

# History of Cooper County Missouri by W. F. Johnson

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### Chapter VI

#### The War of 1812 and Indian Troubles (Continued)

by all the inhabitants of this fort. Twenty families and a number of young men resided in the fort.

McLean's Fort, afterwards called Fort Hempstead, was erected on a high hill near Sulphur Creek, on the bluff about one mile from the present town of New Franklin. Fort Kincaid was near the river, about one and one-half miles from the present site of Old Franklin; the first was so named in honor of David Kincaid. Then, there was Head's Fort, four miles above Rocheport on the Big Moniteau, near the old Boonslick trail from St. Charles, not far from what was then called the Spanish Needle Prairie. It was the most easterly fort of the settlement.

These forts were on the north side of the river. On the south, the first fort erected was Cole's Fort, which was located in the "Old Fort Field", about one and one-half miles east of the present site of Boonville, north of the Boonville and Rocheport road. The second fort erected on the south side of the river, was the Hannah Cole Fort, located on a bluff overlooking the river, at a point of rocks, where a lime-kiln once stood. This last fort, however, was not erected until 1814. This place was selected by the settlers as the most suitable for defense, being located at the edge of a very steep bluff and easily defended, and also affording facilities to obtain a good supply of water. In order to make the supply of water secure during an Indian attack, the settlers ran a long log over the edge of the bluff, and attached to it a rope and windlass to draw up the water.

McMahan's Fort also was located on the south side of the river, supposed to be about five miles from Cooper's Fort, but we have been unable to determine its exact location.

When Stephen Cole, assisted by his neighbors, had completed the erection of the first Cole fort, all the families living around, especially on the south side of the river, gathered at this fort for protection from the savages.

The Cole fort consisted of a stockade flanked by log cabins, and here lived all the families south of the Missouri, during a greater part of the War of 1812. Many mouths were to be fed, and they were hearty feeders. Their meat consisted entirely of wild game, which they killed and secured from the forest, or fish caught from the river. For this purpose they sent out hunting parties from day to day. At this time all was not ease and comfort within the fort, and the white men were denied the freedom of the forest by the wily savage. The hunter who sallied forth, as it was necessary for him to do was like Argus with his hundred eyes, and Briareus,

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with his hundred hands, first to watch and then to guard. When chased or surrounded by the Indians, figuratively speaking, he put on the helmet of Pluto, which made him invisible.

**Killing of Smith** - A few months after Cole Fort was completed, Indians were reported in the neighborhood. The Indians consisting of a band of about 400, made their appearance before the fort. At this time there were two hunting parties in the forest after game, in one of which were two men by the names of Smith and Savage, who on their return to the fort were espied by the Indians. Smith and Savage endeavored to break through the cordon of Indians surrounding the fort. They were pursued by the Indians, and the savages shot at them several times. In the first fire Smith was severely wounded, but struggling, he staggered on to within 50 yards of the fort, where the Indians again fired, two balls taking effect and felling him to the ground. Only Savage succeeded in attaining the fort.

As soon as Savage saw his companion fall he ran to his assistance, but Smith, realizing that he was mortally wounded and that his end was near, handed Savage his gun and told him to flee and save himself. The Indians were in close pursuit, and in order to save himself, Savage was compelled to leave his unfortunate companion and make his escape. Although he was shot at perhaps 25 times, he succeeded in reaching the fort unhurt. The Indians scalped Smith, and barbarously mutilated his body, as was then their custom. They then withdrew to the adjacent woods and laid siege to the fort.

The Indians, who pursued Savage in his successful endeavor to escape to the fort, came into full view of the settlers in the fort, and several of them might have been killed had the settlers deemed it wise and expedient to do so.

Indeed, it is said that Samuel Cole, who was in the fort at the time, begged his mother to let him shoot an Indian. Samuel then was but a little shaver about twelve years of age. Doubtless he burned with ambition and his little heart throbbed by reason of his eager and earnest desire to kill the red men, thinking not of the consequences. However his mother, Hannah Cole, with wisdom born of experience, forbade him to shoot.

The Indians had as yet shown no disposition to fire upon the fort, and the inmates, there being but six men in the fort, did not wish to rouse their anger by killing any of them. They also hoped that before an attack

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was made by the Indians, that those settlers who were yet out hunting would arrive and thus augment the forces within the fort.

They realized that against such overwhelming forces they could not long maintain themselves, and that their only hope was escape. During the following day the remaining settlers who were outside the fort evaded the vigilant cordon of savages, and doubtless following the route up or down the river reached the fort. However dire their straits, aid came fortuitously, or by act of Providence. On the following day a boat loaded with Indian goods and containing 25 kegs of powder, 400 pounds of balls, and a keg of whiskey, in charge of Captain Coursault and belonging to French traders of St. Louis, was going up the river for the purpose of trading these articles with the Indians.

**Capture of Coursault - Escape of Settlers.**-This aroused the indignation of the settlers, and Benjamin Cooper admonished Coursault of the danger and impropriety of supplying the Indians with ammunition under existing conditions, for with the ammunition the white settlers would be slain. Coursault seemed to see and appreciate the danger of this and promised to return down the river. It seemed to the settlers, however, that he agreed with reluctance, and as they were in doubt whether or not he would descend, they established a guard on the river. Their suspicion was well founded, and their caution well taken, for a day or so afterwards, about two o'clock in the morning, Coursault was intercepted attempting to go up the river, the oars of his boat muffled. He was commanded to run his boat ashore, but he did not stop, and refused to obey the command. Then Captain Cooper fired, but Captain Sarshall Cooper knocked the gun up, thus saving Coursault's life. Coursault, realizing that the settlers were in deadly earnest, brought his boat to the shore. The ammunition and whiskey were confiscated by the settlers and Coursault himself held captive for a short time. He was finally allowed to return home with his goods, except the ammunition and the large keg of whiskey.

After this, however, Coursault proved himself loyal to the Americans in the War of 1812. He bravely assisted in the defense of Cotesans Dessein, when it was attacked by the Indians, and during the war he loyally aided in the defense of the country against the Indians. He was captain

of the Cote sans Dessein Company. In this engagement, an account of which is given in this chapter, Coursault lost his life.

By reason of the capture of this boat, the settlers were enabled to make their escape from Fort Cole. They crossed the river in this boat to

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Fort Kincaid or Fort Hempstead, which was located about one mile from the end of the great iron bridge over the Missouri River at Boonville. They succeeded in taking with them their families, all their stock, furniture and belongings of other nature. The fort was surrounded by savages on all sides, save on the river front, and yet, in the face of all this, the white men saved not only themselves, but all their personal property in the fort, as well as their live stock.

After they had crossed the river, the Frenchmen and their leader, Coursault, were permitted to return down the river with their boat, with the strong admonition that if they ever dared come up the river again with supplies for the Indians they would handle them with "short shrift".

The ammunition captured and confiscated at this time, was sufficient to last the settlers for a long time.

Previous to this, Joseph Jolly had supplied them with powder, manufactured by himself from saltpeter found in a cave near Rocheport. Whence came the saltpeter? "If true," as Houck says in his history of Missouri, "it is a fact also to be noted."

Smith was the first man killed within the present limits of Cooper County. All the settlers on the south side of the river had now moved to the north side.

**Todd and Smith Are Killed** - In the early spring of 1812 prior to the killing of Smith on the south side of the river, Jonathan Todd and Thomas Smith started down the Missouri either to pick out a piece of land on which to settle, or to find a stray horse, possibly both. Todd and Smith lived on the north side of the Missouri. They had gone as far as the present line between Howard and Boons Counties, when they were unexpectedly attacked by the Indians. The struggle was long and hard, and several Indians were killed, but Todd and Smith eventually paid the forfeit of their hardihood with their lives. The savages, after killing them, cut off their heads' and literally cut out their hearts and placed them on poles by the side of the trail. Soon the news of the killing of Todd and Smith was brought to the fort and a party of men was sent out to recover their bodies. After they had traveled several miles, they captured an Indian warrior, who seemed to be spying on their movements, and they started to the fort with their captive in order to secure information from him. On their return when they arrived within two miles of the fort, the Indian prisoner suddenly broke away from them, and attempted to make his escape. The Indian was fleet of foot, and although the settlers pursued

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him about one-half a mile, they found that they could not overtake him and capture him alive. Then with unerring aim they shot him, killing him instantly.

The killing of these white settlers happened before the settlers on the south side had moved to the north side of the river. Immediately the settlers on both sides of the river organized and began to act with one accord. They sent out scouting expeditions in different directions to ascertain the lay of the ground, whether the Indians were in the neighborhood and whether they were really upon the warpath.

**Discover Indians** - James Cole and James Davis were sent out upon one of these scouting expeditions. After scouting around for some time, they were unable to discover any trace of the

savages in the neighborhood, or to find out anything about their plans. They were preparing to return to the fort, when they discovered a large band of Indians in pursuit of them, and directly between them and the fort, in which were their families and friends, unconscious of their danger. They could not withstand the attack of the large body of Indians in the open woods, and they knew that they would soon be surrounded. Their return to the fort was seemingly cut off. However, they started for what then was called Johnson's Factory, a trading post kept by a man named Johnson. It was situated on the Moniteau Creek, in what is now Moniteau County, about two hundred yards from the Missouri River. They reached the factory or trading post that afternoon, and the Indians immediately surrounded the place. Cole and Davis knew, as true scouts, that it was their duty to warn their friends and neighbors, and that unless they received the warning they would easily fall prey to the savages. That the forts might be warned of their danger in time to prepare for the attack, which seemed certain, these hardy rangers and scouts determined at all hazards to escape and bear to them the tidings. As long as they remained at the trading post, they were safe from the shots of the enemy, at least for a time. To leave the fort, they ran the hazard of the scalping knife, and mutilated bodies. They resolved upon a daring method. At about midnight, with the utmost caution as to noise, they took up a plank from the floor of the factory, crawled through the floor, and with stealth and cunning reached the creek. Fortunately, there they found a canoe, and silently floated down to the river, evading the vigilance of the savages. But just as they reached the river, an unlucky stroke of the paddle against the side of the canoe, revealed them to the Indians, who at once started in pursuit in canoes.

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The Indians pursued them to what is known as Big Lick, in Cooper County, where being closely pressed, Cole and Davis turned, and each killed an Indian. The Indians then left off pursuit. The two settlers reached Cole's Fort in safety, and announced to the astonished settlers that they were indeed on the verge of a long and blood war, with Indians on the war path in the immediate vicinity.

From there the tidings were conveyed to the other forts. The hearts of the bravest were filled with dismay. They knew that their numbers were few, and that to withstand the attack of the great Indian nations living around them would try the courage and the sagacity of the stoutest.

However, no attack was made by the band of Indians who had pursued Cole and Davis. Doubtless because they knew that their presence was known in the neighborhood, and they well knew that the forts would be prepared and expecting to receive them.

**Chased by Indians** - Nothing being seen or heard of Indians for some time, in the summer of the same year, Samuel Cole, Stephen Cole and Muke Box started from Kincaid's Fort on a hunting expedition and crossed the river where Boonville now stands, penetrating the forest to the Petit Saline Creek. They hunted and fished for two days and were preparing to return upon the third, when they heard the sound of shooting in the direction of the river, where they had left their canoe. Knowing that there were no whites on the south side of the river, except themselves, they concluded that the shots were fired by Indians. However they immediately started by a circuitous route to the river, to gain possession of their canoe. When they arrived at the residence where once lived Delaney Belin, they discovered that a band of Indians was in pursuit of them. Not knowing the number in pursuit, but supposing them to be numerous, they immediately separated, and took different routes through the woods. They agreed to meet at the place where they had left their canoe. Here they met, but the Indians had stolen their canoe. As the Indians were still in hot pursuit of them, they hastily lashed three cottonwood logs together, placed their guns, clothing, equipment, etc., upon this small but hastily constructed raft, and swam over the river, pushing it before them, and landed on the north side of the river, about two and one-half miles below the present city of Boonville. They reached the fort in safety that evening, and reported their adventure with the Indians. The settlers then made their preparations against any attack by the savages. Next morning tracks of Indians were discovered around and

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near the fort, and it was found that the fort had been reconnoitred during the night by a band of eight Indians.

At this time there were very few men in Fort Kincaid. They, therefore, sent to Cooper's and McLean's Forts for reinforcements, as they supposed that this band of eight was but the scouting party of a large number of Indians.

**Settlers Take Up Trail of Indians** - The other forts sent reinforcements to the number of forty-two, which soon arrived, and together with the men belonging to Kincaid's Fort, they started in pursuit of the Indians of whom by this time they had discovered to be but a small band. They found their trail, pursued them for some distance, and surrounded them finally in a hollow within about four miles of the present site of New Franklin.

The Indians concealed themselves in the brush and thickets, and behind timber, not being able to see the Indians, the fire of the settlers at first was very much at random. The fight continued for a long time. However, four Indians were killed, and the remaining four, though badly wounded, escaped. None of the settlers were killed and only one, a man named Adam Woods, was severely wounded, but he afterwards recovered.

Night came on and the pursuit was deferred. The next day the rangers again took up the trail of the surviving four Indians, which was plainly marked with blood. They followed it to the river, and there found the canoe, which the savages had two days before stolen from Samuel Cole and his companion. In this canoe the Indians had hoped to make their escape. 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 loss of blood, could not do so. After hunting them for some time in vain, the party returned to the fort.

In August a band of eight Indians was followed by a party of 25 or 30 men from Cooper's and Kincaid's Forts. These Indians had killed some cattle and had stolen about 10 or 12 horses. They drove the horses away to the high ground not over three or four hundred yards from the bottom to a place about three miles from the present town of Franklin, where they tied the horses in the thicket.

Captain Cooper, with 25 or 30 men, among them Lindsay Carson, the father of Kit Carson; David Boggs, Stephen Jackson; William Thorpe, afterward a Baptist preacher; and James Cole, who in 1867 gave Draper this version of the affair, found the horses in the thicket, and then followed the trail of the Indians into the hollow below.

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After going not much more than a quarter of a mile, they divided into three parties; Captain Cooper, with one party, going up to the left, another party going direct up the hollow, and the third party up the eastern bank, skirting the hollow.

After entering the mouth of the hollow, five of the men, whose feet had become blistered from long and hot pursuit, remained behind and sat down on a log, some one hundred yards above where the hollow commenced at the river bottom. Among them was James Barnes, whose horse had given out. As the three parties of whites advanced, the Indians, who as the event proved were in the hollow, seeing that the approaching settlers were too numerous for them, hid in the bushes till they passed. Then they ran out and came unexpectedly upon the men on the log, who when they saw the Indians fired on them. The Indians returned the fire and wounded Francis Woods through the thigh; they also wounded Barnes' horse. Both parties then sought the protection of the trees; this was about mid-day. When the three parties heard the firing they quickly returned, being but a short distance away, arrived nearly simultaneously and surrounded

the Indians before they were aware of it. Captain Cooper's party was on the high point skirting the western side of the banks, twenty or thirty feet above the Indians and fired down on them. The Indians concealed themselves in the thick fern grass which was three or four feet high and they would rise up and shoot, then drop down and reload their guns.

Captain Cooper then ordered a charge and the whole party being near enough to hear, suddenly ran down upon the Indians. One Indian who had his ball about half way down his rifle was knocked down by Lindsay Carson, and David Boggs shot off his gun between Carson's legs, the muzzle close to the Indian's head, shattering his head beyond recognition. Just then, Lieutenant McMahan with savage ferocity ran up and plunged his knife into the Indian's dead body, broke off the blade and made a flourish of the handle. In this encounter five Indians were killed, all shot to pieces.

A few days afterwards another dead Indian was found on the river two or three miles above the scene of conflict. He had attempted to leave there, but was too feeble to do so, and had died on the bank of the river. Unquestionably he was one of the band Captain Cooper had encountered. The above account we take from Honck's History of Missouri.

The party of whites then took possession of the horses and the Indians' guns and carried home Woods, who though badly wounded, recovered.

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It is not known to what tribe these Indians belonged. However, it is thought that they were affiliated with the Saukees and Renards, or they may have been, as General Dodge supposed, Miamis.

**Campbell Killed** - In July, 1812, a man by the name of Campbell, commonly called by his associates, "Potter", because of his trade, was killed on the north side of the river, about five miles northwest of the present site of Boonville. He and a man named Adam McCord went from Kincaid's Fort to Campbell's home to tie some flax. Savages, who were in ambush, concealed in some underbrush, fired upon them and shot Campbell through the body, but he ran about a hundred yards, climbed the fence, and pitched into the trunk of a tree which had blown down and there expired. The Indians, though they hunted for the body, did not succeed in finding it.

Adam McCord escaped without injury, and going to the fort, reported the death of Campbell, and the circumstances under which he had been killed.

The fact that later in 1814, Campbell's gun was found in the possession of the Miamis, by Colonel Cooper, when he had his altercation with General Dodge, on the south side of the river opposite Arrow Rock, leads us to believe that the savages that killed Campbell were a party of Miamis. The finding of Campbell's gun in the camp of the Miamis led up to the memorable quarrel between Colonel Cooper and General Dodge.

**Settlers Move to South Side of River** - Not having seen any Indians for several months, in the spring of 1813 the settlers from the south side of the river who had gone to Kincaid's Fort in the previous spring, returned to their homes on the south side.

The year before, no crops had been raised, and they were anxious to put in their crops for the coming year. In order that they might put in their crops with safety, and be advised of the approach of the Indians, they stationed a guard in each corner of the field in which they were at work. From this time on, even after the establishing of peace in 1815, the settlers were kept continually on the watch against the savages, for every month or two, some small band of Indians would suddenly attack and slay some unsuspecting settler who had for the moment forgotten his usual caution, and who feeling secure from attack, because the Indians had not appeared for some time, suffered the severe penalty of his negligence.

The Indians, from this time on, never marched in large bands against the settlements, but came in small scouting parties, with the hope of waylaying and shooting down some unsuspecting, unwary settler, or murder unprotected women and children.

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Several men of the Boonslick country were killed by the Indians during the two or three years following the return of the settlers from Kincaid's Fort to this side of the river. There may have been others of whom we can gain no trace, or find any record.

**Braxton Cooper, Jr., Killed** - Braxton Cooper, Jr., was killed in Sept., 1813, two miles north of the present site of New Franklin. The Indians attacked him as he was cutting logs to build a house. He was a young man of much physical strength and courage. He was armed with rifle and hunting knife. The trampled condition of the ground and broken bushes gave certain evidence that the fight had been fast and furious. The howling of young Cooper's dog attracted attention from the fort, and this faithful friend of his master stood watchful sentinel until David Boggs and Jesse Turner crawled out during the night to the place. There they found Cooper dead, lying on his face. By his side lay his gun, and in his clenched right hand was his knife, bloody to the hilt. He was not scalped nor mutilated, positive evidence that the savages were put to flight before Cooper succumbed to his wounds. Not far from him was found an Indian buckskin shirt, with two holes in it, saturated with blood. How many of the Indians were killed or wounded the settlers could not determine, for the savages had removed all that might have given information, except the hunting shirt. The Indian trail was followed for a short distance, but was soon lost, and the settlers abandoned the pursuit as useless.

**Joseph Still Killed** - Joseph Still and Stephen Cooper, the latter a youth of sixteen years, both belonging to the rangers of Fort Cooper, were sent up the Chariton River on a scouting expedition. On their return, when within about twenty miles of the fort, a band of one hundred Sac Indians intercepted them. The course that seemed most feasible was for them to break through the savage band and make for the fort. So the two rangers with cocked rifles unswervingly rode forward toward the waiting enemy. When within one hundred yards of the band, both fired and putting spurs to their horses charged furiously upon the Indians. Cooper killed one Indian brave and Still wounded another, but Still on reaching the Indian line was shot dead from his horse. Cooper, however, was more fortunate and with waving rifle and strident battle cry succeeding in escaping the shower of bullets, arrows, and missiles aimed at him. He rode a fleet horse, and thus soon outdistanced his pursuers and reached the fort. This was in October, 1813.

**Killing of William McLean** - William McLean was killed in Oct., 1813, by the Indians in what is now Howard County near the present site of

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Fayette. William with Ewing McLean and four other men went to McLean's fort, to pick out a piece of land, on which some one of them expected to settle. When they arrived at a short distance southwest of the present site of Fayette, they were attacked by a band of about 150 Indians. As soon as McLean and his companions saw them, McLean retreated towards the fort, and just as the white men were ascending a slant leading from a long, deep ravine, to the Moniteau Creek, the Indians fired a volley at them. One shot struck William McLean in the back of the head and he dropped dead from his horse. After satisfying themselves that he was dead, his remaining companions left his body, and continued their retreat to the fort, which they reached in safety. The Indians scalped McLean, cut out his heart, and literally hacked him to pieces.

**Attempt to Kill Austin** - Not long before the Negro "Joe" was killed, a man by the name of Austin, who was stopping at McLean's Fort, while coming around the corner of a fence about two

miles from the fort, discovered an Indian in the act of firing upon him, He suddenly reined up his horse and the ball passed through his horse's head. The horse fell upon Austin.

One Hough and Nicolas Burckhardt, who were some distance in the rear, saw what had happened, and Hough shot and wounded the Indian as he was jumping over the fence to kill Austin. Austin soon extricated himself, and reached the fort; so did Hough, but Burckhardt, who ran into the woods, did not come in until the next morning. This man Hough remained temporarily in the Boonslick country. He was a hunter and trapper on the Upper Missouri.

Gregg Killed and Daughter Patsy Captured - Jesse Cox, and his son-in-law, William Gregg in 1814 made a settlement on the south side of the river above Arrow Rock. There they built a block house, a sort of family fort, and called it Cox's Fort. They began to make improvements, hunting also for subsistence. Gregg and Cox killed a bear on the twenty-third of October, and the next day Gregg went out on his horse to get it. He subsequently went to feed his hogs, and while doing so, was shot by an Indian lying in ambush. Gregg ran to the blockhouse, a hundred yards off, got inside the stockade, grasped his gun, and fell dead. It is said that seven bullets hit the gate-past of the stockade. It is said that after the Indians killed Gregg, they made an attack on the cabin and captured his daughter Patsy, and took her away as a prisoner. A party was immediately organized among the settlers to pursue the Indians. The girl was riding on horseback behind an Indian brave. One of her hands was tied

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to the Indian's hand. The horse, on account of this double load, lagged behind the others. She in the hope of seeing some of the settlers following to rescue her constantly looked behind. At last she discovered horsemen approaching, and prepared to escape, waiting until the white men were within 50 yards of her, when with her unbound hand, she suddenly seized and extracted the Indian's knife from its sheath, and cut the thong which bound her hand to his. She sprang to the ground and rushed into the brush on the side of the trail and disappeared. The pursuing party then fired on the Indians, who fled precipitately. Jesse Cox and William Gregg were members of Sarshall Cooper's company.

According to another account, the Indians tomahawked their prisoner and fled, but she recovered. It is also said that Patsy Cox was the name of the young woman captured and that it was not Gregg.

Negro "Joe" Killed - A negro named Joe, belonging to Samuel Brown, was killed by the Indians near Mr. Burkhardt farm about three quarters of a mile from what is now Estil's Station on the M. K. & T. railroad.

**Coursault Killed** - Captain Coursault was killed in 1814 at Cote-sans Dessein in the attack on Roy's Fort. Cote-sans Dessein, now Bakersville, Callaway County, was a village of considerable importance and was located on the mouth of the Osage River. It is said that but for a Spanish land claim the capital of Missouri would doubtless have been located near this place.

It was settled by French families about 1810. Several block houses were erected there. One was called Tebeau or Tebo's Fort and one Roy's Fort. These forts were about three hundred yards apart; between them was a log house that served as a powder magazine for both forts.

One day Baptiste Roy went out to kill some venison, but when he had gone about a mile, he discovered that the Indians were hidden in the bushes, grass and weeds, so he immediately turned his horse and fled, and when nearing Tebo's Fort, he cried, "Indians, Indians."

All the men of the fort who were armed, hastened at once to meet the enemy, leaving only a few old men and a half dozen unarmed and partially grown Negroes in the fort. Louis Roy was at his block house which was some two or three rods from Roy's Fort, which was vacant at the time.



When the others rushed forth to meet the Indians, Louis Roy excused himself by saying that he was fixing his ramrod, and kept busily at work scraping it.

About a mile or two below the fort, the settlers met the Indians, and

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there the fight continued nearly all day, all fighting from behind trees. Finally the Indians were apparently driven away, but not before Captain Coursault and four or five others were killed. The number of Indians slain was never known. In the meantime, the Indians divided their forces and sent a band to attack Roy's Fort. They at once began the attack upon the block house in which were, at the time, Roy, his wife, Francois, and several other women.

Only two guns were to be had in the block house. These, however, Roy used effectively, the women keeping them loaded as fast as he fired. So accurate was his aim that he killed 14 Indians. The Indians disappeared, but warily returned, creeping up under the river bank. Suddenly they emerged between the two forts and made for the log house, which was used as a magazine. They took dry cedar which they had found, split it with their knives and tomahawks, and piled it around the log house magazine and set fire to it.

There were perhaps 40 or 50 Indians in this band. They were armed for the most part, with only bows and arrows. They yelled and capered with fiendish glee around the building as the fire spread. Soon, however, the flames reached the powder and their merriment and glee was changed to consternation. A tremendous explosion sent timbers and rafters flying into the air; Indians and parts of Indians were hurled in every direction; according to one account, about 20 of them, including those who ran and jumped into the river to soothe their anguish, were killed. The remainder of the party quickly disappeared.

**Murder of Ramsey Family** - The most horrible incident of this war was the atrocious murder of the Ramsey family. Although it happened on the Femme Osage in St. Charles County the news of the atrocity spread far and wide, and stirred the indignation and resentment of the settlers of the Boonslick country.

Mrs. Ramsey having gone out to milk, was fired upon by the Indians and shot through the body. Her husband was a cripple, having but one leg. He saw his wife fall and managed to get her to the house, but as he reached the door, he received a wound in the thigh. At this time his three children were playing a short distance from his cabin. The Indians chased them around the house, and finally caught them and scalped them in the yard before the eyes of their parents. Ramsey and his wife both died from their wounds.

**Capt. Sarshall Cooper Murdered** - One of the saddest events of the war was the tragic death of Sarshall Cooper, after whom Cooper County was

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named. His death touched the hearts of the frontiersmen as had no other death in this section. He was, in fact, the beloved and acknowledged leader of the settlers north of the Missouri River.

The night of April 14, 1814, was dark and stormy, and the watchful sentinel could not see an object six feet in front of the stockade. Captain Cooper lived in one of the angles of the fort, and one day while sitting at his fireside with his family, his youngest child on his lap, and the others playing around the room, his wife sitting by his side sewing, the storm raging without, a single warrior crawled up to the fort, and made a hole just large enough for the muzzle of his gun through the clay between the logs. The noise of his work was drowned by the howling storm; he

discharged the gun with effect fatal to Cooper, and Sarshall Cooper fell from his chair to the floor, a lifeless corpse, amidst his horror-stricken family.

Sarshall Cooper was a natural leader; he was about five feet 10 inches tall, of fine physique, a superior horseman, cool and deliberate. His wife was Ruth, a daughter of Stephen Hancock, the Boonsboro pioneer with Daniel Boone.

The muster-roll of Capt. Sarshall Cooper's company, dated April, 1812, is not without interest, and gives the names of the following officers and men:

Wm. McMahan, 1st lieutenant; David McQuilty, 2nd lieutenant; John Monroe, 3rd lieutenant; Ben Cooper, ensign; John McMurray, 1st sergeant; San McMahan, 2nd sergeant; Adam Woods, 3rd sergeant; David Todd, 4th sergeant; John Mathews, 5th sergeant; Andrew Smith, corporal; Thomas Vaugn, corporal; James McMahan, corporal; John Busby, corporal; James Barnes, corporal. Private Jesse Ashcraft, Jesse Cox, Sam Perry, Solomon Cox, Henry Ferrill, Harmon Gregg, Wm. Gregg, John Wasson, Josiah Higgins, David Gregg, Robert Cooper, Gray Bynums, David Cooper, Abbott Hancock, Wm. Thorp, Wm. Cooper, John Cooper, Jos. Cooper Stephen Cooper, Wm. Read, Stehen Turley, Thos. McMahan, Jas. Anderson, Wm. Anderson, Stehen Jackson, John Hancock, Robert Irvin, Francis Cooper, Benoni Sappington, Jas. Cooley, Nathan Teague, Jas. Douglass John Sneathan, Wm. Cresson, Jos. Cooley, Wm. McLane, Jas. Turner, Ervin McLane, Wm. Baxter, Peter Creason, David Burns, Price Arnold, John Smith, John Stephenson, Alfred Head, Gilliard Roop, Daniel Durbin, Jas. Cockyill, Jesse Tresner, Mitchell Poage, Townsend Brown, John Arnold, Robert Poage, Francis Berry, Lindsay Carson, David Boggs, Jesse Richardson, Robert Brawn, John Peak, John Elliot, Jos. Beggs,

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Andrew Carson, John Colley, Reuben Fugitt, Seibert Hubbard, John Berry, Wm. Brown, Francis Woods, Wm. Allen, Robert Wells, Jos. Moody, Jos. Alexander, Amos Barnes, Daniel Hubbard, Harris Jamison, Abraham Barnes, Wm. Ridgeway, Enoch Taylor, Mathew Kinkead, John Barnes, Henry Waedon, Otto Ashcraft, John Pursley, Wm. Monroe, Isaac Thornton, Stephen Feils, Dan Monroe, Giles Williams, Henry Barnes, Wm. Savage, Thomas Chandler, John Jokley, Stephen Cole, Wm. Robertson, Wm. Bolen, Mixe Box, Sabert Scott, John Savage, Jas. Cole, Stephen Cole, Jr., John Ferrill, Delaney Bolen, Jas. Savage, Jos. McMahan, Braxton Cooper, Robert Hancock.

Every enlisted man furnished his own equipment and an order was promulgated so that "citizen soldiers may not be ignorant of the manner in which the law requires him to be equipped, he is reminded that it is his duty to provide himself with a good musket, with bayonet and belt, or fusil, two spare flints and a knapsack pouch, with a box thereon to contain not less than 24 cartridges; or a good rifle, knapsack, powder horn and pouch, with 20 balls and one-quarter of a pound of powder."

Two Negroes Captured-Indians Chased - Two Negroes, belonging to James and John Heath, while cutting wood for making salt were captured by the Indians in May. A party of fully 60 men assembled and on horseback pursued these Indians, in a northerly direction 50 or 60 miles far up the Chariton. However the Indians escaped with their prisoners.

**Rangers Come to Relief of Settlers** - So great had been the depredations of the Indians, so inhuman the murders committed by them in their predatory war in the central portion of the Boonslick country that Gen. Henry Dodge was ordered to take command of 350 mounted rangers and proceed to the relief of the settlers. This was in September 1814. There were in Dodge's command companies under Capt. W. Compton of St. Louis, Capt. Isaac Vanbibler of Loutre Island, Captain Daugherty of Cape Girardeau, and a company of the Boonslick settlers under Capt. Benjamin Cooper. Nathaniel Cooke and Daniel M. Boone were majors. In this campaign, Dodge carried with him blank commissions, and it was at this time that he appointed Benjamin

Cooper, an elder brother of Sarshall Cooper, a major. According to Draper's "Memoirs" there were with Dodge's company forty friendly Indians, but John M. Peck says there were 50 Delawares and Shawnees. They were under four Indian captains: Na-kur-me, Kisk-ka-le-wa, Papi-pua, and Wa-pe-pig-le-se. The two latter were fully 70 years old and both had served in the early Indian wars.

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Dodge marched to the Boonslick country, and arrived on the north side of the Missouri opposite Arrow Rock, close to Coopers' fort, where he was joined by Captain Cooper and his company. Dodge and his men crossed the river to the southern bank by swimming the stream. The crossing was effected by selecting for the advance, six of his most active men, good swimmers on horseback, the others following flanked on both sides by canoes, and with a vanguard of canoes above and below the main body, stemming the swift current. About half way across, the men struck the current, which soon carried them to the southern bank in safety. Only two hours were thus consumed in crossing the river with horses and baggage.

Having arrived on the south side, Dodge sent out his Indian allies as scouts. They soon located the hostile Mi-am-mis, and found that they had thrown up a small entrenchment. Dodge's men pushed forward several miles up the river, and surrounded the Indians at a point in what is now Saline County, since known as Miami's Bend. The Indians, seeing that the whites were in overwhelming force, proposed to the Shawnees to surrender themselves as prisoners of war.

General Dodge called a council of his officers for the purpose of seeking their advice, and after explaining the whole matter to them, they all agreed to receive the Indians as prisoners of war, and agreed that the prisoners' lives should be sacredly preserved. The Coopers and other Boonslick officers assented. General Dodge then told all the officers that he would hold them personally responsible not only for their own conduct, but also for that of their men, particularly in their treatment of the surrendered Indians.

Dodge understood quite well his responsibility. He was well acquainted with the disposition, temper and peculiarities of the western settlers. He knew that they had been harassed, and those near and dear to them slaughtered in ambush. He feared that something might occur to arouse their anger and stir them to reciprocal vengeance, should any untoward act occur, and in order to prevent a massacre, he exacted an explicit pledge from the officers of the several commands.

**Dodge and Cooper Controversy** - The Indians, consisting of 31 warriors and 122 women and children, surrendered to him and were received under his protection as prisoners of war. The following morning, Cooper and other settlers under his command, began looking through the Indian camp. Purposing, if possible, to find stolen property. In this search, the well known rifle of Campbell, whose murder, in the Boonslick region, we

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have previously referred to, was found. This discovery greatly infuriated Cooper and the settlers. They construed the finding of the gun evidence that these Miamis had perpetrated the killing of their friend and neighbor. They came galloping up to General Dodge and demanded the surrender of the Indian who had killed Campbell, their purpose being to make an example of him. This demand General Dodge peremptorily denied. Cooper, feeling outraged, threatened that his company, who surrounded him with cocked rifles, would kill the Indians unless his demand was acceded to, and his men assumed a shooting attitude, Dodge, with commendable coolness, without even turning to the men, drew his sword, and thrusting it within six inches of Cooper's breast, reminded him of his pledge to protect the Indians on their surrender and treat them as prisoners of war. He then cautioned Captain Cooper that should his threat be carried out, he, Cooper, would be the first to feel the consequences. At this juncture, Major Boone rode up, and took his position at Dodge's side and announced that he would stand by him to the end. He also

reminded Cooper of their pledge, and that the execution of his, Cooper's, threat would be an act of treachery. By this time Cooper's temper had abated, and he reluctantly yielded to superior authority, and with his company rode away. Cooper and his men took the position that Campbell had been treacherously murdered, and that the perpetrator of the deed was not entitled to the protection afforded prisoners of war, but should be summarily dealt with as a murdered according to the custom of the west.

It is said that by reason of this incident a strong attachment sprang up between Kish-la-lewa and Dodge, and that long afterwards at Fort Worth in 1835, there was an affecting recognition between the two men. Dodge is said to have looked upon his conduct in saving these prisoners as one of the happiest acts of his life.

However, for many years, General Dodge, by reason of his magnanimous conduct on this occasion, was exceedingly unpopular in the Boonslick country. Dodge was afterwards governor of Wisconsin Territory, and twice United States senator from the state of Wisconsin.

Cooper was a fearless man, and just, according to his standards. He and the settlers had been too long beyond the boundaries of civilization to yield readily to the reasoning of Dodge and Bootie. They had been accustomed to rely solely upon themselves for protection and to administer justice according to western traditions, considering only the right and wrong in every instance. Their comrade and friend had been shot from ambush, and it was clear to their minds that these Miamias should produce

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the murderers, or they should not be entitled to the privileges of prisoners of war.

**Letter to the Governor** - When at the outbreak of the war the governor of the Territory wrote Benjamin Cooper advising him and the settlers to move nearer to St. Louis to receive protection against the Indians, Cooper wrote in reply the following characteristic letter. While its literary merits are subject to criticism, yet it breathes in every word, whether correctly or incorrectly spelled, the brave spirit of the pioneer and evidences a stamina and heroism of the soul superior to polite erudition

"We have maid our Hoams here & all we hav is here & it wud ruen us to Leave now. We be all good Americans, not a Tory or one of his Pup.-; among us, & we hav 2 hundred Men and Boys that will fight to the last and have 100 Wimen and Girls that will tak their places wh. Makes a good force. So we can Defend this Settlement wh. with Gods help we will do. So if we had a flew bans of Powder and 2 hundred Lead is all we ask."

David Barton, afterwards United States senator, was a volunteer in Compton's company, refusing any rank, but offering General Dodge any service he was able to render him.

**Samuel McMahan Ambushed** - Samuel McMahan, who lived in what is now Lamine township in Cooper County was killed on Dec. 14, 1814, near Boonville. McMahan had been down to the settlement at Boonville. As he eras returning home, he came upon a band of Indians who were lying in ambush for some of the settlers who were cutting down a bee tree not far away. McMahan was on horseback and unsuspectedly rode into the midst of the Indians. The savages fired upon him, wounding him and killing his horse. He jumped when his horsy fell, and though severely wounded succeeded hi reaching a ravine leading to the river. The savages soon overtook and killed him, sticking three spears into his back. They afterward cut off his head, and scattered his entrails over the ground. The Indians then scattered, and, pursuing different routes, made their way out of the country.

The settlers, not knowing the numbers of the Indians, since roving hand, of savages, large and small, had so frequently passed through this section, sent for reinforcements from the opposite

side of the river, and on the following day sent out a party of men to secure McMahan's body, and get all information possible of the Indians. James Cole, the son of Hannah Cole, and the brother of Samuel Cole, secured the body and parried it before him on his horse. David McGee brought the head

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wrapped in a sheepskin. The body of McMahan was buried under the Linn tree, which formerly stood in the center ring at the old fairground. The child of David Bunes who was burned to death, was also buried under this tree.

**Building of Hannah Cole Fort** - The next day after the killing of McMahan, all the settlers living near the present site of Boonville, assembled at the house of Hannah Cole which stood on the bluff in what is now East Boonville. This was considered by the settlers as the most suitable and available place for strong defense against attacks of the Indians. All the men came with their teams, cut down trees, dragged logs to build the fort and were continuously at work until it was completed. It required them one week to finish the building. During the time that they were at work, it was necessary for them to keep men stationed around the fort at some distance to guard against the approach of the enemy, whom they expected to appear at any hour.

As soon as the Hannah Cole Fort was completed, the old fort of Stephen Cole's situated on the bluff above the river, one mile above the new fort, was abandoned. All the families gathered into the new fort, so as to be a protection one to the other.

The treaty of peace between England and the United States was signed at Ghent on Dec. 24, 1814, nevertheless the Indians, emboldened by Blackhawk's repulse of the forces of Maj. Zachariah Taylor on Rock River although advised that peace had been declared, thought themselves able to carry on an independent warfare.

Indian Treaty.-All treaties with the Indians which had been made regarding the cession of Indian lands prior thereto were ratified at this conference. It was not, however, until 1833 that every Indian claim to land title in the state of Missouri was eliminated.

Major Stephen Cole was the acknowledged leader of the settlers living south of the Missouri River, and he survived the war. Having made every effort to protect his loved ones, and his neighbors, during the trying period of the War of 1812, when peace was declared in 1815, the love of wild adventure led him to become a pioneer in the trade with Santa Fe, in 1822. He was killed by the Indians about 60 miles southwest of Santa Fe, on the Rio Grande River. With and associated with him at the time, was Stephen Cole, the son of Hannah Cole. Cole was also killed at that time.

We have endeavored to give the names of all the men of whom we have been able to secure any record who were killed in the Boonslick

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country during the Indian War, from 1812 to 1815, together with a brief account of how they came to their death. The peculiar atrocities attending the killing of some of them make even the stoutest shudder.

During the war the Indians stole so many horses from the Boonslick settlement, that for two or three years after the declaration of peace, they were compelled to plow their corn with oxen, and even milch cows.

The reader should remember that the Indian was a savage and was intellectually dwarfed. In the eyes of our forefathers, the Indians had no rights, at least none to impede the onward march of

civilization. We had not then adapted the benevolent policy of treating the Indians as wards, the modern colonial policy affected by our government in the Philippines. The Indians were continually driven back, giving ground before the oncoming white colonists, until they retreated far inland. Through war, liquor and disease, their numbers have decreased. However, amalgamation and benevolent assimilation have wrought a wondrous change. A humane policy has preserved them from extinction, and has changed once implacable, treacherous and cruel enemies into loyal friends, citizens and staunch allies in the cause of liberty and justice. In the World War, just ended, 1,000 Indians enlisted in the navy. In the army, 6,500 Indians enlisted. They now hold a \$50 Liberty Bond for every man, woman and child of their race. The romance of the American Indian is not ended. He is a striking, living illustration of what a humane policy will do to bury racial hatred in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

**Additional Incidents of the Period** - James Davis was an intimate companion and associate of Daniel Boone in many of his hunting expeditions. On this occasion to which we refer, Boone, by reason of infirmities of age, or disability, did not accompany Davis. It was in the winter of 1813. None but a hardy and adventurous character would venture alone through the wilderness at this time. Davis was intrepid and experienced, and fearlessly started upon his expedition, and arrived near the western boundaries of the territory, where he was captured by the Otoes Indians.

The Otoes were said to be the most civilized as well as the most sanguinary and cruel of all the tribes west of the Mississippi River. They lived in substantial log houses with roofs of dirt and sod, and were so fearless and warlike that no satisfactory treaty was ever made with them until the latter part of 1828.

After having captured him, they stripped him of everything that he Possessed, took his gun and ammunition and turned him loose as naked

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as he was when he came into the world. However, as if in mockery, they gave him an old English musket with one load. They did not torture him, but turned him loose to meet his fate. None but the most vigorous constitution could have stood successfully the trial. He traveled until about nightfall, and while seeking shelter in some place where he could protect himself from the winter winds, he saw a bear taking his winter sleep. With the cunning and caution of the frontiersman, born of experience, he approached the bear, and placing his old musket within a few inches of its head, fired the charge into the bear's brains, and killed it instantly. Necessity to him was the mother of invention. With the flint of his old musket he succeeded in skinning the bear. Having done this, he fashioned it as best he could, and before the heat had left the hide, he clothed himself therewith, placing his feet and arms where the legs of the bear had been, and drawing the head well over his own head and face, he lay down by the side of the bear and slept through the night in the skin that he had appropriated.

At daylight, feeling refreshed, he set out on his long journey to the settlement, taking enough of the meat to last him through the toilsome journey. He had more than a hundred miles of snow and wilderness to traverse, and no implement with which he could make a fire, but his fur suit kept him warm, and raw bear meat furnished him nutriment.

It took him several days to make the journey, but finally he arrived at the house of Jonathan Bryan in the Boone settlement late in the evening. Davis grasped the latch-string, which usually was hanging on the outside, and pushed the door open. Sitting alone by the fire was an old Scotch schoolmaster, who had evidently stopped at Bryan's for a few days. The opening of the door attracted the schoolmaster's attention, and by the light of the fire, he could plainly see the rough outlines of this weird figure, which to his excited imagination was transformed into an evil shape. Filled with fear, he jumped from his chair, and fled from the room, crying, "Devil, devil, devil." However, Jonathan Bryan, hearing the disturbance, rushed into the room, and recognizing

Davis, soon quieted the apprehensions of the schoolmaster. The bear's skin had become so dry and hard that it required considerable effort to restore the old hunter to human shape.

This story is said to have been handed down by tradition by Jonathan Bryan himself. James Davis was an eccentric and picturesque character. He was the first man indicted by grand jury that assembled in the Louisiana Territory under American auspices for the murder of William Davis.

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However as the evidence showed, it possessed none of the elements of murder, and Davis was acquitted by the jury that tried him.

In an account of the expedition from Pittsburg to the Rocky Mountains in the years 1819 and '20, by order of Hon. J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, and under the command of Maj. Stephen H. Dong, compiled by Edward James, we take the following:

"A Mr. Munroe of Franklin related to the party that in 1816 he found on a branch of the Lamine, the relics of the encampment of a large party of men, whether of whites or of Indians he did not know. Seeing a large mound nearby, which he believed to be a cache for the spoils of the party, he opened it and found the body of a white officer, apparently a man of rank, which had been interred with extraordinary care. The body was placed in a sitting posture, upon an Indian rush mat, with its back resting against some logs, placed around it in the manner of a log house, enclosing a space of about three by five feet, and about four feet high, covered at top with a mat similar to that beneath. The clothing was still in sufficient preservation to enable him to distinguish a red coat trimmed with gold lace, golden epaulets, a spotted buff waistcoat, furnished also with gold lace, and pantaloons of white nankeen. On the head was a round beaver hat, and a bamboo walking stick, with the initials J. M. C., engraved upon a golden head, reclined against the arm, but was somewhat decayed where it came in contact with the muscular part of the leg. On raising the hat, it was found that the deceased had been hastily scalped. To what nation he belonged, Mr. Munroe could not determine. We observed, however, that the button taken from the shoulder, had the word Philadelphia molded upon it. The cane still remains in the possession of the narrator, but the button was taken by another of the party."

Leven's and Drake, in their "History of Cooper County," written in 1886 gives the following interesting incident:

"In the year 1818, Joseph Stephens, who died in 1836, Maj. Stephen Cole anti William Ross, the hatter, started west on a hunting and exploring trip and traveled as far as Knob Noster. At that time, all the country west of the present boundary line of Cooper County, was a wilderness, no person living in it. About six miles southeast of the present site of Sedalia in Pettis County, on a farm now owned by a man by the name of Warren, near Flat Creek, they discovered what appeared to be a large, high and peculiarly shaped Indian mound. They examined it pretty closely, and found on one side that the wolves had scratched an opening into it. After enlarging it, so as to admit them, they beheld a remarkable sight.

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They found themselves in what resembled a room, about eight feet square, with a ceiling of logs, just high enough to permit a tall man to stand erect, On the side opposite where they had entered, sat an officer dressed in full military uniform, with gold epaulets upon his shoulders, gold lace fringing every seam of his coat, cocked military hat, knee breeches, lace stockings and morocco slippers. As he sat erect upon a seat hewed out of a log, nothing but the ghastly hue and leathery appearance of his skin would have suggested but that he was alive. By his side stood a heavy gold-headed cane. His features were complete, and his flesh free from decay, though dried to the consistency of leather. The place in which the body was found, was very

peculiar. A place about eight feet square and two feet deep had been dug in the earth. The sides had been walled up with sod, until it was high enough for the purpose, reaching several feet above the surface of the ground. The top was then covered with poles which ran up to a point in the center like the roof of a house. Then the poles and the surrounding walls were covered with sod two or three feet deep, cut from the prairie nearby, thus excluding entirely the rain and air. When they left the place, William Ross, being the eldest man of the party, took the cane as a memento, but nothing else was touched.

"Who this officer was, from whence he came, what he was doing in this part of the country, what was the cause of his death, and when and by whom he was thus singularly entombed, has not, and perhaps never will be known. But he was supposed, by many, to have been a British officer, who, during the War of 1812, passed around by way of Canada into the Indian country, to incite the Indians against the whites; yet this is only conjecture, though those who discovered his body, account for him in that way.

"Soon after this, Joseph Stephens, Sr., now living near Petersburg, on the O, V. & S. K. Railroad, in company with James D. Campbell, went into that part of the country bee hunting, and visited the burial place of this officer. They found that part of the roof had fallen in, and that the wolves had eaten all of the flesh off the body, so that nothing but the skeleton and clothes remained. Joseph Stephens took the epaulets, as a memento, but nothing else was disturbed. As his mother objected to his keeping the epaulets, he melted them into a large ball, which was worth \$15 or \$20, as it was solid gold. This description of the burial place, etc., was obtained from the last mentioned Joseph Stephens, and is correct, although several different accounts have been published."

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## **Chapter VII**

From 1815 to 1819

During the War of 1812, more properly called the "Second War with Great Britain," there was some immigration into the Boonslick country.

When peace was established with England, and the treaty of peace was finally entered into with the Indians in 1815, a steady and ever increasing stream of immigration poured into the Boonslick country, and continued in an unending flow far many years thereafter.

But even during the war with the Indians, some hardy and brave settlers settled in the Boonslick country, though few ventured to locate except near enough to reach the forts at the first approach of the Indians.

**Organization of Counties** - When the territory of Missouri was established in 1812, the eastern portion of the state was at once organized into counties, and the territorial law, by means of territorial courts, was extended over them. But the Boonslick country had not been sufficiently "tiled to justify its organization, and the expense of holding terms of court within its limits.

Now, however, conditions were different. With increasing immigration the demand became strong and loud for organized courts.

It will be remembered that from 1804 until Oct. 1, 1812, the territory of Missouri was divided into four districts. At that date, in accordance with an act of Congress, requiring him so to do, Governor Clark issued a Proclamation reorganizing the four districts into the five following count": St. Charles, St. Louis, St. Genevieve, Cape Girardeau, and New Madrid.

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In 1813 the county of Washington was created from a part of St. Geneveive. In 1814, the county of Arkansas was formed, and during the winter of 1814, and 1815, the county of Lawrence was organized from the western portion of New Madrid.

Under an act of the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri, approved Jan. 13, 1816, the county of Howard was created, being the ninth organized county of the territory, and was taken out of the counties of St. Louis and St. Charles. It included among other counties what is now Cooper County. Its territory was more than one-third of the present state of Missouri. It was almost an empire, presenting an area of nearly 23,000 square mile. It was larger than Vermont, Massachusetts, Delaware, and Rhode Island. Missouri at that time had not been admitted into the sisterhood of states. From its territory have since been organized the following counties:

Adair, organized Jan. 29, 1841. Called after Gen. John Adair, of Mercer County, Kentucky, who was elected governor of that State in 1820 and died May 19, 1840.

Audrain, organized Dec. 17, 1836. Called for James S. Audrain, who was a representative from St. Charles in the Missouri Legislature in 1830, and who died in St. Charles, Nov. 10, 1831.

Bates (part), organized Jan. 29, 1841. Called for Frederick Bates, second governor of the State, who died Aug. 4, 1825, before the expiration of his term. Lieutenant-Governor W. H. Ashley, having resigned, Abraham J. Williams, of Columbia, president of the Senate, became Governor until the special election in September, same year, when John Miller was elected. Williams died Dec. 30, 1839, and an old fashioned box-shaped limestone monument marks his grave in Columbia Cemetery.

Benton (north part), organized Jan. 3, 1835. Called for Thomas H. Benton,. United States Senator, 1820-1850. Died April 10, 1858.

Boone, organized Nov. 16, 1820. Named for the old pioneer and Indian fighter, Daniel Boone. Died in St. Charles County Sept. 26, 1820.

Caldwell, organized Dec. 26, 1836. Called for Capt. Matthew Caldwell, commander of Indian scouts and a hunter of Kentucky. Joseph Doniphan, father of Gen. A. W. Doniphan, belonged to his company. General Doniphan was chiefly instrumental in having the county named in honor of his father's old comrade.

Camden (part), first named Kinderhook, after the home of Martin Van

Buren, organized Jan. 29, 1841. On Feb. 23, 1843, name changed to Camden

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in honor of Charles Pratt Camden, an English statesman who was a warm advocate of the American colonies.

Carroll, organized Jan. 3, 1833. Called for Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Died Nov. 14, 1832.

Cass, organized Sept. 14, 1835. First called Van Buren; changed to Cass Feb. 19, 1849 in honor of Lewis Cass, United States Senator from Michigan. Died June 17, 1866.

Chariton, organized Nov. 16, 1820. John Chariton was the name of a leader of the French fur-traders who at an early day located on the Missouri River at the mouth of the creek which was ever afterwards called Chariton. Hence the name of the creek and county.

Clay, organized Jan. 2, 1822. Called for Henry Clay, of Kentucky. Died June 29, 1852.

Clinton, organized Jan. 15, 1833. Called for Governor DeWitt Clinton, of New York. Died Feb. 11, 1828.

Cole, organized Nov. 16, 1820. Called for Capt. Stephen Cole, an old settler, who built "Cole's Fort," near Boonville.

Cooper, organized Dec. 17, 1818. Called for Sarshall Cooper, who was killed by an Indian in Cooper's Fort opposite Arrow Rock and near the present village of Boonsboro, Howard County, on the night of April 14, 1814.

Daviess, organized Dec. 29, 1836. Called for Col. Joe Hamilton Daviess, of Kentucky. Killed in the battle of Tippecanoe, Nov. 7, 1811.

De Kalb, organized Feb. 25, 1845. Called for Baron John De Kalb, a Frenchman of Revolutionary fame, who was killed in the battle of Camden in 1780.

Gentry, organized Feb. 12, 1841. Called for Gen. Richard Gentry, of Columbia, who was killed in the battle of Okeechobee, Fla., Dec. 25, 1837.

Grundy, organized Jan. 2, 1843. Called for Felix Grundy, United States Senator of Tennessee. Died Dec. 19, 1840.

Harrison, organized Feb. 14, 1845. Called for Albert G. Harrison, of Fulton, Mo., member of Congress from 1835 to 1839. Died Sept. 7, 1839.

Henry, first named Rives in honor of William C. Rives, of Virginia, organized Dec. 13, 1834. Changed to Henry in honor of Patrick Henry, who died June 6, 1799.

Jackson, organized Dec. 15, 1826. Named in honor of Andrew Jackson. Died June 8, 1846.

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Johnson, organized Dec. 13, 1834. Called for Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky. Died of apoplexy, Nov. 19, 1850.

Lafayette, first called Lillard and organized Nov. 16, 1820, after James Lillard, an old citizen. Changed to Lafayette, Feb. 16, 1825, who died at Paris, May 20, 1834.

Linn, organized Jan. 7, 1837. Called for Lewis F. Linn, United States Senator from Missouri, 1830-1843, who died at St. Genevieve, Oct. 5, 1843.

Livingston, organized Jan. 6, 1837. Called for Edward Livingston, Secretary of State under President Jackson. Died May 23, 1836.

Mason, organized Jan. 6, 1837. Named in honor of Nathaniel Mason, of North Carolina, of the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Congresses and United States Senator in the Nineteenth and Twentieth. Died June 29, 1837.

Mercer, organized Feb. 14, 1845. Called for John F. Mercer, a soldier of the Revolution from Maryland. Died Aug. 30, 1821.

Miller (north part), organized Feb. 26, 1837. Called for Gov. John Miller, of Missouri; was Governor from 1825 to 1832. Died March 18, 1846.

Moniteau, organized Feb. 14, 1845. An Indian name, and doubtless a corruption of Manito an Indian name for Deity or Great Spirit.

Monroe (part), organized Jan. 6, 1831. Called for James Monroe, President. Died July 4, 1831.

Morgan, organized Jan. 5, 1833. Called for Gen. Daniel Morgan, of the Revolution, who displayed great bravery at the battle of the Cowpens in the defeat of Tarpon and died in 1802.

Penis, organized Jan. 26, 1833. Called for Spencer Pettis, member of Congress from St. Louis from 1829 to 1831, who was killed in a duel by Maj. Thomas Biddle, Aug. 27, 1831, aged 29 years.

Putnam, organized Feb. 28, 1845. Called for Gen. Israel Putnam, of Bunker Hill fame, 1775. Died, 1790.

Randolph, organized Jan. 22, 1829. Called for John Randolph, of Roanoke, Va. Died May 24, 1833.

Ray, organized Nov. 16, 1820. Called for John Ray, a member of the constitutional convention of 1820 from Howard County.

St. Clair (north part), organized Jan. 29, 1841. Called for Gen. Arthur St. Clair, of the Revolution.

Saline, organized Nov. 25, 1820. Named because of its salt springs.

Shelby (part), organized Jan. 2, 1835. Called for Gov. Isaac Shelby, of Kentucky. Died July 18, 1826.

Sullivan, organized Feb. 16, 1845. Called for James Sullivan, of Revolutionary

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fame, a member of the Continental Congress of 1782. Died Dec. 10, 1808.

Worth, organized Feb. 8, 1861. Called for Gen. William J. Worth, of the Florida and Mexican Wars. Died at San Antonio, Texas, May 7, 1849. Also the following counties in Iowa: Parts of Taylor and Adams, Union, Ringgold, Clarke, Decatur and Wayne, and probably parts of Lucas, Monroe and Appanoose. Its boundaries were established as follows: Beginning at the mouth of the Osage River, which is about 10 miles below the city of Jefferson and opposite the village of Barkersville in Callaway county, the boundary usurped the circuitous course of said stream to the Osage boundary line, meaning thereby the eastern boundary of the Osage Indian Territory, or to the northeast corner of Vernon County, where the Osage River, two miles east of the present town of Shell City, runs near said corner; thence north (along the western line of St. Clair, Henry, Johnson and Lafayette counties), to the Missouri River, striking that stream west of and very near Napoleon, thence up said river to the mouth of the Kansas River (where Kansas City is now located), thence with the Indian boundary line (as described in the proclamation of Gov. William Clark issued the 9th day of March, 1815), northwardly along the eastern boundary of the "Platte purchase" 140 miles, or to a point about 36 miles north and within the present county of Adams, in the state of Iowa, near the town of Corning in said county, on the Burlington and Missouri River railroad; thence eastward with the said line to the main dividing ridge of high ground, to the main fork of the river Cedar (which is the line between Boone and Callaway counties in Missouri); thence down said river to the Missouri; thence down the river Missouri and in the middle of the main channel thereof, to the mouth of the Great Osage River, the place of beginning.

Howard County was reduced to its present limits by an act of the Legislature approved Feb. 16, 1825. The history of what is now Cooper County is inseparably connected with that of Howard County until the organization of Cooper County in 1819.

Early Courts.-The act under which Howard County was organized located the seat of justice at Hannah Cole's Fort. The first circuit court in Howard County, which was the first Court held in this section of the State, was held at the house of Joseph Jelly in Hannah Cole's Fort, which was situated in what is now East Boonville. The Court opened on the eighth day of July, 1816, and discharged under the territorial laws all

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the duties of the Circuit, County and Probate Courts of the present day. Hon. David Barton was the presiding judge; Nicholas T. Burkhart, the sheriff; Gray Bynum, the clerk; and John G. Heath, circuit attorney. The attorneys who attended this term of court were Edward Bates, Charles Lucas, Joshua Barton, and Lucius Easton. Few in number, but their names became intimately and prominently associated with the future development of the state of Missouri..

The following are the proceedings of this term of court:

John Munroe was appointed coroner of Howard County, and Benjamin Estil, David Jones, David Kincaid, William Head and Stephen Cole were appointed commissioners to locate the permanent county seat, which was temporarily located by the territorial legislature at Hannah Cole's Fort as above stated.

The following persons composed the first grand jury: Stephen Jackson, foreman; Adam Woods, Sr.; Asaph Hubbard, John Pulley, George Tompkins, Isaac Drake, William Anderson, Samuel Brown, Robert Wilde, Davis Todd, William Brown, Robert Brown, John Snethan, Ezekiel Williams, William Monroe, Jr.; John O'Banon, James Alexander, Muke Box.

The first license to operate and run a ferry was issued to Hannah Cole. The charges were fixed by the Court, and will be found in the chapter on "Transportation and Highways."

Harper C. Davis was licensed to conduct a tavern at Kincaid's Fort.

The first road laid out by the authority of the Court in the county was a route from Cole's Fort on the Missouri River to intersect the road from Potosi, in Washington County, at the Osage River. Stephen Cole, James Cole, and Jumphy Gibson were appointed commissioners to mark out this road.

The first indictments returned by the grand jury were United States vs. Samuel Heirall, and United States vs. James Cockrell, both endorsed a true bill.

At the first election held in the county, the electors voted at Head's Fort, McLean's Fort, Fort Cooper and Cole's Fort. The first civil action was styled Davis Todd vs. Joseph Boggs. The following amusing incident and example of retributive justice happened at this term of court:

Maj. Stephen Cole was fined, by Judge Barton, one dollar, for contempt, for misconduct in the presence of the court. Cole objected to paying the fine, but supposing he would be able to retaliate some time, at last paid it. And his time for retaliation came sooner than he expected. That afternoon, Cole, who was a justice of the peace, organized his court on a

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log in front of the fort. As Judge Barton was returning from dinner, he stopped in front of Cole and leaned against a tree, watching the proceedings of the justice and smoking his pipe. Cole looked

up, and assuming the stern look of insulted dignity, said, "Judge Barton, I fine you one dollar for contempt of my court, for smoking in its presence." Judge Barton smilingly paid his fine, and went to open his own court, acknowledging that he had been beaten at his own game.

The following order established the rate of taxation at that time:

"Ordered by the court that the following rates of taxation for county purposes for the year 1816 be established in the county of Howard, to-wit:

On each horse, mare, mule or ass above 3 years old \_\_\_\_\_ \$ .25  
On all meat cattle above 3 years old \_\_\_\_\_ .06 1/4  
On each and every stud-horse, the sum for which he stands the season \_\_\_\_\_ .06 1/4  
On every negro or mulatto slave between the ages of 16 and 45 \_\_\_ .50  
For each billiard-table \_\_\_\_\_ 25.00  
On every able-bodied single man of 21 years old or upwards not being possessed of property of the value of \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ .50  
On water, grist-mills, and saw-mills, horse-mills, tan-yards and distilleries in actual operation 40 cents on every \$100 valuation."

Five marriage certificates were recorded in the year 1816. We give verbatim copies of four.

I do hereby certify, that on the 27th day of March last, I celebrated the rights of matrimony between Elijah Creason and Elizabeth Lowell, both of the county of Howard and territory of Missouri.

Given under my hand, this 12th day of April, 1816.

JAMES ALCORN, J. P.  
Territory of Missouri,

Howard County, To-wit:

Be it known, to whom it may concern, that on the 26th day of April, 1816, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by law, a preacher of the Gospel, I joined in the holy state of matrimony Abraham Barnes, and Gracy Jones, of the said territory and county, as man and wife, satisfactory proof having been given of the legal notice as requested by law and parents' consent obtained.

Witness my hand, the 22nd day of April, 1816.

Territory of Missouri,

DAVID McLAIN.

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County of Howard, To-wit:

Be it remembered to all whom it may concern, that on the 10th day of May, 1816, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by law a preacher of the Gospel, etc., I joined in the holy state of matrimony Judiah Osmond and Rosella Busby, of the said territory and county, as man and wife. Witness my hand, this 3d day of July, 1816.

WILLIAM THORP.

I hereby certify, that on the second of June last passed, I celebrated the rights of matrimony between John Cooley and Elizabeth White, both of the county of Howard and territory of Missouri.

Given under my hand, this 12th day of April, 1816.

JAMES ALCORN, J. P.

The first election held in Cooper County after its organization was on the second day of August, 1819. It was held to elect a delegate to Congress from the territory of Missouri. John Scott and Samuel Hammond were the candidates. The townships which voted at said election were, as heretofore stated, Arrow Rock, Miami, Tebo (sometimes in those early days spelled Tabeaux, and Tabeau), and Lamine. The latter township included the town of Boonville. The votes cast in Tebo township were thrown out because the poll-book of said township did not state for whom the votes were cast, and this poll-book was not put on file with the others; therefore the only votes counted were those cast in the other three townships. John Scott received 127 votes, and Samuel Hammond 21 votes, making the total count, 138.

We infer, and on a reasonable hypothesis, that this was nothing like the total vote of the county at that time. The county was sparsely settled and there was then no newspaper published in Cooper County. News of the election, in the main, had to be spread by word of mouth, and it is very probable that many of the voters did not know the day of the same; and again by reason of the distance from their voting places, failed to record their votes.

Robert P. Clark, county clerk, called to his aid James Brufee and Benjamin F. Hickox, two justices of the peace, to assist him in counting the votes.

The next election held in the county was to select delegates to the state convention, called by proclamation of the Governor to frame a constitution

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for the state of Missouri, and was held on the first, second and third days of May, 1820. The following was the result in the county: Robert P. Clank, William Lillard and Robert Wallace were elected. The townships in which this election was held and the votes cast were as follows: Arrow Rock township, 120 votes; Lamine township, 408 votes; Tabeaux township, 150 votes; Moreau township, 101 votes; Miami township, 40 Votes. Total vote of Cooper County, 819.

At the time of this election, Cooper County was bounded on the east and south by the Osage River, on the west by the Indian Territory, and on the north by the Missouri River. Lamine township then included about all within the present limits of Cooper County, and some territory not now included in its limits.

The next and third election was held on the 28th day of August, 1820, to elect a member of Congress, and State and county officers. The following townships voting at this election, and the votes cast, were as follows: Arrow Rock township, 57 votes; Lamine township, 503 votes; Jefferson township, 110 votes; Osage township, 78 votes; Miami township, 28 votes; Moreau township, 71 votes; Tabeaux township, 125 votes. The vote of Cooper County, 972. Thomas Rogers, Thomas Smiley and William Lillard were elected representatives; William H. Curbs, sheriff; and Bryant Saunders, coroner.

**Immigration** - In writing of the immigration at this period, Dr. John Mason Peck has this to say: "The 'new-comers,' like a mountain torrent, poured into the country faster than it was possible to provide corn for breadstuffs. Some families came in the spring of 1815. But in the winter, spring summer and autumn of 1816, they came like an avalanche. It seemed as though Kentucky and Tennessee were breaking up and moving to the "Far West." Caravan after caravan passed over the prairies of Illinois, crossing the 'great river' at St. Louis, all bound to the Boonslick. The stream of immigration had not lessened in 1817. Many families came from Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia, and not a few from the Middle States, while a sprinkling found their way to the extreme

West from Yankeedom and Yorkdom. Following in the wake of this exodus to the middle section of Missouri was a terrific excitement about land."

**Land Speculation** - This was a period of some wild and hazardous land speculations; not only by reason of the large immigration into the Boonslick section, or rather into Howard County, but because of the earthquake in New Madrid in the years 1811 and 1812.

In 1815, Congress passed an act affording liberal relief for the sufferers

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from the earthquake. The land owners were permitted to give up their present holdings and to locate with the certificates received for their New Madrid possessions on other public land. This opened a wide door for fraud, speculation and litigation. The actual sufferers were in nearly every instance defrauded. Before they had knowledge of the passing of the act of Congress, the New Madrid country was filled with speculators from St. Louis, who purchased their property at a rate of from \$40 to \$60 per claim, a claim sometimes embracing as much as 640 acres. After acquiring the rights to the injured land, certificates of dislocation were issued by the St. Louis land office to the purchasers of these injured properties. The owners of these certificates, of course, hunted around for the most valuable property and located their certificates on it. The demand for certificates became very great, the more unscrupulous and dishonest New Madrid settlers, would sell their claims several times to new speculators anxious to buy. All this led to endless litigation. Under New Madrid certificates so issued much valuable property was located in the Boonslick country.

**Sale of Public Lands** - Dec. 6, 1816, marked the setting for the first time of the Jacob Staff, to survey the public lands of this state, preparatory to placing the lands on the market for sale for home-makers. Prior to that time, nothing had been surveyed by legal authority, except those lands known as the old French and Spanish claims. The survey, however, progressed slowly and intermittently, and it was not until Aug. 3, 1818, when by order of the President's proclamation the land sale was held at St. Louis. The President also issued a proclamation that the land sales at Franklin, Howard County, would begin Sept. 7, 1818, but there was quite a spirited controversy about the legality of offering the lands for sale, as they were thought yet to be within the boundary lines of the Sac and Fox Indian Reservation, and one officer to conduct the sale resigned. The sales, in consequence thereof, were continued to Nov. 2, 1818, at which day the land sales began, Gen. Thomas A. Smith being receiver, and Charles Carrol, register. The crowd in attendance upon these sales was said to have numbered thousands of well-dressed and intelligent men from all parts of the east and south. At the first public sales, there seems to have been quite a spirit of competition among the bidders, but this was evidently caused by those from a distance, for the settlers had a tacit understanding not to bid against each other for the land they wanted, and in after years there seems to have been no competition for the lands at public sales.

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**Preemption Claims** - At this time there arose the very interesting question of preemption claims. The settlers in the Franklin, or Howard land district, had given notice to the officers of the land office of the preemptions. So universal was the preemption right claimed, that the settlers there were called "preemptioners." This disputed question was of such deep interest and import to the settlers and was so much discussed, that it became the all-absorbing question, to the exclusion of every other.

On March 3, 1819, Congress passed an act confirming the right of preemption, to the people of this district. It is said that many of the most illustrious men of our state were among the preemptioners, and they in after years became potent factors in the evolution and progress of our great state.

Levees and Drake, in their "History of Cooper County," give some amusing interesting incidents of this period:

"Sometime during the year 1817, William Gibson, now living a short distance east of the city of Boonville, was appointed by the Territorial Court, constable of that part of Howard County lying south of the Missouri River. His jurisdiction extended from the Missouri, on the north, to the Osage River on the south. Soon after his appointment, there being some trouble down on the Osage, he was sent there with a warrant for the arrest of the man who had caused the trouble. The distance was between 60 and 70 miles. After arresting the man, he returned to Boonville with his prisoner. As he was on his journey back, having an execution against a man who lived on the road, he stopped at his house and proceeded to levy on the feather beds, as nothing in those days was exempt from levy under execution. But, as soon as he made his purpose known, four women, who were the only persons at home, threatened to give him a thrashing, so he was forced to retire as fast as he could, and return the execution unsatisfied. To add to this, the court only allowed him, for his journey of 140 miles, which occupied four days, the magnificent sum of 25 cents. Mr. Gibson thinking the office not quite lucrative enough to justify him in devoting his whole time to its duties, and not wishing to risk his life at the hands of angry women, quietly sent in his resignation, thus establishing the precedent that officers should resign when not paid a living wage.

"While Samuel Cole was living at his mother's fort in East Boonville, in the year 1817, there was a dance at William Bartlett's boarding house, 'In the flat near the ferry landing, at the mouth of Rupe's Branch. Although Samuel wished very much to attend, his mother refused to permit

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him, as his wardrobe at that time, was entirely too limited to permit him to associate with the "elite." He had no pants, his sole garment consisting of a long tow shirt, which reached entirely to his heels. But Samuel, though always, from his own statement, an obedient son, was not to be deprived of so great a pleasure, by this, to him, a very trivial excuse. So he determined to attend that dance, and then make the best arrangement he could to meet the "wrath to come." Not having any horse, he bridled a tame bull, which was at the fort, and thus mounted, rode up to the door of the house in which they were dancing. After looking in for some time, and by his strange looking steed and attire, attracting a large crowd about him, he drove his bull down to the river, and riding in, he slid back over its haunches, and caught hold of its tail. In this way they swam down the river to Hannah Cole's fort, when he and his strange companion came out of the water and sought their homes. This story has often been published, but never correctly, as all former accounts represented him as swimming the river to attend a wedding, but our version is correct, as it was obtained directly from Samuel Cole himself.

"About the 15th day of November, 1817, Joseph Stephens, with his large family and several friends, crossed the river to where Boonville now stands, and camped near the foot of Main street. The next day after they crossed Samuel Cole, who was then a boy of sixteen years of age, appeared at their camp and asked Mrs. Stephens if she would like to have some venison. Upon her replying that she would, as she was nearly out of meat, Samuel shouldered his gun and marched off into the woods, telling her to wait a few minutes and he would kill her some. Samuel Cole, at that time, although there was a slight snow on the ground, was barefooted and bare-headed, his breeches reached only to his knees, the collar of his shirt was open, and he carried an old flint lock rifle. About fifteen minutes after he left the camp, Stephens and his family heard two shots in the direction in which he had gone. Pretty soon Samuel appeared, and told them that he had killed two deer, that they must go out and bring them to the camp, as he could not by himself bring in even one of them. So they started out and found the two deer lying on the side of the hill just north of the present residence of William H. Trigg. After they had skinned them and cut them up, the party brought them to the camp and presented them to Mrs. Stevens. This shows what little exertion was necessary at that day to obtain meat.



A few days afterwards, Joseph Stephens moved, with his family, to

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the farm which he had bought about one-quarter of a mile north of the present site of Bunceton. About Christmas, in the same year, Samuel Dole rode up to Joseph Stephen's camp, and Mrs. Stephens asked him to alight and take dinner. He asked her whether she had any honey, and she told him she had not. He said he could not eat without honey. Ana although she insisted that he remain, he still refused. In the meantime, Larry and Joseph, two of her sons, and a Negro named Basil, who had been cutting wood, came up to the camp carrying their axes. Samuel turned to them, and told them to go with him and get some honey for dinner. They at first, supposing him to be joking, refused to go. But as he still insisted, they consented. After going some two hundred yards east of the camp, Samuel suddenly stopped, and pointing to a tree, told them to cut it down. The others not seeing anything about the tree that would induce anyone to think that it contained honey, yet willing to accommodate company, cut it down, and it was found to be filled with nice honey. While they were cutting down this tree, Samuel found another a short distance away, and having cut down this one also, they returned home with six buckets of fine honey, having taken nothing but the clear part.. Before he left, Samuel taught them the way in which he found the trues. He told them, that if they would examine the ground around the tree, they would find small pieces of bee-bread, and occasionally a dead toad. This was an infallible sign of a bee tree. Then afterwards, following his direction, they searched and found, in a small space, thirteen trees which were filled with honey; and as they had no sugar, this was a great help to them. They sometimes had as much as four hundred pounds of honey on hand at one time."

**Early Churches** - It has been stated with authority, that on the 8th day of April, 1812, Mount Pleasant Church was organized in a log house, doubtless at Kincaid's Fort, situated a short distance from Old Franklin in Howard County. In the year 1817, there came renewed activity of church building. Of the five churches in central Missouri: Mount Pleasant, Bethel, Concord Mount Zion and Salem, all Baptist, which in 1818 united to form the Mount Pleasant Baptist Association, three had organized the previous year.

The Concord Church was organized in 1817 by Elders William Thorpe, Edward Turner and David McLain, and was located in the settlement south of Boonville. In 1823, the church gave its name to the Concord Baptist Association. Elder Luke Williams was chosen pastor, at the second meeting

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of the church in 1817, and continued in this capacity until his death six years later. The second pastor was Elder Kemp Scott, who moved to the little settlement a year or two after the death of Elder Williams.

Among the pioneers who helped to organize the church and who constituted its first membership, were: 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.

Judge Phillips, of imperishable memory, gives the following vivid description of the old Bethel Church, typical of the church of the period, as he recalled it, after a lapse of more than seventy years

"Built of heavy, flawless ash logs, it did, indeed, stand four cornered to every wind that blew.' Measured by the conception of its architects it was quite capacious, but in fact it was not over 24x34 feet. It had one door and two small windows in front, one window in each end, and a two pane window back of the pulpit.

"That pulpit when the door of ingress and egress was shut, made the preacher look as if he were fortified against assault from without; and it might be aptly termed a ministerial sweat-box. The men and women were entirely separated as they sat in church, the men on one side and the women on the other side of the single aisle. \* \* \* It never occurred to the church committee in charge that to enable the occupants of the rear seats to see the speaker in front, the floor should be constructed on a rising scale. Instead they made the pews on an ascending scale, so that the rearmost pew was about four feet from the floor, and the occupants had to vault or climb into them like getting into the upper berth of a Pullman sleeper without a step ladder.

"The pastor of Bethel Church during the greater part of his attendance there, known as 'Father Jimmie Barnes,' was recalled by Judge Philips as a man 'powerful in exposition and fervid in delineation.' He seldom spoke less than an hour and it seemed to me that the hotter the day the longer the sermon. The seasons have their time to change and the leaves their time to fall, but Father Barnes never changed his garb of home made blue jeans, autumn, winter, spring or summer. He wore invariably the conventional high, stiff black stock, over which timidly peeped a fringe of shirt collar.

"About one hundred yards to the northwest of the church was the camp ground. I can see the log huts, with bed quilts for partitions and straw for beds, covered with sheets and quilts. I can almost catch the

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aroma of roasting beef, chickens and sweet potatoes in the barbecue ditches. There was one figure about that camp ground indelibly fixed in my memory. It was 'Uncle Billie Street', the leader of revival songs. He was a mountain of flesh, weighing, when in good singing condition, about three hundred pounds. He had a voice that out-bellowed the bulls of Bashan, and when sinners were to be called to the mourner's bench, the very air vibrated with his Olympian reverberation. I do not exaggerate in saying that I heard him one day from a pasture three quarters of a mile away singing his favorite revival song with the refrain, 'When this world is all on fire, glory Hallelujah.'

One hundred years ago a gentleman by the name of A. Fuller, who had been in the Boonslick country a few months wrote to his chum the following descriptive letter, which will doubtless be read with interest.

"Franklin, Mo., Dec., 1819.

Dear Tom:

You need not scold; I have had too much to do to write to you fellows that live in civilized society. Here I am, on the extreme frontier of the settlements of our country, but would not exchange places with you for all your boasted luxuries. I can, within a mile or so, kill as many prairie chickens as I choose, and all other game of the season.

The settlers of the country moved out of the forts last spring, and are about as happy a set as you can find on the earth to think that the Indian, are to let them alone hereafter. I have become acquainted with Most of the citizens of the town. The Hon. Judge Todd and family arrived here last summer, one of the most agreeable families that I have ever met. He is too liberal and kind for his own good; also Dr. Hutchinson, Dr. Lowery and General Smith. I do not think that you can understand the nobleness of such minds, as it is only here in the extreme west, where all have been accustomed to facing dangers every day, that they can be appreciated. We have three stores in this thriving place, an old gentleman. Mr. Gaw Stanley and Ludlow; and Sanganette & Bright, all doing fair business. We had two arrivals of steamboats during the summer, one a government boat, Western Engineer, on an exploring expedition. In place of a bowsprit, she has

carved a great serpent, and as the steam escaped out of its mouth, it runs out a long tongue, to the perfect consternation of all Indians that see her. They say, "White man bad man, keep a great spirit chained and build fire under it to make it work a boat." The other was a boat loaded with government supplies, for the troops in the forts above here, also two hundred thousand dollars in specie. A

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large portion of her cargo was Monongahela whiskey. It looks like a dispensation of Providence that she should be sunk soon after leaving, The officers and visitors were desecrating the Sabbath by card playing and drinking. She left here and ran up to the head of the first island above here when she struck a snag and sank immediately, without the crew being able to save anything out of her. There she lies with all her silver and freight on her. There are in the neighborhood several forts, that were used by the people during the Indian difficulties. Fort Hempstead, about three miles back from the river; Cooper's Fort, ten miles above here, where were many of the hairbreath escapes of the wild west. At one time, when it was besieged by a large body of Indians, and they needed to communicate with the fort here, not having men to spare, a daughter of Colonel Cooper ventured to run the gauntlet, and mounting a fleet horse dashed through the Indians, reached the fort here, got the assistance needed, and was back in time to relieve her friends. Is there one of your city belles who could accomplish a similar feat? I guess not. I tell you, Tom, there is an independence and nobleness in the bearing of the young folks here, dressed in their home-made clothing,-the ease of gait and carriage,-that puts affectation and fine dresses in the shade. I am not carried away entirely by the nobleness of the wild frontier people, but there is a frank generosity with them that you in the east know nothing of, therefore you cannot appreciate it. There is also a fort across the river from here called Cole's Fort, that had its share of trouble; also one above the La Mine River. One of them, Mr. McMahan, from there, was coming down to Cole's Fort on business, when about two miles above here he was fired upon and killed by the Indians. One of the young Coles and one of the Roups were cutting a bee-tree in the woods near the path, and it is thought the Indians were crawling upon them, when Mr. McMahan, passing, was fired upon and killed. The men, Cole and Roup, hurried back to their fort for aid, and went to see what mischief the redskins had been doing. Mr. McMahan was shot through the body. He ran his horse toward the river for about a quarter of a mile when he fell dead. The Indians, it's thought, saw the two men running for the fort and thought it safest to leave, which they did without following the flying men. I believe I could have set till this time, hearing of the hairbreadth escapes of the early settlers. They have laid out a town opposite here on the river, called Boonville, which they expect to eclipse this place, but the traders think Franklin will eclipse any town out west. I think likely it will if the river will let it alone. I went over the river last summer to

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attend the first sale of lots, intending to purchase some to build on, but they were run up to a fabulous price, away beyond my reach. There were some of the voters who appeared to be affected by patriotism acquired at the only (what was termed) tavern in the place, kept by a hard looking old fellow named Reames, who bowed politely to all who came in and asked for something' to drink, and I was told the whiskey had actually not had time to cool before it was dealt out to the customers, having been brought all the way from a Mr. Houxe's where there is a horse mill and distillery; so the people of Boonville, cannot only have liquor, but can have their corn ground ready for sifting. The mill and distillery are about a mile from the town. Adieu,"

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### **Chapter VIII** From 1819 to 1821

Two years after the organization of Howard County the immigration began to flow so steadily into the southern part of the county that there was a great demand for the division of Howard County and for the formation of another county south of the Missouri River. Yielding to and in compliance with this demand the territorial Legislature on Dec. 17, 1818, formed the new county of Cooper which included all of Howard County south of the Missouri River or, in other words, that territory included between the Missouri River and the Osage River extending westwardly to the western territorial boundary. This territory embraced what are now eleven whole counties and five parts of counties. However, the limits of Cooper County were gradually decreased by the formation of new counties and in 1845 the boundaries of Cooper County were as they are today. The counties formed from the original territory of Cooper and when organized are as follows: Bates County, Jan. 29, 1841; Benton County, Jan. 3, 1835; Camden County, Jan. 29, 1841; Cass County, Sept. 14, 1835; Cole County, Nov. 16, 1820; Henry County, Dec. 13, 1834; Jackson County, Dec. 15, 1826; Johnson County, Dec.- 13, 1834; LaFayette County, Nov. 16, 1820; Miller County, Feb. 26, 1837; Moniteau County, Feb. 14, 1845, being the last county organized from the original Cooper County; Morgan County, Jan. 5, 1833; Pettis County, Jan. 26, 1833; St. Clair County, Jan. 29, 1841; Saline County, Nov. 25, 1820, leaving the present Cooper County with its present boundaries. Only parts of the

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counties of Bates, St. Clair, Benton, Camden and Miller were included in Cooper.

Although the act of the territorial Legislature creating the county was passed and approved in Dec., 1818, it was not, in fact, fully organized as a county vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities of a separate and distinct political subdivision until March 1, 1819, when the first Circuit Court was held in the county. The commissioners appointed by the Legislature to locate the county seat were Able Owens, William Wear, Charles Canole, Luke Williams and Julius Emmons.

**First Circuit Court** - The act of organization provided, that "the courts to be holden in the said county of Cooper, shall be holden at such place in said county as the commissioners of said county, or a majority of them, shall adjudge most convenient, until a place be fixed on by such commissioners, and a court-house and jail erected thereon; provided, that the first court for said county or Cooper be held at Boonville," and in accordance therewith, the first court of the newly organized county of Cooper, was held in the present limits of the city of Boonville, on the first day of March, 1819. It was held at the boarding-house of William Bartlett, called the Boonville Tavern, which was situated on the flat just east of the mouth of Rupe's branch, and south of the Missouri Pacific passenger station. This court under the territorial laws of Missouri, exercised the present duties of the county, probate and circuit courts. The duties of these three courts continued to be exercised by this one court until the year 1821, when the duties of the probate and county courts were separated from those of the circuit court, and a new court, called the "county court", was organized.

**First Record of Circuit Court-March Term 1819** - Be it remembered that on the first day of March in the year 1819 at the house of William Bartlett in the town of Boonville, in the County of Cooper, the place directed by an act of the Legislature of the Territory of Missouri entitled "an act to establishing a part of Howard County into a separate county by the name of Cooper, the Honorable David Todd produced a commission from the governor of this territory appointing him Judge of the Northwestern Circuit of the said territory, as also a certificate of his qualifications which are in the words and figures following, to-wit: Frederick pates, Secretary of the Territory of Missouri and exercising the government thereof, to all who shall see these presents-Greeting? Know ye that reposing special trust and confidence in the integrity, ability and diligence of David Todd, I do appoint him Judge of the Court of the North

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western Circuit, composed of the counties of Cooper, Howard, Montgomery, Lincoln and Pike, and empower him to discharge the duties of the said office according to law: To have and to hold the said office, with all the powers, privileges and emoluments to the same, of right appertaining from and after the first day of February next. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed the seal of the said territory. Given under my hand at St. Louis the first day of January in the year of our Lord 1819 and of the Independence of the United States, the forty-third

FREDERICK BATES.

Territory of Missouri, County of Howard, ss:

Be it remembered that on the first day of February in the year of our Lord 1819 personally came David Todd and took the following oath, to-wit: An oath to support the constitution of the United States, and an oath to discharge the duties of Judge of the Court of the Northwestern Circuit in Missouri Territory to the best of his abilities and understanding and without fraud or partiality.

Given under my hand and seal at Franklin the day and year written above.

AUGUSTUS STORES,  
Justice of the Peace.

Who then proceeded to open and hold a court for the said County of Cooper.

William McFarland produced in court his commission from the governor of this territory appointing him sheriff of Cooper County in the following words and figures, viz: Frederick Bates, Secretary of the Territory of Missouri and exercising the government thereof. To all who shall see these presents, Greetings! Know ye that reposing special trust and confidence in the integrity, ability and diligence of William McFarland, I do appoint him sheriff of the County of Cooper and to administer oaths of office; within and for the said county and empower him to discharge the duties of said office according to law. To have and to hold the said office, with all the powers, privileges and emoluments to the same of right appertaining for two years from first day of February next unless sooner removed. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed the seal of the territory. Given under my hand at St. Louis the first day of January is the year of our Lord, 1819 and of the independence of the United States the forty-third.

FREDERICK BATES.

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As the certificate of his qualification in the words and figures following, to-wit:

Territory of Missouri, Northwestern Circuit, To-wit:

This is to certify that on this 17th day of Feb., 1819, William McFarland personally appeared before me, David Todd, the judge of the said circuit aforesaid including the County of Cooper, and took the oath to support the Constitution of the United States and faithfully to discharge the duties of his office of sheriff of said County of Cooper, according to late. Certified under my hand and seal the date above named.

DAVID TODD,

Judge of the Northwestern Circuit.

And also a bond executed by him in vacation the words and figures following, to-wit: Know all men by these presents that we William McFarland, Robert Wallace and Jacob McFarland, of the County- of Cooper in the Territory of Missouri and held and firmly bound unto William Clark, the

governor of the Territory of Missouri, and his successors in office in the penal sum of \$5,000, current money of the United States, to which payment well and truly to be made, we and each of us bind ourselves and our heirs executors and administrators jointly and severally firmly by Those presents, sealed and dated this 17th day of February in the year 1819.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the above bound, William McFarland hath been appointed and commissioned sheriff of the county of Cooper. Now the .said William McFarland shall faithfully discharge the duties appertaining to his said office of sheriff of the said county of Cooper, according to law during his continuance in office, then this obligation to be void else to remain in full force and virtue. William McFarland, Robert Wallace. Witness, David Todd, J. N. McCart.

**March Term, 1819** - John S. Brickey produced his commission from the governor of this territory appointing him prosecuting attorney for the Northwestern Circuit, in the words and figures following, to-wit: "Frederick Bates, Secretary of the Territory of Missouri, and exercising the government thereof, To all who shall see these presents, Greeting. Know ye e that reposing special trust and confidence in the integrity, abilities and diligence of John S. Brickey, I do appoint him Circuit Attorney for the Northwestern Circuit, composed of the counties of Cooper, Howard,

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Montgomery, Lincoln and Pike and empower him to discharge the duties of said office according to law. To have and to hold the said office with all the power, privileges and emoluments to same of right appertaining during the pleasure of the Governor of the Territory. In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed the seal of the Territory. Given under my hand at St. Louis the first day of January in the year of our Lord 1819 and of the independence of the United States the 43d.

FREDERICK BATES.

As also certificate of his qualification as following, to-wit:

Missouri Territory,  
Northwestern Circuit:  
ss

I do hereby certify that the within named John S. Brickey appeared before me this first day of March, in the year 1819 and took the oath to support the Constitution of the United States and also to discharge the duties of prosecuting attorney for the Northwestern Circuit of Missouri Territory according to law.

Given under my hand and seal the day and date above written.

DAVID TODD,

Judge of Northwestern Circuit.

Samuel Peters foreman and Muke Box, John Savage, James Chambers, Britan Williams, John Roberts, Carroll George, John Davis, James Savage, Clatian Hurt, Joseph Smith, William Gibson, Eliot Henry, Frederick Haux, Thomas Twentyman, William Noland and Delaney Bolin were sworn a Grand Jury of inquest for the body of this county and having received their charge retired and after some time returned and having nothing to present were discharged.

Ordered that process issue against John Cathy, Zephmiah Bell, Henry Geiger, George Cathy, Daniel Doogan and James Campbell, to cause them to appear at our next term to show cause if any they have or can say why the court should not proceed to fine them for not attending at this term as Grand Jurors returnable here at the next term.

Ordered that court be adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

DAVID TODD.

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Tuesday, March 2, 1819.

Present the Judge.

Ordered that county be laid off into five townships as follows, to-wit:

Moreau Township: Beginning at the mouth of Saline Creek thence up the creek till the range line between ranges 15 and 16 strikes it, thence with that line south to the River Osage down the same to its mouth and up the Missouri River to the beginning.

Lamine Township: Beginning at the mouth of Saline Creek thence up the Missouri River to the mouth of Lamine River, thence up the same and its south fork, to where the range line between ranges 21 and 22 strikes the same thence south with said line to Osage River and down the same to range line between 15 and 16 ranges will strike it, thence north with the line to the Saline Creek and down to its mouth, the place of beginning.

Arrow Rock Township: Beginning at the mouth of the Laraine River up the Missouri to where the range line between ranges 20 and 21 strikes the river, thence with said line south to the south fork of Laraine River and down said river to its mouth, the place of beginning.

Miami Township: All that part of Cooper County, bounded on the north by Missouri River, on the east by range line between ranges 20 and 21, on the west by the range line, between ranges 24 and 25, and south by the Osage River and county line.

Tebo Township: All Cooper County bounded north by the River Missouri, east by range line between ranges 24 and 25, west by county and territorial line, and south by Osage River and county line.

**First Judge of Election in Cooper** - Ordered that William Weir, John Vertain and John Alexander be appointed judges of the election in Moreau Township and that said elections be held at Paul Whitneys in said township.

Ordered that James Bruffey, Robert Wallace and Benjamin F. Hicock be appointed judges of election in Lamine Township and that said election be held at the house of William Bartlett in said township.

Ordered that William Lillard, Benjamin Chambers and James Anderson be appointed judges of election in Arrow Rock Township and that said election be held at the house of William Cooper in said township.

Ordered that Col. Jno. R. Thomas, Paul Eastes and John Evans be appointed judges of election in the township of Miami, and that such election be held at the house of Andrew Rupels in the said township.

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Ordered that Julius Emmans, Gilliad Rupe and Abel Owens be appointed judges of election in the Tebo Township and that such elections be held at the house of Mathew Coxe in the said township.

**First Constable Appointed** - This court appoints Paul Whitley constable in the Moreau Township upon his entering into bond and security in the clerk's office in the penalty of \$500 conditioned according to law.

This court appoints John Potter constable in Laming Township upon his entering into bond with security in the clerk's office in the penalty of \$1,000 conditioned according to law.

This court appoints Jacob Ish constable in Arrow Rock Township upon his entering into bond with security in the clerk's office in the penalty of \$800, conditioned according to law.

This court appoints Elisha Eva constable in Miami Township upon his entering into bond with security in the penalty of \$400, conditioned as the law directs.

This court appoints Green McCofferty constable in Tebo Township upon his entering into bond with security in the clerk's office in the penalty of \$500 conditioned as the law directs.

On the motion of Stephen Turley a license is granted him to keep a public ferry across Lamine River from the north side thereof, in the northeast quarter of section 10 in range 18 and township 48, to the south side of the river and it ordered that he charge and receive only the following rates for transportation, to-wit: For man and horse, 25c; for each of either, 12 1/2c for wagons and teams of four horses, if loaded, \$1.00; for wagon and team if empty with four horses, 75c; for each 2 wheel carriage with horse, 50c; for horned cattle, 3c one head; for meat cattle, 2c per head, and it is further ordered that he pay a tax therefore of five dollars who together with Henry Terrell his security entered into and acknowledges bond in the penalty of \$400, conditioned according to law.

On the motion of Bazadeel W. Leving, a license is granted Bazadeel W. Leving, Ward and Parker and Georgia Karr to keep a ferry from the south bank of the Missouri River in section numbered 33 of township numbered 49 of range numbered 15 west to the opposite bank of the said river and it is ordered that he pay therefore a tax of five dollars and charge and receive only the following rates for transportation, to-wit: For man and horse, 50c; for either, 25c; for four wheeled loaded wagon and team of four horses or more, \$3.00; if unloaded, \$3.00; for 2 wheeled

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carriage and load, \$1.00; for horned cattle, 4c per head; for meat cattle, 3c per head-who together with Andrew Reaves their security entered into and acknowledged bond in the penalty of \$500, conditioned as the law directs.

On the motion of William McFarland, high sheriff of this county, ordered that Williamson H. Curbs be appointed under sheriff for this county, who took the oath as required by law for an under sheriff.

On the motion of Bazadeel W. Leving who presented a partition for the same therefore ordered that Richard Stanford, David Troller, William George and Benjamin Clark or any three of whom being first sworn do proceed to view and mark out a way for a road proposed to be opened from the town of Boonville to the bank of the Missouri River opposite the mouth of Moniteau Creek which enters into said Missouri River on the north side and make report to this court as the law directs.

Bird Lockhart and George Tompkins who were appointed to examine the qualifications of the applicants for the office of surveyor, for the County of Cooper made their report, therefore this court doth nominate to the governor of this territory, William Ross as a fit and proper person to discharge the duties of the said office to be commissioned according to law.



On the motion of Andrew Reaves who filed a petition therefor, ordered that Francis Travis, William Lewis and John Savage or any three of whom being, first sworn do proceed to view and mark a way for a road beginning on the Missouri River, opposite the mouth of the grand Moniteau from thence in the most direct way towards Potosi so as to intersect the proposed road from Boonville to Potosi, near where it crosses little Moniteau ('reek, and make report as the law directs to the court.

John Potter with Ada Morgan and William Ross his securities entered into and acknowledged bond as constable in Laming Township in the penalty of \$1,000 conditioned according to law and also made law as directed by law.

This court appointed James Bruffer, Benjamin F. Hicock and Robert Wallace commissioners to superintend the building of a court house and rail for this county and to perform all other duties as required by the act establishing Cooper County.

On the motion of Peyton Thomas who filed a petition, therefor - Ordered that William Savage, David Reaves, Frederick Haux and Halbert Cole or any three of whom being first sworn do proceed to view and mark

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out a way for a road from Boonville to Turley ferry on Lamine River and report the same to this court as the law directs.

Ordered that court be adjourned until court in course.

DAVID TODD.

**July Term, 1819** - At a court held within and for the county of Cooper, at the house of William Bartlett in the town of Boonville on Monday, the fifth day of July, in the year 1819. Present the Honorable David Todd, Esq.

Robert P. Clark produced in court a commission from the governor of this territory appointing him clerk of the Circuit Court for the County of Cooper.

Peyton R. Hayden, Esq., produced in court a license and certificate of qualification as an attorney and counselor at law in this territory which was examined by the court. He is therefore allowed to practice as such in this court.

James Bruffer, foreman; Peter Stephens, Henry Small, Mansfield Hatfield, Stephen Tate, Joseph Biler, Benjamin F. Heckcose, James Turner, Joshua W. Butcher, Spear Fort, William Savage, Humphrey Gibson, Edward Robison, John Brock, Ephraim Elison, John Ross.

David Burris, Joseph Westbrook and James D. Campbell were sworn a grand jury of inquest for the body of this county and having received their charge retired and after some time returned an indictment against Stanley G. Morgan for assault and battery, a true bill and having more business to consider of, retired.

United States, plaintiff vs. John Cathey, defendant, for contempt. This day came as well the prosecuting attorney as the defendant in his proper person and after hearing the defense of the defendant it is considered that he pay the cost herein expended, therefore it is considered that the United States recover against the said defendant the cost herein expended and defendant may be taken, etc.

Same, plaintiff vs. Henry Geyer, defendant, for contempt. This day came as well the prosecuting attorney as the defendant in his proper person and after hearing the defendant it is considered by the court that he make his fine to the United States by the payment of one dollar and the cost hereof and may be taken, etc.

United States, plaintiff vs. George Cathey, defendant, for contempt.

This day came as well the prosecuting attorney as the defendant in his proper person and after hearing the defendant it is considered by the court that he pay the cost hereof and may be taken, etc.

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United States, plaintiff vs. Zephimah Bell, defendant, for contempt. This day came as well the circuit attorney who prosecutes for the United states as the defendant in his proper person and after hearing the defendant it is considered by the court that the said defendant make his fine to the United States by the payment of one dollar and pay the cost herein expended and may be taken, etc.

**First Letters of Administration** - On the motion of Joseph Irwin, letter, of administration is granted him on the estate of Joseph Irwin, deceased, who made oath and together with David James and William McFarlin his securities entered into and acknowledged bond in the penalty of \$4,000 conditioned as the law directs.

On the motion of Joseph Irwin, administrator of the estate of Joseph Irwin, deceased, ordered that Littleberry Estes, John Evans and Anthony Thomas, who being first sworn do inventory and appraise the personal estate and slaves (if any) of the estate of Joseph Irwin, deceased and make return thereof to this court as the law directs.

**First Case Tried Before a Jury** - United States, plaintiff vs. Stanley G. Alorgran, defendant, ease. This day came as well the defendant in discharge of his recognizance as the prosecuting attorney, whereupon the said defendant being arraigned upon the indictment in this cause plead not guilty and for his trial put himself upon God, and his country, and circuit attorney also, whereupon came a jury, viz: William Burk, William Black, Gabriel Titsworth, William Dillard, Michael Hornbeck, Nicholas Houck, William Reed, Alexander Dickson, David Reavis, Frederick Houk, David McGee, and Samuel Peters, who being elected, tried and sworn the truth to say, of and upon the issue joined upon their oaths do say that the defendant is guilty of the assault and battery whereupon it is considered by the court that the said defendant make his fine to the United States by the payment of the sum of five dollars and pay the cost hereof and be taken, etc.

**Proceedings to Divide Property on Which Boonville is Now Located** - Morgan, plaintiff vs. Mary Gillman and the representative of Charles I Lucas defendant. Petition for division of land. The commissioners appointed by an order of the Howard Circuit Court on the petition of Ada Morgan to divide the land held jointly between said parties above named returned this day a report of having in part executed said order, and a majority of said commissioners, to-wit: Gray Bynum and Augustus Storis appeared in court and acknowledged the said report to have been signed and executed by them which being examined was approved of by

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