

HISTORY  
Of  
**HOWARD AND COOPER COUNTIES,**

MISSOURI

WRITTEN AND COMPILED

*FROM THE MOST AUTHENTIC OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE SOURCES*

INCLUDING A HISTORY OF ITS

TOWNSHIPS, TOWNS AND VILLAGES

TOGETHER WITH

**A CONDENSED HISTORY OF MISSOURI; A RELIABLE AND DETAILED HISTORY OF  
HOWARD AND COOPER COUNTIES – ITS PIONEER RECORD, RESOURCES,  
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PROMINENT CITIZENS; GENERAL  
AND LOCAL STATISTICS OF GREAT VALUE; INCIDENTS  
AND REMINISCENCES**

*ILLUSTRATED*

ST. LOUIS  
NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMPANY.

**1883**

## PREFACE

Portions of this book that are highlighted in red are direct quotations from Leven's and Drakes' 1876 History of Cooper County, Missouri. So if you have already read this earlier history, you may wish to jump to the new sections given in this history. Formatting has been changed and page numbering, etc bears no direct correlation to the original manuscript. Finally there are a few pages of long boring tables that I could not bring myself to transcribe. Otherwise, I hope you enjoy this history.

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## CHAPTER XIX

### CALIFORNIA EMIGRANTS – TEMPERANCE EXCITEMENT

*California Emigrants -Who they Were -A Beautiful and Touching Farewell-Temperance Excitement in 1853 -Rev. William Ross -Proclamation of the MayorPolice Force Organized-Report of Temperance Committee - KansasTroublea of 1856-Meeting of the Citizens of Boonville.*

#### CALIFORNIA EMIGRANTS

The years of 1849 and 1850 will be remembered by the old settlers of Cooper county, as the periods when the gold excitement in California reached its highest point, and as the years when the people generally throughout the American Union, as well as Cooper county, wore alike smitten with the fold fever. The early settlers, like their descendants of today, soon learned that

“Gold is the strength, the sinews of the world;  
The health, the soul, the beauty most divine; “

and manifested their love and appreciation of the saffron-hued metal by separating themselves from their homes and friends, and taking up their line of march to the gold fields of California. Cooper county sent forth many of her sons - some of whom were men with gray beards, and boys still in their teens - to that far-distant region, all animated with the hope that their labors, their sacrifices and their bravery, would be rewarded with an abundance of the glittering and precious ore.

Below will be found the names of a portion of the companies of Captains Robert McCulloch and Solomon Houck.

#### ROBERT M'ULLOCH'S COMPANY

Spotswook McCulloch, Joseph McCulloch, John McCulloch, Robert Douglass, Charles Lewis, Merriweather Lewis, Nicholas Lewis, Abraham Weight, John Simmons, Joseph Potter, Nelson Potter, Reuben Stevens (of Moniteau County) James Humes ( of Moniteau County), Ewing Kelly, Joseph Hess, John Kelly, Peter Kelly, Bear Sr., Frank Bear, John Carey, William Son, George Kelly, John Hornbeck, Perry Taylor, Alfred Hornbeck, C. W. Sombart, Julius Sombart, Robert Allison, Love Wadly, Erhart Sr., August Erhart, Albert Erhart, William Hardcastle, Oldhausen & Son (of St. Louis County), Richard Bidel (of St. Louis County), Louis Brant (of St. Louis County), Dr. Antrim, Abraham Reidmeyer (from Ohio), William Reidmeyer (from Ohio), John Hahn, Joseph Byler, Calvin Wilson, Simon Boyd, Dr. Cooper (Universalist preacher).

#### SOLOMON HOUCK'S COMPANY

C. B. Combes, Thomas Chambers, Charles Mitchell, Absalom Meridith, John Baldwin, Jacob Gype, John Mars, Cal Mason, John Oglesby, Thomas Mitchell, Jacob Harrier, Horace Hutchinson, William Samuels, William Wheatley, Samuel Row, John Porter.

Upon the eve of his departing for California, one of the (cooper county boys penned the following beautiful and touching farewell:

Farewell, farewell, my native land,  
I leave thee only with a sigh,  
To wander o'er a foreign strand,  
Perchance to live, perchance to die.  
Adieu, my friends, whom kindred ties  
Unite, though distant we may rove,  
How ardent as time onward flies,  
Fond memory clings to those we love.

O'er the broad plains, far away,  
Beyond the Rocky Mountain's crest,  
Our wayward feet awhile shall stray,  
And press the gold-besprinkled west.  
But 'mid the gaudy scenes of strife,  
Where gold to pride enchantment lends,  
We'll ne'er forget that boon of life  
Companions dear and faithful friends.

And in the lapse of coming years,  
Should fortune be not too unkind,  
We'll hope reward for parting tears,  
In smiles from those we left behind.  
We go-yet hoping to return,  
Friends of our youth, to home and you,  
For these do cause our hearts to yearn,  
E'en when we sigh Adieu - Adieu.

#### TEMPERANCE EXCITEMENT IN 1853

During the month of July, 1853, Boonville was much excited in consequence of a temperance movement inaugurated by the Crystal Fount division of the Sons of Temperance. This organization secured the services of the Rev. William Ross, deputy grand worthy patriarch of Missouri, who delivered a number of temperance lectures in the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian churches. Mr. Ross was quite radical in his views in reference to the liquor question, and had incurred the displeasure of the saloon keepers of the town by the bold and denunciatory manner in which he spoke of their traffic. The excitement continued to increase, until it reached its culminating point on July 17, 1853. Upon that day (Sunday) a meeting of the friends of temperance was advertised to be held at the Presbyterian Church, where Rev. William Ross would deliver a lecture. On the 16th day of July, the day preceding the day of the lecture, the mayor of Boonville had published the following proclamation, which explains itself:

#### PROCLAMATION

*By the Mayor of the City of Boonville:*

Whereas, a certain itinerant lecturer, calling himself "Billy Ross," has been disseminating discord and dissension in this community, by vituperation and abuse, under the guise of temperance lectures; and, whereas, it is said that sundry persons have armed themselves and threatened to assemble for combat - some to encourage and others to stop said Ross in his course - these are therefore to forbid all such riotous and unlawful assemblages. And the police of this city are hereby required to suppress and disperse all riotous and unlawful assemblies in this city.

In testimony whereof, I, H. B. Benedict, mayor of the city of Boonville, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the city, at office, this 16th day of July, 1853.

H. B. BENEDICT, Mayor.

#### POLICE FORCE ORGANIZED.

In accordance with this proclamation, the mayor immediately organized a force numbering sixty-two men, including himself, and marched to the Presbyterian church on the 17th of July, where the church and grounds were taken possession of by him. The people (the friends of temperance) came to the church at the hour appointed, but were prevented from entering the building by the mayor and his force, who quietly dispersed the assembled crowd, which offered no resistance, and made no riotous demonstrations. This action upon the part of the mayor elicited much unfavorable comment from many of the best citizens of Boonville and the surrounding country. The mayor, however, was sustained by his friends, who thought the circumstances justified his interference.

From a published report, made by a committee appointed at the time, by the temperance organization of Boonville, we take the following in reference to the police force, which acted upon the occasion mentioned:

Who made up that (so-called) police force? Everybody in Boonville knows! Whisky traders, grog-shop keepers and their bloated customers, black-legs, infidels-some known long and known truly, to be infidels alike towards all that is divine in Christianity, and pure and sacred in the principles of a well-ordered domestic and social life. When Mr. Ross, together with his peaceable, forbearing, but deeply outraged audience, assembled at that church-yard gate, around the church enclosure, and looked over, they saw men who for weeks before had been breathing "threatenings and slaughter" against Mr. Ross (for no other reason than this only: that he had assaulted within the walls of the churches of this city, the hydra monster whisky), herded together, all who heartlessly trade in, and fatten upon the profits of the poison.

Large numbers of ladies, with the general multitude, lingered around the gate and gazed with mingled feelings of pity, suppressed indignation and contempt upon the motely mass of disgusting, animal and moral putrescence that made up almost the entire number of the legalized mob that invested, by barbarian, bacchanalian authority the peaceful premises of that deeply dishonored sanctuary.

#### KANSAS TROUBLES OF 1856

August 20, 1856, a call was made in Boonville for men and money to aid the pro-slavery party in Kansas. One of the posters announcing the call, reads as follows:-

## KANSAS

A meeting of the citizens of Cooper county will be held at the court-house, in Boonville, on Saturday, the 23d, for the purpose of raising men and money to aid the law and order men in Kansas. Let every pro-slavery man attend. Bring your guns and horses. Let us sustain the government, and drive back the abolitionists who are murdering our citizens.

The above was signed by some of the prominent citizens of the town, who sent men and money to Kansas.

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## CHAPTER XX

### SAMUEL COLE

*His Birth and Parentage-His Early Recollections-His Reminiscences as a Hunter-Hunting Bee Tree.*

Having spoken of this old pioneer in the first chapter of the history of Cooper county, and having given of him some interesting and amusing incidents, we will now speak of him more fully.

The first settlers in any new country pass through an experience which no succeeding generation will ever be able fully to appreciate. The time is already past when the youth of the present, even, have any proper conceptions of the vicissitudes, dangers and trials which the pioneer fathers and mothers are compelled to undergo to maintain a footing in the states west of the great Mississippi. Every new settlement wrote a history of its own, which differed from others in the nature of its surroundings; but the aggregate of the experience of all was one never again to be repeated in the same territory or country. The mighty woods and the solemn prairies are no longer shrouded in mystery, and their effect on the minds of the early comers are sensations which will be a sealed book to the future. Year by year the circle of these old veterans of civilization is narrowing. All that is most vivid and valuable in memory is rapidly disappearing. Gray hairs and bowed forms attest the march of time. Fresh hillocks in every cemetery are all the marks that are left of a race of giants who grappled nature in her fastnesses, and traded triumphant conquest in the face of the greatest privations, disease and difficulty. The shadows that fall upon their tombs, as time recedes, are like the smoky haze that enveloped the great prairies of the early days, saddening the memory and giving to dim distance only a faint and phantom outline, to which the future will look back, and trust often wonder at the great hearts that lie hidden under the peaceful canopy. It is for this reason, therefore, that no personal sketch of pioneer settlers, however rudely drawn or immature in detail, can be classed as the work of mere vain Glory. On the contrary, the future will treasure them, and as the generations recede they will become more and more objects of interest and real value. The memory of the pioneer is one that the world will never consent to let fade. Its transmission is a priceless gift to the future, and the addition of a fresh sketch should be esteemed by the reader as of great value.

#### BIRTH AND PARENTAGE.

The subject of this sketch was born in Wythe county, Virginia a state whose population did as much in the early settlement of central Missouri to give a permanent impress to the character and civilization of the Boone's Lick country, as any people east of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. His father was William T. Cole, and his mother was Hannah Ellison. From this union nine children were born. Samuel was the youngest, and first saw the light of day in January, 1801. When he was but four years old his parents emigrated to Kentucky, and settled in Wayne county. Remaining there until 1808, the family came to Missouri and located in Osage county. During the second year of the family's residence in Osage, his father was killed by Indians. Soon after that unfortunate event the widow, with her nine children, came to Cooper, she and her children being one of the first two families that pitched their tents within the limits of the county.

#### HIS EARLY RECOLLECTIONS.

The author having visited and conversed with Mr. Cole, while preparing this history, and finding him still possessed of a vivid memory, albeit eighty-two years have passed over his head, will here give the result of the interview, detailing the facts and incidents as narrated by him, and, as nearly as we can, in his own style:

"We came up on the other side of the river from Osage county in a two-horse wagon. The time was a few days before Christmas. The river was running full of ice. We halted our team about where Old Franklin was afterwards built, and came over the river in a pirogue, leaving our wagon on the other side and swimming our team. After arriving on this side we continued our journey for about a mile east of the present town of Boonville, and stopped on the old site of Hannah Cole's fort, where we remained. The river continued to be so full of ice, and was so swift, that we could not return to the opposite shore for eleven days. We left our provisions in the wagon, and during this time (eleven days) we had nothing to eat but some acorns, slippery-elm bark, and one wild turkey. The river was not as wide then as it is now, and appeared to be much more rapid at Boonville. As soon as the ice had somewhat disappeared, we got into the pirogue and recrossed, but the current and ice carried us two miles below before we could make a landing. After doing this we slowly worked our way up on the other side, reaching a point where we had left our wagon with some difficulty. We took the wagon apart (the boat not being large enough to carry it any other way), and came back on this side of the river.

"We put in a small crop of corn in 1810 and in 1811, and tended it the entire time with a cow, which we worked in a plow; we had no other team. The first winter of our arrival, Daniel Boone came to see us, or rather stopped at our house, on his way home to Nathan Boone's, his son. He had been at the mouth of the Lamine river, trapping and hunting. He had caught two beavers. Their skins were worth nine dollars each at that time in St. Louis. He was a cousin to my father. I knew him well, and saw him a great deal while we were in Osage county. He was

afflicted with rheumatism, and would ask me (I was a small boy about eight years old) to rub his back, which I always did. The hunting and trapping expedition to the mouth of the Lamine was the last that the old man ever took.

"After living in Cooper county for two or three years, the war with England commenced. The fort which had been erected where my mother lived was not considered safe, and the settlers on this side went to the forts in Howard county; we went to Fort Kincaid. We remained in the fort until the war was over. While living in the fort, my brother, James, and Miss Betsy Ashcraft were married. The first marriage that took place in Cooper county was the marriage of my brother, Holbert, and Miss Annie Son.

"The first child born was the son of William Savage and wife; his name was Hiram.

"The first physician was Dr. George Hart, of Boonville.

"I was the first shoemaker and occasionally made shoes for eighteen years. Shoes were cheap, being worth only thirty-five cents a pair. I made one hundred pairs of shoes one season out of deer skins for Zachariah Waller, who was then trading at Santa Fe, New Mexico. He paid me one dollar a pair, and sold them for three dollars in Mexico.

"The first preacher in the county, was a Baptist, by the name of Peter Woods.

"The first church was erected by the Baptists and called Concord.

"The first mill was built by a man named James Geyer, on Petite Saline creek, and was called a "band mill." It was located at the Jake McFarland place. The second mill was also a band mill, and erected by Jake McFarland, on the same creek.

"The first school was taught by John Savage, in 1813, about one mile east of Boonville, on Lilly's branch, and about half a mile from the mouth of that stream. The pupils numbered fifteen and were the children of the settlers who resided in the neighborhood of Hannah Cole's fort. The pupils' names were Benjamin, Delany and William Bolin, Hiram and William Savage, Hess and William Warden, John and William Yarnell, John and William Jolly, Joseph and William Scott, John and William Rape. The children sat upon a log in the open air, (there being no school house and the weather being warm) and the teacher occupied a stump in front of them. This school was discontinued, after a month had passed, in consequence of the Indians having begun about this time a series of depredations upon the settlers.

"During the next spring after we came to Copper, we were joined by William Savage, L. Bolin, William Warden and Gilliard Rupe. We were glad to see them as we wanted their company as neighbors. For two years we were not disturbed by the Indians, but after the breakout of the war of 1812, the Sacs and the Fox Indians left the county and went east of the Mississippi river. They, however, returned during the war, and stole everything from us they could get. I was acquainted with a number of Indian chiefs, particularly with Keokuk and Quashgami; the latter lived on Moniteau creek. I was also acquainted with Blackhawk, who afterwards became so noted as a brave and cunning warrior. I often hunted and fished with the Indians, and found them not only friendly, but accommodating. All the neighbors we had on this side of the river, when we moved over, were the Indians."

#### HIS REMINISCENCES AS A HUNTER

"Seventy-one years ago, when I was about twelve years old, I started one morning to hunt for mine. My brothers had an old flintlock rifle, which I carried with me. It was a large and heavy gun, and was so heavy that I could not shoot it without taking a rest. I came up the river, keeping near the bunk, until I got to where the court-house now stands in Boonville. Under the trees, which then covered the ground in the court-house yard, I saw five deer standing together. I selected one of the finest looking ones and fired. At the crack of my gun he fell; but upon going up to where he was, he jumped to his feet, and would have followed the other four deer towards the river, had I not run up and caught hold of him, putting my arms around his neck. He pawed me with his sharp hoofs and horned me - his hoofs making an ugly gash on my thigh and his horns striking me on the forehead. The marks of both hoofs and horns I carry with me today. I held the deer until my dog came up. I then loaded the gun and shot him again, this time killing him. This was the first deer I ever killed, and although it was a dangerous undertaking the experience only spurred me on to gather trophies of a similar character.

"I killed five bears just below the town - where Boonville now stands - and killed twenty-two bears in three days. I killed four elks in less than one hour's time. There were a few buffaloes in the county when I came, but these were soon killed or driven further westward. I never killed a buffalo, but caught five calves of a small herd near the Pettis county line. I have seen as many as thirty deer at one sight at Prairie lick. One day I went out upon the prairie, in the spring of the year, and saw about twenty deer - all lying down except one; this one was a sentinel for the herd. I approached within about 300 yards of them and took my handkerchief, which was a large red bandanna, and fastened it to the end of a stick and shook it a little above my head, when they all sprang to their feet and came towards me. A deer has much curiosity, and they were determined to find out, if they could, what the red handkerchief meant. When one of the largest of the number came within gunshot distance, I shot and killed it. I often repeated the handkerchief ruse with great success. I have killed and carried to the house three deer before breakfast.

"When I was living in Fort Kincaid, and being still a boy, I went out hunting many times. One morning I went down the river bank, and after getting a short distance from the fort I heard the gobble of a wild turkey near the river. I went under the bank and went down to about the place where I thought the turkey was, and ascended the bank.



When I got on the top I saw, as I thought, a large black wolf running aloof on a log. I fired and killed it, but upon going up to where it lay, I saw that it was a bear - a cub - a very fine one it was. I took it home, and we had of it many excellent meals. The flesh of a young bear is tender and finely flavored.

"In the summer of 1812, when we were in the fort, Stephen Cole, Muke Box and myself left on a hunting expedition, crossed the river where Boonville now stands, and penetrated the forest to Petite Saline creek. After we had hunted and fished for three days, we were preparing to return, when we heard the report of guns. We knew that there were no white men on this side of the river, and naturally supposed that the Indians were hunting near us, and would kill us if they could get a chance. We were soon convinced that the Indians were after us, because we saw their dogs, which came up near us. These dogs were so well trained by their masters that they never barked. Indian dogs never bark. We immediately started back, and when we arrived at the place where Delany Bolin afterwards located, we discovered that the Indians were pursuing us. We separated, thinking it was better for us to do so, agreeing to meet where we had left our canoe. When we arrived at the river we found our canoe gone, the Indians having taken it. We lashed three large chunks and logs together, placed our guns, clothes, etc., upon this raft and swam the river, pushing the raft before us. We landed about two and a half miles below Boonville. That evening we reached the fort in safety and reported our adventure with the Indians, at the same time advising the inmates of the fort to be prepared for an attack at any time.

"Next morning the settlers discovered tracks of the Indians near the fort, and found it had been reconnoitred during the night by a band of eight Indians. They immediately sent to Cooper's and McLean's forts for reinforcements, as there were, at that time, very few men in the fort, and they supposed that this band of eight was but the scouting party of a large band of Indians. Reinforcements, to the number of forty-two, soon arrived from the other forts, and they, together with the men belonging to Kincaid's fort, started in pursuit of the Indians, whom they had by this time discovered to be but a small band.

"After pursuing them some distance they surrounded them in a hollow, near Monroe's farm, about four miles west of the present site of New Franklin. The Indians concealed themselves in the brush and thickets and behind the timber, and not being able to see them, the firing of the settlers was a great deal at random. The fight continued for a long time; four Indians were killed and the remaining four, though badly wounded, escaped. None of the settlers were killed and only one, named Adam Woods, was severely wounded, but he afterwards recovered.

"Night coming on they were forced to defer the pursuit of the surviving Indians. The next day, not satisfied with their work the day before, the tanners started on the trail of the Indians, which was plainly marked with blood. They followed it to the river and there found the canoe which the savages two days before had stolen from us. The sides of the canoe were covered with blood, showing that the Indians had attempted to push it into the river, but on account of being weakened by the loss of blood, could not. After hunting them for some time in vain, the party returned to the fort.

"I have hunted a great deal in my life. I almost lived in the woods for seven years, and continued to go upon hunting expeditions for forty years, after coming to Cooper county. I should enjoy a hunt now, but my eyesight has failed me so much that I cannot see to shoot. I naturally loved the forests, the hills, the valleys, the water courses and everything that reminded me of nature in its rustic and unpolished state. Could I find such a country as this was seventy years ago, and was ten years younger than I am, I would go to it."

#### HUNTING BEE TREES.

"Where Boonville now stands, there was an immense forest. While hunting bee trees, I found nine in one day, on the very spot where the town is now located. One of these trees was a large burr oak which stood upon the west side of the road from where Dr. William H. Trigg now lives. We found a great quantity of honey in this tree, it was hollow and we got the hooley out by climbing up a short distance and chopping into it with an axe. We took honey from that tree for three years in succession. Honey constituted one of our most indispensable, as well as most delicious articles of diet, taking the place, as it did, of sugar and syrup. When I grew tired of hunting, I could gather honey, and when I got tired of searching for honey, I could fish. A man could live and clothe himself out of the woods and the streams right around him. The richest and most delicate food of today would not compare with our unbought venison, which could be had wherever you sought for it, nor can you find now an article of clothing which is more durable and more comfortable than the skins of the wild animals, with which the whole country then abounded.

"I have been living on my farm for fifty-nine years. I married Miss Sallie Briscoe in 1821, by whom I had fifteen children. My second wife was Mrs. Catharine Patrick, by whom I have had four children. Fourteen of my children are still living. The last time I counted my grand-children and great grand-children - which was two or three years ago - there were ninety-six. I suppose the number has increased to fully 100 by this time.

Mr. Cole, although, not the oldest man in the county, is the oldest living settler. There may be a few others who came about the time or soon after he did, who -are living elsewhere, but they are few, and can be counted upon the fingers of one hand.

He told us that the friends and companions of early days - of his early hunting days - were either all dead or had moved elsewhere, except Henry Corum, who was his near neighbor and who is now in his eighty-eighth year.

We felt, as we passed out from beneath the old man's roof, that after a little longer waiting and watching, he too, would join -

“The innumerable caravan, that moves  
To that mysterious realm where each shall take  
His chamber in the silent halls of death.”

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## CHAPTER XXI

### ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

*Prefatory Remarks-Baptist Church - Concord-Mount Nebo-Big Bottom - Pisgah -Providence - First Baptist Church at Boonville - Church at Otterville Pilot Grove Church-Second and Sixth Colored Churches at Boonville - Methodist Episcopal Church South at Boonville - Bell Air Church-Prairie Home-Pilot Grove-Church at Bunceton - German Methodist Church at Boonville – Presbyterian Church at Boonville - New Lebanon - Mount Vernon Highland Church - New Salem-Union Presbyterian Church at Bunceton - New Zion - Lone Elm Christian Church - Lamine-Second Lone Elm Church - Walnut Grove - St. Peter's Church - German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clear Fork -Christ's Episcopal Church at Boonville - Catholic Churches.*

You raised these hallowed walls, the desert smiled,  
And Paradise was opened in the wild.”

The settlement of the county and the organization of the first churches were almost contemporaneous. The plow had scarcely begun to turn the sod when the pioneer preachers commenced to labor in the new field. In the western country, as well as in the Orient and the isles of the sea, marched the representatives of the Christian religion in the front ranks of civilization. Throughout the centuries which comprise this era have the Christian missionaries been taught and trained to accompany the first advance of civilization, and such was their advent in Cooper county. In the rude cabins and huts of the pioneers they proclaimed the same gospel that is preached in the gorgeous palaces that, under the name of churches, decorate the great cities. It was the same gospel, but the surrounding made it appear different, in the effect it produced at least. The Christian religion had its rise, and the days of its purest practice among humble minded people; and it is among similar surroundings in modern times that it seems to approach the purity of its source. This is the best shown in the days of pioneer life. It is true, indeed, that in succeeding times the church has attained greater wealth and practices a wider benevolence. Further, it may be admitted that it has gained a firmer discipline, and wields a more genial influence on society; but it remains true, in pioneer times we find a manifestation of Christianity that we seek in vain at a later period, and under contrasted circumstances. The meek and lowly spirit of the Christian faith - the placing of spiritual things above vain pomp and show - appears more earnest amid the simple life and toil of a pioneer people than it can when surrounded with the splendors of wealth and fashion.

But we may take a comparison less wide, and instead of contrasting the Christian appearances of a great city with the Christian appearances of the pioneers, we may compare the appearances of forty years ago, here in the west, with those in the present time of moderately developed wealth and taste for display, and we find much of the same result. The comparison is perhaps superficial to some extent, and does not fully weigh the elements involved, nor analyze them properly. We simply take the broad fact, not to decay the present, but to illustrate the past. So looking back to the early religious meetings in the log cabins we may say:

“Here was a, faith earnest  
and simple, like that of the early Christians.”

It is our purpose to give as full and complete a history of the churches of the different religious denominations of Cooper county in this chapter as we can. From the best information we have obtained, the representatives of the Baptist church were the first to bear aloft the banner of the Christian religion in Cooper county, beginning their labors with Concord church.

*Concord Church.* - On the 10th of May; 1817, a meeting was held among these cross-bearing disciples, which was attended by Elders Edward Turner, William Thorp and David McLain, who proceeded to organize the Concord church with the following members: - Luke Williams, Polly Williams, William Savage, Mary Savage, Delaney Bolen, Judith Williams, Absalom Huff, Susanna Savage, Joseph Baze, Lydia Turner, Charles Williams, Patsey Bolen, Sally Baze and Elizabeth Williams, - in all fourteen.

The following is a copy of their Articles of Faith

Article 1. We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

Art. 2. We believe the Scriptures of the old and new Testament to be the written word of God, and the only rule of life and practice.

Art. 3. We believe in the fall of man and his utter inability to recover himself from that lost estate.

Art. 4. We believe the doctrine of particular election, especial calling, believers' baptism, and the final perseverance of the saints, through grace.

Art. 5. We believe in baptism by immersion, and the Lord's Supper, and that true believers are the only proper subjects of the same.

Art. 6. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

Art. 7. We believe the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

Art. 8. We believe in the imputed righteousness of Christ.

Art. 9. We believe it to be our duty to support the gospel and defray the expenses of the church.

This church was located in the settlement south of Boonville, and gave name to the Concord Association in 1823. In June of the year 1817, at the second meeting of the church, she chose Elder Luke Williams as her pastor, who continued in this relation until his death, about six years afterwards. This left the church in a very destitute condition. The membership was small, very few of whom were males. Such was the gloomy state of affairs when Elder Kemp Scott came among them, a year or two after the death of Elder Williams. He was chosen pastor, and for a time the church was greatly prospered. The first fourteen years of its history show that the church gradually grew, receiving members both by baptism and by letter every year, that at the same time dismissing many members to join other churches, and sometimes to go into new organizations. During this period its numerical strength ranged from twenty to forty-five. There are no authentic records of the church from 1833 to 1846, a period of thirteen years. On the 26th of December, 1846, a reunion was formed with a neighboring church, known as "The Vine." This event added considerable strength to the old church, which to this day stands as "a city set on a hill."

*Mount Nebo Baptist Church* - The first meetings of this church were held one mile north of Bunceton, the date being about June, 1820. The list of early members numbers sixty-three. The first name upon this list is that of Lydia Corum, whose name was recorded about June 3, 1820. With hers, and on the same date, was recorded the name of Jordan O'Bryan. Then follow the names of Abraham and Nancy Woolery. The first regular pastor was the Rev. A. P. Williams. The first house of worship was built in 1838. The present building, which is located about half a mile west of the old church, was erected in 1856. It was dedicated by the Rev. E. S. Dulin and Robert H. Harris. Present pastor, I. B. Dotson; present membership, 125.

We could get but a few of the names of the constituent members of old Mount Nebo. The Concord Association was formed on Saturday before the third Sunday, in October, 1823, at Mount Nebo church.

*Big Lick Church* - which was a constituent of the Concord association, was organized August 24, 1822, under an arbor, near Judge Ogden's Spring, about one mile north of where the church edifice was afterwards built. Elders John B. Longan and Jacob Chism composed the council. Its original members were sixteen. Elder John B. Longan was the pastor from 1822 to 1845; Elder Tyree C. Harris from 1845 to 1851; following him were Robert H. Harris, B. G. Tutt, J. B. Box, J. D. Murphy and J. S. Palmer. Two extensive revivals were enjoyed by this church: the first in 1838, under the labors of A. P. Williams, the other in 1847, during the pastorate of T. C. Harris, when the church reached its maximum, numbering about 350 members.

*Pisgah Church* - But little is known of the early history of this church. It was organized prior to 1823, from the fact that at the Mount Pleasant association, which was held in October, 1823, at Mt. Nebo church, there were eight churches admitted into the association, one of these being Pisgah church.

*Mt. Pleasant Church* - This church was also organized prior to 1823, but little is now known of its early history.

*Providence Baptist Church* - Organized November, 1879, at Prairie Home Institute, by Rev. B. T. Taylor. The constituent members were: Miss E., Miss R. and Miss J. McLane, A. Slaughter, Mrs. L. W. Slaughter, Mrs. M. Simmons, W. E. Watt, Mrs. L. F. Watt, William Simmons, Mrs. Lizzie Simmons, Mrs. Saline Smith, A. J. Hornbeck, Jeremiah Hornbeck, Mrs. E. Hornbeck, Mrs. Josie, Miss Sallie, Miss Nevada, Miss Fannie, Miss Minerva, Miss Nannie, Miss Henrietta and C. C. Don Carlos, Miss N. J. and Mrs. Mary Adair, Mrs. Mary, Miss Laura, Miss Lillie and Miss Mattie Taylor, Thomas F. and Mrs. Sallie B. Hall, Gabriel, Miss Nancy, Miss M. A. and Miss D. J. Hale, Mrs. Sarah C. Wilson, Mrs. Sarah Stemmons, Miss Sudie and Miss Nannie Stemmons, George W., Mrs. Mary and Clara Carey, Mrs. Melinda Dungan, Miss Jennie and Amanda Maxwell, and Bettie Hudson. Church erected in 1881; dedicated October, 1881, by Rev. J. B. Box; cost \$1,000; present pastor, Rev. J. B. Box. Services first Sunday in each month; present membership, fifty; house located in the northeast corner of section 18, township 47, range 15.

*First Baptist Church of Jesus Christ, Boonville, Cooper county, Missouri* - Organized December 30, 1843, by Reverends A. M. Lewis and A. B. Hardy. Names of original members: Reuben E. McDaniel Alfred Simmons, David Lilly, Lawrence B. Lewis, Jordan O'Bryan, Elizabeth Dow, Sarah Gates, Maria Elliott, Eliza Ann Hickman, Susan D. Conner, Delia McDaniel, Elizabeth N. Richardson, Jane E. Richardson and Francis B. Major. Church was built in summer of 1847, of brick. Names of pastors: Tyra C. Harris, Robert Harris, John W. Mitchell, Spencer H. Olmsted, X. X. Buckner, M. M. Padelford, Charles Whiting, J. L. Blicht, G. W. Rogers, M. L. Laws, S. F. Taylor, A. W. Chambliss, G. W. Hyde, A. Machette, now in charge. Number of present membership, 127.

*First Baptist Church at Otterville* - Organized in 1866, by J. W. Williams and Brother Parish. Names of original members: George I. Key, James Shackelford, Samuel Swearingen, William H. Bowdin, Martha L. Key, Sarah Willard, Catherine L. Key, Angeline Cook, Mary C. Golladay, Josephine Butler, Mahala Price, Jane Trimble, Margaret A. Shackelford, Temperance E. Swearingen, Mary A. Bowdin, Sophia Cook and Sarah Ellison. The church was bought in 1874 from the Cumberland Presbyterians. It is frame, and cost \$360. Names of pastors: William Pastors, John K. Godby, T. V. Greer, W. N. Phillips, E. T. Shelton, pastor at present. Number of present membership, thirty-nine.

*Mt. Herman Missionary Baptist Church* - Located on section 36, of Clark's Fork township. It was organized January 3, 1868, by Jehu Robinson. Original members: Mrs. Margaret Reid, Sarah Cartner, Lucy Brown, Margaret Cartner. First pastor, Jehu Robinson; present membership, 100. The first organization was at the Concord school house. Present church was built in 1879, and dedicated in June of the same year; cost, \$1,800. Sabbath school superintendent, James H. Rennison; number of scholars, fifty.

*Pilot Grove Baptist Church* - Organized in 1876. Names of original members: Rev. N. T. Allison and wife, J. R. Jeffress, A. N. Spencer, J. Tomlinson, B. F. Chamberlain and wife, L. L. Chamberlain and wife, Miss Rebecca

Massie, Miss Millie White and Mrs. Sarah Kaley. The church was built in 1876, is frame, and cost \$1,000. It was dedicated in 1877 by Rev. William Ferguson. Names of pastors: N. T. Allison and I. B. Dotson. Number of present membership, thirty-four.

*Second Baptist Church (colored)* - Located on Morgan street, Boonville - Organized 1865 or 1866 by Rev. W. P. Brooks. Names of original members - Richard Taylor and wife, William Jackson and wife, Dilcey Thomas, Rebecca Sharp, Hannah Alexander, Washington Whittleton, Minerva Smith, Jane Smith, Duke Digs and wife, G. Fowler and wife, Jane Douglass, Ellen Woods, Abbey Smith, Green Smith, Cynthia Nelson, P. Watkins, P. Wilson. Number of present members, 216. Pastors - Rev. Granderson Roberts, Rev. Reuben Nelson, A. Nelson, Rev. Poindexter, Rev. H. Robertson, Rev. H. Smith, Rev. J. H. Burton, Rev. C. Vaughn and Rev. J. W. Miller, present pastor. The church was built in 1870, is frame, and cost \$1,600. Number of Sunday-school scholars, 700. Superintendent, Robert Humphrey. Organized by Rev. W. P. Brooks, who has done much for the cause of the colored Baptists in the state.

*Sixth Baptist Church (colored)*, Boonville - Organized June 1, 1874, by Rev. S. Bryant. Names of original members: Green Wilson, William Jackson, David Watson, Paul Donaldson, Smith Barnes, Rebecca, Sharp, Martha Tibbs, Clacy Waller, Esther Rolling, Clara Johnson, Dilcey Thomas, Sarah Jackson, Arrena Watson. Present membership, 100. First pastor, Rev. Reuben Nelson; second, Rev. J. J. Moore; third, R. M. Vernon; fourth, Tinley T. Lucas; fifth, Rev. James Powell; present pastor, Freeman Jones. Built in 1876; cost, \$1,000; number of Sabbath school scholars, fifty; superintendent, Frank Harris.

*Methodist Episcopal Church South*, Boonville. - Rev. John Scripps, a Methodist minister, was among the pioneer preachers in Cooper county. Religious services were held by him at a private house in Boonville in 1817, and in September, 1818, the church was organized by Rev. Justinian Williams, who was a brother of Marcus Williams, the first mayor of Boonville.

There were six members present at the formation of this church, to wit: Justinian Williams and wife, Frederick Roux and wife, and two other persons, whose names we did not succeed in getting. From the fall of 1818 till the fall of 1834 the class was part of what was known as the Lamine circuit. In 1834 it was called Boonville circuit; in 1818 W. R. Jones was appointed preacher and Jesse Walker presiding elder. He was followed in 1819 by John Scripps, Jesse Haile, presiding elder; 1820, Levin Green, Samuel H. Thompson, presiding elder; 1821, John Blaisdell, Samuel H. Thompson, presiding elder; 1822, Frederick B. Leach, David Sharp, presiding elder; 1823, Stephen R. Beggs, David Sharp, presiding elder; 1824, Benjamin S. Ashby, Jesse Haile, presiding elder; 1825, Uriel Haw, John Dew, presiding elder; 1826, John Harris, A. Monroe, presiding elder; 1827, Cassell Harrison, A. Monroe, presiding elder; 1828, W. W. Redman, Jesse Greene, presiding elder; 1829, E. T. Heery, Jesse Greene, presiding elder; 1830, William Crane, Alex. McAllister, presiding elder; 1831, Justinian Williams, Joseph Edmondson, presiding elder; 1832, W. W. Redman, Jesse Greece, presiding elder; 1833, John K. Lacy, Jesse Greene, presiding elder; 1834, John L. Irwin, Jesse Greene, presiding elder; 1835, J. Prior, W. W. Redman, presiding elder; 1836, Ben R. Johnson, W. W. Redman, presiding elder; 1837, R. H. Jordan, Jesse Greene, presiding elder; 1838, Thomas Wallace, Jesse Greece, presiding elder; 1839, Thomas Wallace, Jesse Greece, presiding elder; 1840, Lester James, Jesse Greene, presiding elder; 1841, John Thatcher, James Jamison, presiding elder; 1842, Thomas Johnson, James Jamison, presiding elder; 1843, N. Westeman, Thomas Wallace, presiding elder; 1844, Thomas T. Ashby, Thomas Wallace, presiding elder; 1845, George C. Light, Thomas Wallace, presiding elder; 1846, Joseph Boyle, Thomas Wallace, presiding elder; 1847, Joseph Boyle, Elijah Perkins, presiding elder; 1848, James Mitchell, Elijah Perkins, presiding elder; 1849, John Henning, Joseph Boyle, presiding elder; 1850, J. F. Truslow, John A. Henning, presiding elder; 1851, W. H. Lewis, James Mitchell, presiding elder; 1852, W. H. Lewis, James Mitchell, presidia; elder; 1853, W. M. Prottzman, James Mitchell, presiding elder; 1854, Warren Wharton, James Mitchell, presiding elder; 1855, Warren Wharton, D. A. Leeper, presiding elder; 1856, A. A. Morrison, D. A. Leeper, presiding elder; 1857, A. A. Morrison, D. A. Leeper, presiding elder; 1858, J. W. Lewis, D. A. Leeper, presiding elder; 1859, J. W. Lewis, W. M. Prottzman presiding elder; 1860, J. R. Hall, W. M. Prottzman, presiding elder; 1861, J. R. Hall, W. M. Prottzman, presiding elder; vacant for a while; 1863, W. M. PulDgh, Josiah Godbey, presiding elder; 1864, W. M. Pugh, Josiah Godbey, presiding elder; 1865, W. C. Godbey, Josiah Godbey, presiding elder; 1866, W. T. Brown, J. A. Murphy, presiding elder; 1867, G. W. Hern, M. M. Pugh, presiding elder; 1868, M. G. Williams, M. M. Pugh, presiding elder; 1869, C. P. Jones, M. M. Pugh, presiding elder; 1870, C. P. Junes, M. M. Pugh, presiding elder; 1871, W. F. Camp, W. M. Prottzman, presiding elder; 1872, C. C. Woods, J. R. Bennett, presiding elder; 1873, C. C. Woods, J. R. Bennett, presiding elder; 1874, John A. Murphy, J. R. Bennett, presiding elder; 1875, John A. Murphy, C. C. Woods, presiding elder; 1876, C. H. Briggs, C. C. Woods, presiding elder; 1877, C. H. Briggs, C. C. Woods, presiding elder; 1878, C. H. Briggs, C. C. Woods, presiding elder; 1879, C. H. Brings, P. Philips, presiding elder; 1880, W. M. Poage, P. Philips, presiding elder; 1881, G. W. Hern, P. Philips, presiding elder; 1882, G. W. Hern, P. Philips, presiding elder. In 1832 the Missouri conference met at Pilot Grove, in September; Bishop Soule presided, and John Glanville was secretary. On September 26, 1838, conference met at Boonville, Bishop Soule presiding, W. W. Redman, secretary. Conference was held there in 1858, 1870, and will meet there September 26, 1883. The old church was begun about 1832.

*Bell Air M. E. Church South* -The church organization was effected in 1850. Some of the original members were James Bell and wife, Thornton Bell and wife, and Jacob G. Shutler and wife. The present building was erected

in 1870, and dedicated by Rev. D. K. McAnally, of St. Louis. Present membership about fifty. Rev. John Given is now preaching for the church.

*Prairie Home M. E. Church* - Organized in 1881 by Rev. Vandiver. Church built in 1880-81. Dedicated August, 1881, by Rev. Phillips. First pastor, Rev. Vandiver; second, Rev. Cross; present pastor, John Anthony. Original members, Sarah Tompkins and Mrs. Eleanor Huff. Soon after the church was organized with the two members above named, the following persons united: William Kirschman and wife, James Wilson, wife and family, James Jones and wife, Alonzo Meredith, Mrs. Kate Smith, Samuel Jones, Andrew Rankins, Mrs. Kelly M. Hobbs and Miss Jessie George. Present membership, thirty-five. Value church property, \$1,500.

*Pilot Grove M. E. Church South* - Organized 1826 or 1827. Names of original members: Samuel Roe, Sr., is the only name among the original members that we could get. Church was built in 1850, rebuilt in 1879; is a frame building. Cost \$1,200. Dedicated by Rev. Preston Phillips, October, 1879 (new structure). J. C. Given is present pastor. Number of present membership, 125. In September, 1832, Bishop Soule held annual conference at this church.

*M. E. Church South at Bunceton* - In April, 1879, Rev. C. H. Briggs (then stationed in Boonville), by request of Mrs. Maria Stephens, was solicited to come to Bunceton and organize the few members of the M. E. church south into a society. He did so, and enrolled the following membership: Mrs. Maria Stephens, Captain S. P. Tevis, George Dorsey, James Moon, Mrs. Jane Moon, George Dameron, Mrs. Lucy Dameron, O. F. Arnold, and Mrs. M. E. Arnold. During the remainder of the conference year, this church was attached to the California circuit, with preaching monthly by Reverends J. C. Given and F. A. Briggs, alternately. In the spring of 1880, subscription lists were circulated, and money raised to erect a church. For a site, Dr. H. C. Gibson, of Boonville, donated an acre, and the building was completed the following autumn. The membership now numbers about twenty, and, besides the ministers above, has been served by Reverends L. M. Phillips, and W. F. Wright, the present pastor.

The *German Methodist Church*, at Boonville, Missouri - Was organized in 1850. Names of original members were: H. Gaus, Helena. Gaus, J. H. Reckmeyer, Emilie Reckmeyer, Peter Birkenbeil, Eva M. Birkenbeil, Henry Muhlenbruck, Mina Muhlenbruck, John Otten, Johanna Otten, H. Blum, Theresia Blum, Carl Vollmer, Henriette Kuhl, Maria Hausam. Names of pastors: Reverends A. Klippel, Jacob Feisel, John Hausam, H. Lahrman, William Schreck, C. Steinley, P. Helmer, John P. Miller, M. Dewein, H. Muhlenbruck, J. A. Reitz, J. Koelle, George W. Reitz, John Wilhelmi, H. Balke, Ed. Pfaffenberger, Kurt Franz, J. G. Kost. In 1852 the church (brick) was built; cost \$1,200. Sunday school numbers forty. Superintendent, C. Wassman.

*Presbyterian Church at Boonville* - On the 27th of August, 1876, Rev. O. W. Gauss delivered an historical sermon in Boonville, giving a history of the church above named. He said: - the 28th of April, 1821, this church was organized under the name of the Franklin church, by the Rev. Edward Hollister, with twenty-three members. The year of its organization is the same year in which Missouri was admitted into the Union as a state. The reason it bore the name of Franklin at the beginning, is that it was situated in Franklin, since known as Old Franklin, to distinguish it from the subsequently built New Franklin. Franklin was then the chief town west of St. Louis, but it was built on the sands, and the floods of the Missouri river have swept it away. As Franklin went down, Boonville, laid out and incorporated in 1817, directly opposite, on the other bank of the river, was built up, and, being founded on a rock, stands today, while scarcely a vestige of her predecessor remains. It was but natural in this state of things that all business and social interest should tend over to this side, and we find that the church soon moved in the same direction.

"In 1825 Rev. Augustus Pomeroy, who taught school in Franklin, preached regularly there and in Boonville. The salve was true in Mr. Cochran's ministry, and probably also, at least, in the beginning of Mr. Chamberlain's (W. P. Cochran, Hiram Chamberlain). The fact that there seems to have been these two regular preaching points for the Franklin church, shows that the church was preparing for a complete removal to this side. Consequently, at a meeting of the presbytery in this place in 1830, nine years after the organization of the church, one year before the erection of the synod of Missouri, the name of Franklin church was changed to Boonville, and so entered on the roll.

"I have not been able to find any list of the names of the twenty-three original members, or of the officers with whom the organization was formed. The earliest list I have is one furnished me by Dr. Thomas Parks from memory, giving me the names of members and elders in 1828; these are all absent from us, most of them dead. The session at that time consisted of John Dickson, William C. Porter and Colonel Chambers, clerk of courts of Saline county; in 1829 the session was increased by the addition to it of Dr. Parks. In the fall of 1836 Dr. Parks left Boonville, and about the same time Mr. John Dickson also removed; previous to this Mr. Porter and Colonel Chambers had died, and so it came about the church was without any elders. It remained in this condition nearly two years from the fall of 1836 to the summer of 1838, when Rev. R. L. McAfee ordained and installed as elders of the church, Josiah Dickson and Joseph N. Laurie. Robert Brent was elected at the same time with these, but was not installed until later. From the year 1838, the time of her re-organization, the church steadily progressed up to the present time, under the almost unintermitted ministrations of the Gospel. Rev. W. P. Cochran, of Pennsylvania, succeeded the Rev. Pomeroy in 1827. Rev. Hiram Chamberlain came in 1828, and remained until 1834. There was no settled minister here then until 1840. During this interval there was a Mr. Rennie, a Scotchman, from South Carolina, and Mr. Reynolds, a man of New School principles, each of whom remained here for a short time, preaching for the church.

On the 20th of August, 1832 there was a meeting of the citizens of Boonville at the school-house, for the purpose of taking measures to erect a Presbyterian church. At this meeting a hoard of five commissioners was

appointed, consisting of Rev. H. Chamberlain, James Patton, David Adams, A. W. Pollard and Charles H. Smith, - whose duty was to devise plans, to select a site and make all necessary arrangements in connection with the erection of a building. On the 23d of April, 1833, the commissioners purchased the lot upon which the building now stands. The building was completed in 1841, at a cost of \$4,500.

In 1840 Rev. William G. Bell was elected pastor, and installed in May of that year, and resigned the pastorate in October, 1854. He preached the first and last sermon in the old church. Rev. H. M. Painter succeeded Mr. Bell. He remained until 1862 when he was succeeded by Rev. James Morton as stated supply for three years.

In 1867 Rev. B. H. Charles, of Chester, Illinois, filled the pulpit, and was succeeded, by the present pastor, Rev. O. W. Gauss, in August, 1875.

The present building was erected and finished in 1871-72, at a cost of \$12,618.65. It is built of brick, and is the largest Protestant church in the city.

*New Lebanon Church, C. P.* - Is possibly the oldest Cumberland Presbyterian church in Cooper, having been organized in 1820. The minister officiating upon that occasion was Rev. Finis Ewing, who was the founder of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. It was called "New Lebanon," because a majority of the original members belonged to a church of the same name, in Logan county, Kentucky, whence they had just come.

The names of the constituent members were Robert Kirkpatrick and wife, Thomas Ruby and wife, Alexander Sloan and wife, John Wear and wife, James L. Wear and wife, Hugh Wear and wife, Robert Allison and wife, John Miller and wife, and Mr. Stone and wife.

The first elders were Robert Kirkpatrick, Alexander Sloan, John Miller and Thomas Ruby. The old log church was built in 1821. The present brick house was erected in 1860. The first temperance society that was formed in Cooper county, held its meetings in the old log church in 1824. About the same time, Rev. R. D. Morrow commenced a school in the neighborhood, for the benefit of young preachers. Some of the early and most useful ministers of the C. P. church, attended that school; such men as Rev. Robert Sloan, J. B. Morrow, Robert and Henry Renick, David Kirkpatrick, John Linville, J. L. Wear and John Reed.

*Mount Vernon C. P. Church* - In the month of April, 1833, the presbytery of New Lebanon established a church called Mount Vernon in the neighborhood of Pilot Grove, and about one mile southwest. The organizing members were William Houx, John Miller, James Deckard, John Houx, Sr., Frederick Houx, Gideon B. Miller, Benjamin Weedin, Daniel Weedin, Jacob Houx, William Miller, Charlotte Houx, Anne McCutchen, Harriet L. McCutchen, Christina Deckard, Ellen B. Crawford, Regina Houx, Mary Miller, Sr., Mary Miller, Jr., Catherine Weedin, Mary Weedin, Elizabeth and Rachel Weedin, Ann Rennison, Elizabeth H. C. Berry, Margaret Houx. William Houx and John Miller were the elders. The present elders are Judge J. M. McCutcheon, Dr. William B. Harriman, Abraham Brownfield, and Thomas Brownfield. Among the early preachers who officiated in the pulpit of this church were Samuel C. Davidson, Robert Sloan, Archibald McCorkle, William Kavanaugh and Finis Ewing. The pulpit is not now supplied by any regular minister. Rev. J. T. H. Henderson was the last pastor of this church. The church now numbers thirty members.

*Highland Church, C. P.* - The Cumberland Presbyterians organized a church at Highland school house, February 20, 1867. The Rev. A. M. Thompson, assisted by Warren Compton and W. D. Mahan officiated at the organization. The church was erected in 1870; dedicated February 12, 1883, by Rev. C. W. McBride. It is a frame building and cost \$1,600. The original members were John Fluke, Joseph Knikshire, William E. Clayton, Andrew J. Roberson, Margaret Knikshire, Nancy R. Durnil, Louisa Fluke, Elizabeth Edwards, Mary L. Duncan, Isaac Henry, Frederick Fluke, James D. McFall, James Bankston, Jane Tucker, George Fluke, Frank Guthrie, Dow Vaughan, Sallie Messicks, Julia Fluke, Lavina Clayton, W. m. E. Clayton, Jr., Elizabeth Duncan, Patsey Henry. Present membership, sixty-nine. First pastor, Rev. A. M. Thompson; present pastor, W. H. Wilson; first deacons, Andrew J. Roberson and John W. Williams; present deacon, John W. Williams. First clerk, James D. McFall; present clerk, I. M. Tucker. First elders, John Fluke, William E. Clayton and Dow Vaughan; present elder, William E. Clayton, George Fluke, William Rayland and I. M. Tucker. Services once a month.

*New Salem C. P. Church* - This church is located on section 12, township 47 range 16, Prairie Home township. It was organized in 1821, at the residence of Alexander Johnston, by Rev. Robert W. Morrow, who was sent out to the west in 1819, from Kentucky, by the Ladies' Missionary Society. Original members: Alexander Johnston, Joshua Lewis, Mrs. Mary (wife of Alexander Johnston), Mrs. Mary (wife of James Johnston), Robert Johnston and Margaret Johnston (mother of Alexander and Robert Johnston). First church was erected about 1828, on section 16, township 47, range 16 (Clark's Fork); a log house. In 1853, a brick house of worship was built on section 12, township 47, range 16, which was used till the fall of 1877, when a new brick was built, which cost \$2,500, on the same spot of ground. It was dedicated on the second Wednesday in May, 1878, by Dr. Greenville Wood. Present membership, eighty. Present pastor, Rev. H. D. Kennedy. Services second and fourth Sundays in each month. Among the first preachers were Rev. Finis Ewing and Rev. Robert W. Morrow, who conducted a camp meeting, followed by Revs. Daniel Weedon and Samuel King, Thomas Ish and John E. Norris. Rev. Finis A. Witherspoon was the first pastor after the first brick house was erected. Oldest members: Jeremiah Smith, John B. Johnston, Wash and John S. Johnston, A. M. and Huston George. In 1853, there was a remarkable revival conducted by Warren Compton and Robert Harris, a Baptist, with sixty conversions. H. H. Misseldine filled the pulpit during the late war.

*Union Presbyterian Church at Bunceton* - Organized in 1860, by Rev. W. G. Bell, of Boonville. The constituent members were Mrs. Mary Phillips, Dr. E. Chilton and wife, John J. Hoge and wife, Isaac Hewitt and wife, Miss M. Hewitt, James Hewitt and Mrs. E. Russell. First elders, John J. Hoge, Isaac Hewitt and Dr. E. Chilton.

*Cumberland Presbyterian Church - New Zion* - Located on section twenty-six, Moniteau township, was organized August 11, 1871, by W. W. Branin. The names of original members were Martha J. Miller, Catherine Lawson, Nancy Hollaway, Harriet J. Hollaway, Joseph Pierce, Margaret A. Thompson, L. C. McDaniel, Henry Bowers, P. P. Lawson, Caroline R. Bowers, Thomas L. Pierce, Susan J. Williams. The number of present membership is 100. Names of pastors are W. W. Branin, James E. F. Robertson and C. W. McBride.

This church was built in 1879, and is a frame building, erected at a cost of \$800. Number of scholars in Sabbath school is fifty; superintended by H. B. Sappington. The Sabbath school is sustained only during the summer months.

*Lone Elm Christian Church.* - In 1842, the above church was organized at a school house, now known as Bell Air. The original members were George W. Baker and Harriet P., his wife, Peter and Elizabeth Poindexter, Rice and Elizabeth Daniel, Benjamin R. and Lucy Waller, and Mary A. Poindexter.

The first ministers were Nelson Davis and Allen Wright; the elders were George W. Baker and Peter Poindexter.

Mr. Baker, from whom we obtained this information, says that Lone Elm church was the first organized south of the Missouri river.

*Church at Lamine* - About the year 1843, there was an organization of the Christian church at Lamine, but owing to deaths and removals the organization was discontinued a few years afterwards.

The present church at Lamine was established August 7, 1865, by Elder P. Donan, with the following white members: Samuel R. Collins, Sarah L. Collies, William B. Collins, J. P. Collins, Marietta M. Collins, Drusilla E. Thomas., Susan Biddle, Melinda E. Kincaid, Diary F. Tyler, Catherine Wing, Freeman Wing, Julia A. Turley, Ellen Pope, Josephine Wall, J. P. Wall, Moses Napier, Mary J. Mello, Nancy Reed, Elizabeth Courtney, George W. Kincaid., Francis M. Kincaid, Richard F. Kincaid, A. L. Kincaid, John B. Baker, Martha J. Baker, Theodore Turley, James O'Howell, Thomas Mello, Thomas Staples, C. F. Younger, F. Harris, Lucy C. Hieuclehen, Pamelia Williams.

There were eighteen colored people who came into the church at the same time; their names we did not succeed in getting. These (the eighteen) soon after organized a church of their own.

Elders Donan and O. P. Davis were the first preachers. The present membership is eighty.

*Second Lone Elm Christian Church* - The organization of this church occurred September 27, 1854. The organizing members were James R. Daniel, Rice Daniel; David Parish, Robert Sexton, John Seaton, Henry Kuaus, J. G. Taliaferro, Joan Daniel, E. R. Daniel, Jeannette Sexton, Lucy H. Walker, Balinda Poindexter, Joan Seaton, Mary L. Wilson, Eliza A. Baker, J. H. Baker, L. A. Taliaferro, M. A. Taliaferro, Lucy A. Baker, Martha A. Knaus, Elizabeth Poindexter, Marie L. Keely. The first minister was O. P. Davis. Present membership, ninety-five.

*Christian Church* -The congregation of disciples of Christ, worshipping at Walnut Grove, Cooper county, Missouri, was organized by Elder O. P. Davis on the first Lord's day in December, 1862, with the following members, viz.: Lewis D. Reavis, Henry York, Eli P. Adams, Sarah J. Adams, Matilda Cary, Samuel R. Davis, O. P. Davis, Eliza J. Hawkins, Martha A. Davis, Mary F. Logan, Margaret A. Davis, Mary York, Caroline York, Isabella Clawson, Sarah Parmer and James Eldredge. This congregation increased in cumber rapidly until it numbered at one time something over 150 members, but owing to removals, deaths, and other causes, it now numbers only thirty-four members.

*St. Peter's German Evangelical Church* - Is located on section 9, township 47, range 15, in Prairie Home township. The church was organized in 1848 by Rev. Charles Hofneioister. The constituent members were Jacob Schilb, Sr., and wife, Gadfried Kenepfer and wife, - Becker and wife, George Knorp and wife, F. W. Schenk and wife, Henry Mayer and wife, Andreas Spieler and wife, Godfrey Spicier and wife, Theobald Miller and wife, David Huth and wife, Peter Diehl, Sr., and wife, Jacob Schilb, Jr., and wife, Ernest Kirschman and wife and Henry Webber and wife.

The old church edifice was erected in 1849. The new building was built in 1872 at a cost of \$900. The interest in the church about the year 1875 flagged, and in January, 1877, the church was reorganized, and incorporated in 1879. David Schilb, Adam Schilb, Sr., Jacob Schilb, Frederick Schilb, David Schilb, Jr., Adam Schilb, Jr., Adam Andreas, Wendell Graff, Otto Speiler, Jacob and John Plank, Charles and Ernest Kirschman, John G. Speiler, Jacob Warmbrodt, Rudolph Segesser, Gustave Hefferburg, and the wives of the above, with the exception of Charles Kirschman and Gustave Hefferburg, constituted the organization. Jacob Schilb, Jr., John Plank and Ernest Kirschman sire the elders. F. Woelfle was the last pastor.

*The German Evangelical Congregation in Boonville, Missouri* - Organized in August, 1853, with the following members: George Vollrath, J. H. Boller, William Haas, St. Weber, Paul Stegner, Philip Back, William Gemmer, Peter Back, Jacob Seibel, L. N. Schmidt, Otto Koehnke, Adam Stegner, J. G. Blumenroedher, Ernest Stegner, George Debusmann, Gottfried Back, Jacob Thauer, J. E. Hoflander, David Rau, Sophia Hain, Frederica Reinhart, Erk. Hirlinger, Jacob Neef, George Goller, L. Holzmueller, Adam Sandroek, Fred. Metz, J. Mittameyer, Philip Stahl, J. F. Fickel, J. Lotz. George Vollrath, J. H. Holler, St. Wheeler and William Haas were the first trustees and Rev. John Wettle was the first pastor. In 1854 the present house of worship was built, which was mainly due to the liberality and energy of George Vollrath. In 1857 the congregation erected a school house for a parochial school, and in 1879



a parsonage. Rev. C. L. Greiner, J. Lange and E. Schneider have each served the church successively as pastors until the present pastor, Rev. L. Kohlman.

*Lutheran Emanuel Church* - Is located on section 34, township 48, range 15, Prairie Home township, and was organized about the year 1855 by Rev. August Lange, Henry Meyer, Frederick Stock, Jacob Edes, G. Knorp, Henry Meyer, John Kempfer, Dietrich Molan, John Snauch, Christine Hecherman and Ludwig Mentz. House erected in 1855. The church owns four acres of land and a parsonage. Present pastor, Adolph Clos; present membership, twenty-two; value of church property, \$1,000.

*Tree German Evangelical Lutheran Church* - Located on section 8, of Clark's Fork township, of Cooper county, Missouri, was organized partially in 1860 or 1861. Original members: Peter Muntzel, Albert Muntzel, Daniel Muntzel, John King, Fred Frieke, John A. Schmidt, Nicholas Schmidt, Leonard Schmidt, David Rauh, William Kahle, Henry Lankop, Ferdinand Lankop, William Lankop, Christian Brandis, Sr., Lewis Lebbing, Marimus Lougers, Henry Kaune,

Sophia Fredmeyer, Christian Fredmeyer, Henry Fredmeyer, Ferdinand Ohlendorf, Peter Norenberg, James Martinson, Jacob King, Otto Smolfield, Bernhard Vieth, Charles Brandis, Peter Wehmeier. Number of present members - heads of families, fifty-two. First pastor, Rev. Hoary Joengel, since which time there have been five or six others, names not given. The church was built in the spring of 1867, by the original members, at a cost of \$2,500, three acres being donated by Fred. Frieke. In September, of 1883, they will open a school headed by a competent teacher.

*Christ's Episcopal Church* - The date of the organization of this church at Boonville, is not definitely known. We made every effort to ascertain the fact in reference thereto, and have arrived at the conclusion, after several interviews with some of the oldest living members of the church, that it was organized about the year 1835. The church edifice was erected about the year 1844, at which time the Rev. Almond David Corbyn, became the rector. It is known that Rev. F. F. Peak held services about the year 1839. Who preceded him, is not known. He may have been the pioneer preacher of that church in Boonville.

Among the constituent members were Dr. E. E. Buckner and wife, Richard Thompson and wife, Mrs. Tompkins and C. B. Powell and wife.

*Catholic Churches* - The Catholics commenced the erection of a church edifice at Boonville, in 1859. The building cost about \$10,000; with the addition which is being now built, together with parsonage and school building, the probable cost will approximate \$25,000.

The first pastor was Father George Turk, who came in 1851, and preached, and administered the sacrament of baptism. He was succeeded by Joseph Meister, Bernard Hiller, Henry Muers and John A. Hoffman - Father Hoffman coming from St. Louis, in April, 1875. The church has a membership of about one hundred families. There is a school in connection with the church, which has an average of one hundred pupils and three teachers.

There is a Catholic church in Clear Creek township; the old building was a frame one; a brick is being put up at this time (1883). The pastor in charge is John Conrad, O. S. B.

There is also a church in Pilot Grove township, at a place called Martinsville. Father Conrad, above named, preaches here.

The Catholics have a church edifice - brick - in Moniteau township. Father J. M. Duggan is the pastor. The churches in Clear Creek and Pilot Grove townships, have each about fifty families, and the last named, twenty-five families.

## CHAPTER XXII

### OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE COUNTY

#### CIRCUIT JUDGES OF COOPER COUNTY

Complete list of all the county officers who have served from the organization of the county to the present time, with date of election and appointment and date of retiring from office:

David Todd, March 1, 1869, January, 1837; William Scott, January, 1837, August, 1841; James W. Morrow, August 14, 1841, August, 1851; George W. Miller, August, 1851, January 1, 1869; T. M. Rice, January 1, 1869, January 1, 1875; George W. Miller, January 1, 1875, January 1, 1881; E. L. Edwards, April, 1879, January 1, 1886.

#### STATE SENATORS

from the district of Missouri in which Cooper county is situated, with the year of election:

1820, Cooper and Clark; 1824, George Crawford; 1828, John Miller; 1832, John Miller; 1836, David Jones; 1840, Reuben A. Ewing; 1844, Jordan O'Bryan; 1848, David Jones; 1852, William Dunlap; 1856, James B. Harris; 1860, Thomas Monroe; 1862, Frank W. Hickox; 1866, George W. Boardman; 1869, M. McMillen, to fill vacancy; 1870, John Pappin; 1873, S. S. Abney, to fill vacancy; 1874, S. S. Abney; 1879, James A. Walker; 1882, John T. Heard, present incumbent.

#### NAMES OF REPRESENTATIVES

with the year of their election:

1820, Thomas Rogers, Thomas Smiley and William Lillard; 1822, B. F. Hickox, Jordan O'Bryan and A. K. Langon; 1824, B. F. Hickox and G. W. Wright; 1826, M. Dunn and Jordan O'Bryan; 1828, A. Kavanaugh and D. Jones; 1830, A. Kavanaugh and D. Jones; 1832, D. Jones and Joseph S. Anderson; 1834, D. Jones and Jordan O'Bryan; 1836, William Calvert and John H. Hutchison; 1838, John Miller, B. F. Hickox and L. Hall; 1840, J. O'Bryan, John G. Miller and L. C. Stephens; 1842, William Shields and John G. Miller; 1844, A. S. Walker and A. K. Langon; 1846, Thornton P. Bell; 1848, Benjamin Tompkins and David Jones; 1850, L. C. Stephens and Benjamin Tompkins; 1852, A. K. Langon and Benjamin Tompkins; 1854, Robert C. Harrison and W. C. Ewing; 1856, John M. McCutchen and Robert C. Harrison; 1858, A. J. Barnes and Reuben A. Ewing; 1860, G. G. Pest and A. S. Walker; 1862, W. G. Wear and Harvey Bunce; 1864, Henry Elliott and Alfred Mathews; 1866, J. A. Eppstein and D. K. Steele; 1868, Daniel Clark and D. K. Steele; 1870, M. McMillan and D. K. Steele; 1872, Daniel Hunt; 1874, J. G. Roberts; 1876, Benjamin Tompkins; 1878, William C. Ewing; 1880, Thomas C. Cranmer, term expires 1884.

#### CIRCUIT CLERKS OF COOPER COUNTY

with names, date of election or appointment and date of retiring from office:

Robert P. Clark, March 1, 1819, November, 1841; Bennett C. Clark, November, 1841, September, 1853; Benjamin Tompkins, September, 1853, January, 1860; Justinian Williams, January 1860, January, 1867; W. W. Taliaferro, January, 1867, January, 1875; Horace A. Hutchison, January, 1875, term expired January, 1879; J. E. Taliaferro, January, 1883, term expires January 1, 1887.

#### COUNTY CLERKS OF COOPER COUNTY

with names, date of election or appointment and date of retiring from office:

Robert P. Clark, January 8, 1821, January 8, 1836; Samuel S. Kofield, January 1, 1836, August 1, 1837; Benjamin Emmons Ferry, August 8, 1837, January 8, 1854; Henry C. Levens, January 1, 1854, January 3, 1875; Jackson Monroe, January 3, 1875, term expired January 1, 1883; E. B. Bunce, January 1, 1883, term expires January 1, 1887.

#### SHERIFFS OF COOPER COUNTY

with the date of election or appointment, and date of retiring from office:

William McFarland, March 1, 1819, July 24, 1819; William H. Curtis, July 24, 1819, July 22, 1822; James L. Collies, July 24, 1822, November 24, 1822; Sylvester Hall, November 24, 1822, July 26, 1824; Marcus Williams, July 26, 1824, August, 1826; William H. Anderson, August 1826, August, 1828; Joseph S. Anderson, August, 1828, August, 1832; John H. Hutchison, August, 1832, August, 1836; Joel E. Woodward, August, 1836, August, 1838; James Hill, August, 1838, August, 1842; Isaac Lionberger August, 1842, August, 1846; James Hill, August, 1846, August, 1850; Harvey Bunce, August, 1850, August, 1854; B. E. Ferry, August, 1854, August, 1858; Harvey Bunce, August, 1858, November 5, 1861; C. B. Coombs, December 1, 1862, January 6, 1863; A. J. Barnes, January 6, 1863, September 5, 1864; William J. Woolery, January 11, 1865, May 2, 1865; Thomas E. Rochester, May 1, 1865, June 23, 1870; R. B. Newman, July 1, 1870, November, 2, 1872; F. A. Ropers, November, 1872, November, 1874; F. A. Ropers, November, 1874, November, 1876; T. Leslie Smith, February, 1878, November, 1878; Robert McCulloch, November, 1878, December, 1880; John F. Ropers, December, 1880, term expires December, 1884.

## COUNTY COLLECTORS OF COOPER COUNTY

with the date of election or appointment, and date of retiring from office:

Andrew Briscoe, April 11, 1821, February 19, 1822; John C. Rochester, February 9, 1822, February 18, 1824; William H. Anderson, February 18, 1824, August 2, 1826; David P. Mahan, August 2, 1826, June 11, 1829; Joseph S. Anderson, June 11, 1829, February 6, 1832; Martin Jennings, February 6, 1832, February 11, 1833; John H. Hutchison, February 11, 1833, August 14, 1836; J. E. Woodward, August 14, 1836, August 9, 1838; James Hill, August, 9, 1838, August, 1842; Isaac Lionberger, August, 1842, August, 1846; James Hill, August, 1846, August, 1850; Harvey Bunce, August, 1850, August, 1854; B. E. Ferry, August, 1854, August, 1858; Harvey Bunce, August, 1858, November 5, 1861; C. B. Coombs, December 1, 1862, January 6, 1863; A. J. Barnes, January 6, 1863, September 5, 1864; William J. Woolery, January 11, 1865, May 2, 1865; Thomas E. Rochester, May 2, 1865, June 23, 1870; R. B. Newman, July 1, 1870; Robert McCulloch, November 3, 1872, February 3, 1875; Robert McCulloch, November, 1874, February, 1877; Henry M. Clark, March, 1879, March, 1883; John D. Starke, March, 1883, term expires March, 1885.

## JUSTICES OF THE COUNTY COURT OF COOPER COUNTY

with date of election or appointment, and date of retiring from office:

A. S. Walker, November 21, 1842, May 16, 1844; Lawrence C. Stephens, August 5, 1844, September 24, 1844; Benjamin F. Hickox, September 24, 1844, November 2, 1846; John H. Hutchison, April 14, 1845, August 7, 1848; John S. McFarland, November 2, 1846, November 4, 1850; Robert Stuart, August 3, 1847, February 19, 1850; Philip A. Tutt, September 13, 1848, November 4, 1850; Jeremiah Rice, April 5, 1850, August 28, 1854; Ignatius Hazell, November 4, 1850, August 16, 1858; William B. Butler, November 4, 1850, August 28, 1854; Thomas L. Williams, August 28, 1854, August 16, 1858; Leonard Calvert, August 28, 1854, February 16, 1856; Jesse Odgen, May 5, 1856, August 16, 1858; Bennett C. Clark, August 16, 1858, February 3, 1862; Isaac Lionberger, August 16, 1858, February 3, 1862; James H. Baker, August 16, 1858, November 2, 1866; William E. Baird, April 7, 1862, December 19, 1862; John A. Trigg, June 2, 1862, November 6, 1864; William J. Woolery, December 19, 1862, December 19, 1864; C. W. Sombart, December 19, 1862, November 27, 1866; Jesse G. Newman, December 16, 1862, November 30, 1868; Jacob Baughman, November 27, 1866, December 16, 1872; Jacob Feland, November 27, 1866, December 5, 1870; Constantine Heim, November 30, 1868, December 14, 1874; James Bruffee, January 8, 1821, January 10, 1822; Archibald Kavanaugh, January 8, 1821, August 16, 1824; James Miller, January 8, 1821, May 2, 1825; James D. Campbell, January 10, 1822, February 6, 1826; Robert F. Howe, August 16, 1824, May 6, 1825; John Briscoe, May 2, 1825, February 6, 1826; Charles Woods, May 2, 1825, February 6, 1825; Thomas McMahan, May 2, 1825, February 6, 1825; Joseph Byler, May 2, 1825, February 6, 1826; James L. Collins, February 6, 1826, May 7, 1827; Green Seat, February 6, 1826, May 7, 1827; David Jones, February 6, 1826, May 7, 1827; Samuel Turley, February 6, 1826, May 7, 1827; William Bryant, February 6, 1826, May 7, 1827; John Briscoe, May 7, 1827, May 17, 1832; Marcus Williams, May 7, 1827, June 17, 1830; Joseph Byler, May 7, 1827, August 3, 1829; Rice Hughes, August 3, 1829, May 2, 1831; Robert Hood, June 17, 1880, May 2, 1831; Anthony F. Reed, May 2, 1831, September 8, 1834; Green Seat, May 2, 1831, September 8, 1834; Joseph Patterson, November 6, 1832, August, 1836; George W. Weight, September 8, 1834, November 21, 1842; John Briscoe, September 8, 1834, November 21, 1842; C. H. Smith, February 7, 1837, June 5, 1847; A. H. Neal, November 21, 1842, September 24, 1844; James H. Walker, November, 1870, November, 1876; John M. McCutchen, November, 1872, November, 1878; Robert A. McCulloch, November, 1874, November, 1880; A. B. Cole, presiding judge at large, elected November, 1878; term expired January 1, 1883. Jacob Crone, eastern district, elected January 1, 1879; term expired January 1, 1881. N. W. Williams, western district, elected January 1, 1879; term expired January 1, 1881. J. D. Starke, elected January 1, 1881; term expired January 1, 1883. W. P. McMahan, elected January 1, 1881, from western district; term expired January 1, 1883. W. P. McMahan, presiding judge, elected January 1, 1883; term expires January 1, 1887. James M. Campbell, eastern district, elected January 1, 1883; term expires January 1, 1885. John .I. Hose, western district, elected January 1, 1883; term expires January 1, 1885.

## COUNTY ASSESSORS OF COOPER COUNTY

with date of election or appointment and date of retiring from office.

George Crawford, for county, April 9, 1821, February 20, 1822; J. Dixon, Boonville township, February 20, 1822, February 19, 1823; J. Briscoe, Clear Creek, February 20, 1822, February 19, 1823; S. D. Reavis, Moniteau, February 20, 1822, February 19, 1823; L. Cropper, Saline township, February 20, 1822, February 19, 1823; John C. Rochester, February 19, 1823, February 18, 1824; William Allison, February 18, 1824, February 22, 1825; Lawrence Hall, February 22, 1825, February 6, 1826; Joseph B. Steele, February 6, 1826, February 6, 1828; Joseph Patterson, February 6, 1828, February 9, 1832; Howard Chism, February 9, 1832, February 6, 1833; George Crawford, February 6, 1833, February 6, 1835; A. S. Walker, February 6, 1835, February 6, 1836; W. H. Anderson, February 6, 1836, February, 1837; John Ogden, February 6, 1837, February, 1838; Thomas L. O'Bryan, August, 1838, August, 1840; William R. Butler, August, 1840, August, 1841; George Crawford, August, 1841, August, 1846; A. H. Roads, August, 1846, August, 1848; Harvey Bunce, August, 1848, August, 1850; George Crawford, August, 1850, August, 1851; James Hill, August, 1851, August, 1852; Robert H. Turner, August, 1852, February 16, 1853; Thomas McCulloch, February 16, 1853, December 22, 1853; Josiah E. Eubank, December 22, 1853, December 8, 1856;

James T. McCulloch, December 8, 1856, January 5, 1858; Joseph C. Koontz, January 5, 1858, February 6, 1860; Thomas E. Rochester, January 5, 1858, February 6, 1860; Jesse McFarland, January 5, 1858, February 6, 1860; R. B. Stoneman, February 1, 1858, January 3, 1859; James L. Bell, January 5, 1858, January 3, 1859; N. T. Allison, January 5, 1858, February 6, 1860; D. R. Drake, January 3, 1859, February 6, 1860; J. E. Eubank, January 3, 1859, February 6, 1860; B. R. Waller, February 6, 1860, August, 1860; Thomas E. Rochester, August, 1860, October 6, 1862; D. A. Melvin, October 6, 1862, February 21, 1865; Thomas E. Rochester, February 21, 1865, May 1, 1865; M. F. Kemp, May 3, 1865, September 4, 1865; R. B. Newman, September 4, 1865, July 1, 1870; R. W. Whitlow, July 2, 1870, January 1, 1873; J. H. Orr, January 1, 1873, January 1, 1875; James F. Adams, January 1, 1875, term expired January 1, 1877; H. D. Carlos, January 1, 1877, term expired January, 1882; Albert Hornbeck, January 1, 1882, term expires January 1, 1885.

#### PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS

date of election or appointment and date of expiration:

John M. McCutchen, January 6, 1848, May 4, 1857; H. A. Hutchison, May 4, 1857, February 13, 1860; Elisha N. Warfield, February 13, 1860, October 18, 1862; Harvey Bunce, October, 1862, November 20, 1872; Viet Eppstein, November 20, 1872, elected four years, term expired November, 1876; William R. Baker, November 1, 1876, term expired 1880; Viet Eppstein, November 1, 1880, term expires 1884.

#### COUNTY SURVEYORS OF COOPER COUNTY

with the time of entering office, and time of retiring froth office:

William Ross, March 1, 1819, - 2, 1829; Baxter M. Ewing, July 9, 1821, February 22, 1822; John Dixon, February 22, 1822, September 11, 1833; George T. Boyd, September 12, 1833, February 3, 1836; George W. Weight, February 3, 1836, August 3, 1843; P. A. Tutt, August 3, 1843, November 8, 1859; C. H. Allison, November 8, 1859, December 8, 1868; Charles Atkinson, December 1, 1861, December 18, 1872; W. W. Trent, December 8, 1872, December, 1874; W. W. Trent, December, 1874, December, 1878; J. A. Waller, December, 1878, term expires December, 1886.

#### COUNTY TREASURERS

with the time of entering office, stud date of retiring from office:

Robert P. Clark, January 8, 1821, January 4, 1833; Jacob Wyan, June 4, 1833, February 17, 1842; C. D. W. Johnson, February 17, 1842, August 10, 1853; William P. Speed, August 12, 1853, August 10, 1856; James Thomson, August 11, 1856, December 19, 1862; William P. Speed, December 19, 1862, July, 1863; H. E. W. McDearmon, August 3, 1863, February 7, 1865; Christian Keill, February 10, 1865, January 5, 1870; William E. Baird,\* January 5, 1870, November 15, 1870; C. Keill, November 15, 1870, November 14, 1872; James Thomson, November 14, 1872, November 7, 1874; James Thomson, November 7, 1874, November, 1880; George B. Harper, November 8, 1880, term expires 1885.

#### COUNTY ATTORNEYS OF COOPER COUNTY

with the date of election or appointment, and date of retiring from office:

William S. Brickey, March 3, 1819, June 26, 1840; James Winston, June 26, 1840, May 9, 1851; J. L. Stephens, May 9, 1851, July 25, 1864; William Douglas, July 25, 1864, May 30, 1865; John Trigg, appointed pro tem., during term circuit court; D. W. Wear, June 5, 1865, November 10, 1866; D. A. Milan, November 28, 1866, January 1, 1873; John Cosgrove, January 1, 1873, January 1, 1875; James H. Johnston, January 1, 1875, January 1, 1877; John R. Walker, January 1, 1881, January 1, 1883; D. W. Shackelford, January 1, 1883, term expires January 1, 1885.

There was, we think, a small space of time (a few years), during which time William D. Muir acted as county attorney for Cooper county, ex-officio, he being at that time state circuit attorney for this district of Missouri; but the records of the county do not show the facts.

\* William E. Baird was appointed county treasurer in the place of Christian Keill, on account of his being rendered unfit to discharge the duties of his office by what afterwards proved to be temporary insanity. But in the suit which Keill brought after his recovery, for his salary as county treasurer, while the office was occupied by Baird, the supreme court decided that the office was illegally held by Baird, because Keill ha not been declared insane by the proper tribunal.

## CHAPTER XXIII

### THE FIRST CELEBRATION OF THE FOURTH OF JULY IN THE COUNTY

On the fourth day of July 1820, the first celebration within the county of Cooper, of the anniversary of the some time notice had been circulated among the settlers; all over this portion of the State, and, on the morning of that day, great crowds gathered "from near and from far," to take part in this, to them, great day of thanksgiving, for, at that time in the nation's history, the Declaration of Independence and individual right meant something besides empty words.

The oration of the day was delivered by Benjamin F. Hickox father of our honored townsman, Truman V. Hickox.

The feast, of which all were specially invited to partake, was spread on the grass and ground north and northeast of the court house. Such was the crowd present, that the table spread for them, reached from the vacant lot north of the court house, to the large mound still standing in the front yard of Mr. Jesse Homan. James Bruffee, a blacksmith, then living in Boonville, made a large wrought iron cannon, with which they fired the salutes in honor of the day.

The festivities continued through the day and the following night. After the speaking and the reading of the Declaration of Independence had been concluded, the people separated into groups, the young ones to dance and to play different games, and the old ones to watch the pleasant sports of the children, and to talk over the current gossip of the day, for it was very seldom that they ever met in a large crowd. This day is still remembered with pleasure by the old settlers, for many of them, on that day, met for the last time their friends who lived at a distance, and who soon became separated from them, and died without ever seeing them again.

Fifty-six years after the first celebration of the Fourth of July in Cooper county, occurred the centennial, or 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our national independence. That was a day in the history of the county long to be remembered, especially by those who participated in the festivities of that occasion. The celebration at Boonville commenced on the evening of the 3rd day of July, with the firing of cannons and a grand illumination of the principal streets, and a very long torchlight procession. Main street was in a perfect blaze of light, with gas jets, candles and lanterns, and every business house was decorated with flags and banners having appropriate mottoes; in fact, with hardly an exception, the people participated in the grand display.

The streets were crowded with people during the whole of the evening, and it was frequently remarked, "Where did so many people come from?" A great many attended from different parts of this and surrounding counties, Howard County being especially well represented in the procession. The procession was considered a great success, even beyond the most sanguine expectations of the committee of arrangements.

It could perhaps be here remarked, that the celebration at Boonville of the "nation's birthday," was not, in proportion to its population, excelled in any respect by that of any other city or town in the United States. The property holders and occupiers seemed to strive with one another as to whose premises should make the best appearance both in the illumination and the display of flags, lanterns, etc. The citizens were very quiet, and made no boast of what they intended to do, but when the signal was given for "lighting up," they astonished every body else, and even themselves. It will not be undertaken to give an adequate description of the display on this occasion, for it would have to be seen to be appreciated.

On the evening of the 3d, the procession was formed by Judge T. M. Rice, Chief Marshal, with Colonel Robert McCulloch and Capt. George Meller, Assistant Marshals. In front was a large wagon, containing thirteen young ladies, who represented the thirteen original States of the Union. Then followed twelve men dressed in Continental uniform, who represented Washington, Jefferson, Lafayette, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton and others, among the most prominent men who took part in the Revolutionary struggle. Then came men bearing flags and torches, in all forming a procession more than one-half of a mile long. Twelve men on horseback dressed in Indian costume, rode several times pell-mell through the streets, yelling and giving the Indian warhoop. This was a ludicrous, attractive and prominent feature of the procession. Three bands of music marched at different places in the procession; the Boonville Silver Cornet, the Clark's Fork and the Pilot Grove bands. After the procession had marched and counter marched through the principal streets of the town, it halted at the Thespian hall, where the assembled multitude was entertained by an address prepared for the occasion, and delivered by Mr. Malcolm McMillan, of Boonville; and last, as the closing exercise of this the first day of the great celebration, the crowd witnessed several of the best tableaux ever seen in Boonville, the principal characters of which were the young ladies who represented the thirteen States. It was past eleven o'clock before the exercises of the evening were concluded, and the people dispersed to seek rest, to prepare for the duties and pleasures of the following day, for the greatest efforts had been expended to make that the "crowning glory" of the celebration.

The morning of the 4th was dark and gloomy; rain fell in torrents, and the heavy boom of the "artillery of heaven," drowned that of the "feeble sons of earth." But this day had been set aside by the people for enjoyment, and early crowds of people thronged the principal thoroughfares of the town, seeking the place where the closing exercises of the celebration were to take place. At 4 o'clock in the morning all the bells in the city were rung, and thirty-eight shots were fired by the cannon, one for each of the present States of the Union..

As the morning was very disagreeable, although the rain had ceased falling about eight o'clock, the procession was not formed until about 11 o'clock, when it proceeded to Lilly's Grove, about one-half of a mile east of Boonville, there to listen to the reading of the Declaration of Independence, and to the speeches and addresses prepared for the occasion.

After an appropriate prayer by Rev. Mr. Curtis, of the Episcopal Church at Boonville, the Declaration of Independence was read by Prof. J. P. Metzger. He was followed by Colonel H. A. Hutchison, who read an excellent and appropriate poem written expressly for the occasion, and which will be found in full at the close of this chapter.

Colonel William Preston Johnson, of Virginia, was then introduced and delivered a most eloquent speech, which was received with loud cheers by the assembled crowd.

Then Mr. G. Reiche delivered an address in German; he was followed by Mr. John Cosgrove, who delivered the "Oration of the Day."

After this, Mr. N. M. Drake read a sketch of the history of Cooper County, which had been prepared for the occasion in accordance with the request of the Committee of Arrangements.

At the close of each of the above exercises an appropriate chorus was sung, by a choir composed of one hundred voices. Also frequently during the afternoon, the dull boom of the cannon was heard, seemingly to remind the forgetful of our citizens that that was indeed the "Centennial Fourth."

On the night of the 4th, the citizens were called together to witness the display of fireworks, which had been prepared at great expense. And it is not exaggeration to say, that this was the finest display which has ever taken place in Central Missouri. At ten o'clock the last "bouquet of flowers" was fired into the air, and the heavy boom of the cannon notified the assembled multitude that the great celebration of the 4th day of July was over, and the people retired to their homes satisfied with the success of their endeavors to make memorable, the birthday of three millions of "Sons of Liberty."

JULY FOURTH, 1876

BY H. D. Hutchison

The goddess of liberty, sent from above,  
On mission of mercy, on errand of love,  
Rejected of empire, discarded by throne,  
Through kingdoms and monarchies wandered alone,  
Till taking her flight to a land o'er the sea,  
She found there a people who sighed to be free.

She breathed on the hearts of our patriot sires,  
And kindled within them those burning desires,  
Which ne'er would be quenched or would slumber again,  
Until the fair goddess triumphant would reign,  
Sustaining the weak and inflaming the cold,  
She strengthened the doubtful and cheered on the bold,  
And giving our banner the stripe and the star,  
She bade them go forth in her service to war!

The mother and sister, and fond hearted wife,  
Restrained not their dear one from joining the strife,  
The maiden suppressing a sorrowful sigh,  
Her lover sent forth with a "cheerful good bye,"  
And though they were few and their enemies strong,  
Yet striking for freedom, and maddened by wrong,  
They struggled and suffered thro' dark weary years,  
Of want and privation, of hopes and of fears,  
Till tyranny fled and oppression was past,  
And victory perched on our banner at last.

That banner unfurled to the sun and the breeze,  
As proudly it floats o'er the land and the seas,  
The beautiful emblem of freedom and right,  
Today we will hail with a shout of delight!  
And let the grim cannon be brought forth once more,  
Not death from its red mouth in anger to pour,  
But only to blend the deep tones of its voice,  
With shouts of the people who meet to rejoice,

O'er this the return of the glorious day,  
On which, just a century now passed away,  
Our patriot fathers proclaimed them prepared,  
To die, or sustain Independence declared!

From England and Scotia and Erin so fair,  
From Germany's shore, from the Alps bold and bare,  
From sunny Italia and beautiful France,  
From Spain whose fair daughters win hearts with a glance,  
From regions of snow and from tropical isle,  
Where summer time reigns with perpetual smile,  
Our country's adopted, from all o'er the earth,  
Today will rejoice with her children by birth;  
And though they oft dream of the fatherland yet,  
Sometimes it may be with a sigh of regret,  
Beneath our proud flag to the breezes unfurled,  
They'd stand by our country against the whole world!  
Tho' memory brings up, in dreadful review,  
The armies of gray and the legions of blue,  
The heroes who once met in hostile array,  
Will mingle together as brothers today,  
And if the invader should come to our shore,  
I know they would rush to the battle once more,  
Each veteran's heart to our whole country true,  
Though one wore the gray and another the blue!

Vow let the wild tones of the jubilant bells,  
Be mingled with music, as sweetly it swells!  
And may the soft winds, as they wander afar,  
Breathe gently today, on each stripe sad each star,  
And bear the glad tidings all over our lands,  
There's union of HEARTS, there is joining of hands,  
In north and in south, in the west and the east,  
Where gather the people, at church or at feast,  
On liberty's altar their garlands to cast,  
And cover with roses the thorns of the past.

May heaven protect, as in days that are gone,  
The old ship of state riding gallantly on,  
And be we united, whatever befall -  
**OUR COUNTRY! OUR COUNTRY!** the watchword of all.

## CHAPTER XXIV

### CONCLUSION – COOPER COUNTY OF 1883

“With superior boon, may your rich soil  
Exuberant nature’s better blessings pour  
O’er every land, the naked nations clothe,  
And be the exhaustless granery of the world.”

A splendid country, with a great destiny is this beautiful central Missouri, whose fortunate location, charming landscape, equable climate, versatile and generous soils, fruitful orchards and vineyards, matchless grasses, broad grain fields, rich coal measures, noble forests, abundant waters and cheap lands present to the capitalist and immigrant one of the most inviting fields for investment and settlement to be found between the two oceans. During the unexampled western migratory movement of the last six years, which has peopled Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and other regions with an intelligent and enterprising population, this remarkably rich and productive country has, until recently, remained a terra incognita to the average immigrant, the new states above named getting accessions of brain, heart, muscle, experience and capital that have given them a commanding position in the union. And yet it cannot be denied that Missouri offers to intelligent, enterprising and ambitious men of fair capital, more of the elements of substantial and enjoyable living than any country now open to settlement. In one of the fairest and most fertile districts of this division of Missouri are Howard and Cooper counties. Cooper county is admirably located within the productive middle belt of the continent, a strip of country not exceeding 450 miles wide, lying between the latitudes of Minneapolis and Richmond, reaching from ocean to ocean, and within which will be found every great commercial, financial and railway city, ninety per cent of the manufacturing industries, the great dairy and fruit interests, the strongest agriculture, the densest, strongest and most cosmopolitan population, all the great universities, the most advanced school systems and the highest average of health known to the continent. Scarcely less significant is the location of this county in the more wealthy and productive portions of the great central state of the union, which, by virtue of its position and splendid aggregation of resource, is bound to the commercial, political and material life of the country by the strongest ties, and must forever feel the quickening of its best energies from every throb of the national heart.

Cooper county is in the right latitude, which is a matter of primary interest to the immigrant. Lying squarely in the path of empire and trans-continental travel, in the latitude of Washington and Cincinnati, it has the climatic influence that has given to Northern Kentucky and North Virginia an enviable reputation for equable temperature. The climate is a benediction. A mean altitude of eight hundred and fifty feet above the tides gives tone and rarity to the atmosphere, and the equable mean of temperature. Most of the typical short winter is mild, dry, and genial enough to pass for a Minnesota Indian summer. The snow-fall is generally light, infrequent and transient. The long genial summer days are tempered by inspiring breezes from the southwestern plains, and followed by deliciously cool, restful nights.

The annual rainfall is from twenty-eight to forty inches, and is generally so well distributed over the growing season that less than a fair crop of grains, vegetables and grasses is rarely known.

The natural drainage of the county is excellent, the deep-set streams readily carrying off the surplus water from the generally undulating surface, only a limited area being too flat to quickly shed the surplus rains.

A high average of health obtains among men, animals and plants. There are no swamps or lagoons to breed malaria. The air and water are pure, and the conditions to normal health obtain here in as good measure as any where in the west. The face of the country is fair and attractive. In the central and eastern portions of the county, at the summit level, are broad reaches of open plain or prairie land, from whose margin the country dips with graceful incline outward and downward in sympathy with the diverging water-courses that flow down through groves and green, grassy glades, intervals and fringes of timber, and pretty low-lying, winding volleys, to where they are lost in the larger streams and forests. Here and there along these larger streams may be seen a range of low hills, with occasional outcroppings of the lime rock into wild, weird, picturesque forms, but the general aspect of the landscape is peaceful and pastoral, and from every point of view has the semblance of a magnificent natural park, to whose native charms the hands of man have added a thousand graces of art in grain field, orchard, homestead, hedgerow and lawn.

The water supply of this county is alike ample and admirable. More than a score of deep-set streams traverse every portion of the county, and with numerous springs, hundreds of artificial ponds and many living wells and cisterns, furnish pure water for all domestic uses. The county is well supplied with timber, much of its surface being covered with groves and belts of oak, ash, elm, walnut, butternut, sycamore, hackberry, maple, cherry, mulberry, box-elder, hickory, linden and kindred woods. The markets are well supplied with hard and soft woods at \$2.00 to \$3.50 per cord, and there is a fair supply of buildings and fencing timber. A good portion of the county is underlain with coal, whose frequent outcroppings along the streams and ravines expose veins which are easily worked by “stripping” and “drifting.” Explorations made by shafts disclose well-defined veins, and there is not a doubt of very extensive deposits of the best bituminous coal. The supply of good building stone too is equal to all present



and prospective needs, massive deposits of well stratified limestone being found frequently outcropping along the streams and ravines.

The cost of fencing is materially lower here than in most of the new or old prairie states. In the wooded districts the fences are cheaply made of common post or stakes and rails. In the prairie districts the older and abler farmers do a large amount of fencing with the osage orange hedge, which is an unqualified success in this country. There are miles and miles of fine hedge in this country, and with the proper care a farmer can grow a mile of stock proof hedge in four years, at a cost of \$125 in labor. The newer farms are being universally fenced with barbed wire, which is esteemed the quickest, most reliable, durable and cheapest fencing now in use here. The stock farmers are especially friendly to barbed wire fencing, some of them having put up as many as five and six miles in the last three years.

The soils of Cooper county are developing elements of productive wealth as cultivation advances. The prairie soil is a dark, friable alluvial, from one to three feet deep, rich in humus, very easily handled, and produces fine crops of corn, oats, flax, rye, broom corn, sorghum, vegetables and grasses. The oak and hickory soil of the principal woodlands is a shade lighter in color; is rather more consistent; holds a good per cent of lime and magnesia, carbonate, lime, phosphate, silica, alumina, organic matter, etc., and produces fine crops of wheat, clover and fruits, and, with deep rotative culture, gives splendid returns for the labor bestowed.

The valleys are covered with a deposit of black, imperishable alluvial, from three to eight feet in depth and as loose and friable as a heap of compost, grow from sixty to eighty, bushels of corn to the acre, and give an enormous yield to anything grown in this latitude. While these soils present a splendid array of productive forces, they are supplemented by sub-soils equal to any known to husbandry. The entire superficial soils of the county are underlaid by strong, consistent, silicious clays and marls, so rich in lime, magnesia, alumina, organic matter, and other valuable constituents, that centuries of deep cultivation, will prove them like the kindred loess of the Rhine and Nile valleys, absolutely indestructible. Everywhere, about the railway cuts, ponds, cisterns, cellars and other excavations, where these clays and marls have had one or two years exposure to frost and air, they have slacked to the consistency of an ash heap, and bear such a rank growth of weeds, grass, grain, vegetables and young trees, that in the older and less fertile states they might readily be taken for deposits of the richest compost.

After two and a half years observation in central and northwestern Missouri, we are prepared to believe that a hundred years hence, when the older eastern and southern states shall have been hopelessly driven over to the artificial fertilizers of man, and a new race of farmers are carrying systematic and deep cultivation down into this wonderful alien deposit of silicious matter, the whole of north and central Missouri will have become the classic ground in American agriculture, and these imperishable soils in the hands of small farmers will have become a very garden of beauty and bounty, and these Cooper county lands will command splendid prices on a strong market.

The lands of Cooper county are nearly all available, because they are nearly all good. The lowest bottoms are, as a rule, free from swamps and lagoons, and the highest elevations comparatively free of rocks and impediments to cultivation. It is safe to say that these soils, together, give the broadest range of production known to American husbandry. It is the pride and boast of the Cooper county farmer that he can grow in perfection every grain, vegetable, grass, plant and fruit that flourishes between the northern limits of the cotton fields and the Red river of the north. Both the surface indications of soil and its native and domestic productions indicate its remarkable versatility and bounty. Hazel brush, red elm, linden, sumac, mulberry, wild cherry, white and black walnut, resin weed and growths, found in nearly every neighborhood of the county, indicate a rich and versatile soil.

In the line of productions corn takes the lead by a large margin, the gross crop of the county for the year 1880, according to the United States census, being 2,389,965 bushels. This was grown upon 63,988 acres, which is an average of about thirty-eight bushels per acre. Winter wheat is grown to some extent, especially in the timber lands, and yields from fourteen to thirty bushels per acre, but corn and stock raising are found so much more profitable that the tendency is more and more to their production. The wheat crop for 1880 was 516,138 bushels. Oats and rye are both profitably grown, the former yielding from twenty to forty bushels per acre, and the latter from twelve to twenty-five bushels per acre, after more or less winter grazing. The yield of oats for 1880 was 263,389 bushels, and the yield of rye 4,225 bushels. The county produced in 1880, 21,252 pounds of tobacco from twenty-nine acres. Among the other field crops there are flax and burley, millet and hungarian, broom corn, Irish and sweet potatoes. The garden of the careful cultivator makes as fine a showing in this county as anywhere in the west, every vegetable of the middle latitudes coming to perfection in these flexible and generous soils. This portion of the state is one of the finest of fruit countries. The elevation, soil, climate, latitude, all favor the perfect growth of the apple, peach, pear, cherry, plum, grape and smaller fruits of the burden. The apple is the most successful crop; peaches give a full crop in two out of four years. The pear does well on the more tenacious oak and hickory soils. This part of Missouri is the home of the vine. The lowland forests are in many places festooned with a gorgeous growth of wild grape vines, many of them of great age and size. Nearly all the standard domestic grapes of the middle latitudes are grown here in profusion, at a cost of two or three cents per pound, and for flavor, size and color they will rank with the best grown along the Ohio and Delaware, or in the Erie islands. Wherever they are given half a chance both vines and fruit trees are remarkably thrifty.

But a few years ago, much of the outlying commons was covered with a luxuriant growth of wild prairie grass, of which there were more than fifty varieties, all of more or less value for pasturage and hay. Nearly all the natural ranges are now enclosed and under tribute to the herdsmen, and it is safe to say that their native herbage will

put more flesh on cattle, from the beginning of April to early autumn, than any of the domestic grasses. With the progress of settlement and cultivation, however, they are steadily disappearing before the tenacious and all-conquering blue grass, which is surely making the conquest of every rod of the county not under tribute to the plow. Blue grass is an indigenous growth here-many of the older and open woodland pastures rivaling the famous blue grass ranges of Kentucky, both in the luxuriance of their growth and the high quality of the herbage. Now and then one meets a Kentuckian so provincial in his attachments and conceits that he can see nothing quite equal to the blue grass of old Bourbon-county; but the mass of impartial Kentuckians, who constitute a large per centum of the population here, admit that the same care bestowed upon the blue grass fields of Kentucky gives equally fine results in Cooper county, whose blue grass tonnes are certainly superior to any in Illinois. This splendid "king of grasses," which, in this mild climate, makes a luxuriant early spring and autumn growth, is appropriately supplemented here by white clover, which is also "to the manor born;" and on this mixture of alluvial, with the underlying siliceous marls and clays, makes a fine growth, especially in years of full moisture, and is a strong factor in the sum of local grazing wealth. With these two grasses, followed by orchard grass for winter grazing (orchard grass makes a very heavy growth here), the herdsmen of fortunate Cooper county have that most desirable of all stock-growing conditions - perennial grazing-which, with the fine grades of stock kept here, means wealth for all classes of stock growers. There is another essential element of grazing resource here, and it is found in the splendid timothy meadows, which are equal to any in the Western Reserve or the Canadas. These meadows give a heavy growth of hay and seed, both of which are largely and profitably grown for export. Red clover is quite as much at home here as timothy, and its cultivation is being very successfully extended by all the better farmers her mixed meadow pasturage and seed. Here, too, is found a luxuriant growth of herds' grass (red tip), which, during the past summer, has made fine showing, the low, "Swale" lands and ravines presenting grand, waving billows of herds' grass, almost as rich and rank of growth as the "blue stem" of the wild western prairie bottoms. With this showing for the native and domestic grasses, it is almost needless to pronounce Cooper county a superb stock country.

With millions of bushels of corn grown at a cost of sixteen to eighteen cents per bushel; an abundance of pure stock water and these matchless grasses; the fine natural shelter afforded by, the wooded valleys and ravines; the superior facilities for cheap transportation to the great stock markets, the mildness and health of the climate, and the cheapness of the grazing lauds, nothing pays so well or is so perfectly adapted to the country as stock husbandry. Cattle, sheep, swine, horse and mule raising and feeding are all pursued with profit in this county, the business, in good hands, paying net yearly returns of twenty to forty per cent on the investment, many sheep growers realizing a much greater net profit.

Cattle growing and feeding, in connection with swine raising and feeding, is the leading industry of the county, leading all other departments of husbandry by seventy-five per cent. High grade shorthorns of model types, bred from the best beef-getting stock, are kept by most of the growers and feeders, the steers being grazed during the warm months, after which they are "full-fed" and turned off during the winter and spring, weighing from 1200 to 1700 pounds gross at two and three years old, the heavier animals going to European buyers. These steers are fed in conjunction with model Berkshire and Poland China pigs, which fatten perfectly on the droppings and litter of the feed yard and go into market, weighing 250 to 400 pounds at ten to fourteen months old. These steers and pigs are bred and grazed by the feeders of their grass and corn-growing neighbors, and will average in quality and weight with the best grades fed in any of the older states.

Horse and mule raising is a favorite industry with many of the farmers, and has been pursued with profit for years, a large surplus of well-bred work horses and mules going mainly to the southern markets each year.

Sheep raising has for several years been a favorite and highly profitable branch of stock husbandry here, many growers realizing a net profit of forty to sixty per cent on the money invested in the business. The wool produced in 1880 amounted to 143,770 pounds. This county is remarkably well suited to sheep growing, the flocks increasing rapidly and being generally free from disease. There are many small flocks that give a higher per cent of profit than the figures above given, but even the larger herds make a splendid showing. Merinos are mainly kept by the larger flockmasters, but the hundreds of smaller flocks, ranging from 40 to 300 each, are mainly Cotswolds and Downs, the former predominating, and the wool clips running from five to nine pounds her capita of unwashed wool.

Sheep feeding is conducted with unusual profit here, the mild winters, cheap feed, large "stocky" class of wethers fed, and the very cheap transportation to the great mutton markets especially favoring the business.

The extent of the industry in this county is only measurably indicated by the United States census of live stock for 1880, which gives the county a total of 7,638 horses, 3,418 mules, 19,999 cattle, 19,942 sheep and 62,529 swine. This statement, which is unquestionably fifteen to twenty per cent below the real number of animals kept in the county, shows a large increase over the report for 1870. The live stock exports of the county last year exceeded 1,500 car loads of fat cattle, sheep, swine, horses and mules, worth in the home market at present prices considerably more than \$1,500,000, and yet the business is comparatively in its infancy, not more than half the stock growing resources of the county being yet developed.

Dairy farming might be very profitably pursued here, the grasses, water, and near market for first-class dairy products all favoring the business in high degree. In 1880 there were 263,278 pounds of butter made.

Cooper county comes very near to being a stock breeder's paradise the demand for all classes of well bred stock always being in excess of the supply. In former years the local growers have mostly depended upon the breeders of the older neighboring counties for their thoroughbred stock animals, but of late many fine short-horns

have been brought in, and superior stock horses have been introduced, and there are a dozen of good breeders of sheep and swine, whose stock will rank with the best in the country.

Stock breeding, grazing and feeding under the favoring local conditions is the surest and most profitable business that can be pursued in the west, or for that matter, anywhere in "the wide, wide world." Not a single man of ordinary sense and business capacity in this country, that has followed the one work of raising and feeding his own stock, abjuring speculation, and sticking closely to the business, has (or ever will) failed to make money. It beats wheat growing two to one, though the latter calling be pursued under the most favorable conditions in the best wheat regions. It beats speculation of every sort, for it is as sure as the rains and sunshine. What are stocks, bonds, "options," mining shares, merchandise, or traffic of any character beside these matchless and magnificent grasses that come of their own volition and are fed through all the ages by the eternal God, upon the rains and dews and imperishable soils of such a land as this? If the writer were questioned as to the noblest calling among men, outside of the ministry of "peace and good will," he would unhesitatingly point to the quiet and honorable pastoral life of these western herdsmen. Stock growing in Cooper county, as everywhere, develops a race of royal men, and is the one absorbing, entertaining occupation of the day and location. If it be eminently practical and profitable, so too, it is invested with a poetic charm. To grow the green, succulent, luxuriant grasses, develop the finest lines of grace and beauty in animal conformation, tend one's herds and flocks on the green, fragrant range, live in an atmosphere of delicate sympathy with the higher forms and impulses of the animal life in one's care, and to be inspired by the higher sentiments and traditions of honorable breeding, is a life to be coveted by the best men of all lands. By the side of the herds and grasses and herdsmen of such a country as this, the men of the grain fields are nowhere. These men of the herds are leading a far more satisfactory life than the Hebrew shepherds led on the Assyrian hills in the old, dead centuries; they tend their flocks and raise honest children in the sweet atmosphere of content. They are in peace with their neighbors, and look out upon a pastoral landscape as fair as ever graced the canvas of Turner. The skies above them are as radiant as those above the Arno, and if the finer arts of the old land are little cultivated by the herdsmen of these peaceful valleys, they are yet devoted to the higher art of patient and honorable human living.

The lands are cheap, the location exceptionally fine and the other advantages over the older States so great that the question of competition is all in favor of this country. This country is admirably suited to "mixed farming." The versatility and bounty of the soil, wide range of production, the competition between the railways and great rivers for the carrying trade and the nearness of the great markets, all favor the variety farmer. With a surplus of cattle, sheep, pigs, mules, horses, wool, wheat, eggs, poultry, fruit, dairy products, etc., he is master of the situation. The farmers of Cooper county live easier and cheaper than those of the older States. The labor bestowed upon forty acres in Ohio, New York or New England, will thoroughly cultivate one hundred acres of these richer, cleaner and more flexible soils. There is little foul growth, few stumps and no stones to impede the progress of the happy cultivator here, and the long, genial, friendly summers never hurry or confuse firm work. Animals require less care and feed and mature earlier; the home requires less fuel; the fields are finely suited to improved machinery, and it is safe to say that the average Cooper county farmer gets through the real farm work of the year in one hundred and fifty days.

Nature is so prodigal in her gifts to man, that the tendency is to go slow and take the world easy. Nor is this at all wonderful in a country where generous Mother Nature does seventy per cent of the productive work, charitably leaving only thirty per cent for the brain and muscle of her sons. It is only natural that this condition of things tend to loose and unthrifty methods of farming, and that the consequent waste of a half section of land here, would give a comfortable support to a Connecticut or Canadian farmer. It is in evidence, however, from the experience of all thorough and systematic farmers here, that no region in America gives grander sections to good farming than this county. There is not one of all the thorough, systematic, rotative and deep cultivators of the country who has not and does not make money. No soils give a better account of themselves in skilled and thrifty hands than these, and it is greatly to their honor that they have yielded so much wealth under such indifferent treatment. These Cooper and Howard county lands will every time pay for themselves under anything like decent treatment. They are near the centre of the great corn and blue grass area of the country, where agriculture has stood the test of half a century of unflinching production, where civilization is surely and firmly founded on intellectual and refined society, schools, churches and railways, markets, mills and elegant homes. The lands of these two counties will nearly double in value during the next decade. Nothing short of material desolation can prevent such a result. Everywhere in the older States, there is more or less inquiry about Missouri lands, and all the indications point to a strong inflow of intelligent and well-to-do people from the older States. Does the reader ask why lands are so cheap under such favorable, material conditions? Well, the question is easily answered. Up to a recent date, little or nothing has been done by the people of the State to advertise to the world its manifold and magnificent resources. Still worse, Missouri has, for two decades, been under the ban of public prejudice throughout the north and east, the people of those sections believing Missourians to be a race of ignorant, inhospitable, proscriptive and intolerant bulldozers, who were inimical to northern immigration, enterprise and progress. Under this impression, half a million immigrants have annually passed by this beautiful country, bound for the immigrants' Utopia, which is generally laid in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Texas. This mighty army of resolute men and women, with their wealth of gold, experience and courage have been lost to a State of which they unfortunately knew little and cared to know less. Under such conditions, there has, of course, been a dearth of land buyers. Happily, Cooper and Howard counties have been advertised by their local newspapers, their enterprising real estate men and other agencies, and have perhaps

suffered less at the hands of ill-founded prejudice than many other sections. It is the good fortune of this beautiful county to have a more cosmopolitan population than any other portion of the State, and this fact, together with the enterprise of the people in advertising their local advantages and resources, has given it a larger inflow of immigration and new capital than has fallen to the lot of any purely agricultural county in central and north Missouri.

The people of Cooper county -nearly 22,000 strong - are as intelligent, refined and hospitable as those of Ohio or Michigan; forty per cent of them hail from the old free states, the provinces and Europe, and, a more tolerant, appreciative, chivalrous community never undertook the subjugation of a beautiful wilderness to noble human uses. We have passed a year and a half in northern and central Missouri, visiting the towns, looking into the industrial life of the people, inspecting the farms and herds, reviewing the schools and carefully watching the drift of popular feeling, and are pleased to affirm that there is nowhere in the union a more order-loving and law-respecting population than that of Cooper and Howard counties.

"The life they live" here is quite as refined and rational as any phase of the social and political life at the north. Whatever they did in the exciting and perilous years of the war, they are today as frank, liberal and cordial in their treatment of northern people, and as ready to appreciate and honor every good quality in them, as if they were "to the manor born." That they are tolerant and liberal is proven by the elevation of well known union soldiers to positions of honor and trust.

A strong union sentiment is everywhere apparent. Many persons were strong union democrats during the war, never swerving in their fealty to the union, and the old flag floats as proudly in central and north Missouri as in the shadows of Independence Hall. All parties are agreed that slavery is dead, and that its demise was a blessing to every prime interest of the country. There is not a man of character in the county who would restore the institution if he could. A good majority of the people of this county hail from Kentucky and Virginia, or are descended from Kentucky or Virginia families, and have the deliberation, frankness, good sense, admiration of fair play, reverence for woman and home, boundless home hospitality and strong self-respect, for which the average Kentuckian and Virginian is proverbial. They have a habit of minding their own business that is refreshing to see. The new comer is not catechised as to social antecedents or politics, but is estimated for what he is and does. They don't care where a man hails from, if he be sensible and honest. They take care of their credit as if it were their only stock in trade. When a man's word ceases to be as good as his bond, his credit, business and standing are gone, and the loss of honorable prestige is not at all easy of recovery.

Sterling character finds as high appreciation here as in any country of our knowledge. The visitor is impressed with the number of strong men - men who would take rank in the social, professional and business relations of any community in civilization. Cooper county has evidently drawn largely upon the best blood, brain and experience of the older states. In every department of life may be found men of fine culture and large experience in the best ways of the world, and the stranger who comes here expecting to place the good people of this county in his shadow, will get the conceit effectually taken out of him in about ninety days. They are not a race of barbarians, living a precarious sort of life in the bush, but a brave, magnanimous, intelligent people, who, if their average daily life be sternly realistic in the practical ways of home-building and bread-getting, have yet within and about them so much of the ideal that he is indeed a dull observer who sees not in their relations to the wealth of the grain fields and herds, and-the poetry of the sweet pastoral landscape, a union of the real and ideal that is yet to make for them the perfect human life. They find ample time for the founding and fostering of schools, the love of books and flowers and art, a cultivation of the social graces, and the building of temples to the spiritual and ideal. Cooper county raises horses and mules and swine, fat steers, and the grain to feed the million, but is none the less a generous almoner of good gifts for her children. She has eighty-six free public schools for white and sixteen for colored children.

Public morals are guarded and fostered by the presence and influence of fifty churches, representing nearly all the denominations, and are nowhere displayed to better advantage than in the general observance of the Sabbath, and in the honest financial administration of county affairs. There are no repudiators of the public credit and obligation here. Every public promise to pay is honored with prompt payment of principal and interest. They have in high pleasure that singular and inestimable virtue called popular conscience, and make it the inexorable rule of judgment and action in all public administration. It is as unchangeable as the law of the Merles and Persians, and though public enterprise has impelled the expenditure of a great deal of money, large sums have also been voted for the building of railways, for county buildings and appointments, and for bridges, with a liberal expenditure for incidental uses, all within little more than a decade; every dollar of county obligation has been paid at maturity, nobody has had the hardihood to even talk repudiation, and happy, prosperous Cooper will soon be out of debt, and the last dollar of her bonded indebtedness will be promptly paid. Better still, she has surplus cash in her vaults to meet the current expenditures on public account, and her credit is as good as that of the nation itself.

It is clearly no injustice to other portions of Missouri to pronounce Cooper one of the model counties. She has an untarnished and enviable credit, excellent school, light taxes, a brave, intelligent and progressive population, and presents a picture of material thrift which challenges the admiration of all. There are a score of men in the county worth from \$30,000 to \$500,000. Half a hundred more represent from \$20,000 to \$50,000, and a large number from \$15,000 to \$20,000, while after these come a good sized army whose lands find personal estate will range from \$10,000 to \$15,000. This wealth is not in any sense speculative, for it has been mainly done, out of the soil, and, in a modest degree, represents the half developed capacity of the grasses and grain fields. It is not in the hands of any speculative or privileged class, but is well distributed over the county in lands, homes and herds. It is

one of the pleasures of a life time to ride for days over this charming region of fine old homes, thrifty orchards, green pastures and royal herds, and remember that the fortunate owners of these noble estates have liberal bank balances to their credit, and are well on the road to honorable opulence.

Many a reader of this report will be inclined to wonder if it is an over-colored sketch of the country and people, and ask for the shady side of the picture. "Are there no poor land, poor farmers, or poor farming in Cooper county - nothing to criticise, grumble about or find fault with in the ways of the 22,000 people within the range of the letter?" Yes, there is a "shady side" to the picture, and it is easily and quickly sketched from life. The scarcity of farm labor is apparent to the most superficial observer. The negroes who did most of the farm labor under the old compulsory system have gone almost solidly into the towns, and are no longer a factor in the farm labor problem. The average farm hand has acquired the easy slipshod habits of the slave labor system, and is at best a poor substitute. Four-fifths of the farmers undertake too much, expending in the most superficial way upon 200 or 400 acres the labor which would only well cultivate 100 acres, and the result is seen in shallow plowing, hurried seeding, slight cultivation, careless harvesting, loose stacking, wasteful threshing and reckless waste in feeding. The equally reckless exposure of farm machinery in this county would bankrupt the entire farm population of half a dozen New England counties in three seasons. The visitor in the country is always in sight of splendid reapers, mowers, seeders, cultivators, wagons and smaller implements, standing in the swath, furrow, fence corner or yard where last used, and exposed to the storms and sunshine until the improvident owner needs them for further use.

The exposure of flocks and herds to the cold wet storms of the winter, without a thought of shelter, in a country where nature has bountifully provided the material for, and only trifling labor is required to give ample protection, is a violation of the simplest rule of economy and that kindly human impulse that never fails to be moved by the sight of animal suffering. The astonishing waste of manures, by the villainous habit of burning great stacks of straw and leaving rich half century accumulations of manure to the caprice of the elements, may be all right in bountiful old Missouri, but in the older eastern country would be prima facie evidence of the insanity of the land-owner who permitted the waste.

The waste of valuable timber is equally unaccountable, if not really appalling. While economists in the older lands are startled at the rapid approach of the timber famine, and are wondering where the timber supply is to come from a dozen years hence, the farmers of Cooper county, and all north Missouri, are splitting elegant young walnut and cherry trees into common rails to enclose lands worth ten dollars to twenty-five dollars per acre; cutting them into logs for cabins, pig troughs and sluiceways, and even putting them on the wood market in competition with cheap coals, complaining the while of the cost of walnut furniture bought from factories a thousand miles away.

"There are too many big farms here for either the good of the overtasked owners or the country. No man can thoroughly cultivate 600, 1,000 or 1,500 acres of land, any more than a country of homeless and landless tenants can be permanently prosperous; and the sooner these broad, unwieldy estates are broken into small farms, and thoroughly cultivated by owners of the soil in fee simple, the better it will be for land values, schools, highways, society, agriculture, trade, and every vital interest of the country. Such a consummation would vastly add to the wealth and attractions of this beautiful and fertile region, giving it the graces of art, manifold fruits of production, and universal thrift that attend every country of proprietary small farmers. There is too much speculation and too little work for the benefit of farming or economic living. Everybody is trading with his neighbor in live stock, grain, lands, town lots, options, or anything that promises money without work, forgetful that the country is not a dime the richer for that traffic. Nothing surprises the eastern visitor as much as the want of appreciation for their country, expressed by so many of the old and substantial farmers of this region. They get the Texas, Kansas or Colorado fever, and talk about selling beautiful farms in this fair and fertile country for the chances of fortune in one of these regions of the immigrant's Utopia, as if they were unconscious of living in one of the most favored lands upon the green earth. A six weeks' tour of some of the older and less favored states, followed by a trip of critical observation into some of the newer ones, might give these uneasy and unsettled men a spirit of happy content with their present homes and surroundings.

Cooper county has productive capacity great enough to feed a fourth of the population of Missouri, but before its wonderful native resources are developed to the maximum, it must have twenty thousand more men to aid in the work. Men for the thorough cultivation of forty, eighty and one hundred and twenty acre farms; for the modern butter and cheese dairy; skilled fruit growers to plant orchards and vineyards and wine presses; hundreds of sterling young men from the northern states, the Canadas and Europe, to solve the farm labor problem in a country where reliable labor is scarce and wages high, and skilled artisans to found a hundred new mechanical industries. All these are wanted, nor can they come a day too soon for cordial greeting from the good people of Cooper county, or the precious realization of a great destiny for one of the most inviting regions on the green earth.

[www.mogenweb.org/cooper](http://www.mogenweb.org/cooper)