



## HISTORY OF SCHUYLER COUNTY, MISSOURI.

Benjamin Thompkins,  
June, A. D., 1849 and 50, the Justices of the Peace of the County composed the County Court as follows:  
Thomas B. Dubois,  
John Fugate,  
William Barlow,  
William Hulén,  
George Nichols,  
William Casper,  
William Roland,  
Dennis M. T. Brassfield,  
Fountain T. Foster,  
Cantley W. Stewart,  
Joseph W. Buchanan,  
William Roland,

Changed to three Court System,  
William Barlow,  
Caswell Dennis,  
Charles Hale,  
James Kerfoot, sole Judge,  
William Casper, sole Judge,  
Henson Davis, *Harrison*  
David Baker,  
Daniel Roberts,  
Sovereign Tarr,  
William Newman,  
William Lindsey,  
John Dowsie,  
Yelverton W. Payton.  
The last three are the present Incumbents,

### SHERIFFS.

Jonathan Riggs,  
Barrell Weatherford,  
Hobbs Conklin,  
Thomas Roberts,  
John Baker,

A. K. Cowgill,  
Francis M. Wilcox,  
John Miller,  
Armstrong G. Moore.

### CIRCUIT CLERKS.

Isaac N. Eby,  
Barrell Weatherford,  
Iverson B. Alverson,  
Edwin French,

William McAfee,  
John Baker,  
Ward Munsel.

### COUNTY CLERKS.

Isaac N. Eby,  
Barrell Weatherford,  
Iverson B. Alverson,  
Jared O. Jewett,  
George W. Gatlin,

Andrew J. Baker,  
Alexander M. Felton,  
Daniel T. Truit,  
Daniel D. Smith.

### CIRCUIT JUDGES.

Addison Reese,  
Thomas Richardson,  
David Wagner,  
James Ellison,

E. Victor Wilson,  
John W. Henry,  
Andrew J. Ellison.

### CIRCUIT AND PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS.

A. R. Abernathy,  
James C. Lindley,  
J. Proctor Knott,  
John C. Anderson,

John Foster,  
Hilles,  
Jerome B. Gamble,  
Joseph Knott.

### PROBATE COURT.

Thomas Roberts,  
William Casper,  
Harrison Davis,

Isaac R. Shelton,  
Thomas Walker,  
Enoch Crim.

### COUNTY SURVEYORS.

George W. Johnson,  
John S. Sheller,  
Richard Caywood,  
Stephen Caywood,  
Jesse K. Beard,

Ira Roberts,  
Joseph Casper,  
Thomas D. Brown,  
George P. Martin.

### TREASURERS.

Robert S. Neely,  
William S. Thatcher,  
William Lindsey,  
John Gildard,

Moses Baker,  
William B. Hays,  
Samuel A. Dysart.

### COUNTY SEAT COMMISSIONERS.

E. French,  
James Bryant,

William S. Thatcher.

It was not until the year 1856, that a Printing press was established in this County. This was done by Hoon Jackson, of Lagrange, Mo., who issued a paper called the "Lancaster Herald". He sold out to Wilber Wells, about a year after, who continued to run it for about two years. It was not, however, a pecuniary success.

This paper was succeeded in 1859, by the "Lancaster Democrat," owned and edited by Mains & Elder, from Ohio. They continued their business until the summer of 1861, when, being Democratic, it grew in disfavor. They closed up and returned to Ohio, joined the ranks of the Union army, and after the war commenced publishing a paper in Somerset, Ohio, where they are still residing.

From this time there was an interregnum in newspaperdom until March, 1866, when Capt. H. D. B. Cutler started the "Lancaster Excelsior," at Lancaster, a Republican paper. Some time afterwards, he associated with him Capt. F. M. Wilcox, by whom the paper was continued until 1872, when they sold out to Samuel Dysart and Henry A. Miller, who changed its politics, Mr. Dysart selling out to H. A. Miller. He has continued it to the present time, and now has it running with a steam-power press; and with other machinery and materials, has an excellent country office, and is doing a thriving business.

In 1871, Messrs. Cutler & Wilcox started the "Glenwood Criterion," at Glenwood, in the interest of the Republican party, in which interest it has continued to be conducted ever since, except an interval of one year just prior to the last Presidential election, when it was conducted by H. Martin Williams, as a Democratic paper.

The "Queen City Globe" was issued in 1872 by Beatty. This is a spicy little paper, but as it has changed hands several times, it is doubtful whether it is a very great pecuniary success. It is independent in politics. Thus we are having three weekly papers published in this County, reaching nearly every family in the County.

Following the hardy immigrant, came of necessity trading points, artisans in their order, mills and such other things as a growing community demanded. In A. D., 1840, John M. Fish & Edwin French opened a small stock of goods at Tippecanoe, small, but sufficient for the demands of the country. As the population increased and settlements extended west, their business increased, until in a few years they commanded the trade for seventy or eighty miles West of that point. Tippecanoe continued to grow for several years; and three stores, two Blacksmith shops, one Wagon shop, one Cabinet-maker, and of course two corner Groceries, and two Attorneys—Stephen T. Thompson and R. Caywood; and for a time was a rival of Lancaster for the County seat, but in time it was overshadowed, and at this time is only known in name. The first Blacksmith-shop was started at this point by Ross Ashel. Mills were of a necessity, as the nearest ones were in Boone or Howard County, or Bonaparte, on the Des Moines River; and the first ones were of course primitive in their character. Hand mills were the first, as they were light carriage, and readily brought into the country. They had, however, no dists or localities. As I recollect in the winter of 1841 and 1842, we had one in our neighborhood. It was a steel mill, fastened on the horseback, and set up in a mortise in a sleeper in front of the fireplace. Two men could grind from three to four bushels of corn in a day. It was not adapted to wheat, but that was of little importance, as but little flour was used, and that was only on Sunday mornings and on special occasions. These were, however, followed by horse-mills. The first one built was by William Hendron, in the eastern part of the County, and followed by one in the southern part, erected by Oliver Towles, and in the western part one was built by William H. Harrison.

In the year A. D., 1840, John Jones erected a Carding machine, near Tippecanoe, to which was added a run of burrs to grind corn. These, in, gave way to water-mills on the Chariton River, two being built in a short distance of each other, the first by James Hargraves, and the other by James Wells; but in the march of progress these also fell by the wayside. And we now have several large Flouring-mills situated in different parts of the County. The County continued to improve with great rapidity until 1861. When the Rebellion broke out, intereined took the place of the heretofore industrious labors of the people. The wheels of business were stopped, houses and barns burned, the farms grew up in weeds, and at the end of four years found the County utterly prostrated. But with returning peace business slowly revived. The farmers started their plows anew, emigration flowed in, industries of all kinds revived; new ones were added, until since then to the present, the population of the County has nearly doubled, and the wealth largely more than doubled in value. Churches and School-houses have arisen in every part of the County, and to-day we are a happy and prosperous people.

### EDUCATION.

Among the first things that elicited the attention of the early settlers of this County, was to make provision for the education of the rising generation. Private Schools were first opened, prior to any organization for that purpose under the law. The first school taught in the County was by Miss Hathaway, now the wife of Edwin French, followed by Jesse K. Baird, near Tippecanoe. Log School-houses soon sprang up in various parts of the County; regular organization followed, better School-houses were built, and education rapidly advanced, until the war broke out, and during its continuance, with every thing else, progress in this direction came to a stand still. We had, however, at the beginning of the war a High-school established in Lancaster, in a flourishing condition. The Teachers and pupils were scattered, and the school broken up, and so remained until A. D., 1865, when a general re-organization was made. The people went to work with redoubled energy, to make up for lost time. New and better School-houses were built all over the County; the scanty remnant of the School Fund was collected together, and carefully husbanded, a generous emulation took possession of the citizens generally, until at this time, instead of a few scattered Schools over the County, we have three High Schools; one at Lancaster, one at Glenwood, and a third at Queen City, with well organized districts, where Schools are regularly kept, at least six months in each year, and the rising generation, in every part of the County, have the advantage of at least a good common school education; and ignorance must be transplanted here, for we have none of it of our own.

### LANCASTER.

The County seat of Schuyler County, was laid out in June, A. D., 1846. The first store-house was built by Manuel Richardson and Samuel Ow, in the spring of 1846, for a man by the name of Kent. The roof, counter and shelves were all made of clapboards. The same season James Bryant built the first Hotel, a story and a half log building, which is still standing near the North-east corner of the square. He shortly after put up a store-room on the corner; it is also one of the few old landmarks left.

Thomas McCormack built a store-house, and brought on a stock of Goods the next year. William Buford and Chelton M. Grimes, shortly afterwards brought on a stock of Goods. From 1848 until 1861, the town continued to improve quite rapidly. The first Court-house was built in A. D., 1849, Jabeel Parks, contractor, a frame building. It was built on the North side of the Square. It was afterwards moved, and refitted up for a dwelling, and is now occupied by Dr. J. W. Brown. The first Jail, a Log building, was built in 1851, and was burned down a few years after. The present Court-house, a brick building, two stories high, and 44 feet square, was erected in 1858, and the present Jail in 1868.

The land on which the County seat is situated, was entered by E. French, with money made up by himself, Samuel Ow, James Lusk, J. N. Eby, and A. D. Farris, and donated to the County by them, for the purpose of a County seat.

James Cochran opened the first Grocery on the South-east corner of the Square, in a one-story log house. It continued to be used for that purpose for several years, and was familiarly known as "Our House." From 1857 to 1861, there was more business done in Lancaster than in any of the neighboring towns—Memphis, Kirksville or Bloomfield, but in 1861 and '62, it was almost entirely depopulated of its male inhabitants, as nearly all of them went into the Rebel army, or moved to other parts. Since the war it has been slowly improving, and at this time contains six Dry-goods stores, two Hardware stores, two Tin shops, three Drug stores, three Blacksmith shops, two Wagon shops, two Harness-maker shops, one Restaurant, one Bank, (the Schuyler County Bank), one High School, four teachers, numbering two hundred scholars in regular attendance. There is also a large Flouring mill, other mechanics of various kinds, not forgetting several Physicians, and at least a baker's dozen

of Lawyers. The M., I. & N. Railway runs through the south side of the town, and gives it direct communication with Chicago and St. Louis; and there is quite a large amount of shipping done from this point, of Cattle, Hogs, and the various kinds of farmers' produce.

The town contains about 600 inhabitants. There are two Churches—the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church South, United. Also, a Christian Church, and an organization of the Missionary Baptist.

### GLENWOOD

Is situated on the St. L., K. C. & N. Railway, about five miles South of the State line. It was laid out in October, 1868, by S. E. & A. I. Forsha, who erected a large Grist, Saw and Planing mill. The first dwelling-house was built by Jno. B. Glaz, in Oct. 1868. S. E. Forsha erected a store-house in October, and November of the same year, also a number of dwelling-houses; and a School-house the following winter. The town was incorporated in the spring of A. D., 1869. A two-story Brick block, four store rooms, was also erected in the same year. It continued to improve very fast for a number of years. In 1870 and '71, Buford and Neely built and started a large Woollen factory. The Dunbar Bros, started a Foundry and Machine shop about the same time, and are doing quite an extensive business in the manufacture of Engines, and other machinery. There is also a manufactory of Hubs, Spokes, and other turned material, owned by Wolf & Burton, and is doing quite considerable business. It was erected under an independent School district in 1875, and it has a commodious School-house, three teachers, and an attendance of one hundred and fifty scholars. For a small village it has been unfortunate in the way of fires. The Flouring mill was burned down in 1870, and has since been rebuilt. The Foundry has been burned down and rebuilt twice; also a Wagon factory, which has been rebuilt. The last fire was the large store and warehouse of S. E. Forsha. It contains also at this time, three Dry-goods stores, two Drug stores, three Grocery stores, besides several other business houses, and is doing quite a thriving business. It has a population of about 500.

### COATSVILLE

Is a small village situated on the St. L., K., C. & N. Railway, at the Northern boundary of the County. It was laid out in 1868; has two Dry-goods stores, two Drug stores, one Grocery, a Blacksmith and Wagon shop. It is surrounded by a fine farming country, and there are several coal banks opened and worked within a short distance of it on the west. It has one Church, Missionary Baptist. Population about 100.

### GREEN TOP

Is situated on the St. L., K., C. & N. Railway, near the Southern boundary of the County; laid out in 1854, by Wm. Lansdale. It has considerable trade in Rail-road ties and Hoop-poles, from the Chariton timber, and is conveniently accessible to coal on the west. It has not improved to any great extent lately, being overshadowed by Queen City, four miles North of it. Population 150.

### QUEEN CITY

Was laid out in 1862, by Dr. George W. Wilson, but did not commence to improve until after the war in 1866. The first house was put up by Dr. Wilson. The first Hotel was erected by Henry Bartlett.

### THE CHURCH.

With the poverty and rough garb of the Avly pioneers and early settlers of this County, they brought a love of social order, and an abiding faith in the doctrines of Christianity. So the voice of the Christian minister was heard coeval with the first settlements, and pointing out to them the way to eternal life. The first sermon preached in the County, was delivered by Elder William White, of Boone County, a minister of the Christian Church. This was in the year 1837. The second, by the Rev. Abraham Still, a Methodist Preacher, who shortly after settled in the Southern part of the County. He was also a Physician, and ministered to both soul and body. In those days there were no Churches, and the meetings were held in the cabins of the settlers in the winter and in bad weather; at other times the services were held in the Groves, where they erected rude pulpits of slabs, and seats for the congregation of the same material. The entire population were Church-going, and when a minister came into a neighborhood, it mattered little of what denomination, all attended: Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Christian, United Brethren, or Catholic; and all united together in giving praise and adoration to the same God; and I have no doubt that their love was as pure, their prayers as heartfelt, and listened to by Him who rules above, with as much pleasure at least, as they are now in the splendid Temples and cushioned seats or the pure-proud Christians of the present day.

The first Camp-meeting was held in the County in the year 1840, and conducted by Rev. Abraham Still and Rev. Jesse Green, of the Methodist Church, on Battle Creek, in the South-west part of the County. They were both able men in the ministry, and quite a revival was had. Dr. Still was also the first Circuit Rider in this County, and the organization of the Methodist Church dates from about this time in this County.

In 1844, the Church divided, and under the terms of the Division, both branches held the right here to hold an organization, and the field has been occupied by both ever since that time until the present. There are fourteen congregations in the County, and quite a number of good churches. Communicants about 400.

The Christian Church was organized later, by Rev. Wm. Wills, of Boone County, Mo., George Nichols, John Sleightman and Josiah Hathaway, were the first Elders of the Church. Rev. Isaac Foster succeeded as Pastor, and continued preaching and organizing Churches until about the year 1858. There are at this time five congregations in the County, and 300 members.

The Regular Baptist Church was organized at a very early date; have some two or three congregations, but have not increased to any great extent. The Missionary Baptist Church was organized at Lynn Grove, in the eastern part of the County, by the Rev. A. T. Hite, in the year A. D., 1841. It has Church organizations in the County, and 400 communicants.

The United Brethren have an organization in the south-west part of the County, but have increased but slowly.

The Catholic Church has a Church organization in the north-east part of the County, numbering about 50. The Presbyterian Church had an existence here some twenty years ago. Elijah Thatcher and David Buckner, Elders. They have had occasional preaching since, and are at this time reorganizing at Glenwood, under the labors of Rev. Sherwood, of St. Joseph, Mo.