, of the original Star Store, possibly dating back to around 1889, reading as follows: Star Store — Morgan County's best store, Waverly, Illinois. Dry Goods, clothing, carpets, rugs, shoes, cloaks and millinery. For Cash. Stores located at Waverly, Greenville, Vandalia, Clinton, Tuscola, Rockford and Chatsworth, Illinois.

The Star Store changed owners through the years. March 4, 1961, Mr. David Ridings began business, now known as Ridings Dry Goods, and January 1, 1967, purchased the building.

Needing more room for a larger stock of dry goods and better display opportunities, Mr. Ridings in 1967 began an extensive expansion program. He will carry all lines previously listed but in larger amounts. The Hallmark Card display will contain most of that varied and beautiful line of cards and useful party favors.

These stores are becoming quite an attraction in the community, and outstanding in the trade area.

Normally when thinking in terms of industry we tend to visualize the mercantile side, but in recent years the basic side has developed as well, and the Brown Ready Mix, Inc., is an example in Waverly.

Brown's Ready Mix, Inc., bought the Coal and Ice business from Mr. Oliver Miller in 1958 and added rock, fertilizer and lime in 1959 with the Charles Harney, Jr. cement business the same year. As business increased, a bulk mixer plant was established in 1962 north of the depot. In 1968 the fertilizer business was sold and interest increased in the bulk mixer by the purchase of two new mixer trucks, making business more efficient and service prompt. The permanent office is located north of the depot, where you will receive courteous service at all times.



CULTURAL



DEVELOPMENT



WAVERLY WOMAN'S CLUB

The Waverly Woman's Club was organized February 16, 1921, at a meeting held in the parlors of the Congregational Church. There were seven organized clubs at that date, but only three accepted the invitation to join and form one united federated club. These three were the Minerva (Literary) Club, the Household Science Club, and the Music Club, with a total membership of 77, these being considered charter members of the Woman's Club.

The Mother's Club joined the Woman's Club as the Child Welfare Department September 13, 1921, too late for its members to be Charter Members.

The first flower show in Waverly was held at an open meeting in the Congregational Church, September 12, 1923, Mrs. H. E. Funk presiding as second president. A flower show has been sponsored every year since, with ribbons as prizes. The Garden and Art Department was organized March 31, 1931, at the home of Mrs. H. E. Funk, who was its first chairman.

In October, 1924, it was decided to start a Club House Fund, and \$50.00 was set aside for it. The largest sum of money added to the fund at one time was \$500.00 in 1926 during the presidency of Mrs. Charles F. Allen. The Club entered a label contest sponsored by the Illinois State Register, Illinois Manufacturers, and Springfield Merchants. The highest award for Morgan County, a Ford touring car, was won by the Woman's Club and sold for \$400.00. A bonus check for \$95.00 was received from the State Register. The building fund was added to through the years until it reached \$3,000 and was contributed to the construction of the American Legion Memorial Building. The Woman's Club is now a member of the American Legion Building Corporation.

In September, 1930, a club chorus was organized. Its members attended the district federation meetings and joined the general chorus at that time. At the present time there is no club chorus. The serving of tea at the meetings of the club was revived during the presidency of Mrs. Wilson M. Smith, in 1948, and it continues at the present time.

The Junior Department of the Waverly Woman's Club was organized in 1963. This is a very active club, participating in all activities of the Woman's Club besides sponsoring a summer Story-telling Hour at the Public Library; donating to the Boy Scouts Building Fund; sending gifts to Waverly soldiers in Vietnam; furnishing baskets to needy families at Christmas and joining in many civic projects.

The Literature and Music Department became inactive in May, 1966, and voted to spend what funds were on hand for books for the Waverly Public Library.

LIBRARY

The Waverly Gazette of February 24, 1870, contained a suggestion from the editor, Mr. Abbott, concerning a Reading Room and Circulating Library where everyone would be welcome, and expressed the hope something would be done in the near future to correct this oversight.

Mr. C. J. Salter suggested the following plan: "Select a large room in a central location, furnish seats, stands for papers, and cases for books; form yourselves into an association taking the caption to this article, Read-

ing Room and Circulating Library for a title. Let everyone be a member and entitled to vote by paying five dollars (\$5.00) and an annual tax of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) for a share, transferrable if he wishes to leave the place. Every shareholder entitled to the privilege of reading the papers and books, and taking to his home one volume each week. The room to be opened every day except Sunday, from nine to eleven a.m. and from two to five p.m. A committee of five to select the books and papers and no book or paper admitted without the approval of the majority of the committee."

The suggestion of Mr. Salter must have met with general approval, and an effort made to establish a public reading room. Reference material is scarce concerning the struggle of the community to make the library a success between the years of 1870 and 1880.

The original Public Library in Waverly was established in December, 1880. It was known as the Waverly Association. This was not tax supported, but was financed by donations, entertainments, fees for readers' cards, and Kings' Daughters. The first record of circulation of books is January 15, 1881.

For many years the books were housed in different buildings and loaned from there, but were finally moved to the Congregational Church parlors, where they remained until they were turned over to the Waverly Public Library on April 10, 1913. There were 480 volumes in good condition at that time. From 1908 to 1913 they were not circulated.

In 1911 a movement was started for the establishment of a Carnegie Public Library, by Miss Estelle Harris. After discussing the matter with a number of friends and citizens, who were interested in any project that would be of educational advantage to our city, Miss Harris arranged for a representative from the State Library Association to come to Waverly and explain the procedure for securing funds for a building for a Carnegie Library. The representative stated that Mr. Carnegie would donate the \$4500.00 for the building (provided the city Council would vote to raise at least 10% of that amount each year thereafter for its support). Petitions were circulated and signed by a sufficient number of citizens and were presented to the City Council, who voted favorably.

At first it was thought the building could be located in the city park, but upon investigation the board found it could not, owing to the wording of the deed. A number of different sites were considered, but the board finally decided on the present location, which was purchased in April, 1912, with funds received from donations.

On April 8, 1912, the Library Board gave a contract to Thomas Rodgers for the erection of the building for the sum of \$4500.00.

At the April city election in 1912, there were two aldermen elected who were opposed to the library and the City Council refused to levy the \$450.00 tax to support it. The Library Board authorized the president, A. C. Moffet, to employ an attorney to bring mandamus proceedings, to force the City Council to levy the library tax, and Dirby, Wilson & Baldwin were secured. The case was decided in favor of the library, the City Council finding they could not refuse to levy the tax after having accepted the \$4500.00 for the building. Since that time there has been no question as to the levying of the tax for its upkeep.

The building was completed April 14, 1913, and the final payment made to Mr. Rodgers on that date.

According to the Waverly Journal of July 4, 1913, the formal opening

of the building was held from 2:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, 1913. The building was prettily decorated with plants and pictures, and presented a pleasing and inviting appearance.

Rev. P. H. Aldrich, pastor of the Baptist Church, became the first librarian, and held that position until August 1, 1914. For a few weeks Miss Goldia Cline supplied as librarian while her sister, Miss Myra Cline, attended summer school for librarians, at the University of Illinois. Late in the summer of that year Miss Myra Cline became librarian, holding that position until her marriage to Rev. W. T. Mathis on February 30, 1918. Miss Goldia Cline then became librarian. She had served as assistant for her sister during the time she was librarian.

Since the income from the one and two tenth mills tax amounts to only about \$800.00 each year, and less if there are delinquent taxes, our book and magazine fund is of necessity very small. We have appreciated very much through the years the donation of magazine subscriptions from the clubs and churches; also other gifts.

Outside of Jacksonville, ours is the only other city in Morgan County which has a public library. It is not strange, however, that Waverly should be among the leaders in the county and state in this respect. Having received its name from Sir Walter Scott's Waverly Novels, and founded by a people who were inclined toward literary pursuits, it was a natural consequence that a library should be among its early institutions.

The story hour was initiated in June, 1964, by the Junior Department of the Waverly Woman's Club, assisted by the Child Welfare Department. The purpose: to help children get acquainted with the library, and to help those in school retain their reading ability during the summer months. The south room in the Library basement was redecorated and tables and chairs purchased by the Library Board. The classes meet on Saturday morning from ten to eleven a.m.

The Board in 1962 approved needed repairs and added improvements to the building, by laying a new floor covering; installing a new gas furnace; new fluorescent lighting; and completing the modernizing with air conditioning, making the library a comfortable place winter or summer to enjoy reading.

In 1966 a new roof completed the recent repairs program.

Library hours — Every day except Thursday from 2 to 5 o'clock. Closed Thursday and open Saturday night from 6 to 9 o'clock.

July 1, 1967, the librarian, Miss Goldie Cline, retired after fifty-three years of devoted service to the library and community.

August 1, 1964, Mrs. Melvin Deatherage (Ermadean) was appointed assistant librarian, and at the retirement of Miss Cline became Librarian.



1879

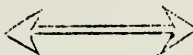
FRATERNAL



1896



1888



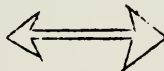
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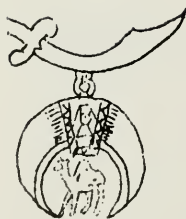
1852



1927



1920



1950

ORDERS



1948

MASONS

Waverly Lodge No. 118 A.F. and A.M. received its charter on October 4, 1852, from the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois.

The first Worshipful Master was Mr. A. Rashel Thayer.

On March 12, 1892, fire destroyed the minutes and all early records of the lodge.

The Centennial was observed on September 27, 1952, with a banquet at the American Legion Building, after which members and guests went to the Elementary School Gymnasium, where a program was given including an address by Mr. James Green, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ill.

In 1964, with the help of the Order of Eastern Star and personal contributions of members of both Orders, the dais in the East was made larger and the entire room carpeted. The walls were painted, also. The following year a new sink and cabinets were installed in the Dining Room, the walls painted and the floor refinished. The front room on the ground floor was converted into a lounge and furnished with sofas, chairs and tables.

REBEKAH

"The Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, on application of brothers and sisters — J. F. Woodmansee, W. D. Fleming, Wm. A. Hutchinson, J. C. Lankton, G. W. Bradley, C. C. Turner, L. H. Wells, Floyd Epling, F. J. Lombard, Robert Smith, Frank Rantz, Sarah F. Fleming, Julia Hutchinson, Rebecca Bradley, Tinnie Turner, Mary A. Wells, Lizzie Epling, Mary J. Lombard, Irene Smith — doth hereby grant the warrant to establish Degree Lodge of Daughters of Rebekah at Waverly, Illinois, to be known as Rebekah Degree Lodge, No. 104—November 19, 1879."

The Secretary's Book from 1879 to 1887 December 1st (8 years) was lost during the loss of the Lankton Building, December 23, 1887.

April 26, 1929, there was a social meeting to celebrate the 110th anniversary of IOOF in the United States.

May 10, 1935 — the Rebekahs celebrated their last meeting in the old hall, with a birthday party. Meetings are now held the second and fourth Friday nights at the K.P. Hall over the Ridings Dry Goods Store. The officers, until 1924, were elected every six months; now they hold office for a year. There is an interesting record of elder members whose membership date from 1907 to 1930. Their loyalty and encouragement added much to the strength of the Order.

In 1940, an historic gavel, made of wood from Andersonville Prison, was presented to Ruth Walters, Noble Grand, a gift from her aunt, Miss Katherine Osborn.

The lodge has been very active during the years. They have helped institute a number of neighboring lodges — Franklin is now the only one in existence.

PYTHIAN SISTERS

The order of Pythian Sisters was founded on October 23, 1888.

It is the women's auxiliary of the Knights of Pythias, which was started by a small group of men, Justice Rathbone being the instigator. He was a teacher at Eagle Harbor, Michigan which is now a Pythian Shrine.

Their ritual and ceremonies were highly approved by Abraham Lincoln, who was President at that time, and they were the first fraternal organization to receive a charter from the United States Government.

The Temple of Pythian Sisters of Waverly, Illinois, called Linton Temple No. 32, was organized on November 7, 1907, by the Grand Chief of Illinois, Elizabeth Harvery of Chicago.

Twenty-five women and eleven knights became Pythian Sisters on that night, and it has been an active organization since that time. Only six of the charter members have held continuous membership and five have withdrawn and been reinstated. Several have moved away and some are deceased.

The Temple now has a membership of 75 sisters and 25 knights.

In May of 1951, the Supreme Chief of Pythian Sisters, who lived at Albuquerque, New Mexico, was present at Waverly for the District Convention, being held at Waverly. At that meeting, there was a class of 35 initiated into the Order. Fourteen were from Waverly and became members of Linton Temple. At that ceremony, the Supreme Chief used the original Bible that had been used at the organization of the First Pythian Sister Temple.

There is also a Junior Branch of Pythian Sisters called Sunshine Girls, which is very active.

In 1962, a music camp scholarship was established to promote interest in music and encourage worthy students.

The Pythian Sisters do many things for others, and enjoy their work and association with each other and with the Knights.

Their Motto is: Onward and Upward.

K.P. LODGE

Linton Lodge No. 401, Knights of Pythias, Waverly, Illinois, was chartered on the 17th day of October, 1894. Much credit in starting this lodge goes to Charles A. Barnes, Morgan County Judge, father of James M. Barnes, who later became a member of the House of Representatives and who now lives in Washington. Also of much help was Millard F. Dunlap of Jacksonville, who later held Grand Lodge offices. Also a local citizen, William N. Hargrove, gave much assistance in the organization. Joe Shriver of Virden, offered great assistance in helping put on rank work during the early years of the Lodge.

Meetings were first held in the rooms over the Post Office Building and the adjoining building to the south. They next moved to the upstairs of the building where the telephone offices were located at a later date. From there they moved to the upstairs of the John Romang building. They remained there until 1940, at which time they purchased the Star Store Building. Since that time, they have used the second floor of the building for the lodge meetings.

In 1957, Linton Lodge had a membership of 183. They have always been very active in community and civic affairs. They are especially proud of the youth program and athletic activities they have sponsored for a great number of years. Our lodge has always been one of the strongest K. of P. lodges in the State. Much credit for the fine financial status of the lodge goes to Ramon Burnett, Olin Huson, and Les Davenport. They had served at the Linton Building Corporation since its beginning. As is generally true in all organizations, there is one sparkplug or dynamo that keeps it functioning. In our local lodge this one person for 34 years had been Lester Davenport. His accomplishments can best be summed up by the words of Abraham Lincoln, when he said, "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what (he) did here."

Linton Lodge No. 401 continues to grow in membership and in 1960 went over the 200 mark to make it the largest Knights of Pythias lodge in Ill.

In September, 1960, the Grand Lodge of Illinois, at their 91st annual convention in Peoria, named James H. Handy of Waverly to their highest elective office, that of Grand Chancellor. Jim assumed his office on January 14, 1961, when the Grand Lodge Installation was held in Waverly with some 150 people in attendance. From the close of his term in 1962 as Grand Chancellor, he served as Grand Treasurer until September, 1967.

In January, 1967, the Linton Building Corporation sold the old Star Store Building to the Ridings Dry Goods. They continue to occupy the second floor of the building for their lodge rooms.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Waverly Chapter No. 320 Order of the Eastern Star was granted a charter on October 15, 1896, by the Grand Chapter of Illinois. Minnie A. Neece was the first Worthy Matron and Alvin F. Rohrer the first Worthy Patron.

The following events were taken from a report made by Marie Wiese on the 60th anniversary of the Chapter:

At the August 13th, 1896 meeting, the secretary was asked to tell of her recent call upon the Worthy Grand Matron, but had only said a few words when the drum and bugle corps began to practice, making both talking and hearing impossible. The Worthy Matron closed Chapter at once, but in form.

The minutes of 1900 noted a bill of \$1.00 for funeral flowers. On July 10, 1900, the Worthy Grand Matron visited the Chapter. A bill noted \$1.50 hack service for Chapter to Franklin.

In January, 1901, the Star gave a turkey supper for the Blue Lodge members at the K. P. Hall. The turkey bill was \$5.40 for four turkeys.

During the meeting of February 9, 1905, the fire bell rang and the Worthy Matron declared Chapter closed. As the years passed, expenses increased: dining tables, table cloths, 2½ dozen chairs, shades for the windows and many other supplies were purchased.

On January 8, 1935, the Chapter co-operated with the Waverly Centennial Committee by having a display of "old fashioned dresses," and a float in the parade. The year 1938, tax on secretary and sentinel salaries began being remitted to the Collector of Internal Revenue.

During 1943, Red Cross work of making dressings was carried on in the dining room. Service men were exempt from paying dues.

Early in the year 1949, our last charter member passed away. Through more than sixty years of active service, the chapter initiated 464 members. During these years, we have contributed to many, many community and worthy requests and are proud to have shared in decorating the hall in recent years.

WAVERLY AMERICAN LEGION

The Waverly American Legion Post No. 262 was chartered in August of 1920. Since that time it has continued to grow with veterans of World Wars I and II, and the Korean conflict. Our highest membership attained was 163.

Our home, which is named the American Legion Memorial Building, was constructed in 1948. It is used for many community social gatherings

as well as for American Legion and Auxiliary meetings.

Our post is always ready to do our part to help in any way to better the community. One of our projects has been to clear off Rodgers Cemetery, which had grown up in brush. We have most of it cleared and are still working on it.

Any veteran who needs help in any way needs only to contact our post and we will do our best to help him.

Under our programs there are several such events as Boys' State. We send a boy to Boys' State each year, where there are about 1200 boys from all over the state. They elect their own government and in this way learn much about how our own government is run, and thus they become better citizens.

Then we have the school medal award program which yearly awards an American Legion School Medal to a boy and a girl in the graduating class who are elected by their own classmates. A \$200 scholarship is given each year, since 1959, to a high school graduate.

One of our main aims is to take care of our disabled comrades in sick beds, hospitals, and elsewhere. We also take care of the widows and orphans of deceased veterans.

WAVERLY AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 262

The Waverly American Legion Auxiliary Unit, affiliated with the Waverly American Legion Post No. 262, was organized at a meeting held in the First National Bank building on the evening of July 26, 1927, after the applications of 21 eligible women had been secured, due to the efforts of the Commander of Waverly American Legion Post 262, J. V. Gooden, Sr.

Mrs. Cora B. Corbridge of Jacksonville, committeewoman of the 20th District, was present at the meeting to assist in the organization of the unit.

An application was made to the Department of Illinois of the American Legion Auxiliary for a charter of Waverly Unit 262. The charter was granted on August 20, 1927, and approved on August 30, 1927.

Waverly Unit has consistently, since its organization, held one meeting a month. At the present time, its meeting night is the first Tuesday night in the month. The unit has always contributed financially to the requirements as outlined by the Department of Illinois and Legion activities as called upon, also toward many community activities, and other funds and causes of general interest.

The Waverly American Legion Post erected a new Legion Memorial Home in 1948 and 1949, and the Auxiliary Unit held its first meeting in the new building in February, 1949. The Auxiliary contributed very materially in helping to pay for the new building, and also planned and equipped the kitchen of the new home. Early in 1957 the unit financed the installing of new sinks and sink cabinet in the building. In the past, they have purchased six banquet tables, also several dozens of chairs, besides being continually helpful in building support.

The American Legion Auxiliary's main function is to contribute financially to the programs of the Department of Illinois. Some of the programs are: the sale of poppies made by disabled veterans; rehabilitation; sponsoring a boy at the Illinois Soldiers & Sailors School; giving to the cigarette fund and making tray favors for veterans at the State Hospital.

Contributions are given locally to the Cancer Fund, Heart Fund, and the March of Dimes.

Each year on Memorial Day, wreaths are placed on every veteran's grave in the Waverly Cemetery.

Illini Girls' State is an important project of the Unit. Each year a girl in her Junior year is selected to attend. She is selected on the basis of scholarship, co-operativeness, good character, leadership and honesty.

SHRINE CLUB

The Waverly Shrine Club was organized on March 15, 1950.

One of the outstanding activities of the Waverly Shrine Club was the first wrestling show to be held in Waverly in the Waverly Elementary School gymnasium on May 24, 1952, which was attended by 1892 paid fans.

The club also sponsored a vote to legalize boxing and wrestling in the city of Waverly, at the general election on November 4, 1952. This program was legalized, and a great percentage of the net proceeds was presented to the St. Louis Unit of the Crippled Children's Hospitals.

The Shrine Club has been discontinued during the past several years.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A group of businessmen met in Waverly, November 3, 1959, for the purpose of planning a Community Christmas celebration. Officers were elected and committees appointed to plan the celebration. It was a huge success and on March 15, 1960, thirty-seven Waverly businessmen met in the Grade School Cafeteria, despite a drifting snow storm, for the purpose of organizing a Waverly Chamber of Commerce.

Bylaws were read and approved. A Charter was applied for from the State Chamber of Commerce, and the purpose of the organization stated: advancing agricultural, commercial, industrial, civic and general interests of the City of Waverly, and its surrounding trade area.

The following are several of the projects sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce through the years:

Repairing and replacing street signs. Free movies for the children in the pavilion in Salter Park during the summer months. The Chamber of Commerce assisted in the dedication of the Waverly Post Office, November 18, 2 p.m. Also sent flowers for opening days of newly organized businesses. Promoted "Antique Sales" or later known as "Sidewalk Sales." Assisted in purchase of the pop corn machine at the Grade School and also contributed to the Waverly Community School's band uniforms. Donated yearly to the yearbooks and fund-raising projects of Waverly and Franklin schools. Little League baseball and many others.

LIONS CLUB

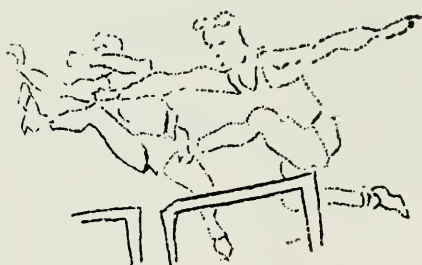
The Waverly Lions Club was instituted in 1948. It was sponsored, organized, and chartered by the Jacksonville Club. The club is dedicated to social and civic improvements. One of its chief projects is aid for the blind.

The motto of the Waverly Lions Club is "Pulling for a better Waverly."

BOY SCOUTS

The Boy Scouts of Waverly have taken part in many important activities. They have attended the annual pilgrimages honoring Abraham Lincoln; planted trees at Waverly Lake and in Salter Park; and attended a campout at Colonel Andrews farm southeast of Palmyra and an another campout November 3, 1967, in Salter Park in spite of temperatures in the low twenties.

THEATERS



SPORTS



1903-1907 WAVERLY FOOTBALL TEAM



Left to right: George H. Ritter, Roscoe Dunseth, Ed Christopher, Charles Dunseth, Curtiss Walls, Fred Zoll, Lester D. Deatherage, Charles Masters, Grover Hart, Howard Brian, and Tom Cleary.

SPORTS

There is a vast difference between sports of the 1890's and the present day. Such a thing as a high school gymnasium was unknown. Basketball, also, was unknown and football was very different from the present day game. To run with or throw the ball was illegal. The only way to advance the ball was by kicking or slapping it with the hands. A point was scored when the ball crossed the boundary line at the end of the field. Usually there would be only one game a year. This would be between the high school and a team made up of town boys and would be played on Thanksgiving Day.

About the only other things engaged in by the town boys in the way of sports were baseball and bicycle racing. Bicycle racing was a great sport in those days and large crowds from the central section of Illinois gathered for the races that were held on Fletcher's track southwest of town, on the Bill Doolin farm. Bert Carlile and Mart Romang were crack short distance riders. Beedle Harris and an old country boy by the name of Allen won the distance races, some of which were for as much as 25 miles.

Some riders from other places were Mahan and Johnson, but the Waverly boys were usually in front at the finish. Frank Wemple won the hammer throw at a 4th of July picnic. Bert E. Scott saw this event and said that it was the first time he ever saw a man make a complete body turn while whirling the hammer around his head before turning it loose, practically the same form they use today.

Sports in high school were confined almost entirely to track, and centered around the famous Mule team of 1899-1900 and 1901.

Early in 1899, Mr. Bert E. Scott helped to organize the first Central

Illinois High School Athletic Association. The schools who were members were Auburn, Virden, Girard and Waverly. The first meet was held in Virden, and out of twenty-one events, Waverly won eighteen first places. From that time on, they were known as the Waverly High School Mule Team.

Fred E. Deatherage was the star sprinter and a consistent winner in the 50 and 100-yard dashes and relays. Bert Kennedy, quarter mile and pole vault; Edgar Jarrett, shot-put and hammer throw; Hrebert Rohrer, high and broad jumps; Starr Carter as star hurdler was outstanding. There was George Boyer in the 220-yard dash and Ned Brown, now a retired Episcopalian minister in California, who always won the distance races and also was a good high jumper. Charley Mader, Brauch Goldsmith, and Cassie Munger were the bicycle riders. Mr. Bert E. Scott (class of 1899) was noted for his running high kick in which he had a mark of eight feet, five inches. This event was dropped from high school track meets many years ago.

Cherleaders and "W" Club can be depended upon for enthusiastic support and publicity at all times.

CHEERLEADERS

The cheerleaders of W.H.S. are chosen respectively from the four classes. The squad, composed of five, has had Mrs. Calvin Hobbie for their advisor for the past 18 years.

In 1957, 1961, and 1967, the cheerleaders have received the Waverly Holiday Tournament Cheerleading Trophy.

"W" CLUB

The "W" Club is composed of the athletes who have received a letter and of the varsity cheerleaders. The main purpose of this organization is to promote the school spirit and to help provide athletic equipment for respective departments. In recent years they have financed the building of an activity sign south of the grade school. Easter of 1968, the town servicemen received a care package from the "W" Club.

FOOTBALL

Previous to 1903 the high school boys played Rugby, the English type of football. It took 15 men on a team, and players weren't allowed to kick or carry the ball. There weren't any organized teams as there are today, but the high school boys played a team of city boys. Later the boys who played on the high school team bought their own suits and rode horseback to the games. The only coaching they had was from the high school principal. There was no athletic field, and games with nearby schools were held in pastures near Waverly. The players put up the goal posts, and they were ready for a game.

Football is a major sport around Waverly, and we have had some outstanding teams and players. Perhaps the most famous or at least one of the best was the undefeated team in 1928. Season score was Waverly, 194; Opponents, 12. The coach was Stone. The team was composed of Stuart Dodd (Captain), Leonard Points, Arbra Robinson, Herbert Elliott, Clyde Jones, Walter Saunders, Mervin Wilson, Glen Luttrell, Curtiss Luttrell, Wayne Points, Roscoe Robinson, Russell McClain, Harry Luttrell, Darrel Rodger, George Ritter, Eldon Lowery, William Hall, Johnnie Elliott, Bill Jackson, Wendell Robinson, Herman Branom, Charles Mitchell, Stanley

Mader, Lloyd Hale, Theodore Smedley, Joye McIntyre, and Earl Groves was the manager.

When Waverly played Virden that year, over 1000 spectators watched Waverly beat Virden 32-6. The game was considered one of the most important in central Illinois.

Waverly did not get the M.S.M. championship because of the ineligibility of a player, but they were and are all champs.

Clyde Jones was selected as the best all-round football player in this section. He won All-State honors in the same year. The 1929 football team had a very good season also. Jones, Robinson and McClain were on both the Illinois State Journal and Register teams. Saunders, also, made the Journal team. Jones was a tackle on the first team, selected by Sports Editor Drysdale, of the All Central Illinois Honor Roll.

In the early 1930's football was discontinued at W.T.H.S. for a few years. Public opinion demanded that football be resumed, and it took a few years to build up a team. Coach Lyle King was very instrumental in bringing football back to Waverly, as it had been in the 20's.

Then in 1949, Waverly had a very strong team. That year four of Waverly's players made All-conference: Turner, Left End; Smith, Right Guard; Meiers, Right Halfback; and Mitchell, Fullback. Harlan Turner was awarded a position on the first Little All-State High School Team, picked by the Chicago Daily News. Coyner Smith, Bill Meiers, and Delbert Mitchell received honorable mention.

The 1956 football team had the best record since 1949; they finished the season with six wins and three losses — no ties.

In 1960 the record was seven wins, two losses — the best record since the undefeated team of 1958. The best year since 1960 was 1965 with a record of five wins, three losses and one tie.

Football was discontinued by the Board of Education after the 1967 season, for the lack of man power, but because of many arguments from the football fans of Waverly, it was reinstated — not as a conference team but as one playing teams from the schools the size of Waverly.

BASKETBALL

The first basketball game played against another high school was, strangely enough, a girls' game. It was played outdoors in the school yard on the east side of the square, November 11, 1911. The Waverly girls defeated the Greenfield girls, 3-1. Then after the high school was built, basketball became a major sport. Through the years, Waverly has had many good basketball teams. On January 25, 1935, the Waverly basketball team won the M.S.M. tournament, defeating Virden, Pawnee and Auburn in Conference Tourney; they also defeated Franklin at Ashland.

Waverly has reached the semi-finals on seven occasions, and the other six years were knocked out the the first round. The Scotties' best record in M.S.M. Conference has been seven wins and three losses in the 1964-65 season. Chuck Ross was Captain of the team and held the highest scoring average in the conference that year.

The Holiday Tournament was started in 1951, the same year the new gym was completed. It has been held annually since that date. A number of schools belong and it is an outstanding event during the Christmas Holidays, drawing large crowds and furnishing entertainment for young and

old who enjoy sports. The Scotties won the tournament in 1963, beating Triopia in the finals.

The Scotties entered the Winchester Tournament but have not been too successful. They are also members of the Ashland Tournament and won in 1960 and 1961.

Double elimination was started in the 1967 tournament at Waverly.

TRACK

Track has not been as popular as football and basketball in Waverly, but it is getting more attention each year. Waverly High School played baseball instead of track for a number of years, but it has turned back to track, because of the benefits of the great individual sport.

Now, we would like to tell you how Waverly High School got the name "Scotties." This name was chosen for the high school athletic teams early in the 1936-37 basketball season. Coach Forrest W. "Frosty" England suggested the high school team should have a name, and Principal A W. Heath approved the idea; a contest for a name was held. The following committee — "D. D." Harney, Margaret Lythell, Florence Mader, Jeanette Mader, Mary O'Heren and Helen Peebles — submitted "Scotties" as suitable because the town was named for Sir Walter Scott's novels. The students voted approval, hence the "moniker" — "Scotties."

BASEBALL

The Waverly Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 42, April 7, 1870, carried the following notice: "The members of the Base Ball Club will meet at Dr. Benedict's office this evening, for the purpose of organizing. Come boys, let there be a full turn-out."

The first recorded baseball game, as reported in the Waverly Gazette in its next issue following the game, was played July 21, 1870, between the Waverly Batts and the Virden Shoe Flies. Waverly won by the score of 42 to 18. Some years later when the Waverly Star Store team became one of the best in this part of the state, there were a number of outstanding players. The battery was "Cap" Kemper and Dick Morris. Others were Dick's brothers, Billy and Doug, and the Cody brothers. Nick Cody, who passed away in March, 1957, was the pitcher and the last living member of the old "Star Mine," a colorful baseball team sponsored by the Star Store. They were identified by the white stars on their caps, and they won more than their share of the games about the turn of the century. Nick and his brother Jim were often battery mates on this club, with Nick on the mound and Jim behind the plate; however, the former had the distinction of serving either as pitcher or catcher on occasion.

In later years, baseball in Waverly has not been too active, but softball has become Waverly's summer sport. The Waverly K. of P.'s have sponsored softball and Little League for many years. They have produced some fine softball teams in the past. In 1952 there was a girls' softball team managed by Joe Aubrey.

GOLF

Golf has been played by numerous Waverly athletes over the years but cannot become a popular sport because of the necessity to go elsewhere to find a course. During the school year of 1963-64 there was a golf team of four or five players under the coaching of Robert Price.

THEATERS

Messerly's Hall was for many years Waverly's Opera House. Mr. Wilson M. Smith bought the building at auction in March of 1936. Like most opera houses it was an unofficial register of many who had printed or scribbled their names on its walls. Quoted from Waverly Journal, October 7, 1938, "This Interested Us" column — "The outstanding name that I remember in connection with the heyday of Messerly's Hall way back in the eighties was the Kelly Komedy Kompany, the three K's. This company made frequent visits here for a number of years and together with other grade school boys, I was generally seated on the front row, making as much noise as possible and being just as much of a nuisance as any lad of this generation. We sat close enough to the stage to reach the foot lights. You remember them, perhaps, old fashioned oil lamps with tin reflectors."

The earliest date found in Messerly Hall was February 25, 1833. This was the date Alabama Jubilee Singers paid Waverly a visit.

The Arions appeared on Messerly's Hall stage on February 4, 1888, and Steinard's Sketch Team Entertainment Company on October 23, 1892.

The walls were also used for written comment on the town — good, bad or emphatic! One troupe evidently had a very poor week as is indicated by the following — "This is the Rottenest Town on Earth." On the better side of the ledger we find Blankner's Specialty Company and these glad words: "Good Town. Dr. Blankner did \$759.00 on the week. Jammed House Every Night." Mr. Wilson M. Smith recalls winning \$2.00 as first prize in an essay contest that featured the week's stand here.

Many home talent plays were given in those days and many local names still adorn Messerly Hall.

BIJOU

The Bijou Theater was the next show place in town. C. F. Allen bought the theater from A. B. Anderson, who had recently bought it from B. L. Peebles.

CITY HOTEL

The third step in Waverly's theater progress was by way of the city hotel built in 1882 by Napoleon Copley and possibly Nick Walker with John Henry as brick mason, for Smiley Luttrell, owners.

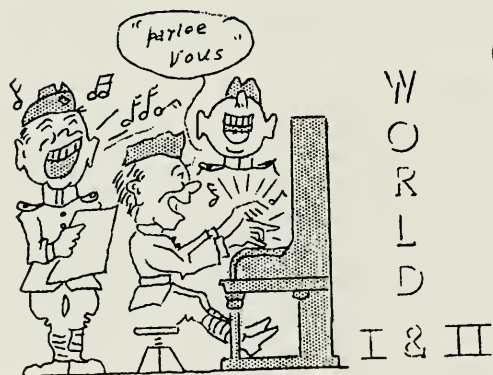
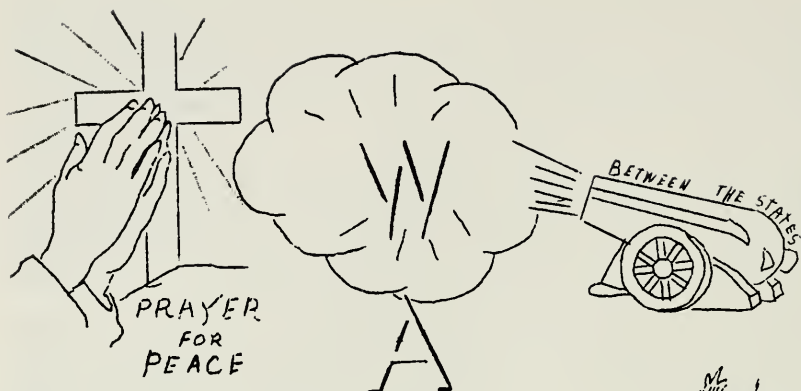
There were numerous transfers of the hotel between 1924 and 1934. The final transfer by Mrs. Edward Barrick to John Rhea was June 18, 1935. He leased it to Mrs. Lanham. Razing of city hotel started in September, 1937. It was rebuilt as the Rex Theater in 1937-38. First show was on January 7, 1938. It remained a movie theater with several shows a week until sold to a corporation.

BOWLING

Several years ago a group of interested Waverly citizens decided that Waverly needed a Bowling Alley. In order to have the needed capital to finance such a project, they formed a Corporation, sold stock and used the funds to purchase the old Rex Theatre Building at the northwest corner of the square.

The building was renovated, and a lengthy addition was added to the back in order to accommodate a six-lane alley. A modern restaurant was installed in the front and bowling came to Waverly in July, 1963.

Bowling has been very popular here ever since, with young and old both participating.



AGAINST
THE-MORMONS-
"LORD FORGIVE OUR TRESSPASSES"

WARS

No depredations by the Indians were ever committed among the settlers of Morgan County, and no record of the killing of any white men after the settling of the county is known to have occurred.

THE WINNEBAGO WAR

Fully described in the following article, written by Judge William Thomas, for the weekly JOURNAL of August 17, 1871. As it gives an accurate account of the participation of several Morgan County men in this conflict, it is worthy of a place in the history of the county:

"But few of the actors in this war remain among us. In 1827, General Edwards received information on which he relied, that the Winnebago Indians had attacked some keel-boats, which had been employed conveying army supplies to Prairie du Chien, on their return down the river, and that settlers and miners on Fox River were in imminent danger of an attack from a band of these and other Indians. The general ordered the commanders of the different regiments and odd battalions of General Harrison's brigade on the eastern side of the Illinois River — excepting the 20th regiment — to take immediate steps for detaching into service, according to law, one-fourth of their respective commands. And should any part of the frontiers south of Rock River be invaded by the savages, the colonel entitled by law to command the detachment, was ordered to march with the least possible delay to the support of the point attacked, without waiting for further orders."

BLACK HAWK

Black Hawk was chief now of the Sacand Rox nations, and a noted warrior. He and his tribe inhabited a Village on Rock River, nearly three miles above its confluence with the Mississippi, where the tribe had lived many generations. When that portion of Illinois was reserved to them, they remained in peaceable possession of their reservation, spending their time in the enjoyment of Indian life. The fine situation of their village and the quality of their lands incited the more lawless white settlers, who from time to time began to encroach upon the red men's domain. From one pretext to another, and from one step to another, the crafty white men gained a foothold, until through whiskey and artifice they obtained deeds from many of the Indians for their possessions. The Indians were finally induced to cross over the Father of Waters and locate among the Iowas. Black Hawk would not agree to the terms of the treaty made with his nation for their lands, and as soon as the military, called to enforce his removal, had retired, he returned to the Illinois side of the River. A large force was at once raised and marched against him. On the evening of May 14, 1832, the first engagement occurred between a band from this army and Black Hawk's band, in which the former were defeated.

This attack and its result aroused the whites. A large force of men was raised, and General Scott hastened from the seaboard, by way of the lakes, with United States troops and artillery to aid in the subjugation of the Indians. On the 24th of June, Black Hawk, with 200 warriors, was repulsed by Major Demont between Rock River and Galena. The American army continued to move up Rock River toward the main body of the Indians and on the 21st of July came upon Black Hawk and his band, defeating them near the Blue Mounds.

Before this action, General Henry, in command, sent word to the main army, by whom he was immediately rejoined, and the whole army crossed the Wisconsin in pursuit of Black Hawk and his band, who were fleeing to the Mississippi. They were overtaken on the 2nd of August, and in the battle which followed, the power of the Indian chief was completely broken.

On the 21st of September, 1832, General Scott and Governor Reynolds concluded a treaty with the Indian nations. For the faithful performance of the provisions of the treaty on the part of the Indians, it was stipulated that Black Hawk, his two sons, the prophet Wabokieshiek, and six other chiefs of the hostile bands should be retained as hostages during the pleasure of the president. They were confined at Fort Barracks and put in irons.

MORMON CONFLICT

A brief account of the sect styled Mormons, or "Latter Day Saints," is given in "The Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois" (page 384). "After their settlement at Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois, in 1840, their conduct soon became so lawless and defiant that the authority of the state was finally necessary to put a stop to their pretensions and practices. The militia was called out. Many citizens of Morgan County responded and participated in that campaign. Conspicuous among them was Colonel John J. Hardin, who rendered wise and efficient counsel and service in the suppression and removal of this organization in 1846, who, led by Brigham Young, settled in Utah."

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

On August 8th, 1862, the following interesting item appeared in the Springfield Press:

Waverly, Illinois. The little town in the southeast corner of Morgan County is patriotic to the core and has covered itself with glory. In the space of forty-eight hours after the receipt of the new order from the War Department, the citizens of that place and vicinity, by common consent, without the aid of a recruiting officer or of anyone authorized to raise a company, organized from their midst a company of 107 men, good and true, and on yesterday some of the citizens were in this city to report to the adjutant General's office. The Waverly Company belongs to the Morgan County list, but it deserves a special notice for the patriotism displayed by those engaged in its organization.

WORLD WARS I AND II — KOREAN

The fact that Waverly has a very active and progressive American Legion Post and Auxiliary is a constant testimony of the loyalty and patriotism of its people.

There has been active participation by both men and women in the wars of this century. Since the state is second in agriculture and third in manufacturing, much was expected of Illinois during war, and she surpassed all expectations in those fields.

During the Korean conflict of 1950-1953, more than fifty per cent of its National Guard were inducted into federal service.

VIETNAM

"The split between the Soviets and the Chinese became wider in 1953 as the Chinese Communists spread their influence in Southeast Asia, and the United States found itself faced by a new danger."

Communist forces, encouraged by Red China, were active in Laos, South Vietnam, and Northern Thailand. In 1961 President Kennedy and Kruschchev had agreed to make Laos neutral, but South Vietnam, formerly a French possession, was another matter. North Vietnam had already been taken over by Communists. The United States decided it would not allow South Vietnam to be overrun by Communists.

Step by step Americans were drawn into large scale fighting in South Vietnam. First, beginning in 1954, the United States provided a program of "aid" to the South Vietnamese. Then it found it had to send the Military "advisers.." As the North Vietnamese were spreading in ever larger numbers over South Vietnam, our country began to send troops in 1961. By the summer of 1966 the United States had between 250,000 and 300,000 men involved directly or indirectly in trying to stop the Communist enemy in Vietnam, and the number has been greatly increased since then.

President Johnson addressed the Nation Sunday night, March 31, 1968 at 8 o'clock, explaining our policies and strategy in Vietnam at the present time. He ordered a halt in the bombing in Vietnam, except in the pan-handle of the North, in order, if possible, to promote peace talks. This is the 39th effort made by the President to bring Hanoi to the Peace Table. The President is seeking not only an honorable, just Peace in this conflict, but a universal peace for the world; the idealistic goal of arbitration, not armed conflict.



MISCELLANEOUS



DEEP SNOW

The old settlers of Morgan, Cass and Scott Counties, in the organization of their society for a number of years limited membership to those who could date their residence here to the period of the "Deep Snow."

In the latter part of November, 1830, snow commenced falling and continued to fall at intervals until January, 1831. As one snow fell upon another, the wind at times blowing very hard, there soon accumulated a depth in places from seven to twelve feet, covering fences and small buildings entirely, and causing great distress to the inhabitants, as well as to stock and wild game. The sun occasionally melted the surface, and the cold nights would freeze it hard enough to bear a man or beast. Many suffered severely, both for food and warmth, not having made preparation for such a cold spell. Many instances of suffering might be given, but so many have been reported in neighborhood circles, and others published, it would seem needless to repeat them. The winter of the "Deep Snow" is referred to by all the early settlers, forming a data to refer to, as any incident happening so long a time before or after it. Until February, 1831, when the snow went off with a great freshet, the ground was not seen.

In the fall of 1833 there occurred a strange phenomenon. On the night of the 13th of November, there was an apparent falling of the stars, like rain from the clouds. The unusual and extraordinary event created considerable alarm among the people.

SUDDEN FREEZE

While the average temperature in winter was 29.26 degrees, cold "snaps" were of frequent occurrence. On January 28, 1873, the temperature fell to 40 degrees below zero throughout the central and northern portions of the state. With the snow in some places 16 inches deep, this was the coldest day ever known in Illinois.

The most memorable instance of such a sudden fall of temperature occurred December 20, 1836. Several inches of snow had fallen on that day, and it was warm enough for rain to fall in the afternoon, which melted the snow into slush and water. About 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon it began to grow dark, from a heavy, black cloud which was seen in the northwest. Almost instantly the strong wind, traveling at the rate of seventy miles an hour, accompanied by a deep, bellowing sound, with its icy blast, swept over the land, and everything was instantly frozen hard. The water of the little pools in the roads froze in waves, sharp-edged and pointed, as the gale had blown it. The chickens, pigs, and other small animals were frozen in their tracks. Wagon wheels, ceasing to roll, froze to the ground. Men, going to their barns or fields, a short distance from their houses, in slush and water, returned a few minutes later walking on the ice. Some caught out on horseback were frozen to their saddles, and had to be lifted off and carried to the fire to be thawed out.

Two young men were frozen to death near Rushville. One of them was found sitting with his back against a tree, with his horse's bridle over his arm, and his horse frozen in front of him. The other was partly in a kneeling position, with a tinder-box in one hand and a flint in the other, with both eyes open, as if intent on trying to strike a light. Many other casualties were reported. As to the exact temperature, however, no instrument has left any record; but the ice was frozen in the streams, as variously reported, from six inches to a foot in thickness, in a few hours. Such sudden,

violent, and extreme changes were so exceptional as to be remarkable. Judge Samuel Wood, of Morgan County, and others then residing in the county were reliable authorities for the foregoing account of the "Sudden Freeze" of that memorable day and event.

Judge Wood says he was nearly a mile from home, in the prairie, when the blast struck him. The slush and water were several inches deep, and before he could get home he could walk upon the top, as they were frozen hard.

Mr. Hiram Reeve also remembered that the day was warm and showery during the afternoon. Near two o'clock in the afternoon it grew dark, as if a rain storm was coming, and in an instant, the strong wind, with an icy blast, came and all was frozen. He found raccoons, opossums and other animals frozen to death. Between two o'clock p.m. and nine o'clock a.m. the next day, the ice had frozen six inches thick.

Daniel L. Clarke says that on the morning following the sudden freeze on the previous afternoon, he rode his horse across Indian Creek on the ice, and had him in the stable before sunrise, and that the ice was one foot thick.

WARM WINTER, 1877

On the 19th of October, 1877, it commenced raining, and continued to rain, more or less, every day up to December 27th. On Christmas day fish worms were crawling on the sidewalks, and the streets of Jacksonville were almost impassable for teams. Few persons came into the city except on foot or by the railroads. Business was almost suspended. Deep mud, and more or less rain, continued until the middle of March, 1878.

CLIMATOLOGICAL

Meteorological Phenomena: The Dry Season of 1820 — Wind Story of 1821 — Cyclone of 1825 — The Dep Snow, 1830-31 — Shooting Stars of 1833 — The Sudden Freeze of 1836 — Little Indian Cyclone of 1845 — Snow Storm of 1855 — Cyclones of 1855, '56, '59 — The Warm Winter of 1877 — Cyclone of 1880 — The Great Sleet Storm of 1883 — Greasy Prairie and Literberry Cyclones of 1883 — The Coldest Day, 1884 — Memorable Hail Storm of 1884 — The Hottest Day, 1869.

CHOLERA

In July and August, 1833, Jacksonville suffered greatly from an epidemic of cholera. The first case was that of the wife of a mover who was traveling through the country by wagon. Stopping there, his wife was taken sick. The citizens went to their assistance, and the woman's disease was pronounced a case of genuine Asiatic cholera. The sick woman and family were conveyed to a log cabin outside of town, located on the site of the home of Mr. George Mauzy, on North Sandy Street. The woman died, and people burned the clothing and bedding and furnished the man with money and sent him on. Jacksonville at that time contained about five hundred inhabitants, fully half of whom fled to the country. Of those who remained, about 75 were attacked by the epidemic and about 55 died. A number of those who fled to the country also died. Among those who died were the wife and children of Rev. John M. Ellis, during his absence from home while prosecuting his educational work in Indiana. The scourge lasted six weeks, and was the most terrible that ever visited Jacksonville.

In 1851, the cholera again visited the southeast part of the county. The path of the scourge was a narrow strip southward as far as Belleville. A

number of persons died from the epidemic in Waverly and vicinity, among whom were Rev. Wilson S. McMurray, pastor of the Methodist Church there, and his wife and two children.

EARLY WEDDINGS

"The marriage ceremony in those days was a very unceremonious affair." Says John McConnell, whose excellent description in his Western sketches we quote in full: "The parents never made a parade about anything — marriage least of all. They usually gave the bride a bed, a lean horse, and some good advice; and having thus discharged their duty, returned to their work and business was done." The bride of the pioneer was clothed in linsey-woolsey with hose of woolen yarn and moccasins of deer skin or, as an extra piece of finery, high quartered shoes of calf skin. The bridegroom came in copper-colored jeans — domestic manufactured — as a holiday suit. Perhaps he wore a hunting cap and a powder pouch.

NICKNAME "SUCKERS"

There are several stories told concerning the origin of the nickname, "Suckers." The most logical one concerns George Rogers Clark's attack upon the French town of Kaskaskia. It was summer and a very hot day, and as he entered the town, he saw Frenchmen sitting quietly on their little verandahs, in front of their houses, sucking their juleps through straws. He rushed upon them, crying, "Surrender, you suckers, you!" The Frenchmen surrendered and from that day to this, Illinoisians have been known as "Suckers."

Another account of the origin of the name "Suckers" is attributed to the custom of early emigrants who, when passing through the state and finding a scant supply of water on the prairies, would thrust a sharpened stick three or four feet down into the loose, porous soil. A short time after, the stick would be withdrawn, and the hole would partially fill with water. The emigrant would then insert a long, hollow reed through which he would suck up sufficient water to quench his thirst. From the custom of sucking the water through these hollow tubes, the early inhabitants are said to have derived the name of "Suckers."

SHAKERAG

Way back in early Waverly Days, there was a flour mill in the southwest part of town, about where the Primitive Baptist Church is now located. It was operated by a man by the name of John Gunnells, father of the late Mrs. Mary McKee and John Gunnells, Jr., as related to the Journal. That part of town was not built up as it is now, and it was all open space from the mill to the Gunnells' residence at or just west of the present junction of Routes No. 104 and 111. Nothing broke the view between the mill and the Gunnells home, and in order to let the men at the mill know when dinner was ready, Mrs. Gunnells would go to the door and wave a rag. One of the children would generally be at the mill and, like most children, looking forward anxiously for dinner time, would be on the lookout, come noontime, and when the signal came that dinner was ready, would yell, "Daddy, the rag's a shakin'."

Most people did not know that the name came from the pioneer custom of signalling by the shaking of a rag. In the article the Journal stated that one other place in the United States has a Shake Rag — Mineral Point, Wisconsin — having a street by that name, and that it received its name in the same manner as Waverly's famed "Shakerag." Mrs. W. L. Henderson re-

ports that there is a cross roads community in Pike County, Indiana, by the name of Shakerag.

SALTER PARK

Waverly was honored last Friday (1935) by a visit to the city by Miss Matilda Salter of St. Louis. Miss Salter is a granddaughter of Cleveland J. Salter, who may be honored as the "Father of Waverly."

Miss Salter was a member of the Waverly Congregational Church while she was a resident of the town. For many years, she has resided with her brother, Mr. John Salter, a prominent physician in St. Louis.

Miss Salter attended the centennial of 1935 and gave historical addresses. Though advanced in years, she is still loyal to Waverly. She was happy when she learned that by action of the City Council, the name of the "square" had been officially changed to "Salter Park."

LAFAYETTE'S CARRIAGE

General Marquis de LaFayette, the ally of the American people in the Revolutionary War, visited this country in the years of 1824 and 1825. He met with the misfortune of having his carriage overturn into the river, and its white silk linings were thereby very much damaged. Taking another, he proceeded on his journey, leaving orders to have his carriage sold. It was bought by Mr. Drury, an uncle of the late Charles J. Drury, of Morgan County, whose father, Lawson Drury, Jr., came to Illinois in the spring of 1831 and died at the age of thirty-three of cholera, at the farm now occupied by his grandson, Mr. Frank Drury, near Orleans.

LIQUOR IN HARVEST FIELDS

As to the use of intoxicating liquor in harvest fields, Mr. F. Gorham, father of Josiah Gorham, now of Champaign County, claims the credit of being the first farmer in this country who refused to furnish "ardent spirits" to laborers employed in the harvest field, and in raising a barn, he furnished as a substitute ginger beer and buttermilk.

Mr. Silas Massey, who bought land here about 1832, was another farmer, it not the first in Morgan County, who succeeded in having his harvest done without whiskey, and when the men declined to work without it, he told them he could just turn his hogs in the wheat and they would take care of the harvesting, and not say whiskey once. The men stopped complaining and harvested it.

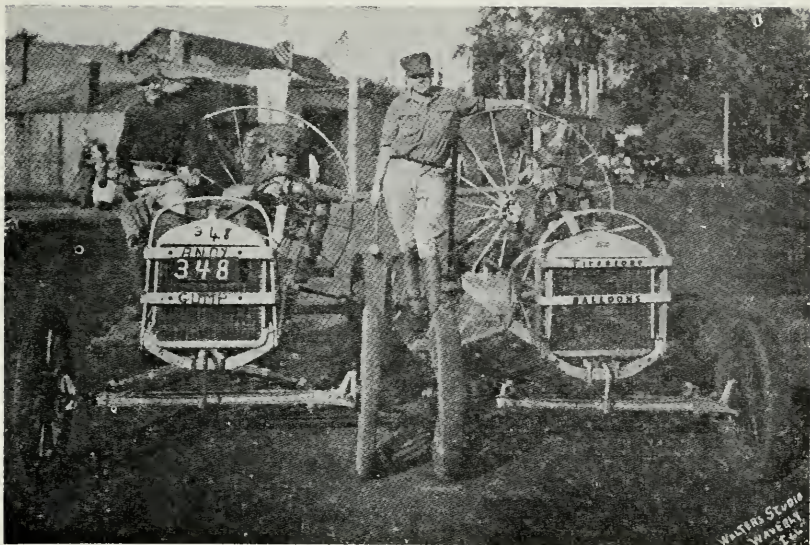
AUTOMOBILE POLO

In the early twenties, the sport of Auto-Polo developed in Waverly. It was a major attraction at picnics and celebrations. A minor crash in 1923 was reported in the Waverly Journal; no one seriously injured, however. It must have been a very exciting sport, from the crowds pictured at the events. One of our streets was roped off and the fun began. Information on this sport is meager; however, Dr. C. F. Deatherage could answer questions. A picture of the game is given on another page.

Ref. — Illinois State Historical Library. Journal. Taken from "Diary of Anna R. Morrison, wife of Isaac L. Morrison," April, 1914.

Monday, December 28, "Started early this morning for Waverly; arrived about 11 o'clock. The driver took us to the only house he knew of where strangers were received; a shocking place. The room assigned to me, which I might call a garret (attic), is reached by means of a ladder going up from the summer kitchen."

AUTO POLO TEAMS



Left Team: Ross Garman; Maurice Turnbull, driver.

Right Team: Dr. C. F. Deatherage; Glenn Smedley, driver.

Ref. — Illinois State Historical Library. Journal. Page 57, "Abraham Lincoln, Judge David Davis and Judge Edward Bates," by John M. Landsden.

"Mr. Abraham Lincoln gave his first political speech at Waverly, in Morgan County. He was dressed in a black suit and appeared very much indeed as he appeared in what is said to be the earliest picture of him now in existence, one taken, I believe, in 1848.

HISTORY OF MORGAN COUNTY

BURNING WITCHES — In 1834, near Middle Creek, now in Cass County, but at that time in Morgan, a religious society of fanatics was organized, who not only believed in Witchcraft, but actually made offerings of themselves, and were burned at the stake, to appease and propitiate, as they believed, their offended deity, and cast lots whom of their members should be burned at the stake. Once the lot fell on an old lady, whom the others tied and bound to the stake. When she began to burn she screamed so loudly and pitifully that a Mr. Elmore, who was hunting nearby, broke open the door with a fence rail, released the burning woman, and broke up the meetings. The grand jury of Morgan County indicted many members, and the religious fanatics left the country.

CENTENNIAL 1935

(Taken from Jacksonville Daily Journal, August 8, 1935)

Oxen and automobile moved together through the street here this afternoon while airplanes whirled overhead, reminding Waverly citizens and many visitors of changes that have transpired during a century. The strange assortment of ancient vehicles in the procession was brought out for the Waverly Centennial parade, a spectacle as impressive as any ever witnessed here.

Old carriages, bicycles of ancient vintage, carriages that were first pulled by horses that never heard the backfire of an automobile or gazed at a traffic light, joined the parade of new and old. The contrast was vivid, for the parade was well staged and a historical note was dominant.

Headed by the Roodhouse D.O.K.K. drum and bugle corps of thirty pieces in vari-colored uniforms, the parade moved around the square at four o'clock, climaxing a day of speaking, music and sociability.

A prairie schooner drawn by two oxen lumbered along in much the same fashion as Waverly's first settlers arrived one hundred years ago. The oxen were provided by a Sangamon County farmer.

The country doctor and his means of travel were graphically depicted by Waverly's four physicians. Dr. Paul Allyn, wearing a long coat and silk hat, rode a horse. Dr. Walter H. Allyn and Dr. N. J. Hughes followed in a buggy, while Dr. E. W. Crum rode in an automobile.

THE WAVERLY GAZETTE

June 24, 1869 - February 23, 1871

Motto — "Independent in all things — neutral in nothing."

Editors: Miles J. Abbott, W. D. Pemberton

A HINT

The members of the Waverly Curbstone Association and the staring statues which ornament our town on Sundays at diverse places, are requested to give special attention to the following hint which is inserted at the request of a large number of ladies of this town.

"Standing on the sidewalk
Smoking my cigar,
Nothing under heaven,
My happiness can mar,

Staring at the ladies
Surely what a treat,
Bless Me! This is pleasant
Loafing on the Street."

This comment found in Volume 1, Number 7, August 5, 1869, of the Waverly Gazette is proof man has changed little over the years.

The approach of the Christmas season was heralded in the Gazette with this item: "The pupils of the Waverly Academy are devoting their spare time to the construction of a magnificent 'Christmas Tree'."

The Gazette of January 6, 1870, gives a detailed description of the Christmas Tree and its many gifts in the following account. "Christmas Eve of 1869 will long be remembered by the scholars of the Public School. Their Christmas tree was a decided success, and everything connected with it passed off to the satisfaction of all concerned. The little folks enjoyed their cornucopias of sweet meats, and many a little heart was gladdened by the pretties and goodies that came from boughs of the almost inexhaustable tree. Messers Lybarger and Salter did the Santa Claus, and were prolific in good jokes, always appreciating the fine points and making suitable application. Some of our dignified citizens were delighted to receive Jumpin-jacks and rocking horses. While the Professor saw himself in a bottle through a pair of glasses (spectacles), the assistants each received a china doll and other things that were not china. Sturdy bachelors received toy cradles from — to remind them of their neglected obligations to society and the world. One of our temperance advocates was the happy recipient of a cornucopia containing a bottle of whiskey, flanked on the right and left with a suitable guard of cinnamon and cloves; while ye virtuous editor would respectfully acknowledge the receipt in his cornucopia of a letter from some fair unknown,

containing a fifty cent greenback, but would state that we are incorruptible. Many received elegant and substantial presents, which we will not enumerate.

The party dispersed in good season and in a pleasant humor — only wishing Christmas might come oftener."

EDITORIAL OF DECEMBER 22, 1870

"Throughout all the countries of Christendom, this day is held sacred from the cares of life. It is a holiday with pleasures for all. It is a time-honored season for devotion, for smiles, for shouts of glee and laughter, for lively pleasures of social enjoyment.

The gray-haired sires and their scattered children, neighbors, and friends are accustomed to meet together to blend their happy feelings, and enjoy the day in mutual mirth, pleasantness, free and easy converse, and savory festivities. The young are especially merry on this day. By the blessings of Santa Claus they are enriched with toys, sweet things and nick-nacks of all kinds.

"On this day all the imps of darkness that infest the human soul should flee to the shades of Hades. All should be glad and jovial; all should mutually bathe in the sunlight of each other's happy heart.

"A 'Merry Christmas' and a 'Happy New Year' then to all our readers. We wish you plenty of mince pies and roast turkey, and pyramids of sweet 'doins' whose moutaintops are lost in the frost and snow and sublime foam of sugary mantels. May you pile up the pies and sweet 'agonies,' stratum after stratum, till mid the plentitude of savory cheer you are constrained to cry out, 'It's good that Christmas is here.'

Editors and printers are fallible men, with gaping stomachs also about Christmas times. They wish also to enjoy the holidays, so we must eschew pens and types and 'chew' some of the good things, too, if we get them. Therefore we will publish no other paper till after said holiday.

"Once more a 'Merry Christmas' to you all, tendering you our heartiest congratulations and best wishes for your health and happiness throughout the new year."

A most unusual request was made of the Methodist minister as follows: "Published by request —

A discourse upon the nativity of Christ, Waverly, Illinois, December 27, 1869, Rev. W. McK. McElfresh: Believing that the publication of your sermon delivered in the M. E. Church, on Sabbath Morning, December 26, should be conducive of good to the community, we, the undersigned, would respectfully ask a copy of the same for publication in the Gazette of this city: Mr. Abbott having kindly consented to the use of his columns."

J. F. Woodmansee

R. E. McVey

W. T. Blaney

J. E. Barrett

J. W. Manson

J. M. Hutchinson

Elisha Miner

J. A. Crain

SOCIAL PARTIES

"Were we gifted with the spirit of poesy, we might consult our favorite muse and give to the world — our little world of readers, we mean — an account of a social party on Friday evening, that would partake less of the prosaic than that we are about to endite. But as nature has endowed us with a better appreciation of nature's poseys than with a knowledge of Dryden's 'heavenly gift of poesy,' we are compelled to tell it in a straightforward way.

Having Chartered a buggy for the occasion, about seven o'clock found us, ('us' in this case means the editor and, w—ell, to go on with story), proceeding across the country six miles north to the residence of Mr. Robert Fleming, by the way, a well-to-do farmer, universally respected for his manliness, integrity, and good qualities generally.

Arriving at our destination, we found him, his amiable wife, and our young friend Crit Fleming, already besieged by more than four score of the youth and beauty of Franklin, Waverly, and country round about. After a merry time downstairs, upstairs and in every available place, and way, for the hospitable doors were thrown wide open for the enjoyment of all and which all did enjoy according to their several abilities, supper was announced and the party adjourned to the dining room, where an abundant feast was elegantly served. Oysters, cake, pies, preserves, hot coffee, jellies, etc., made up the bountiful repast which all pronounced perfectly 'splendid.'

"Then again to the parlors, where various amusements were freely indulged in until long past low twelve, when the party began to disperse with radiant faces and happy hearts, more than pleased with the evening's experiences." Again the editor enumerated all the women present, but no mention of the men.

THE SQUARE

The public square, donated by Mr. C. J. Salter, was surrounded by a rail fence, as late as 1846. A year or two later it was replaced by a plank fence; the square was then cleaned of dock and weeds and made more attractive.

Waverly Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 43, April 10, 1870: "Why not use the street loafers as hitching posts? We regard them as permanent fixtures."

Waverly Gazette, Vol 1, No. 25, December 5, 1869: Editor's comment, quote:

"The night air in this place has a damaging effect on wood. We hear of several woodpiles, which, in a single night, have shrunk to less than two-thirds their original size the day before. It is a subject for scientific investigation."

Waverly Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 38, March 10, 1870:

"We have no desire to accommodate our own stiff-neckedness, but we wish to be very considerate, and we think it would be an act of Christianity to furnish some of the Waverly Churchgoers with seats resting on pivots, that they may see who comes in without straining their necks."

WEDDINGS

Waverly Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 36, February 27, 1870:

"Married, Sunday evening, February 27, 1870, at the residence of the bride's father in Waverly, by Rev. J. H. Austin, Mr. James E. Summers and Miss Mattie Hanley. Cake received, for which the bride will please accept our thanks."

Waverly Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 13, September 13, 1869:

"Married, September 12, 1869, at the residence of the bride's father in Waverly, by Rev. W. McElfresh, Mr. Norman Agard and Miss Marlotte Ward. We acknowledge the receipt of a bountiful supply of luscious cake."

Waverly Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 6, July 29, 1869:

"Married, August 1, 1869, by Rev. W. McElfresh, Mr. W. H. Scott and Miss Mary Javins, all of this place. No cards, no cake."

CHAPTER XII — BIBLIOGRAPHY

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