

EARLY MARRIAGES.

Cupid, the God of love, early manifested his presence in Randolph county, as may be seen from the following *verbatim* copies of a few of the first recorded marriage certificates: —

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF RANDOLPH. }

This is to certify that the undersigned, one of the justices of the peace, within and for the county aforesaid, did solemnize matrimony between Dulin Wright and Nancy Riley, of the county and State aforesaid, on the 23d of January, 1829.

BLANDERMIN SMITH, J. P.

Be it remembered that I, James Ratliff, did, on the 26th day of February, 1829, in the county of Randolph, solemnize the rites of matrimony between William Roland and Sindy Boswell. Given under my hand, this, the 8th day of April, 1829.

JAMES RATLIFF, M. G.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF RANDOLPH. }

This is to certify that the undersigned justice of the peace, within and for the county aforesaid, on the 2d day of May, 1829, solemnized matrimony between Benjamin Hardister and Jane Jackson, of the county and State aforesaid.

BLANDERMIN SMITH, J. P.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF RANDOLPH. }

This is to certify that I did solemnize matrimony between Ebenezer Best and Catherine Wheldon, of the county and State aforesaid, on the 26th day of November, 1829.

BLANDERMIN SMITH, J. P.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF RANDOLPH. }

This is to certify that, on the 2d day of October last, I solemnized the rite of matrimony between John Grooms and Ann Courtney. Given under my hand this 12th day of November, 1829.

SAMUEL C. DAVIS.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF RANDOLPH. }

I, George Burckhartt, justice of the peace, for the county aforesaid, certify, that on the 16th day of December, 1829, I solemnized the vows of matrimony between Stephen N. Gowen and Gennetta Brooks in the county aforesaid. Certified under my hand and seal, this 13th day of January, 1830.

GEORGE BURCKHARTT, J. P.

I do certify that on the 25th day of December, 1829, I solemnized the ceremony of matrimony between William Phipp and Vinah Vestal, this 25th day of December, 1829. Given under my hand and seal.

GEORGE W. GREEN, J. P.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
 COUNTY OF RANDOLPH. }

I do hereby certify, that on the 5th day of November, 1829, I joined together James Loe and Maria S. Hinde, as husband and wife.

JOHN LOE, J. P.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
 COUNTY OF RANDOLPH. }

I do hereby certify, that the rites of marriage were legally solemnized between Alva Shoemaker and Sally Mullinick, this 29th day of November, 1829. Given under my hand this 24th day of March, 1830.

ARCH. SHOEMAKER, J. P.

In 1829, 14 marriage certificates were recorded.

In 1883, 230 marriage licenses were recorded.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.

The following was the first will that was recorded in Randolph county.

In the name of God, amen. I, Isam Rials, of Randolph county, in the State of Missouri, being sick and weak in body, but of sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding, considering the certainty of death, and the uncertainty of the time thereof, and being desirous to settle my worldly affairs, and thereby be the better prepared to leave this world, when it will please God to call me hence — do, therefore, make and publish, this, my last will and testament in manner and form following — that is to say: first and principally, I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty God, and my body to the earth, to be decently buried at the discretion of my administrator, hereinafter named, after my debts are paid, and the death of my companion Martha, I devise and bequeath as follows: —

I give and bequeath unto Joseph Rials, Polly Rials and Nancy Rials, my youngest children, all of the county of Randolph, Missouri, all the property that I am possessed of, both real and personal, to be equally divided among the three aforesaid heirs after my death, and the death of my wife, as hereinbefore named. And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my son, Joseph Rials, to be sole administrator of this my last will and testament, revoking and annulling all former wills by me heretofore made, ratifying and confirming this, and none other, to be my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed my seal, this first day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine.

his
 ISAM X RIALS. } SEAL }
 mark.