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SHORT HISTORY OF CALLAWAY COUNTY

BY
OVID BELL
EDITOR OF THE FULTON GAZETTE

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SHORT HISTORY OF CALLAWAY COUNTY

The Kingdom of Callaway, as Callaway County has been called since the Civil War, boasts of the patriotism and moral and mental fibre of its citizens. Whenever duty has called—whether to war, or statecraft, or hard and earnest labor—the men and women of Callaway have responded willingly and gladly. The first settlers came principally from Virginia and Kentucky, descendants of the band who

Rarely hating ease,
Yet rode with Spotswood 'round the land,
And Raleigh 'round the seas.

Their sons and daughters have inherited the land they settled, and though born with the pioneer instinct, have remained in the county of their birth and given its citizenship stability and worth. The manners, customs and traditions of the pioneers have been handed down through succeeding generations, and though there have been several periods of extensive immigration into the county from other sections, life in the county remains true to the kindly, helpful, neighborly ways of the fathers from the Old Dominion and the Blue Grass State.

The first settlement of white men in the county was at Cote Sans Dessein, where in 1808 a few French traders established a village and built a fort. The historian Rose, who was not always accurate, says the settlement was founded before 1800, but cites nothing to prove his statement, while Henry M. Brackenridge, who visited it in 1811, says the village was about three years old at the time of his visit.* The history of the

* Brackenridge says: "The Cote Sans Dessein is a beautiful place, situated on the northeast side of the river, and in sight of the Osage. It will in time become a considerable village. The beauty and fertility of the surrounding country cannot be surpassed. It is here we met with the first appearance of prairie in Missouri, but it is handsomely mixed with woodland. This wooded country on the northeast extends at least thirty miles, as far up as this place, and not less than fifteen on the other side. The name is given to the place from the circum-

Lewis and Clark expedition (1804-06) does not speak of Cote Sans Dessein, presumably because it did not exist at that time,* while the Rev. John Mason Peck positively fixes the date as 1808.

Grants of land in the county were made as early as 1800, however, for in that year Baptiste Duchoquette, of the city of St. Louis, obtained a grant of four thousand arpens from Spain, the cession being known even now as Survey No. 1837. Cote Sans Dessein was built on the land granted to Duchoquette.

Cote Sans Dessein has ceased to exist, even the postoffice having been discontinued. The hill on which it was located remains, but the river has encroached on the surrounding ground and washed away the old grave yard, while all of the buildings that stood in the original settlement have rotted down. The name has been given to the township in which the settlement was located, and in that way it will be preserved.

Cote Sans Dessein was the first site chosen for the state capital by the commissioners appointed by the General Assembly to select a place for the permanent seat of government. The statute appointing the commissioners required that the capital should be located within forty miles of the mouth of the Osage

stance of a single detached hill filled with limestone, standing on the bank of the river, about 600 yards long, and very narrow. The village has been established about three years; there are thirteen French families and two or three Indians. They have handsome fields in the prairies, but the greater part of their time is spent in hunting. From their eager inquiries after merchandise, I perceived we were already remote from the settlements."—Journal of Friday, April 12, 1811. ("Views of Louisiana," p. 209.)

Switzler, in his "History of Missouri" (p. 175), said: "Cote Sans Dessein was once a village of considerable importance, contained a small block house, and during the War of 1812 was the scene of some hard-fought battles with the Indians, in which were exhibited many instances of woman's bravery and determination."

The name Cote Sans Dessein means "hill without design."

* The "History of the Lewis and Clark Expedition" (McClurg's reprint, vol. 1, p. 10) tells of the explorers camping at the mouth of the Osage River on the night of June 1, 1804, and spending the next day in the vicinity "for the purpose of making celestial observations." Describing the mouth of the river, the history says: "At a short distance from it is a high, commanding position, whence we enjoyed a delightful prospect of the country." The "high, commanding position" undoubtedly was the site of the future Cote Sans Dessein. On the return trip the party spent the night of September 19, 1806, at the mouth of the Osage.

River, and also provided that the commissioners should hold their first meeting at Cote Sans Dessein on the first Monday in May, 1821. The records of the meeting of the commissioners have been destroyed and the fact cannot be ascertained, but it is believed that they selected Cote Sans Dessein for the capital at that meeting. It is known that after Cote Sans Dessein had been selected a question concerning the title to the land was raised, and that then Jefferson City was chosen. An act of the third General Assembly required the commissioners to meet a second time at Cote Sans Dessein on September 15, 1821, to complete their work, and this second meeting probably was held after the question of title came up.

Daniel Boone is credited with having crossed Callaway County in 1808 in company with Captain Clemson, who was on his way to establish Fort Osage. Until a few years ago an oak tree stood on Nine Mile Prairie on which was inscribed, "D. B., 1808," and local tradition says that the letters and figures were carved by Boone. Seven years after that time Col. Nathan Boone, a son of Daniel Boone, surveyed the Boone's Lick Trail from St. Charles to Old Franklin, directly across Callaway County; and the following year Colonel Boone, with Joseph Evans, began a survey of the county, which was completed in 1817.

Uncertainty exists concerning who was the first permanent American settler. Campbell ("Gazateer of Missouri," p. 94) and Rose ("Pioneer Families of Missouri," p. 265) accord the distinction to the Rev. John Ham, a Methodist minister, and Jonathan Crow, who built bark cabins on Auxvasse Creek, about ten miles southeast of Fulton, in the fall of 1815. In a brief sketch of James and John Estens, (probably Estes), Rose (p. 328) says they came to Callaway County in 1815 and also were the first American settlers, while in still another sketch (p. 384) he says Asa Williams, of Cote Sans Dessein, settled here in the spring of 1815, which, if true, probably would make him the first American settler. Ham's Prairie was named for Ham, and Crow's Fork Creek for Crow. During the next few months a few other

American settlers came to the county, and by the fall of 1817* a number of families were established in the district which now comprises Callaway County.

Capt. Patrick Ewing, of Virginia, who later was the second sheriff of Callaway County, built the first residence in the county outside the village of Cote Sans Dessein in January, 1816. It was located a short distance northwest of the present town of Mokane. Aaron Watson located on the Boone's Lick Trail in the spring of 1816, and about the same time James Van Bibber, of Kentucky,† settled on Auxvasse Creek, near the present Cross-State Highway crossing. Immigration into the county was heavy during the next two or three years, and by the time

* Campbell's "Gazateer of Missouri," p. 95, says: "The settlers prior to 1817, as far as can be ascertained, were, in and near Cote Sans Dessein, Jean Baptiste, Francois, Joseph and Louis Roi, Joseph Rivard, Joseph Tibeau, Baptiste Graza, Francois Tyon, Baptiste and Louis Denoya, [Francis] Urno [Erno], Louis Labras, Louis Vincennes, Nicholas Foy and Louis Laptant, French Catholics; Patrick Ewing, Asa Williams, Thomas Smith, Jonathan Ramsey, Major Jesse and George Evans. Further north were John Ham, Jonathan Crow, Rev. William Coats, Thomas Kitching, William Pratt, Joseph Callaway, John Ward, Aaron Watson, Felix Brown and John French."

Instead of living north of Cote Sans Dessein, however, the Americans lived northeast—some near the present town of Mokane, and more on Coats's Prairie.

Jonathan Ramsey, mentioned above, was a member of the convention of 1820 which framed the first constitution of Missouri, being one of the two representatives from Montgomery County, of which Callaway was then a part. He was the first representative of the county in the General Assembly and served in that capacity until 1827. His daughter, Jane, was the wife of Robert Ewing and the mother of Henry Clay Ewing, attorney general of Missouri from 1873 to 1875.

† It is possible that Minerva, daughter of James Van Bibber, and Elizabeth Hays (the latter a granddaughter of Daniel Boone), was the first American child born in Callaway County. Efforts made by the writer to learn of some one who was born earlier have failed. She was the wife of William J. Davis, of Coats's Prairie. Campbell's *Gazateer* (p. 95) says: "She is the oldest living woman born in Callaway County. She is (August, 1874) fifty-six years and six months old." According to these figures, she was born in February, 1818. Mr. Huron Burt, of Nine Mile Prairie, now 84 years old, thinks that probably she was the first American child born in the county. Mr. Burt lives on the farm on which he was born and is the best informed man living on pioneer days in Callaway County. His mother was a daughter of Isaac Van Bibber and a granddaughter of Daniel Boone. His father, George W. Burt, came to Missouri from Ohio in 1821, and, with his brother, John Burt, built the first water mill in this part of the state in Montgomery County. They later built the first water mill in Callaway County for Neal Calbreath on Auxvasse Creek, near the Mexico road crossing.

the State was admitted into the Union, the county was quite generally settled.

John S. Ferguson, of Kentucky, who settled near Cote Sans Dessein in the fall of 1817, is credited with having built the first mill in the county in the spring of 1818. Previous to that time meal and flour were obtained in St. Charles County, or ground by the settlers by hand. Henry May, who located on May's Prairie, southwest of Fulton, in the fall of 1818, soon afterward built another mill and also established a race track. John Phillips, who settled on Crow's Fork Creek, east and south of Fulton, in 1817, built a still house and made whiskey a short time after coming to the county. Benjamin and James Goodrich, who settled on Auxvasse Creek, near the present Berry ford bridge, in 1817, built both a horse mill and distillery.

Even before Missouri became a state, Callaway County was organized out of territory that had previously belonged to Montgomery County. It is one of the three counties that can claim the distinction of being the twenty-third organized in the State, for Callaway, Gasconade and Saline each came into existence on November 25, 1820. The county was named for Capt. James Callaway, who was killed by Indians on March 7, 1815, while crossing a ford on Loutre Creek, about two miles below Mincola Springs, Montgomery County, where, a year later, Isaac Van Bibber erected his famous tavern.

The first officials of the county were appointed by Alexander McNair, first governor of Missouri. Judge Irvine O. Hockaday,* founder of a distinguished Missouri family, came from Winchester, Ky., to become clerk of the circuit and county courts

* Judge I. O. Hockaday was the father of Judge John Augustus Hockaday, of Fulton, who was attorney general of Missouri from 1875 to 1877, and Judge of the circuit court of Callaway, Boone, Randolph and Howard counties from 1890 until his death on November 20, 1903. Judge John A. Hockaday was born on Hockaday Hill, just south of Fulton, on May 6, 1837. He was city attorney of Fulton in 1865, and in 1866 was elected a member of the state senate, but was not allowed to serve because he was not of constitutional age. He was graduated from Westminster College in 1856 and was the first person to obtain the degree of bachelor of science from the college. His widow and only child, Augustus Hockaday, live in Fulton.

and to act as treasurer, and Wynkoop Warner, of Nine Mile Prairie Township, was sheriff and acting collector. The county court was composed of Benjamin Young,* Stephen C. Dorris and Israel B. Grant.† Robert Criswell was appointed assessor by the county court, and David Sterigere was recommended by the court to Governor McNair for appointment as surveyor, and later was commissioned by the governor.

The first session of the circuit court was held on February 5, 1821, at the tavern of Henry Brite, at the northwest corner of Ham's Prairie, about one-half mile northwest of the present village of that name. Rufus Pettibone, of St. Charles, afterward a member of the State Supreme Court, presided, holding his commission from Governor McNair. The grand jury called for that term of court was the first to meet in the county and was composed of James Van Bibber, Samuel Miller, James Guthridge, Patrick Ewing, Thomas Hornbuckle, Robert Craghead, Robert Criswell, Josiah Ramsey, Jr., Richard Humphreys, James Henderson, John Nevins, Arthur Neal, Robert Read, William Coats, James Langley, William H. Dunnica, John Gibson, William Hall, John Evins [Evans], Thomas Smith and Wharton Moore. Mr. Moore was foreman. The jury reported to the court that there was no business to come before it and was discharged.

A week later, on February 12, 1821, the county court met at

* After serving on the county court nearly a year, Judge Young resigned and Samuel T. Moore, who lived on Ham's Prairie, and was founder of one branch of the Moore family in Callaway County, was appointed to take his place. Judge Young was elected a member of the state senate in 1822 and continued in that office until the session of 1831. He also was a member of the state constitutional convention of 1845.

† Judge Grant was murdered by two negroes on December 29, 1825, and they were legally executed. The murder was the first in the county. One of the negroes belonged to Judge Grant and the other to Col. William Cowherd, grandfather of William S. Cowherd, of Kansas City, former mayor of that city and former representative in Congress from the Jackson County district. William S. Cowherd says the Grant negro confessed the crime and implicated the Cowherd negro, and that when the Grant negro heard the tolling of the bell which announced the execution of the Cowherd negro, he broke down and confessed that the Cowherd negro was innocent. "My grandfather felt so outraged at the result of that trial," Mr. Cowherd says, "that he left Callaway and came to Jackson about 1837."

the same place. Much of the business of the first session of the court concerned highways, as it does today, and has throughout the county's history. One of the first acts of the court was the division of the county into two townships, the one east of Auxvasse Creek being called Auxvasse, and the one west, Cote Sans Dessein. When the court met in May, 1821, Round Prairie, Elizabeth (now Fulton), and Nine Mile Prairie townships were created. Cedar Township was formed in 1824 and Bourbon in 1825. Liberty Township came into existence in 1838, while the other townships of the county are comparatively modern in their origin.

The election of August 5, 1822, was the first held in the county after its organization. Judge John B. C. Lucas, father of the man whom Thomas H. Benton killed in a duel, carried the county for representative in Congress, securing 146 votes, to 96 cast for John Scott, of Ste. Genevieve, who had been territorial delegate to Congress and who was elected representative, and 33 for Alexander Stewart.* Jonathan Ramsey was elected representative in the General Assembly; Wynkoop Warner, sheriff, and Samuel T. Guthrie, coroner.

The meeting place of the first courts was designated in the statute which created the county ("Laws of a Public and General Nature of the District of Louisiana," etc., vol. i, p. 679). The same statute appointed commissioners † to locate the county-seat, and they subsequently selected a site near Brite's tavern and named it Elizabeth,‡ in honor of Brite's wife. Elizabeth re-

* The figures on the congressional election are taken from the Missouri Intelligencer, published at Franklin, Howard County, October 8, 1822. The files of this newspaper are owned by the Missouri Historical Society, Columbia.

† The commission was composed of Henry Brite, William McLaughlin, Samuel Miller and Enoch Fruit. They reported on their work on the eighth of March, 1821, all but Fruit favoring Elizabeth. He dissented on the ground that the site was not in the center of the county. Evidently he was in harmony with the sentiment of a majority of the citizens of the county, for in 1824 a majority petitioned the General Assembly to change the location of the county-seat.

‡ Elizabeth was located in section 9, township 16, range 9, on 100 acres of ground donated by Benjamin Young, one of the members of the

mained the county-seat until 1825, when, by authority of the General Assembly, the permanent seat of government was moved to Fulton, where it has since been located. During the years that Elizabeth was the county-seat Brite's tavern was used for a court house.

The original town of Fulton* comprised 50 acres of land

first county court, and Thomas Smith. The town was platted, lots were sold, and at least a jail built. The jail was burned shortly after it was erected. The records of the county do not give the exact location of the site of the proposed town. When the county-seat was moved to Fulton, the owners of lots in Elizabeth were given the privilege of buying lots in Fulton to take the place of those bought in Elizabeth ("Laws of a Public and General Nature of the State of Missouri, 1804-1836," vol. ii, p. 10), while the ground on which Elizabeth was located reverted back to Young and Smith.

A tradition says—and the writer thinks it is probably true—that the Brite tavern was located on the farm now owned by C. F. Shiller (1912), just east of Elizabeth. The Shiller house is built of logs and as it stands has two stories, though it is said that the original house was one story high, and as it was built constituted the Brite tavern.

Brite's tavern also contained a store which was owned by Collier & Company, of St. Charles, and was managed by John Yates, founder of the Yates family in Callaway County. Mr. Yates became a partner in the store soon after it was opened, and in 1825 moved it to Fulton, then buying out the interest of his partners. He built the first house on the site of the original town of Fulton at the southwest corner of the court house square. The store at Elizabeth was the second in the county, the first being located at Cote Sans Dessein and owned by Daniel Colgan, Jr. Mr. Yates died in 1853. Dr. Martin Yates, a Fulton physician, is his youngest son.

* The site of Fulton was selected by James Moss and James McClelland, of Boone County, and James Talbot, of Montgomery County, who were appointed commissioners for that purpose by the General Assembly. They located the town July 29, 1825, and named it Volney, after the French inddel. The county court on the first day of August, following, changed the name to Fulton, in honor of Robert Fulton, inventor of the steamboat. Robert Dunlap, who lived northeast of the town and was the founder of the Dunlap family in Callaway County, is credited with having proposed the name Fulton. When Mr. Nichols sold the land on which the town was located, he had not perfected his title from the government, and was required by the commissioners to give a bond of \$5,000 that he would make a deed when he secured title. The document is still on file in the office of the recorder of deeds of Callaway County. The original town contained 147 lots, many of which sold for \$1 apiece. The highest price paid was \$56, and the proceeds from the sale of lots amounted altogether to \$1,946.18%. The first lots were sold September 5, 1825.

Edward G. Berry, who died in 1905 at the age of 97 years, carried a chain for the surveyor who laid off the town of Fulton. Mr. Berry was a son of Richard Berry, of Kentucky, who signed the bond of Thomas Lincoln, when he was married to Nancy Hanks, mother of Abraham Lincoln. Richard Berry moved to Callaway County in 1823 and settled on Garden Prairie, southeast of Fulton. His son, Capt. Robert M. Berry, a veteran of the Mexican and Civil wars, now in his ninety-fifth year lives at Williamsburg, this county.

bought from George Nichols* for \$50. The town was platted by Henry May, Ezra B. Sitton and Hans Patton, who were appointed by the General Assembly as a commission to erect a court house and jail. The original town lay between Sixth and First streets, north and south, and Bluff and Nichols streets, east and west.

A brick court house was built in Fulton in 1827-28 by S. J. Ferguson at a cost of \$1,297,[†] and remained in use until 1856, when it was superseded by the present court house building. The structure was 36 feet square, two stories high, and had brick floors on the ground floor, making what was considered the finest court house west of the Mississippi River at that time. When the first court house was torn down, Daniel M. Tucker, who was then and for many years afterward a merchant in Fulton, bought the building for \$400 and used the brick in erecting his dwelling, which stood at the head of Court Street until 1911, the year after his death. The present court house was erected by Alfred I. Moore at a cost of \$17,850.

* Mr. Nichols was a native of Loudon county, Virginia, and the founder of the Nichols family in Callaway County. He entered the land on which the original town of Fulton was built in December, 1824, and, contrary to most statements concerning the transaction, sold the ground on which the town was located. The first house erected within the present confines of Fulton, though not the first in the original town, was the log structure he built in West Fourth Street, near the corner of Jefferson, which stood until about 1886. The writer remembers seeing it in 1885. It is said that Mr. Nichols had to send ten miles to get men to help him "raise" the house. Mr. Nichols was the grandfather of James Irvine Nichols, who, with Judge Nicholas D. Thurmond, and Dr. John Jay Rice, of the faculty of Westminster College, established *The Fulton Gazette* in 1877.

† The story has been told that most of the money used in building the first court house was obtained from the forfeited bond of Hiram Bryant, who was convicted in 1823 on a charge of horse stealing. The records of the circuit court show that after his conviction Bryant gave bond himself for \$500, and his brother, William Bryant, also gave an additional bond for the same amount. The records show that judgment on the bonds was entered against both, but do not show that the judgment was ever satisfied. The records of the county court and of the commissioners who erected the court house also are silent on the subject, so, if the story is true, the records are not complete.

After the removal of the seat of government from Elizabeth to Fulton and before the completion of the court house, the courts of the county met at the house of Joseph T. Sitton, who is supposed to have been a tavern-keeper.

The first minister to settle in the county was the Rev. John Ham, who came in 1815. He was a Methodist, though two of his brothers were ministers of the Baptist church. Next to come, probably, was the Rev. William Coats,* a Primitive Baptist, for whom Coats's Prairie was named, and who settled here in 1817. Campbell (p. 98a) says that the Rev. James E. Welch and the Rev. John M. Peck, both Baptists, preached in the county during the years 1817-18-19. The Rev. John Scripps,† a

* R. S. Duncan in his "History of the Baptists in Missouri" (p. 160), says: "As a member of the 'pioneer brigade' of Baptist emigrants to the Far West, William Coats well deserves a place in this chapter. He had been a member of the Baptist denomination nearly twenty years when he came to Missouri, and a few years after this event in his life he became a Baptist minister. . . . The first Baptist church in Callaway County was formed at his home by Rev. James E. Welch, in June [May], 1818. There was no pastor to pay them the usual 'monthly visits,' and the little flock was greatly encouraged by the influence of Brethren Coats and Smith, who kept up prayer meetings regularly in the community."

Mr. Coats came to Missouri from Tennessee and died here in 1834 or 1835. Many of his descendants live in the county.

† McAnally's "Methodism in Missouri" (pp. 207-8) quotes Scripps as follows: "The eastern extremity of my circuit was on the Montieur Creek [Moniteau Creek, Howard County], from which eastwardly, still farther down, on the north side of the river, were several scattering settlements to the village of Cote Sans du Sein, a distance of seventy miles. To this I resolved to extend my labors, and renew my acquaintance with Major [Jesse] Evans, my fellow traveller to Vincennes, in September, 1816. I preached several times on my way down and formed a society of thirteen members on Cedar Creek. The village of Cote Sans du Sein was populated principally by French Catholics, over whom the major, a reputed Deist, was said to exercise great influence, and it was thought he would not suffer preaching there. Every argument was used to deter me, but I pressed on. He cordially received me, obtained for me the largest room in town to preach in, and procured the attendance of all the inhabitants at preaching; nor did he ever seem to grow weary in his efforts, although he remained irreligious. The place became a regular appointment and a small class was formed there, as also at General Ramsey's settlement, about four miles higher up the river. Mrs. Ramsey, her father-in-law, Mrs. [Hannah] Ferguson [mother of T. J. Ferguson], and Brother Tom (the name he principally went by), an old Methodist negro, four in all, joined this year."

It is possible that the society formed on Cedar Creek was located in Callaway County, and it is also possible that it was in Boone County. Jacob Zumwalt settled on the Callaway side of Cedar, about five miles above its mouth, in 1818, and Mr. John Gilmore, of that section, who is one of the old residents of the county, says Mr. Zumwalt was a great Methodist. That being true, the natural thing would be for him to have a circuit-riding visit him and preach at his house.

T. J. Ferguson, son of John S. Ferguson, in a letter published in The Fulton Gazette of November 16, 1883, says Scripps preached in the house of William Nash the first night he was at Cote Sans Desslein, and the next night at the house of his father. Mr. Ferguson first saw Cote Sans Desslein in September, 1817.

Methodist circuit-rider, held services in the county in the summer or fall of 1818 and probably was the first minister of his denomination to visit Callaway County in a clerical capacity. "Of the pioneer Christians," says Campbell (p. 98*a*), "perhaps Rev. David Kirkpatrick preached the first Presbyterian sermon ever delivered in the county [1823]."

A Catholic mission which was established at Cote Sans Dessein in 1816* was the first religious organization in Callaway County. Probably before the mission was established the village was visited by the Rev. Fr. Joseph Dunand, a Cistercian priest who was stationed at St. Charles from 1809 to 1815, for all of the inhabitants of the village were French Catholics from Canada. The Cote Sans Dessein church was turned over to the Jesuits in 1823, on their arrival in Missouri, and they retained charge of it at least until 1839. The organization passed out of existence many years ago.

The first Protestant church in the county was Salem Primitive Baptist,† located on Coat's Prairie, east of Reform, which was

* This date was gotten from the Rev. John J. Glennon, archbishop of St. Louis, who, in a letter to the writer, says: "From all accounts the mission at Cote Sans Dessein was established in the year 1816. It appears that the river swept it away. A small church was built in the early days and I think some of the fixtures belonging to it are now with the Catholic Church at Bonnot's Mill, or at Westphalia, Osage County."

From Tousand Foy, of Fulton, it is learned that at least some of the records of the church are at Westphalia, but efforts made to get information from the priest there failed.

The writer is indebted to the Rev. Fr. Lawrence J. Kenny, S. J., professor of history at St. Louis University, for the information concerning the connection of the Jesuits with the church. St. Louis University has many records of early-day baptisms, marriages and deaths at Cote Sans Dessein.

† R. S. Duncan in his "History of Baptists in Missouri" (p. 149) says: "At the house of William Coats, in what is now Callaway County, Elder James E. Welch, then a missionary of the Triennial Convention, on the thirty-first of May, 1818, constituted the 'Salem Baptist Church,' with nine members, five of whom were pious and prudent men, and one of them a deacon of long standing in Tennessee. Immediately after the organization was completed, the church celebrated the dying love of Jesus 'in the breaking of bread.' 'The meeting was a solemn and deeply interesting one,' says the venerable Father Welch in his 'Recollections of the West.' John M. Peck was the first Baptist preacher who visited this church, which occurred in December after its organization."

organized May 31, 1818. A substantial log house was built under the supervision of the Rev. William Coats, and the building was used for religious and school purposes many years. Church services were held in it as late as 1880, and a few of the logs in the structure, though greatly decayed, are still on the ground. The cemetery adjoining the site of the old church probably is the oldest public burying ground in Callaway County.

Miller's Creek Methodist Church,* organized in 1820 by the Rev. James Scott, of the Cedar Creek Circuit of the Missouri Conference, was the second Protestant church † in the county. A church house was not built until some time afterward, however, and services during the interim were held at the house of Samuel and Polly Miller.‡

* The "History of Callaway County" says the first Methodist church in Callaway County was organized in 1821 at the house of R. M. Craghead, four miles southwest of Fulton. It was not the first church, however, for Miller's Creek Church was first. Mrs. Margaret Nichols, of Fulton, now 77 years old, who is a granddaughter of Mr. Craghead, says preaching services were held at the house of her grandfather until his death in 1857. Mrs. Nichols thinks the Fulton Methodist Church grew out of the organization effected in 1821. Mr. Craghead came to Missouri from Franklin County, Virginia, in 1818, and was the first Craghead in the county. George Nichols, the husband of Mrs. Nichols, was the only Confederate killed at the Overton Run fight, southwest of Fulton, on July 17, 1861.

† Campbell (p. 98b) says: "At an early day south of Millersburg, in the western part of the county, lived Abraham Ellis, and near his residence was a famous camp ground that witnessed the early struggles and triumphs of Methodism." The camp meetings doubtless were features of the life of the Miller's Creek Church. Abraham Ellis reared a family of devout Methodist children, one of whom—Mrs. T. B. Bedsworth, of near Fulton—is still living.

‡ Rose (p. 359) says that Mrs. Miller was the first Methodist in Callaway County, and gives the date of her removal to the county as 1819. The first Methodist, however, was the Rev. John Ham, who, possibly was one of the first two American settlers in the county. The Rev. John Scripps also made converts to Methodism at Cote Sans Dessein and at Ramsey's settlement in 1818.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller were the parents of the Rev. Wesley Green Miller, D.D., who attained greater eminence as a Methodist minister than any other person born and reared in Callaway County. He was born January 1, 1831, and after graduating from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and practicing medicine for a time, entered the ministry in 1853. While pastor of the Methodist Church at Columbia, Mo., he studied at and was graduated from the State University. He was professor of natural science at Central College, Fayette, Mo., from 1870 until 1880, and then president of Central Female College, Lexington, Mo. He died in Louisville, Ky.; August 20, 1895. The story

Old Cedar Primitive Baptist Church, located west of the village of Stephens, was organized July 11, 1821, and Thomas Peyton Stephens* was among its early pastors. It is one of the three Primitive Baptist organizations still maintained in the county, and among its members are grandchildren of its first pastor.

The Cumberland Presbyterians were the third Protestant body to establish a church in the county. They organized New Providence, located at Guthrie, on October 4, 1823, and the "History of Callaway County" (p. 527) says the Rev. Robert Sloan was instrumental in effecting the organization. The church has remained steadfast to its original faith throughout all of the intervening years, and is one of the few churches of the denomination in Missouri which rejected union with the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., in 1905.

Middle River Primitive Baptist Church, in the southern part of the county, was organized in August, 1824, by the Rev. William Coats, and Providence church of the same denomination, located northeast of New Bloomfield, was organized in 1826. Providence went over to the Missionary Baptists when division came, and the congregation now worships in a house in New Bloomfield.

Old Auxvasse Church, † two miles north of Calwood, the mother

is told that on one occasion, while pastor of a great city church, Dr. Miller announced to his congregation he had something to say to them which he was ashamed to say to their faces, and that he then turned his back and while looking at the wall, said the things he had to say.

* Elder Stephens was born in North Carolina in 1787. He moved to Kentucky in 1815, and three years later became a member of the Baptist church. He came to Callaway County in 1820, and the next year with "his brother, Ellah, William Edwards, Isaac Black and Abraham Renfro, with a few sisters, organized Cedar Creek Baptist Church," says Duncan (p. 293). He was a leader among the preachers of the denomination and continued in the ministry until his death on April 2, 1865.

† The constituent members of Old Auxvasse Church were: William Meeter, David Kennedy, Mary Kennedy, Ruben Scott, Mary T. Scott, James Tate, Clarinda P. Tate, John Hamilton, Peggy C. Hamilton, Ann T. Hart and Betsey Patten. John Hamilton and Ruben Scott were elected elders the day the church was organized. The Rev. Charles S. Robinson was the moderator of the meeting.

The Rev. John F. Cowan, D.D., of Fulton, is now serving his fifty-second year as pastor of Old Auxvasse Church, a record probably un-

of Presbyterianism in Callaway County, was organized on the thirty-first of May, 1828. A few Presbyterian families settled in that part of the county in 1820, and after 1823 preaching services were held occasionally by itinerant ministers at the homes of the settlers. A log house, 20 by 26 feet in size, was "raised" on February 13, 1826—more than two years before the church organization was perfected. In the middle of one side of the house was a door and opposite it was the pulpit and a window.

Millersburg Presbyterian Church,* now known as White Cloud Presbyterian Church, which was organized November 26, 1831, was the second of that denomination in the county; and Concord, organized June 25, 1833, was the third.

Antioch Christian Church,† three miles south of Williamsburg, organized in October, 1828, was the parent church of the Disciples in the county. The second organization of the denomination was in Fulton.

The Primitive Baptists were the first to organize a church in Fulton. The date has been lost, but it was some time prior to May 15, 1830, for on that day the church obtained title to the lot at the corner of East Sixth and Bluff streets on which the Fulton Negro Baptist Church stands. The church was organized at the house of James McKinney, one of its first trustees, and was

equalled west of the Mississippi River. The church is one of the most prosperous rural congregations in the State and has services every Sunday. From it have sprung the churches of Augusta, Auxvasse City, and Nine Mile.

* The constituent members of Millersburg Presbyterian Church were: Matthew Culbert, Prudence Culbert, Amerger Lilly, Sarah P. Lilly, William Hamilton, Rebecca Hamilton, Joseph D. Hamilton, Jane E. Hamilton, Margaret W. Hamilton, Andrew W. Hamilton, Frederick Reed, Eliza Reed, John Robison, Barbery S. Robison, and Mary Ewing. The Rev. William P. Cochran was moderator of the meeting at which the church was organized. The name of the church was changed to White Cloud in 1863. Mount Olivet Presbyterian Church, just west of Earl, is an offsprig of this church.

† The "History of Callaway County" (p. 528) says the original members of Antioch Church were Phillip Love, Elizabeth Love, Charles Love, Jesse McMahan, Polly McMahan, Joseph Duncan, Nancy Duncan, William Douglass, Greenup Jackman, Mrs. Enoch Pruitt, Mrs. John Clark, James Love, Matilda Love, Richard, Isham and John McMahan, and their wives.

named Liberty,* for one of his sons. The Rev. Theodrick Boulware † was its first pastor and continued to serve the congregation until his removal to Kentucky in 1866. A \$3,000 brick church house was erected in 1833-34, and though it has undergone many alterations, is still used for religious purposes. The organization died out before the beginning of the present century.

The Methodists probably had the second religious organization in Fulton, their church dating from about 1833, though circuit-riders (among them the Rev. Andrew Monroe) of that denomination visited the town as early as 1828 and held services. The Disciples of Christ effected an organization in the county-seat between 1833 and 1835, while the Presbyterians delayed their organization until June 11, 1835.

Life in the county during its first years was not unlike that elsewhere on the frontier of civilization. The men were robust and stalwart, the women strong and resourceful, and under their hands farms were cleared of timber, settlements established, and highways opened. Many of the pioneers were slave owners and brought their bondmen with them when they immigrated to the State, and until slavery was abolished, the institution was recog-

* The "History of Callaway County" (p. 345) says among the constituent members of Liberty Church were Theodrick Boulware and wife, George Nichols and wife, William Ficklin and wife, William Martin and wife, Benjamin Bailey and wife, Samuel Martin and wife, and R. Shely and wife. John Jameson I and William Armstrong were trustees of the church in 1830, though they may not have been constituent members. John Ficklin, deceased, a nephew of one of the charter members of the church, was its last member.

† Elder Boulware was born in Essex County, Virginia, November 13, 1780. He was ordained a minister of the Baptist Church in Kentucky in July, 1810, and preached in that State until he moved to a farm located two and one-half miles north of Fulton, in 1827. He began to preach as soon as he arrived in Callaway, and though the records have been lost and the fact cannot be established, it is probable he organized the Fulton (Liberty) Baptist Church soon after his arrival. Elder Boulware was a man of large mental attainments and uncompromising in his adherence to the doctrines of his church. He continued as pastor of the Fulton church until 1866, when, says Duncan (p. 298), "on account of the 'test oath' and being threatened with imprisonment [for preaching], he left Missouri . . . and went to live with his daughter, Mrs. C. A. Rogers, near Georgetown, Ky." He died September 21, 1867. Elder Boulware was married three times and had a family of nine children. The last survivor of the family is Isaac Wingate Boulware, of Fulton, now 83 years old, the youngest child, who, in his prime, was the most prominent criminal lawyer in Central Missouri.

ed and accepted by the most influential men of the county. The county was an independent community, for besides the grain and vegetables required for food, the land grew the cotton which was needed to make the lighter clothing, while the farmers raised the sheep from which wool was gotten for the heavier clothing. Game was plentiful—even buffalo being seen at times—and such time as the settlers were not employed at other pursuits they devoted to the chase. Even the powder the settlers used was made in the county, as were the augers, the guns, the wagons, the hats, and the boots and shoes. Indians had long since ceased to be a menace and the years were filled with a contentment such as only like communities know.

Schools came early. Among the first, if not the first, was one taught by Joseph James, four miles above Cote Sans Dessein (in the Ramsey settlement, probably), in the winter of 1818-19, according to T. J. Ferguson, who has been previously quoted. Another pioneer schoolmaster was "Peg-leg" David Dunlap, who taught in Fulton shortly after the town was laid out.

The population increased rapidly, going from 1,797 by the state census in 1821, to 6,159 by the government census in 1830. Its growth in political prominence was equally rapid. Besides having a member of the first constitutional convention of the state (Jonathan Ramsey), it had a state senator (Benjamin Young), and later it furnished a speaker of the lower house of the General Assembly (John Jameson) in 1834 and 1836. It was Whig in its politics and remained so practically until the Civil War, though occasionally a Democrat succeeded in being elected to office. Notwithstanding its Whig tendencies, it always gave a majority to the county candidates for Congress. Thus Albert G. Harrison,* who was elected representative in Congress in 1835

* Mr. Harrison was born in Mount Sterling, Ky., June 26, 1800. He was educated at Transylvania University, graduating in law therefrom in 1821. He moved to Fulton in 1827, and the next year President Andrew Jackson appointed him one of the visitors to attend the annual examinations at West Point Military Academy. Mr. Harrison died September 7, 1839. He lived on the hill west of Fulton, near the residence of David Smith. Jilson P. Harrison, of Calwood, is his nephew. The family is not related to the other Harrisons of the county.

as a Van Buren Democrat, got the highest vote given that year to any of the four candidates for Congress. Capt. John Jameson,* another Democrat, who served three terms in Congress between 1839 and 1849, also carried the county every time he was a candidate.

Mr. Harrison and Mr. Jameson were among the first, if not the first, resident lawyers in the county. Mr. Jameson opened an office in Fulton in 1826, and Mr. Harrison arrived and entered upon practice the following year. Both were men of strong intellect and fit to lead at the bar and in public affairs. Mr. Jameson followed Mr. Harrison in Congress, and was the last man from Callaway County to serve in the federal legislature.

The exact facts concerning the establishment of the old towns of the county probably have been lost forever. Either Smith's Landing, located on the site of the present town of Mokane, or Elizabeth, the first county-seat, was the next village after Cote Sans Dessein. Thomas Smith settled on the ground on which Mokane is built in 1818, and soon afterward established a cemetery and boat landing. Samuel Ewing, his brother-in-law and the brother of Capt. Patrick Ewing, looked after his business at the Landing. The cemetery is still used as a burial place by the descendants of the early settlers. The village was known as St. Aubert for many years.

Thomas Miller, who came to Callaway County from Kentucky in 1826, laid off the town of Millersburg, and named it for Millersburg, Ky. The records of the county recorder's office show that the plat of Millersburg was filed on October 15, 1829. It ranks next to Fulton in age.

* Captain Jameson was a son of John Jameson I of Montgomery County, Kentucky, who settled one mile north of Fulton in 1821, and built one of the first mills in the vicinity of Fulton. It is said that Mr. Jameson ran a race all the way from St. Louis to get the land on which he settled. He was a member of the first board of trustees of the Fulton Primitive Baptist Church, while his son was one of the two founders of Christian University, at Canton, Mo. Captain Jameson disagreed with Senator Thomas Hart Benton while he was a member of Congress and was bitterly denounced by Benton in a speech made in Fulton in 1819. Captain Jameson died in 1856. He has grandchildren and great grandchildren living in Fulton at the present time.

Portland was laid off September 8, 1831, by John Yates, the Fulton merchant, and Eden Benson. Possibly the village was in existence at an earlier time. Later on Portland became second in importance only to Fulton, and at one time was its commercial rival. Located on the Missouri River, shipping to and from it was easy, and it became the trading point for a large section. It retained its importance as a tobacco market up to about 1885, when the culture of tobacco in the eastern part of the county became unprofitable.

Williamsburg was laid off December 1, 1836, by B. G. D. Moxley, and named for Harvey Williams, who was interested with him and a man named Compton in the town's first store. It is said that the town was founded two years before it was laid off.

Concord, which is not even a postoffice now, was laid off by John Henderson on May 18, 1837. Before the building of the Chicago and Alton Railroad it was the most important trading point in north Callaway.

Two companies were furnished by the county in the Black Hawk Indian War, one going out under Capt. John Jameson, and the other under Capt. Patrick Ewing. They did duty alternately at Fort Pike, on the Des Moines River, just below Keokuk, Iowa. Jameson's company left Fulton on July 1, 1832, and was away about six weeks, while Ewing's company went out in August and was on duty even a shorter time. Neither company participated in an engagement.

The next war to which the county furnished men was that with Mexico. Company H of Douphan's immortal expedition was organized in Callaway with Capt. Charles B. Rodgers* as

* Captain Rodgers also served in the Florida Seminole War under General Gentry and was wounded in the right arm by an arrow at the battle of Okeechobee. He was born in Halifax, Va., on November 25, 1802, and was married to Aetha Ward Overfelt in Bedford County, Virginia, in 1823. With his family he moved to Fulton in 1830, and a few years afterward bought and moved to the farm now owned by James Wallhall, just east of the Fulton city limits. He died there on March 7, 1853, and is buried in the Rodgers burying ground, eight miles northeast of Fulton. His son, Charles Austin Rodgers, served under him in the Mexican War, and in the Civil War was a captain in the Confederate army. The family of Captain and Mrs. Rodgers consisted of eight sons and four daughters.

captain. The roster of the company contained 111 names, according to Connelley's "Doniphan's Expedition" (pp. 560-62). The company left Fulton on June 11, 1846, going to Fort Leavenworth, where it joined the remainder of the expedition, and then began upon the most spectacular military exploit in the history of the United States. The company served throughout the campaign and was mustered out at New Orleans on June 21, 1847.

The Banner of Liberty, established in Fulton in 1839 by Warren Woodson, Jr., was the first newspaper* published in the county. The next year Isaac Curd and William Henry Russell became editors of the paper and changed its name to *Fulton Reformer*. Then the name was changed to *Western Star* by W. A. Stewart, who remained in charge until 1843. Duncan & Goggin in 1845 named the paper *Fulton Telegraph*.

* Though the county has a number of newspapers at this time, and has had many which had brief careers, only two of her newspapers have attained considerable age. The *Telegraph* is one and *The Fulton Gazette* is the other.

Two men of special brilliance have been engaged in newspaper work in Fulton. One was John G. Provinces, who owned an interest in the *Telegraph* before the Civil War, and later published the *Press* in 1868, and the other was Maj. Nathan C. Kouns, who published the *Fair Play* in Fulton about 1871.

Mr. Provinces was a native of Boone County, a graduate from the State University, an able lawyer, and a writer and speaker of rare ability. He was prosecuting attorney of Callaway County from 1873 to 1875, and afterward editor of the *Moberly Monitor* many years. He died in Randolph County about 1902. Mr. Provinces wrote a small hand, but formed every letter perfectly, and spelled and punctuated correctly, and printers were always eager to get his copy. Though his style would be called florid now, for his day it could not be excelled. The writer believes he knew more about English composition than any person it has ever been his fortune to know. He was tall, erect and knightly, and even in his old age, his long hair and beard were very black.

Major Kouns was a son of Dr. Nathan Kouns, one of the pioneer physicians of Fulton, and was born here in 1831. At the age of nineteen he was professor of Greek and Latin in a school at Palmyra. Afterward he studied law and practiced in Fulton until the beginning of the Civil War, when he joined the Confederacy. Just after the war he was married to Miss Anna Overton Rootes, daughter of Commodore Thomas Rootes, of the United States Navy, and also of the Confederate States Navy. He was a prolific writer of fiction, and besides many magazine stories, published two books—"*Arius, the Lyblan*," in 1882, and "*Doreas, the Daughter of Faustina*," in 1881. The last mentioned book had a large sale in France, Germany, England and Scotland. "*Arius, the Lyblan*" is a story of the time of Constantine, and critics have said of it that it showed a profound knowledge on the part of its author of the religious factions of that time. Major Kouns died in 1899. His only child, now Mrs. Thomas C. Martland, resides in Fulton.

The State Lunatic Asylum, now known as State Hospital No. 1, was located in Fulton on July 13, 1847. An act of the General Assembly approved on February 16, 1847, provided for the establishment of the institution, and for its location within the counties of Boone, Callaway, Chariton, Cole, Cooper, Howard, Moniteau and Saline. When the commissioners met at Boonville, bids from a number of counties were received, and the offer of Callaway to give about 500 acres of land and \$11,500 in money being considered the best, the institution was located here. The contract for erecting the building was let to Solomon Jenkins on April 16, 1849, for \$47,450, and the building was opened and the first patient* received on December 2, 1851. The first superintendent of the hospital was Dr. Turner R. H. Smith,† and the first treasurer Judge James S. Henderson.‡ Charles H. Hardin,§

* The first patient at the asylum was Thomas Green, who came from Jackson County and was discharged March 22, 1852. H. F. Hunter, of Callaway County, who was admitted December 4, 1851, was the second patient. Charles H. Thorp, of Adair County, who was admitted October 30, 1852, and was the sixty-third patient received, died at the institution on August 4, 1911. He was dismissed from the hospital four times, but each time had to be returned. More than 10,400 patients have been treated at the institution, while 1,100 are under treatment at this time.

† With the exception of about seven years, Dr. Smith was superintendent of the Fulton State Hospital from the time it opened until his death at the institution on December 21, 1885. He was born in Christian County, Kentucky, February 21, 1820, and was a practicing physician at Columbia, Mo., when he was 21 years old. His wife was Mary E., eldest sister of Governor Charles H. Hardin. Few men who have lived in Fulton have left such an impress upon the life of the town, and probably none has been more universally loved.

‡ Judge Henderson was a son of Daniel Henderson, who died July 10, 1828, and was the second person buried in Old Auxvasse Presbyterian Church cemetery, the first person buried in the cemetery being a child. Judge Henderson was a successful merchant in Fulton from 1830 to 1842, when he was elected county treasurer, and he held that position until he became treasurer of the State Hospital. He continued as treasurer of the hospital until 1883. Judge Henderson assisted in organizing the Fulton branch of the Western Bank of Missouri in 1857 and became its cashier, continuing in the position until after the beginning of the Civil War, when the bank went into liquidation. The bank was the first in Callaway County, and the Callaway Bank of Fulton traces its history back to it. Judge Henderson lived many years in a brick house on the north side of the court house square in Fulton. His wife was Emily Boone, daughter of Jesse Boone and granddaughter of Daniel Boone. He died in Fulton in January, 1884.

§ Eighteen of the twenty-three years Governor Hardin was engaged in the active practice of law were spent in Fulton and here he made the

afterward governor of Missouri, was the first secretary of the board of managers, and held the position about ten years. The hospital was closed during part of the Civil War and the buildings and grounds were used for barracks by the Federal soldiers stationed in the county, and also for a military prison in which to confine disloyal Callawegians.

Before the Hospital for Insane was opened, an act of the General Assembly was approved on February 28, 1851, establishing the Asylum for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb (now officially designated The Missouri School for Deaf) and giving to it 40 acres of ground and a two-story frame building that had belonged to the State Lunatic Asylum. The building was located near the building now used by the State Hospital as a cow barn, and there, on November 5, 1851, under the superintendency of Prof. William Dabney Kerr the first pupil[†] of the school was enrolled. In 1851 the present site of the school was bought and a building costing \$28,000 erected. The school closed during the

reputation which gained the governorship for him over Gen. Francis Marion Cockrell, who afterward served thirty years in the senate of the United States. Governor Hardin located here in February, 1813, and from 1818 to 1852 was circuit attorney of the district of which Callaway was a part. He was the county's representative in the General Assembly in 1852, 1851 and 1858, and was elected state senator in 1869. The next year he moved to Audrain County, where he resided until his death. He was elected Governor of Missouri in 1871 and served a term of two years. He was born in Trimble County, Kentucky, on July 15, 1820, and died at Mexico, Mo., on July 29, 1892.

* The life of Professor Kerr will be forever associated with the history of deaf-mute education in Missouri, while his memory is more revered by the deaf of the State than that of any other man. His father, the Rev. John Rice Kerr, was superintendent of the Kentucky school for deaf at Danville, prior to 1833, and Professor Kerr took up in that school the work to which he devoted his life. In Danville he was the school-mate of the Rev. Dr. W. W. Robertson, and partially through Dr. Robertson's influence, he came to Missouri. Professor Kerr was born in Charlottesville, Va., on March 1, 1808, and died in Fulton May 24, 1889. His only surviving child is Mrs. John T. Brown, of Fulton.

† Rather notable in connection with the history of the Missouri School for Deaf is the fact that it has had only four superintendents during its existence—Professor Kerr from the beginning to 1888; Dr. J. Nolley Tate from 1888 to 1896; Dr. Noble B. McKee from 1896 to 1911; and Prof. S. T. Walker, the present superintendent.

‡ John Isaacs, a Jew boy of St. Louis, was the first pupil enrolled in the school. The enrollment the first year was 17, and the second year it was increased to 51. The enrollment now is 299.

first two years of the Civil War, part of which time its buildings were used by soldiers as barracks, but was reopened in April, 1863. The principal buildings of the institution were burned on the night of February 27, 1888, making the largest fire in the history of Fulton. Temporary buildings were provided immediately, and the work of the school went on without interruption until new buildings could be erected. Professor Kerr continued as superintendent of the school until February 28, 1889, when he resigned, after having devoted 58 years of his life to the education of the deaf.

The first institution of higher learning in Fulton was the Fulton Female Seminary, established in 1850 by the Rev. William W. Robertson, D.D.,* and at which many of the older women of the county received their education. It was the only school for the higher education of women between Fulton and St. Louis, and during the ten years of its existence was liberally patronized, the attendance probably averaging 125. The school opened in a dwelling located somewhere southeast of the State Hospital, and soon afterward moved into buildings Dr. Robertson erected for its use at the corner of West Seventh and Walnut streets. Mrs. Anna Patton Vance, then and now a resident of Fulton, was the first graduate, receiving her diploma in 1851. At the beginning of the Civil War, Dr. Robertson moved to Concord, where he opened and conducted a seminary for boys and girls several years.

From Fulton College, chartered by the officials and members

* The strong tendency of Callaway County toward Presbyterianism is due more to the work of Dr. Robertson than to any other person. He became pastor of the Fulton Presbyterian Church in 1840, and during the remainder of his life preached and taught in the county. He held many revivals, and through his earnest exhortation, many persons united with the church. Besides establishing Fulton Female Seminary, Dr. Robertson was a member of the board of trustees of Westminster College from the time the college was established until his death, and for nearly forty years served as president of the board, and also during part of the time acted as its financial agent. He had a strong personality—was, indeed, a thorough-going Scotch Presbyterian. He was born in Danville, Ky., December 6, 1807, and died in Fulton May 29, 1894. Mrs. Robertson was a daughter of the Rev. Robert H. Bishop, D.D., an early president of Miami University, Oxford, O. She died about six months before her husband. Two of their daughters—Mrs. Anna Russell and Mrs. Nicholas D. Thurmond—live in Fulton.

of the Fulton Presbyterian Church on February 18, 1851, grew Westminister College, which is the only college in Missouri outside of St. Louis that did not suspend during the Civil War. Fulton College was owned independent of both presbytery and synod, and was located on the site of the present Westminister. The college opened on the first Monday in October, 1851, and the record shows that the Rev. Benjamin Y. George, D.D., then a resident of Fulton and now a resident of Elmwood, Ill., was the first student enrolled. Prof. William Van Doren was the president and during the first session 50 students were in attendance.

Westminister College* dates from February 23, 1853, when it was chartered by the General Assembly of Missouri, though Fulton was selected as the site of a Presbyterian college for boys at a meeting of the Synod of Missouri in Fulton in October, 1852. The corner-stone of the main college building and the corner-stone of the School for Deaf were laid on July 1, 1853, when the principal address was delivered by the Rev. Nathan L. Rice, D.D., afterward president of the college. The main building, with a chapel building which was erected in 1887, was destroyed by fire on the night of September 10, 1909. James Green Smith,† afterward a minister of the Baptist church, who received his diploma in 1855, was the first graduate from the college. Judge Robert McPheeters, an honored and respected citizen of Fulton, who was

* An excellent history of Westminister College from 1851 to 1887 was written by the late Rev. M. M. Fisher, D.D., once acting president of the college, and in 1903, Prof. John Jay Rice, LL.D., at that time acting president, revised the manuscript and brought the history up to date. Through the generosity of the late Mr. S. J. Fisher, of St. Louis, who was a member of the college board, the work of his brother and Dr. Rice was published in book form for the golden jubilee of the college, which was celebrated in October, 1903.

† Mr. Smith was a son of Elkanah Smith, who lived on "the old Smith place," at the northeast corner of Fulton, and in early times had a carding mill there. Of Mr. Smith, the "History of Westminister College" (p. 11) says: "That the first graduate chose to preach the Gospel may be regarded as an earnest of what God had in store for an institution planted for his glory—an earnest of what that college, as we trust, will be to the latest generation, a fountain of genuine Christian education and a School of the Prophets. Mr. Smith was born in Fulton in 1830; he was ordained to the full work of the ministry in June, 1859, and died the thirtieth of June, 1867. His end was peace. His body rests near the old homestead and near the college of which he was the first graduated son."

a member of the class of 1856, is the oldest living alumnus of the college. Westminster has had the following presidents: Rev. Samuel Spahr Laws, D.D., Rev. John Montgomery, D.D., Rev. Nathan L. Rice, D.D., Rev. Edwin Clifford Gordon, D.D., John Henry MacCracken, Ph.D., Rev. David Ramsey Kerr, D.D., and Rev. Charles Brasee Boving, D.D., the latter being in office now. Though the college is in its sixtieth year, all of the men of this illustrious list are living except Dr. Montgomery and Dr. Rice. After the Civil War the college for many years was controlled entirely by the Synod of the Southern Presbyterian Church, but in 1901 the Synod of the Northern Church united in its control and support.

Floral Hill College, located on the west end of what is now known as Hockaday Hill, just south of Fulton, was opened about 1858 by the Rev. P. K. Dibble, a minister of the Christian Church, who came from Ohio. A comfortable frame college building was erected, a large and competent faculty employed, and until the beginning of the Civil War the school enjoyed a substantial patronage. Many of its pupils were from places outside of Callaway County, and but for the war, the college doubtless would be in existence today.

Callaway County's first railroad, which was one of the first completed in the State, was built between the years 1855 and 1857,* and extended from Cote Sans Dessein back into the county a distance of about seven miles to a large cannel coal mine. The road was built by the Callaway Mining and Manufacturing Company, which was chartered by the General Assembly in 1847, and was

* This date may be slightly inaccurate. A right-of-way deed on file in the recorder's office of Callaway County, dated December 10, 1855, contains the statement that the railroad was then under construction, while a deed of trust which was given in November, 1857, indicates that it was completed then. James Smith, who was for many years a coal operator in the Fulton fields, came to Missouri in 1854 to prospect the mine for the company, and work on the railroad had not begun at that time. Tousand Foy, of Fulton, who was born at Cote Sans Dessein in 1842, but spent part of his boyhood elsewhere, does not remember the date of the building of the railroad, and neither does John W. Hord, of Tebbetts, who was a boy at the time and saw the locomotive used by the company unloaded from a flat boat at Cote Sans Dessein. It is said that Samuel Maycock, once a Fulton coal miner and operator, was the engineer on the locomotive.

composed of Pennsylvania men. The company planned to mine cannel coal extensively and also to extract oil from the coal and sell it for commercial uses. To this end the railroad was built, a mine opened, an oil factory erected, and a number of houses constructed for the use of employes. After the railroad was built, the product of the mine was shipped on a steamboat owned by the company. The enterprise proved to be a wild dream of riches, for the demand for the coal was small, while the oil-producing scheme was impracticable. The property was sold at trustee's sale in St. Louis on September 26, 1859, and was bid in at \$95. At least part of the first railroad track built by the company was laid with wooden rails, and it is said that horses were the first motive power used. The whole of the track was finally laid with steel rails and a locomotive put into use. Traces of the old track and the foundations of the building are yet to be found.

A large number of men from Callaway County were engaged in the Civil War, the estimate being from 800 to 1,100* on the Confederate side, and 350 on the Union side. Accurate records were not kept, and probably the names of many persons from the county who enlisted in the conflict have been lost forever. The first company to leave the county was organized by Capt. Daniel H. McIntyre, afterward attorney-general of Missouri, in response to the call of Governor Claiborne F. Jackson. Captain McIntyre was a student in his senior year at Westminster College when he left in April for the war, and though absent from commencement in June, 1861, the faculty granted him his degree. His company contained five students† of the college.

At least fourteen other companies of Confederates (not all of them full, however) left the county during the war, their captains being I. N. Sitton, David Craig, Milton Scholl, Henry Burt,

* The estimates concerning the number of men from Callaway County engaged in the Civil War are taken from the "History of Callaway County" (p. 390). Survivors of the war think, however, that the number of Confederates could not have been less than 1,500.

† Besides Captain McIntyre, the Westminster College students were Joseph C. Watkins, W. S. Duncan, John P. Bell and George Davls. Mr. Bell lives in Fulton, and probably is the only survivor of the group.

Thomas Holland, Creed Carter, George Robert Brooks, Thomas Hamilton, Jefferson Gibbs, Robert M. Berry, Preston Wilkerson, George Law, W. P. Gilbert, and Charles Austin Rodgers. In addition to these companies, a large number of men were recruited during the war for the Confederate service.

Captains William T. Snell, Henry Thomas and J. J. P. Johnson raised companies for the Union, while many men from the county enlisted for service in companies which were organized elsewhere.

Fulton was occupied during the greater part of the war by Union soldiers and militia, and Southern sympathizers were in constant fear of imprisonment and death. A number of non-combatants were killed in the county by soldiers, most of the crimes being committed by "Krekel's Dutch," as the troops under the command of Gen. Arnold Krekel, of St. Charles County, were called.

The name, "Kingdom of Callaway," came to the county during the Civil War through a treaty negotiated by Gen. John B. Henderson,* representing the Union, and Col. Jefferson F. Jones,† representing the people of Callaway County. In October, 1861, General Henderson, with a considerable force of militia, started from Louisiana, in Pike County, to Callaway, intending to invade the county and bring its citizens under subjection to the Union.

* The writer wrote to General Henderson, who lives in Washington, D. C., in a state of great opulence, for his version of this incident, but failed to receive a reply.

† Colonel Jones was one of the most picturesque characters who has ever lived in Callaway County. Born in Montgomery County, Kentucky, in 1817, he came to Fulton in childhood, was educated here, and practiced law at the Fulton bar from 1843 until near the beginning of the Civil War. He entered a large tract of land northeast of Auxvasse, and from 1859 until his death on January 24, 1879, lived on the farm. An order banishing Colonel Jones and his family from the county was issued by Federal officials during the early part of the war, only to be revoked a week later by General Schofield. One of his sons was named Southwest, another Northeast, and his eighth child, a son, was named Octave. He represented the county in the General Assembly in 1856 and also in 1857. His name will live because of his connection with the incidents which gave the name "Kingdom of Callaway" to this county, though to his contemporaries at home his fame was greater because of his connection with the events attending the building of the Chicago and Alton Railroad.

Hearing of the project, Colonel Jones assembled three or four hundred men and boys and went into camp at Brown's Spring, on Auxvasse Creek, east of the present Mexico road crossing.* After drilling his men a few days, Colonel Jones on the morning of Sunday, October 27, sent an envoy under flag of truce into Wellsville, where Henderson and his men were located, and that day a treaty was made whereby General Henderson agreed not to attempt to invade Callaway County, and Colonel Jones agreed to disband his force. Both sides kept the agreement, and thereby the county obtained a name which probably will last through the ages. The terms of the treaty were especially fortunate for the force under Colonel Jones, for his men were inexperienced in war and armed only with rifles and shot guns, and in an engagement probably would have been routed, for Henderson's men were drilled and well-equipped. Part of the equipment of the force under Colonel Jones consisted of two home-made cannons, one of which was made of wood and was bound with iron hoops.

The only battle fought in the county during the war was at Moore's Mill, † one and one-half miles south of Calwood, on Monday, July 28, 1862, between forces under Col. Joseph C. Porter, Confederate, and Gen. Odon Guitar, Union. The engagement lasted from a little before noon until late in the afternoon. The Confederates lost six men and had 21 wounded, while the Federals lost 13 men and had 55 wounded. The battle was not decisive. Porter had about 280 men, and Guitar about 680.

Overton Run, a small engagement on the Overton farm, about two miles southwest of Fulton, on the morning of July 17, 1861, resulted in the killing of George Nichols, of Callaway County,

* Colonel Jones's force was augmented by troops under the command of Gen. S. B. Hatton and Captain Searcy, according to the "History of Boone County" (p. 411). General Hatton's band was composed of about 75 cavalymen, but the number under Captain Searcy is not given. Facts and dates given in the history referred to enabled the writer to fix upon the date of the "Kingdom of Callaway" treaty.

† Joseph A. Mudd, of Hyattsville, Md., who was with Porter, has written a book under the title, "With Porter in North Missouri," which gives an extended account of the battle of Moore's Mill, and from which the facts for the statements made here are taken.

who was with the Confederate force, and one or more Federals. Hearing that Caldwell's men, of Jefferson City, were about to invade the county, a force of several hundred men and boys was organized to meet the enemy. The home guards camped in brush on the Overton farm, and when the Federals came in sight, fired once at them and then ran. The Federals also fired once and ran. The affair has always been the subject of jest.

The Louisiana and Missouri River Railroad, now known as the South Branch of the Chicago and Alton, was built from Mexico across the county to Cedar City in 1872. The county court, composed of men who, under the provisions of the Drake Constitution, were appointed by the governor and therefore were not beholden to the people of the county for their position, issued \$610,000* worth of nine per cent bonds for the building of the railroad. In 1872 the people of the county refused to pay interest on the bonds, and then ensued five years of litigation to test the validity of the debt. The end came when the United States Supreme Court, by a vote of 5 to 4, decided adversely to the people of the county. After the decision of the court, a convention† was held in Fulton to consider a compromise with the owners of the bonds. Some of the members of the convention advocated paying 50 per cent of the debt while others desired to pay 75 per cent. Much discussion ensued, and finally Richard Hord, of

* In an address delivered at the celebration in Fulton at which the last of the bonds were burned, Judge David H. Harris, now judge of the circuit court of Boone and Callaway counties, said that only \$550,500 worth of the bonds of the county were actually delivered to the projectors of the railroad. For that occasion Judge Harris prepared a history of the bonded debt of the county, and most of the facts given here are taken from it.

† The convention was called by Judge Hugh Tincher, presiding justice of the county court, to whom, more than to any other person, is due credit for having the debt reduced. He was a member of the court during the time the litigation was pending and twice had to leave the county to avoid service of writs from the federal court ordering him to levy taxes. Judge Tincher was born in Monroe County, West Virginia, on July 28, 1819, and died on his farm, southeast of Hatton, on February 29, 1888. He was married twice and had fourteen children, most of whom are still living. At the time of his death he was one of the wealthy men of the county, and besides other property, had 1,800 acres of land on Grand Prairie.

Cote Sans Dessein, proposed that inasmuch as only five of the nine members of the supreme court thought the bonds were valid, the county should agree to assume only five ninths of the debt. The suggestion was adopted by the convention, and afterward most of the bond-holders accepted payment on that basis. The bonds were refunded twice, and the last of the debt was discharged in 1906, when, on September 26, the last of the bonds were publicly burned at a celebration held in Fulton. It is estimated that the debt cost the people of the county \$1,500,000 in principal and interest before it was paid. The history of the debt is the darkest chapter in the history of the county.

Synodical College, the successor of Fulton Female College, though thirteen years intervened between the close of one and the opening of the other, was located at Fulton by the Synod of Missouri (Southern Presbyterian) at a meeting held at Cape Girardeau in October, 1871. Several towns made bids for the institution, but the offer of \$16,500 in money and four acres of ground valued at \$3,500 made by Fulton was the one accepted. The present college building was begun in the spring of 1872 and finished during the summer of 1873, the cost being \$25,000, including furnishings. The first session opened in the fall of 1873 with Prof. T. Oscar Taylor, of Virginia, as president. Through all of its history the college has done splendid work, and at this time plans are being made for the enlargement of its plant to meet present requirements.

William Woods College for girls, then known as the Orphan School of the Christian Church of Missouri, opened in Fulton on September 18, 1890. Following the burning of the orphan school at Camden Point, Fulton offered \$40,000 in money and ten acres of land to have it located here, and the offer was accepted. The school opened in the Lehmann Hotel building, and during the following winter moved into the present main building of the college. When the institution became involved in financial troubles in 1901, Dr. William S. Woods, a banker of Kansas City, came to its rescue and his name was given to the



college. The college has a large patronage throughout Missouri and the Southwest.

During the years 1892-93 the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad was built across the southern part of the county. It follows the course of the Missouri River.

By far the most important development in the county in recent years is the building of permanent highways adjacent to Fulton. A road district eight miles square, with Fulton almost in the center of it, was organized in 1911, and on December 30, 1911, a bond issue of \$100,000 was authorized. The seven principal roads out of Fulton are being graded at this time, and during the coming year will be macadamized to the boundary of the district. From this beginning it is hoped that a system of permanent roads throughout the county will be developed.

By the census of 1910 Callaway County had a population of 24,400 people, of which 5,228 resided in Fulton. Nearly the whole area of the county has been cleared and is productive. A large majority of the people own their homes, and while none is immensely wealthy, none is miserably poor. The county is noted especially as a mule-feeding center, though its mule industry is small compared with its other live stock interests. The town of Fulton is prosperous, owning its water and light plants, and having an adequate sewerage system, besides a public library and many miles of paved and macadamized streets. From the town and county have gone many men and women who have done, or are doing, splendid work in the world.

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