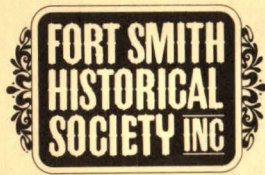


The JOURNAL

VOLUME V, NUMBER 1, APRIL 1981





The JOURNAL

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We welcome the loan of Fort Smith historical material and will return promptly.

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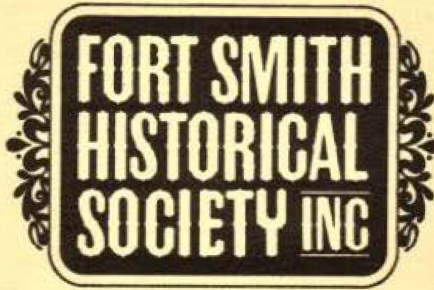
The First Lutheran Church

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Dear Member:

Two enclosures are included with this issue of The Journal -- a blank 1981 membership card (more about this later), and an information sheet that contains three things that are particularly important at this time:

1. Time and place of the Annual Meeting of the full membership of the Fort Smith Historical Society. Come! Bring friends! Bring suggestions for The Society and The Journal! Your suggestions are important!
2. Talent Search Form which gives you an opportunity to indicate ways in which you can use your talents and contribute valuable and much needed help with activities of the Fort Smith Historical Society.

Please! Please! Complete the form and return it now! Many hands make small work of big jobs!

3. Ballot for Board of Directors. Have your say in electing new representatives to the Board of Directors. A nominating committee has made recommendations, but space is provided for "write in" candidates you may have in mind.

Please attend the meeting if you can, and bring, or return by mail, your completed ballot and Talent Search Form.

NOW! ABOUT THE BLANK MEMBERSHIP CARD -- UNCLE SAM MADE US DO IT! Regulations for the new Third Class permit we are now using for mailing The Journal, require all pieces of mail be identical, and the postmaster has ruled a completed membership card violates this regulation. As you add appropriate information to your membership card, do it knowing we are trying to keep costs down so that we can continue a high level of quality in The Journal.

1981 Belle Fort Smith Tour dates are April 25-26. First Lutheran Church, which is featured in this issue, is on the Tour this year.

Best Wishes from Your Editors

61 SOUTH 8th STREET • FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS 72901

HISTORY OF LUTHERANISM

(MISSOURI SYNOD)

IN SEBASTIAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, FORT SMITH¹

First Lutheran Church in Fort Smith is the oldest Lutheran Church in Arkansas and was founded to fulfill the spiritual and educational needs of German Lutheran immigrants in the Fort Smith area.

In the year 1843, a small party of German Lutherans (six families) immigrated to this country from Saxony and settled in what was then called Long Prairie, about twelve miles south of Fort Smith. During the next seven years other families arrived and settled there also. Lutheran sermons were read in homes of these families, but the need for a church building and a Christian day school became more and more apparent and on Christmas Day, 1852, a meeting was called at which a congregation was organized and a reader elected for regular Sunday services.

Sometime during the winter of 1853, a log meeting house was built and a teacher secured from among the membership. Services were held in this building every Sunday, and people of the Lutheran faith who had settled in Fort Smith would drive out to Long Prairie to attend these services.

This continued until the winter of 1861 when the

War Between the States broke out and these families fled from Long Prairie to Fort Smith where the Confederacy maintained an army post and they found protection.

About twenty miles further south, near the present town of Hartford, were four other Lutheran families who suffered the same fate and went to Fort Smith for refuge.

During the years 1861 to 1868 very little is known of the Lutherans and their church in Fort Smith. No records of any meetings or services were kept during those years. People who were children during that time recalled that services were held in the homes of some of the members from time to time, and that in 1864 a school was reopened in a house located at the present site of 15 North First Street. This was the only school of any kind in Fort Smith at that time.

On June 7, 1868, the present congregation, "The First Evangelical Lutheran Church," was organized and the following officers were elected: Paul Krone, president; William Geiger, treasurer; and F. W. Boas, secretary.



Lutheran Church, dedicated August 1869. At right is school erected 1874, and Hunt house is on the left.

¹History and photographs courtesy of Historical Committee, First Lutheran Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Charter members of First Lutheran Church were: Casper Reutzell, John Bauer, E. Schoeppe, Henry Stoppleman, Julius Reichert, Henry Schleuter, Samuel Bollinger, August Baescher, Conrad Triesch, Henry Godt, William Harder, William Rowe, Ernest Beck, Frederick Meyer, William Schulte, Frederick Markhart, Carl Schmieding, Jacob Baer, William Hoffman, J. C. Grober, John C. Heissig, John Speaker, Carl Grober, Henry Triesch, Charles F. Grober, John G. Ellig, August Mickel, John Beckel, John Spect, John Sengel, Christopher Triesch, John Scott and August Selig.

The first reading service was held in the First Presbyterian Church, which was then located on North Second Street. Beginning with September 16, services were held in the brick Methodist Church on North Fifth Street.

A decision was made to call a resident pastor. Mr. Valentine Dell, employed by the *Fort Smith New Era*, was making a trip to St. Louis, and he was asked to make inquiries of the Missouri Synod concerning a minister. As a result of his inquiry, the Rev. Martin L. Wyneken, a graduate of Concordia Seminary of St. Louis, accepted the call and on October 16, 1868, became the church's first pastor.

In a called meeting, a constitution was drafted and accepted. The following Board of Elders was elected: Casper Reutzell, H. Stoeppelman, C. Schmieding, B. Schoeppe, and Ed Hunt. On November 9, the constitution of the congregation was accepted and two additional elders, F. W. Boas and S. Ziegebein were elected. Trustees chosen were P. R. Krone, W. Geiger, and M. Baer.

This same day, the congregation decided to buy the six lots on North Twelfth Street for \$600.00 from the Rogers estate. On November 30 it was decided to build a church; on December 19 the trustees were instructed to let the contract for the new church to Preusner, Bauer and Meier; on March 12, 1869, the cornerstone was laid; and on August 22, the new church was dedicated in two services held by the Pastor, Rev. M. L. Wyneken,² the morning service being in German and the afternoon service in English. The bell of the church was a present from the Ladies' Aid.

On the following Sunday, August 29, 1869, the first class was confirmed: Gustav Reichert, Charles Schoeppe, John Reutzell, Fred Stoeppelmann, August Harder, Lizzie Schoeppe, Lizzie Miller, and Lottie Wibbing.

The first child to be baptized by Pastor Wyneken was Mathilda Carolina Meyer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Meyer; sponsors being Carolina Reutzell, Elizabeth Bauer, and Casper Reutzell.

The first couple to be joined in holy wedlock by Pastor Wyneken was Julius Selig and Elizabeth Hess.



Rev. and Mrs. Martin L. Wyneken

In September, 1875, the congregation reluctantly gave Pastor Wyneken a peaceful dismissal when he received a call to Cincinnati, Ohio. After a few years in Cincinnati, he became ill and went to California where he died.

On January 30, 1876, the congregation became a member of the Missouri Synod. From that day on, the First Lutheran Church of Fort Smith has always taken an active part and interest in the work of Synod.

On February 13, 1876, the Rev. P. F. Germann of Topeka, Kansas, was called to fill the vacancy left by Pastor Wyneken. Pastor Germann readily accepted the call and was installed in his office during March of that year by Pastor Wyneken.

In 1877, a handsome and commodious parsonage was built for the sum of \$1,000.00, which stood until 1923.

Pastor Germann who had served the church as pastor for over 22 years, resigned on September 2, 1898.

On November 6, 1898, the Rev. J. K. E. Horst of Courtland, Minnesota, was installed to succeed Pastor Germann, with the Rev. A. Boepler of Little Rock officiating.

As early as 1896 plans were begun for erection of a modern church edifice, but it was May 12, 1901 before plans for a new church building were accepted. On October 12, 1902, the cornerstone was laid, and the building was dedicated on May 15, 1904.

²Rev. Wyneken describes this dedication in his article *Founding of Lutheranism in Arkansas* which was published in *Der Lutheraner* in 1869 and is printed in this issue.



Left, The First Lutheran Church, dedicated August 22, 1869; Center, present church building, dedicated May 15, 1904; Right, First school building, built 1874.

In November, 1902, Pastor Horst accepted a call to the congregation in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, and Pastor A. L. Rohlfing, then of Farmington, Missouri, was chosen as his successor. Between the time of Pastor Horst's resignation and the coming of Pastor Rohlfing, Mr. L. C. Hermerding, a theological student from St. Louis, served the congregation. He also taught the school.

Original plans for the new building had called for a stone structure not to exceed \$20,000.00 in cost. From information gathered on October 4, 1911, when the congregation celebrated the cancellation of the remaining debt on the church building, the entire cost of the church was a little over \$27,000.00 including an organ and all furnishings.

Growth of the church continued, and in 1914 the congregation erected and dedicated a new school which replaced the old frame school which had served the congregation for 40 years, 1874-1914. This building, which was used for 62 years, is still standing at 419 North Twelfth Street.

In September, 1928, grades seven through nine were added to the Christian day school.

In July of 1924, a beautiful red brick parsonage was dedicated. This was the home of the pastors until 1967, when another home was purchased at 2124 South 70th. The old parsonage was used for meetings, youth program, kindergarten and the church nursery, until it was torn down in July, 1978.

Pastor Rohlfing became ill in June, 1906, and died in December of that year in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Rev. George Kirschke served the congregation during Pastor Rohlfing's long illness. Also during these difficult days, the congregation enjoyed the services and stabilizing influence of a man in charge of her Christian day school who had been with them since 1882, Mr. G. O. Hennig. The leaders of the church rallied around Mr. Hennig time and again, and the fruits of his labors are noticeable today.

Pastor Herman W. Bartels of Altheim, Missouri, served the church from February 3, 1907, until he left, on leave of absence, July 28, 1918 to become a chaplain in the United States Army. Pastor Paul W. Beinke of Little Rock, Arkansas, served as supply pastor until Pastor Bartel's return. In the summer of 1920 Pastor Bartels accepted a call to Cleveland, Ohio, and was succeeded by Pastor H. D. Mensing of Wentzville, Missouri on September 12, 1920.

Mr. G. O. Hennig resigned in 1918, after 35 years of faithful service.



Ladies of First Lutheran Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas. Picture taken between 1876 - 1880. Left to right: In door: Mr. and Mrs. William Hoffman. Picture was taken at their home, 620 No. 11th. Top row: Mrs. Benedict Stebler, Mrs. Beckel, Mrs. (Charles or John?) Reutzel, Mrs. P. F. Germann, Mrs. Hoffman, Mrs. Kertz, Mrs. August Godt, Mrs. John G. Ellig, Mrs. Samuel Bollinger, Mrs. S. A. Williams, Mrs. Breedlove, Mrs. Specht, Mrs. Eppler. Bottom row: Mrs. William Geiger, Mrs. August Selig, Mrs. Anton Euper, Mrs. John Sengel, Mrs. Mickley, Mrs. Casper Reutzel, Mrs. Hess, Mrs. C. C. Boysen.



Lutheran School 1889. Left to right: Boys, top row: Henry Panzy, Charley Mitchell, Otto Mitchell, Elias Williams, Oscar Schaap, Alex Meier, Claud Norwood, Will Schleuter, Johnnie Siebert. Boys, second row from top: Alvin Geiger, Will Harder. Teacher: Miss Marie Banholt (Later, Mrs. Kubale). Girls, from top, left to right: Mary Erfurth, Meta Kalns, Lena Schleuter, Lottie Thies, Edith Ritter, Minnie Reising. Lillie Bollinger, Mary Geiger, Emma Armbruster, Christina Hoffman, Anna Kohnkie, Kate Nickels, Mary Speaker, Laura Norwood. Ella Triesch, Theo Selig, Mamie Nickels, Lillie Grober, Ida Bollinger, Emma Birnie.

An assistant pastor, H. T. Bernthal was installed as assistant pastor and teacher in the Christian day school in August, 1923.

Pastor Mensing delivered his final sermon in November, 1923, and accepted a call to become a professor at Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Indiana. His successor was Pastor K. Kretschmar from Knoxville, Tennessee, who was installed on February 3, 1924.

The last year during which Pastor Mensing served the congregation was one of great trial to all those who loved the church. Severe difficulties broke out, due to the congregation's determined stand against members of the church who were at the same time members of secret and oath bound societies. This difficulty carried over into the early years of Pastor Kretschmar's work.

Under the Word of God, applied faithfully and patiently, peace was restored. The years that followed were marked by a great awakening of a missionary spirit and a great interest in special missionary projects and activities.

1925 through 1928 noonday Lenten services were held downtown in the Palace Theater, 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. every day of Holy Week.

On August 19, 1923, Pastor H. T. Bernthal was installed as assistant to the pastor and teacher in the Christian day school, a position he held until December, 1925, when he accepted a call to become pastor of the congregation at Stuttgart, Arkansas.

The church suffered a sad loss in the death of Mr. William Hoffman on May 24, 1922. Mr. Hoffman had served as secretary of the congregation for 50 years,

1868-1918, before being succeeded by Mr. Ben F. Schaap, who had served simultaneously with Mr. Hoffman from 1915 to 1918. Mr. Schaap served in this capacity until 1946 when he resigned.

Another day of rejoicing for the congregation was the dedication of a new Kilgen organ to replace the organ purchased in 1903. Cost of the organ was \$8,980.00; building space for pipes and rearranging altar, \$3,728.00; vesting of choir and miscellaneous expenses, \$2,316.00.

The organ is built in three separate chambers; great and choir in one chamber; swell in another; echo in a third. It has three 61 key manuals and one 32 key concave radiating pedal. It was considered the largest and best organ in Fort Smith at the time of its installation.

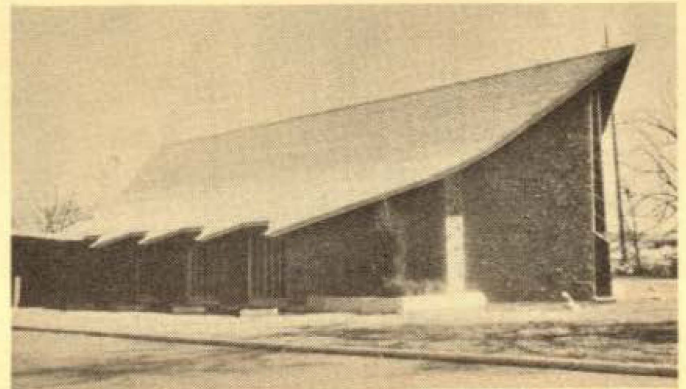
Work of the church continued to expand. On September 24, 1933, J. H. Hohengarten became assistant to the pastor and teacher in the Christian day school. The congregation established a Sunday School in Van Buren with Pastor Hohengarten in charge.

On October 18, 1936, Trinity Lutheran Church in Van Buren was dedicated. Pastor Hohengarten moved to Van Buren and served this district under the direction of the Western District Mission Board. He also served as Chaplain in the State Sanatorium at Booneville and at Wildcat Mountain, Fort Smith.

When in June, 1935, at the convention of the Missouri Synod in Cleveland, Ohio, Pastor K. Kretschmar was elected vice-president of Synod, it became necessary for the congregation to call another assistant. Accordingly, in 1935, Candidate A. G. Deke was installed as assistant to the pastor and teacher in the school.

With the increasing duties of the president of Synod demanding more and more of the time of Pastor Kretschmar as vice-president, much of the work at home fell on the shoulders of the assistant.

During the years of 1937 and 1938 a determined effort was made to establish a mission, or at least a branch Sunday School, on the outskirts of the city. Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Hach had gathered a group of children for religious instruction into their home.



Bethel Lutheran Church, Waldron Road and Highway 22.

Under the direction of Pastor Deke this outlying section of the city was canvassed, and plans were made for the erection of a chapel. On December 10, 1939 a neat frame chapel, with a seating capacity of 125 was dedicated and became Bethel Lutheran Church. The chapel was located on Waldron Road, one block north of Highway 22, which is now the corner of Euper Lane and Waldron Road. This church is still located there.

At the same time, Miss Amanda Hennig had organized a group of children into a weekday religious school in and near the town of Jenny Lind, south of Fort Smith. The Jenny Lind group continued for some time with many of the children becoming confirmed members of the Fort Smith Church. She was assisted by Miss Anna Georgine Hennig, (Mrs. Erwin Meimerstorf). The Clark family was one group that did join the Fort Smith Church and when Our Redeemer Church was organized, they helped establish it. They are now the Fants, Fritts, Stermetz families of Our Redeemer.

For the greater spreading of the Gospel in this territory, the radio was being pressed into service more and more. Lenten and Holy Week radio messages were broadcast as early as 1935, and this program gradually grew until in 1938 the Men's Club of the congregation sponsored a weekly broadcast for nearly five months of the year.

In the midst of this progress, death dealt the church a stunning blow. On December 21, the Lord called Pastor Kretzschmar, His faithful and hard-working servant, to eternal rest and joy.

The congregation carried on under the leadership of the assistant pastor, A. G. Deke, who was relieved of his duties in school to devote his full time to the pastoral work.

On August 13, 1939, Pastor A. H. Schleef of Battle Creek, Nebraska was installed as pastor by Pastor Deke. On Sunday, June 18 of that same year, the green illumined cross atop the steeple of the church was dedicated to the praise of God as a memorial to Pastor K. Kretzschmar.

1940 brought many changes to the church. Pastor Deke accepted a call to Zion Lutheran Church in Omaha, Nebraska; Candidate E. G. Meseke was ordained and installed as assistant pastor; and Mr. E. H. Esslinger replaced Mr. Luther A. Mueller as organist and choir director, who in turn was replaced by Mr. F. Carl Kretzmann in August, 1942.

The years 1940 to 1942 also saw definite progress in the work of radio missions. "The Call of the Cross," the weekly broadcast over Radio Station KFPW by pastor Schleef was heard every Friday at 5:45 p.m. from the beginning of September until the last week in June.

Our entry into World War II and the building of Camp Chaffee created the need for ministry to the men stationed at the camp. Under the direction of

the Army and Navy Commission, a Service Center was rented and furnished above the Missouri-Pacific Bus Depot, 1000½ Garrison Avenue. Pastor Schleef was appointed as service pastor, and members of the congregation served as hosts and hostesses at the center. Miss Sophie Hennig served as part-time secretary for a while, then in April 1943, Miss Virginia Speaker (Mrs. William Meimerstorf) was employed as full-time secretary to the pastor and for the service center.

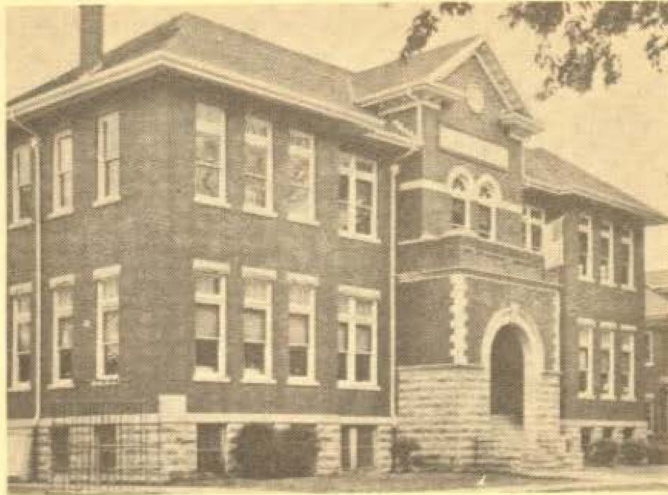
On April 14, 1944, the church's Boy Scout Troop 8 was organized. Mr. Jack Franz was the first scout leader and Men's Club was the sponsor. Charter members listed were: Jimmy Erke, Mack Estep, Roland Krekeler, Charles Lester, Donald Millsap, Jackie Nigh, Jimmy Nigh, Victor Weiser, Bob Pitcock, Clyde Dollar, Jim Parsons, and Elmer Varvil.

The 75th anniversary of the Ladies Aid was celebrated in May of 1944 with weeklong activities. Officers were: Mrs. C. H. Hartsfield, president; Mrs. Frank Euper, vice-president; Miss Sophie Hennig, secretary; Mrs. Ernest Mehmel, treasurer; Miss Sophie Hennig, secretary; Mrs. Ernest Mehmel, treasurer; Mrs. C. W. Schmieding, soldier welfare; Mrs. A. H. Schleef, visiting; Mrs. B. F. Schaap, Sr., anniversary chairman; Mrs. Worth Paden, anniversary entertainment chairman; and Mrs. H. W. Doepel.

The ladies of the congregation have always played a big role in the activities of the church. In March of 1945 the women of the church organized the Lutheran Women's Missionary League with 48 charter members. The first officers were: Mrs. Sophia Burger, president; Mrs. Fred Hennig, 1st vice-president; Mrs. Arthur Dick, 2nd vice-president, Miss Rosalie Schmieding, secretary; Miss Jean Hennig (Mrs. Erwin Meimerstorf), corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Laura Geren, treasurer.

The burden of pastoral duties became greater as the Rev. W. J. Gieselman of Bethel accepted a call. In July of 1946, the Rev. Carl Mehlberg became Assistant Pastor, mainly to help with Bethel. The extra duties carried by Rev. Schleef and Rev. Mehlberg was lifted when in August of 1947 the Rev. Harvey Krueger accepted the call to become pastor of Bethel.

In January of 1946, the annual Arkansas-West Tennessee Pastor-Teacher Conference was held. No one knew that when Rev. W. E. Griesse, of Trinity, North Little Rock, was elected Chairman that year, 22 years later he would be the pastor of First Lutheran in Fort Smith. He served in this position from 1959 to 1978. His successor is Pastor David L. Wacker who assumed the pastorate in October, 1979.



School, 423 North 12th, built 1914. Addition completed in 1947.

An extensive renovation program was planned and begun in 1946 which included a school addition to cost \$60,000.00, and repairs and improvements to the church building.

The school addition, which had priority, included two classrooms, new office, first-aid room, rest rooms and full basement under the entire structure, and was dedicated September 28, 1947.

The church renovation got under way in October, 1949, and services were held in the school auditorium until it was completed and the church was reopened January 29, 1950 with special services.

Renovation to this building included a new lighting system, heating plant, redecoration of interior, repair of roof and plaster, rearranging of chancel and choir loft.



Altar, present church

Photo by Riggs Studio

In February, 1950, the Rev. L. W. Polley accepted the call to Bethel where he served until 1953. Bethel

also built a parish hall which was dedicated in September.

In 1954 the church was air conditioned and attendance increased enough to warrant two services on Sunday morning.

The church also purchased the United Hebrew Temple that year for use as a Parish Hall, church offices and gymnasium. It was razed in January, 1977.

In years 1957 through 1962 the church bought other properties, including the property at 420 North 11.

During the late 60's and 70's, the homes on 11th Street and D were torn down. The church owns the entire block bordered by 11th and 12th and D and E Streets.

A scholarship fund was established in 1956 that still exists today to help students interested in full time church work.

As early as the summer of 1962, plans were being discussed as to the possibility of another Lutheran Church in the southeast part of Fort Smith. A canvass was made of the area and on May 3, 1964 Our Redeemer Lutheran Church held its first service in the old south Fort Smith school at South 31st and Tulsa. Since that time a church has been built on the corner of Norge Blvd. (Jenny Lind) and Cavanaugh Road.



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2100 Cavanaugh Road.

With the gift of \$30,000.00 in 1969, the congregation began a thorough study of the education program of the church and school. This study looked at various angles of replacing the school, at the same site or another one, and also remodeling the existing school.

This study was curtailed a bit in 1971 because on December 14, 1971 the church was hit by a storm or small tornado that did considerable damage to the steeple, broke some windows, with minor damage inside. The congregation began plans for repairs, and remodeled the interior with new carpet, paint, pew cushions, and general repairs.

In April, 1973 the planning committee submitted their first report on the educational facilities. On May 24, 1973, the church voted to purchase 15 acres on the corner of Massard and Horan Drive for \$6,000.00 an acre. During the summer of 1974 a building fund drive was started and on September 20, 1974 the congregation voted to build the school.



New School, corner of Massard and Horan Drive, dedicated on May 2, 1976.

Ground was broken on April 10, 1975 and the school was dedicated on May 2, 1976.

Since the school has been moved, the old school building has been remodeled for Sunday School classrooms, meeting rooms, church offices and fellowship hall.

During these 113 years the church has had many outside endeavors to reach the unchurched and serve the community, some of these being *The Lutheran Hour* on radio, *This Is The Life* on television, Holy week services at a downtown theater, service center for the servicemen at Fort Chaffee, vacation bible schools, and other events too numerous to mention.

Many of the family names that were first mentioned when the church organized are still prominent in church activities. During the 1960's and 1970's though, the city of Fort Smith has grown in population with many new industries coming to the city. And so goes the picture of the church. Many new faces coming from all parts of the United States are now members of First Lutheran. At the time of the centennial celebration of the church in 1968, a tribute was paid to the many faithful members of the church, and the following is quoted from the church history which was written at that time:

"The many years of faithful service given by individuals among the membership is one of the noteworthy things of the life of this congregation. This includes officers of the congregation, Sunday School workers and other organizations. Leading them all we find the name of Mr. Will Hoffman, Sr., who served as secretary for 50 years. Next comes Mr. Ben F. Schaap, Sr. who served as secretary for 34 consecutive years. Of those who served the church in an official capacity for 15 years or more we find the names of August Harder, chairman and reader at services; H. W. Doepel, treasurer, W. T. Hennig, chairman; John Schaap, Sr. and C. W. Schmieding, serving as chairman or vice-chairman at various times. On this 100th anniversary we feel it is important to mention the names of those, who are currently on our membership rolls, who have served

five years or more in some official capacity. Those are: Lloyd Bahr, Harry G. Barr, Martin Brase, Paul Christmas, Walter Coppeans, Sr., Fred Deislinger, Arthur Dick, Walter Fuchs, Russell Grimshaw, Arthur Hennig, Otto Hennig, Dr. Fred Krock, Fred Ladage, Max Lamb, Erwin Meimerstorf, Eric Nelson, Worth Paden, Fred Quoss, Ted Self, Wm. Shaver, III, Charles Speaker, Tris Speaker, Carl Stephens, Arthur Stumpf, Robert Taake, Ray Ussery, Ed Zylstra, Nick Kelly, Bill Grober, Harlon Doty, Armin Bauer, Harold Huffman, Harlan Hunt, L. J. Thuerk, Robert Westphal, B. H. Westphal, Jr.

We also include the faithful Sunday School teachers who have taught for many years in our Sunday School and also the staff. Heading the list will be Miss Amanda Hennig, who has been teaching for "over 50 years." Next, we believe, comes the name of Mrs. H. W. Doepel, who taught for 32 consecutive years. Those who have been a member of the staff at one time or another and are currently members of the congregation are: Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Bahr, Mrs. Harry G. Barr, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Barr, Mrs. Sophia Burger, Mr. and Mrs. Don Cholcher, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Grimshaw, Mr. and Mrs. Don Hendricksen, Miss Amanda Hennig, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Hennig, Mrs. Fred Hennig, Mr. W. T. Hennig, Mrs. Fred Ladage, Dr. Fred Krock, Mrs. James Lewis, Miss Barbara Meek, Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Meimerstorf, Mary Ann Meimerstorf, Mrs. N. C. Nigh, Miss Adelyn Marie Pansze, Mr. Fred Quoss, Miss Rosalie Schmieding, Mr. W. Shaver, III, Mrs. Tris Speaker, Mrs. Carl Stephens, Mrs. Roy Vick, Mrs. J. A. White, Mrs. Kenneth Lester, Miss Johanna Ruge, Mrs. James Grober, Mrs. Earl Daniels, Mrs. Ray Ussery, Mrs. Worth Paden, Mrs. Fred Deislinger, Walter Coppeans, Sr., Mrs. C. H. Hartsfield, Mrs. Cecil Hellums, Miss Mary Nell Euper, Miss Marguerite Freundt, Miss Gloria Dock, Mr. Fred Cousins.

During the church's history the music program was usually handled by one of the called teachers. Mr. Hendricksen handled this until 1966, when he assumed the duties of principal. Now Mrs. Worth

Paden is the church organist, she has assisted others over the years. She is assisted by Mrs. Don Cholcher and Mr. Hendricksen."

Pastors serving First Lutheran Church:

Martin L. Wyneken	1868-1875
P. F. Germann	1876-1898
J. K. E. Horst	1898-1902
A. L. Rohlfing	1903-1906
H. W. Bartels	1907-1920
H. D. Mensing	1920-1923
Karl Kretzschmar	1924-1938
A. H. Schleef	1939-1954
Ed A. Krause	1953-1959
W. E. Griesse	1959-1978
David L. Wacker	1979-

Assistant Pastors:

H. T. Bernthal	1923-1925
J. H. Hohengarten	1933-1936
A. G. Deke	1935-1939
E. G. Meseke	1940
Carl Mehlberg	1946
Otto F. Krupski	1952-1953
Jack W. Munro	1961-1963
H. L. Bernthal	1969-1978

Vicars:

Paul Hoenk	
Robert Thoeleke	Peter Mealwitz
Darrell Schiebringer	Alvin Boehlke
Robert Hentz	Larry Memming
Dave Richie	J. P. Helton

1981 Church Officers:

President, Mr. Thomas J. Barr
 Vice-President, Mr. Howard Ludden
 Treasurer, Col. Ralph Wright
 Secretary, Mrs. Roger Chastain
 Chairman, Bd. of Finance, Mr. William Freeze
 Chairman, Bd. of Christian Education, Mr. J. M. Llewellyn, Jr.
 Chairman, Bd. of Parish Education, Mrs. Elaine McKinney
 Chairman, Bd. of Youth, Mrs. P. J. Douglas
 Chairman, Bd. of Property & Maintenance, Mr. Norbert Endl
 Chairman, Bd. of Elders, Mr. Lou Fellwock
 Choir Director: Mr. William N. Shaver III
 Organists: Mrs. Norma Cholcher, Mrs. Marilyn Edenfield, Mrs. Elaine McKinney

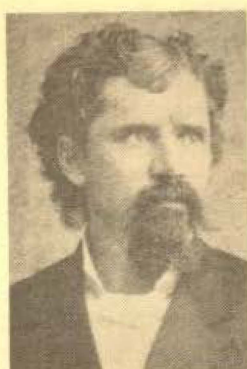
Faculty:

Principal, Mr. Allard Warneke
 Jr. High Teachers, Mr. Warneke, Mr. Harry Edenfield, Mrs. Sammie Perceful
 Intermediate Dept., Mr. James Nieting, Mr. Mark Burger, Mrs. Marilyn Edenfield, Mrs. Betty Yancey
 Primary Dept., Mrs. Lynn Jacobsen, Mrs. Norma Cholcher, Mrs. Kathy Nieting
 Resource Room, Miss Peggy Smith
 Part-Time, Mrs. Elaine McKinney (Jr. High) and Mrs. Ann Filyaw (Band)

PASTORS



Martin L. Wyneken
(1868-1875)



P. F. Germann
(1876-1898)



J. K. E. Horst
(1898-1902)



A. L. Rohlfing
(1903-1906)



H. W. Bartels
(1907-1920)



H. D. Mensing
(1920-1923)



Karl Kretzschmar
(1924-1938)



A. H. Schleef
(1939-1954)



Ed A. Krause
(1953-1959)



W. E. Griesse
(1959-1978)



David L. Wacker
(1979-)

Zwei freudige Ereignisse habe ich heute den lieben Lesern des „Lutheraner“ mitzutheilen: die Einweihung der ersten deutschen und auch der ersten evang.-lutherischen Kirche im ganzen Staat Arkansas, und die Ordination und Einführung eines zweiten evang.-lutherischen Pastors im Staat. Erstes Ereigniß fand statt in Fort Smith, Ark., letzteres in Little Rock, Ark.

Noch vor ungefähr einem Jahre war keine einzige lutherische Gemeinde, kein einziger lutherischer Pastor im ganzen Staat (überhaupt kein deutscher von irgend welcher Denomination), obgleich man schon seit Jahren davon gesprochen hatte, eine evang.-lutherische Gemeinde zu gründen. Endlich kam im Juni 1868 eine solche zu Stande, indem die deutschen Lutheraner von Fort Smith und Umgegend, gegen sechzig Familien, zusammen traten und beschloßen, einen ordentlichen, deutschen evang.-lutherischen Pastor zu berufen; Gott aber sprach seinen Segen dazu, was deutlich aus dem raschen und glücklichen Fortgang des Unternehmens ersichtlich ist. Denn schon im October desselben Jahres erhielten sie einen Prediger von St. Louis; im Januar 1869 kauften sie sechs schöne Lots, einen halben Square umfassend; am 7. März legten sie den Grundstein zu einer neuen Kirche und am 22. August wurde dieselbe eingeweiht.

schwer, und eine große „Cabinet Organ“ mit zwölf Registern begleitet den Gemeindegesang, der, nebenbei gesagt, trotz der kurzen Zeit, doch manche schon alte Gemeinde beschämen möchte.

Glocke, sowie die ganze reiche Ausschmückung des Innern, besorgten und bezahlten die Frauen in der Gemeinde.

Während dieser Zeit nun hatte sich auch in Little Rock eine Gemeinde, fast ebenso stark wie die hiesige, gebildet; und nachdem diese den Herrn Niemann, aus der theoretischen Abtheilung unseres Seminars, berufen hatte, wurde derselbe, nach ganz vorzüglichem bestandenen Examen, von mir am X. Dom. p. Trin. ordinirt und in sein Amt eingeführt. Auch in dieser Gemeinde thut sich ein herrlicher Eifer kund. Baupläne sind schon angekauft und der Kirchbau soll unverzüglich in Angriff genommen werden.

Möge der Herr nun dem lieben Niemann rechte Liebe, rechte Weisheit, rechte Kraft und handhaften Muth geben zur Führung seines schwierigen Amtes, damit die Gemeinde nicht nur äußerlich sich aufbaue, sondern auch innerlich sich erbauen lasse auf den Grund ihres allerheiligsten Glaubens, auf den Grund der Apostel und Propheten,

eines schlechten Rufes; aber ich kann versichern diese Berichte sind nichts als Verleumdungen, wir die Leute wohnen hier ebenso sicher und gut wie in civilisirten Massachusetts. In den Städten findet man eine ebenso gebildete Gesellschaft, wie irgendwo anders. Verbrechen kommen nicht häufig vor, wie in irgend einem anderen Staate, ja, nie so häufig; hier in Fort Smith wenigstens haben wir die ganze Nacht Thür und Fenster sperrt

Obiges habe ich nicht gerade geschrieben, um Leute zu überreden, hierher zu kommen; denn ich will nicht verantwortlich sein, wenn Einer käme und fände es nicht so, wie er es sich ausgemalt hat; sondern ich wollte nur der allgemeinen verbreiteten Ansicht von Arkansas widersprechen und denen, die vielleicht daran gedacht haben, hierher zu kommen, alle Bedenken wegzunehmen. Wer kommen will, ist herzlich willkommen.

Martin L. Wyneken.

Adresse: Rev. Martin L. Wyneken,
[Box 39.] Fort Smith, Ark.

Adresse des Hrn. Past. Niemann:
Rev. H. Niemann,
[Box 146.] Little Rock, Ark.

Beginning and end of article as published in German in *Der Lutheraner*.

REV. MARTIN L. WYNEKEN DESCRIBES FOUNDING OF LUTHERANISM IN ARKANSAS

The following article written by the Rev. Martin L. Wyneken, first pastor of the First Lutheran Church in Fort Smith, was published in German in *Der Lutheraner* (The Lutheran), September 15, 1869. See portion reproduced above. This publication

was printed in St. Louis, Missouri.

For the convenience of readers of *The Journal*, this article has been carefully translated into English by Irene Barr and Else Langston.

DEDICATION AND ORDINATION IN ARKANSAS

Today I have two happy events to share with the dear readers of *The Lutheran*: The dedication of the first German, and also the first Evangelical Lutheran Church in the entire state of Arkansas, and the ordination and installation of the second Evangelical Lutheran pastor in the state. The first event took place in Fort Smith, the second in Little Rock, Arkansas.

About a year ago there was no Lutheran congregation, not even a single Lutheran pastor in the entire state, (in fact, no German pastor of any denomination) although the establishing of a congregation had been discussed for years.

At last in June, 1868, one came into being, when

the German Lutherans in Fort Smith and vicinity -- about sixty families -- met and decided to call a sound German Evangelical Lutheran pastor. It is clearly evident from the swift and successful progress of this undertaking that it had the blessing of God. As early as October of the same year they received a pastor from Saint Louis. In January, 1869, they purchased six good lots, comprising one-half block. On March 7th, they laid the cornerstone of a new church, and on August 22nd, it was dedicated.

All of this occurred in one year. In spite of the grave consequences of the war, which has hit the Fort Smith citizens especially hard, in spite of "hard times", in spite of the scarcity of money, our dear

Lord God permitted no scarcity in their pockets, but gave to them richly, and, what is more important, also made their hearts and hands happy and ready to give again.

With what rejoicing and gladness we moved into our new house of God! One can well understand, considering these extraordinary blessings of God, that even old grayhaired men could not stop their tears of thankfulness, especially when they had experienced what it was like not to be able to enter a church of their own for twenty to twenty-five years, as was the case with many here.

The dedication took place on the 13th Sunday after Trinity, August 22nd, and since none of the invited pastors could be present because of the distance, I had to undertake it alone. In the morning I preached in German on the gospel for a dedication, and in the afternoon in English on Ephesians 4:20. Both times the church was crowded, but especially in the afternoon when many Americans took part in the service.

The church itself is the most beautiful in Fort Smith, simple yet stylish and elegant. Most appropriate is the expression which an American used when he told me, "Your church looks so chaste", which is just the way a church should look. A magnificent gilded cross adorns the steeple, truly a thorn in the eyes of the Catholics who reserve this privilege for themselves. A beautiful 600 pound bell hangs in the steeple, and a large "cabinet organ" with twelve registers accompanies the congregational singing, which, incidentally, despite this short span of time, might already put many an older congregation to shame. The bell as well as the rich interior decorations were provided and paid for by the ladies of the congregation.

During this time a congregation was formed in Little Rock, almost as large as this one. After they had called Mr. H. Niemann from the seminary, he, after intensive examination, was ordained by me on the 10th Sunday after Trinity, and installed into his office.

A splendid zeal is also demonstrated in this congregation. A building site has already been purchased, and the construction of the church should begin soon. Now may the Lord give to dear Niemann the genuine love, wisdom, strength and steadfast courage for the fulfilling of his difficult office, so that the congregation not only grows outwardly, but also allows itself to be built up spiritually on the foundation of its most holy faith, which is founded on the apostles and prophets, and whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

For the present the Lutheran Church here will be at a standstill in the outer communities for the simple reason that the only two places in the state where Germans live in larger numbers now have a church. One may certainly find a few families here

and there, but nowhere an entire settlement. But while up to now we are the only German church in the state, so do we have the best opportunity, as soon as German immigration turns to Arkansas, to establish a Lutheran Church among them. This time we are a step ahead of other denominations.

There is very little doubt but that the German immigration will turn to this area in the near future. First of all, several railroads are being built which will connect us with other parts of the nation in less than two years. The climate in the north and central part of Arkansas is very healthful, and the winters are mild. The soil for the most part is very fertile, and is still cheap. The northern counties are well suited for growing fruit and wheat, while here cotton and corn are raised. According to repeated geological reports, our state is richer in minerals than most others. Building stone, slate, coal, lead, iron, zinc, copper, et cetera, are found in large quantities, and waiting to be mined. Yes, even gold and silver can be found. We still have very little manufacturing, although it would certainly thrive here.

As to our political and social standing, we have a "bad press" in the north, following false reports in the northern newspapers, but I can vouch for the fact that these reports are nothing but slander, and the people live here just as safe and well as in civilized Massachusetts. In the cities one finds just as refined and educated a society as anywhere else. Crime is no more frequent than in some other states, probably less. Here in Fort Smith, at least, we leave the doors and windows unlocked at night, and not even a nickel's worth is stolen.

Our redskinned neighbors are also very peaceable people, not as wild as their brothers in the northwest, for they have long since been converted to Christianity, and the greater part of them are just as civilized as most of the Americans.

One does not even to fear our "white Indians", who are at present playing a little in politics. One has nothing to fear from them either. We think of them in terms of "great boast, small roast". They are completely harmless but strive to be important.

I have not written the above to persuade people to come here, for I do not want to be responsible if some came and did not find it as they expected. However, I merely want to correct the general wrong impression of Arkansas to those who perhaps had thought about coming here, and to remove their misgivings. All who want to come will be welcome.

Martin L. Wyneken

Address: Rev. Martin L. Wyneken
Box 39
Fort Smith, Arkansas

Translated by Irene V. Barr and Else Langston
January, 1981

By Mary Nell Euper³

A sepia-toned studio portrait of an elderly couple. The man is seated on the left, wearing a dark suit and a white beard. The woman stands to his right, wearing a dark, high-collared dress and has her hand on his shoulder. The background is a plain, light-colored studio backdrop.

built a home on the corner of North 5th and D Streets. (This house was restored in 1973 by Sue Ross Cross and Randall Ross Viguet.) A second son, John, was born in Fort Smith on May 4, 1851.

After Katherine's death, Casper married John Beckel's daughter Caroline (born March 29, 1834 in Hesse Darmstadt to John's first wife, Anna Katharine Kromm,) and to this union three children were born: Elizabeth, born October 3, 1854, married Charles Bracht April 6, 1877; Charles, born February 16, 1857, married Mary Fuhrman March 29, 1883; and Anna Maria Bertha, born June 5, 1872, married George Kirschke (Lutheran minister) July 26, 1892. Of the two sons by his first marriage, Henry

[illegible]

On January 14, 1821, Casper Reutzel was born to Sophia, wife of John Reutzel, in Gelnhaar, a small village northeast of Frankfurt in Hesse Darmstadt. Little of his life in Germany is known except that he received training in the German military and he married Katherine Jaguer, who, on November 23, 1846, bore a son, Henry.

Casper emigrated to America in 1848, and before coming to Fort Smith, then a raw frontier village of well under a thousand souls, spent nearly a year working on the Erie Canal which was being built in the State of New York.

He was perhaps drawn to Fort Smith by stories written back to Germany by the brothers John and Henry Beckel, who had emigrated from the same area in 1834, and had settled in Fort Smith in 1840. By 1847 they were established merchants and were active in civic and political life in the village, Henry running for Mayor in that year.

Under the guidance of the Beckel brothers, Casper soon became established in business and

[illegible]

³ Mary Nell Euper, Historical Committee, First Lutheran Church, Fort Smith, AR.

never married; John married Lillie Compagnion November 4, 1874.

On August 20, 1854, Casper became a naturalized American citizen, renouncing his allegiance to the Grand Duke of Hessen Darmstadt. His citizenship was certified by John Carnall, Clerk of the Circuit Court in Fort Smith.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

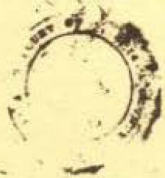
TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, SEND GREETING.

WHEREAS at a term of the Circuit Court, begun and held at Reynolds on the thirtieth day of July 1854 within and for the county of Sebastian, and state of Arkansas, an Alien, and Native of Germany, and a subject of the Duke of Hessen Darmstadt personally came before the judge of said Court, on the twentieth day of August 1854, and made application to be naturalized under the laws of the United States; and it appearing by sufficient testimony, to the satisfaction of said Court, that he, the said Casper Reutzel, had made declaration of his intention to become a Citizen of the United States, in due form of law, at least two years before making his said application; that he had been a resident of the United States, for at least five years then last past, and of the said state of Arkansas, for at least one year, then last past; and also, that during that time, he had behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same; whereupon, by order of the said Court, an oath of allegiance was administered in due form of law, to the said Casper Reutzel, in open Court, that he will support the Constitution of the United States, and that he absolutely and entirely renounced and abjured all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State, or sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to the Grand Duke of Hessen Darmstadt in Germany whose subject he was; and thereupon it was Ordered by the said Court, that a certificate of Naturalization be granted to the said Casper Reutzel, in such case, made and provided according to the form of the Statute of the United States, in such case, made and provided, which he does promiss, is done accordingly. Therefore the said Casper Reutzel

IS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I John Carnall Clerk of said Circuit Court, do hereby subscribe my name, and affix the seal of said Court, on the twentieth day of August in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty four, and of the Independence of the United States, the 7th year.

Clerk.



Casper Reutzel's Naturalization Papers

The dark clouds of the Civil War swirled over the countryside, and on May 6, 1861, the Arkansas Convention voted to secede from the Union. Casper cast his lot with the South.

Quoting an undated obituary, "An old timer says that it was a familiar sight during the early days of the war to see 'Father Larry' Smythe take his morning walk down the avenue to Reutzel's store and there discuss the news with Casper Reutzel and John Beckel. Others would drop in there during the day and before night everything pertaining to the movements of the federal army was on the way to the Confederate soldiers." He also bought supplies with gold and sold them at cost to the Southern forces for Confederate currency.

He served in Company B, 51st Arkansas Militia, Provisional Army of Arkansas (Confederate) in 1862. On September 3, 1863, the Union Army, under the leadership of General James G. Blunt, took Fort Smith from a small Confederate force commanded by W. L. Cabell, who retreated to Backbone Mountain. On December 28, 1863, Casper Reutzel signed on Oath of Allegiance, promising to uphold the Constitution and government of the United States, but his sympathies still lay with the Southern cause. At the close of the war he was penniless, and had to begin to establish himself again.

Oath of Allegiance.

Casper Reutzel of the County of Sebastian State of Arkansas do solemnly swear that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States against all enemies, whether domestic or foreign; that I will bear true faith, allegiance, and loyalty to the same, any ordinance, resolution or law of any State Convention or Legislature to the contrary notwithstanding; and further, that I will honestly and faithfully perform all the duties which may be required of me by the laws of the United States. And I take this oath freely and voluntarily, without any mental reservation or evasion whatsoever, with a full and clear understanding that death, or other punishment by the judgment of a military commission, will be the penalty for the violation of this my solemn oath and parole of honor. And I also swear that under no consideration will I go beyond the military lines of the United States forces.

CERTIFICATE:
Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 28 day of December, 1863.

E. A. Baltz
Magt Dist. Arkansas

SAFEGUARD.

And this Oath, taken and subscribed by the aforesaid, shall be his safeguard, unless violated in any of its obligations.

E. A. Baltz
Magt Dist. Arkansas

Casper Reutzel Oath of Allegiance to United States of America, 28 December, 1863.

He was a charter member of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church when it was founded June 7th, 1868, and was one of the first elders elected October 16, 1868. His son John was a member of the first class confirmed on August 29, 1869. He was a hospitable, generous man. The 1870 census of Fort Smith shows the first pastor of the newly organized church, Martin L. Wyneken, then age 25, living in Casper's home.

"Gushen" (Augusta Caroline Bettie Harder) Roedenbeck remembers attending the little frame church which faced on North D Street, between Eleventh and Twelfth, built in 1869, which was still in use when she was a young girl. There were short sections of pews on either side of the church, separated from a larger central section of pews by two aisles. Directly down the center of the church was a partition at pew height which divided the central section of pews into two parts. The men sat on one side of the partition and the women on the other. Casper Reutzel walked down the aisles, passing the "klingelbeutel," a red velvet pouch with a tassel on the bottom, mounted on a pole. The parishioners would drop their coins into the bag, giving it the name "klingelbeutel" or "tinkle-pouch."

Johanna Ruge recalls being told that Casper Reutzel met her grandparents, John and Marie

Kaase, at the wharf on the Arkansas River in a spring wagon when they arrived about 1877 from Cleveland, Ohio (earlier from Germany), with their five children: Henry, Mary (married Charley Kayser), Anna (married Max Westphal), Emma (married E. H. Ruge), and Fred. He helped them get established at a fruit and berry farm where Hardscrabble Country Club is now.

In 1881 he sponsored another German immigrant family from Gelnhaar, Hesse Darmstadt: Henry Mehmel, his wife Margaret, his stepson Henry Dick (father of Arthur Henry Dick), his stepdaughter Caroline Dick (Grimm), his children Charles Mehmel, Elizabeth Mehmel (Geiger), Augusta Mehmel (Holder), Ernest Mehmel (father of Francis Mehmel and Pauline Mehmel (Corrotto), and "Grossmutter" Catharina Dick (his wife's mother-in-law from his first marriage).

The *New Era* of May 4, 1882, carried an advertisement: "Go to CASPER REUTZEL, No. 28 Garrison Ave., who has REMODELED HIS STORE ROOMS! Where he can be found prepared to fill all demands for choice GROCERIES, game, also DRY GOODS & GENERAL MERCHANDISE. Call and see him."

Casper was president of the congregation when G. O. Hennig came from Rose Hill, Texas, to teach at

the Lutheran School in November, 1883. For \$10.00 per month he rented to Mr. Hennig a house on North Fourth Street, "three large rooms with a kitchen, a front and back porch. . . Compared to our Texas home, it looked more like a little palace," Mr. Hennig recalled in his memoirs. Mr. Reutzel also loaned him \$90.00 with which to furnish the house.

It was largely through Casper Reutzel's efforts that the present Lutheran Church in Fort Smith was built, although he never lived to see it. At the time of his death on August 19, 1901, plans had been drawn for the building by Blakely and Hoffman, architects, to cost about \$20,000, and over half of the money had been raised for the construction. Casper's widow, Caroline Beckel Reutzel, saw the dedication of the church on May 15, 1904. She died June 15, 1905.

Casper's obituary in the Fort Smith Elevator, August 23, 1901, stated: "Everybody in Fort Smith knew and respected him as a just, upright, honorable, consistent man of unblemished integrity. . . There was no man in the city of a more

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received in

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Garrison Avenue, FORT SMITH, ARK.
GO TO
Casper Reutzel,
NO. 28 GARRISON AVE.
Who Has
REMODELED HIS STORE ROOMS!
Where to see he is best prepared to fill all demands for choice
GROCERIES
GAME, ALSO
DRY GOODS & GENERAL MERCHANDISE.
Call and see him.
A Year's Reading
FOR ONE DOLLAR.
THE
New York Weekly World
New printed, new type, new building,
new apparatus, and new life in
every department.
\$1.00 A YEAR, PREPAID. FIFTY
CENTS PER SIX MONTHS.
A COMPLETE FAMILY PA-

In Loving Remembrance

Casper Reutzel,
Died Aug. 19, 1901.
Age 79 years.

Gone but not forgotten

"T is hard to break the tender cord
When love has bound the heart;
T is hard, so hard, to speak the words,
"We must forever part."
Dearest loved one, we must lay thee
In the peaceful grave's embrace,
But thy memory will be cherished
Till we see thy heavenly face.



Death Card of Casper Reutzel.

charitable disposition to the poor, needy and suffering, and none worthy were ever turned away empty-handed from his door."

The Crucifixion window in First Lutheran Church is dedicated to his memory.

Known living descendants of Casper Reutzel include:

Great grandchildren: Charles Victor Bracht, Galveston, Texas; Doris K. Jenkins, North Little Rock, Arkansas; Lorena Long (Mrs. John

Hohengarten), Downey, California; William L. Long, Downey, California; Betty Louise Reutzel (Mrs. Ted Fellingner), Farmington, Arkansas; Charles Reutzel (married Elizabeth Peninger), Fort Smith, Arkansas; Mary Frances Reutzel (Mrs. Reedy Buzbee), Fort Smith, Arkansas; Doris Spoor (Mrs. George Weigand), Orange, California; Mary Louise Spoor (Mrs. Fred Schwinn), Earlton, New York; Ruby Spoor (Mrs. Lorenz Kruckenberg), Orange, California; William Leroy Spoor, Orange, California. Great great grandchildren: Bettie Jane Jones, Houston, Texas; Carl Long, Jr., Plano, Texas; Gary Long, Santa Ana, California; Richard Long, Atlanta, Georgia; Sharon Long, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

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Fort Smith Herald, Fort Smith, Crawford, AR, 5 Jan. 1848

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City Clerk's Records, Fort Smith, Seb., AR

Confederate Records, Arkansas History Commission, Little Rock, AR

The New Era, Fort Smith, Seb., AR, 4 May 1882

Fort Smith Elevator, Fort Smith, Seb., AR, 23 August 1901

Fort Smith Elevator, Fort Smith, Seb., AR, 23 June 1905

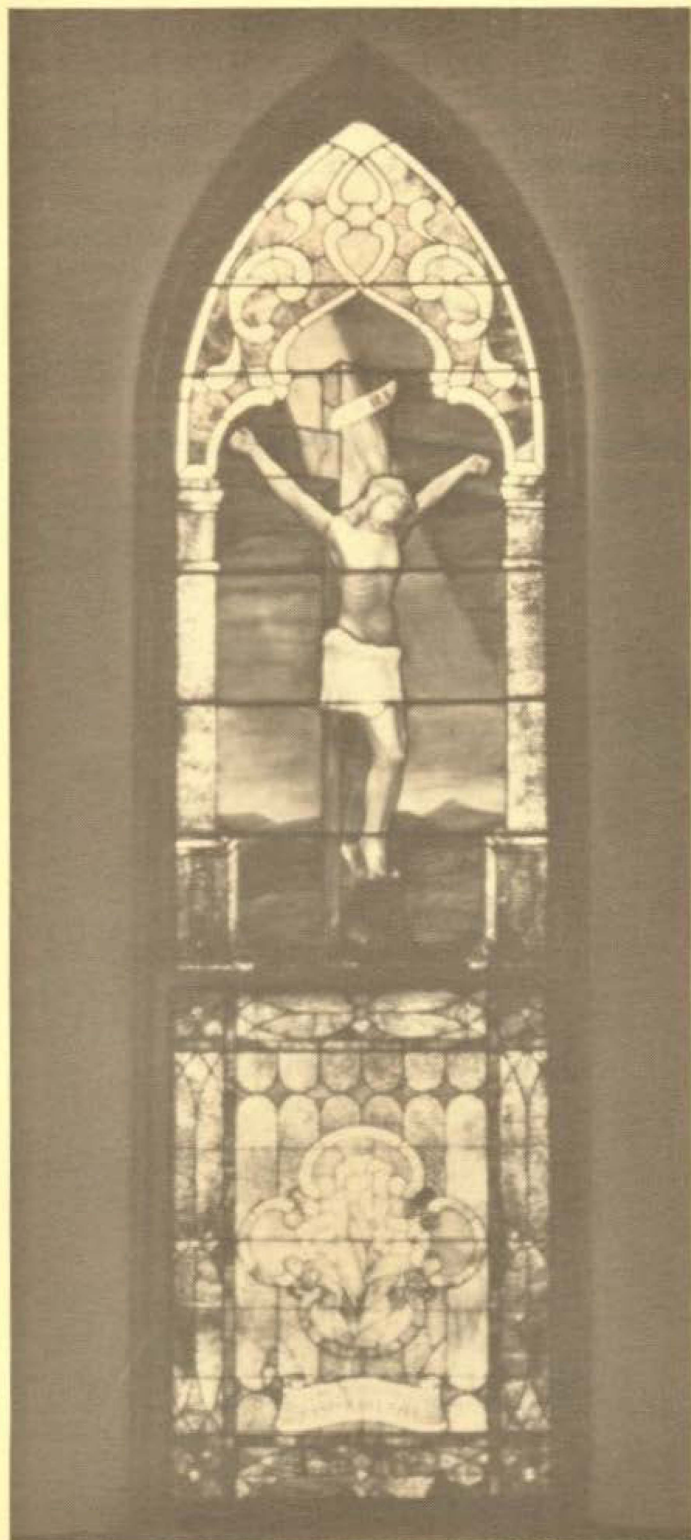
Fort Smith Van Buren Vignettes and Visions
Memoirs G. O. Hennig

Interviews with Johanna Ruge, Arthur Henry Dick, C. Victor Bracht, and "Gushen" (Augusta Caroline Bettie Harder) Roedenbeck

Naturalization Certificate, Casper Reutzel, 20 August 1854

Oath of Allegiance, Casper Reutzel, 28 December 1863

Undated Obituary of Casper Reutzel



Casper Reutzel Memorial Window.
Photo by Riggs Studio.

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Saturday and Sunday, April 25 & 26
2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Adults \$2.00 Children \$1.00

Tickets Available at:

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514 North 6th Street, Fort Smith, AR

Also at

Fort Smith Art Center, 423 N. 6th Street
Chamber of Commerce, 613 Garrison Ave.

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First Lutheran Church and
Fort Smith Streetcar Included in Tour.

S. A. WILLIAMS

by Mary Nell Euper

One day in 1949 when First Lutheran Church was being renovated, Rosalie Schmieding Platt and her father, Conrad Schmieding, were poking around in the basement of the church. There, among rubble and plaster, they found a quadruple-plate silver water flagon, broken and black with tarnish. When assembled, it was suspended in a swinging stand, and atop the lid was the figure of a horse. Mr. Schmieding recalled that it had been used as an early communion flagon in the church. It had been donated to the church for this use by his neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Williams, early in the history of the congregation, when there was not enough money to buy communionware. It was used in the little frame church which faced North D Street, built in 1869. Mr. Schmieding took the flagon home and lovingly polished it, bringing it back to the beauty that he remembered from many years before.

Who was Samuel Andrew Williams? It was certainly an unlikely name to be found on the roster of a church founded by sturdy German immigrants who spoke in heavily accented English, and whose church services were primarily held in German. He was born in Charleston, South Carolina, January 24, 1841. His grandfather, Charles Williams, was of Scottish descent, but was born in Hamburg, Germany, and was a Lutheran. He and his family emigrated from Germany to South Carolina about 1789. He fought in the War of 1812. His son Andrew (Samuel's father) was born in 1799. When he was about twenty-five years of age, Andrew traveled to Hamburg, and while there he married. He returned to Charleston, South Carolina, where he practiced his trade of merchant tailor.

When Samuel was about ten years of age, he voyaged with his uncle, John H. Williams (a shipowner) to Brazil, and to California during the

gold rush. When he was fourteen, his uncle was killed in an accident. Samuel made his way on foot to Sacramento, 170 miles away, working at what he could find to earn his way, and by night continuing the education which his uncle had begun with him.

In 1860 he went to Virginia City, Nevada, where he worked as a bookkeeper. After the outbreak of the war in 1862, he joined the Second California Volunteer Cavalry as it passed through Virginia City on the way to Salt Lake City. He served for four years, but never got further east than Fort Lairamie, the entire time of his service being spent in fighting the Plains Indians. He came to Fort Smith in January, 1869.

On September 12, 1871, he was married by Pastor M. L. Wyneken to Pauline Geiger. They were the tenth couple to be married in the recently organized Lutheran Church. Pauline was a native-born Fort Smithian, having been born January 25, 1853, to William Geiger and his wife Euphrosine. Pauline and Samuel were blessed with ten children, all of whom were baptized in the little frame church on North D Street.

Mr. Williams served as Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court and the U. S. Court. He was elected major of Fort Smith in 1887. He was active in many businesses, including the Fort Smith Evaporating Company, the Fort Smith Canning Company and several building and loan associations.

On March 26th, 1897, Pauline Geiger Williams died. S. A. Williams served as chairman of the building committee when the present church was constructed in 1902-04. In his beloved wife's memory he donated the Good Shepherd window on the west wall of the church.

Samuel A. Williams died in Fort Smith March 21, 1922. He was survived by seven of his children: Mrs. Henry Bollinger of Fort Smith; Mrs. R. H. Smolinski of Elkhart, Indiana; Benjamin Carl Williams of Seattle, Washington; Elias John and A. M. Williams of Los Angeles, California; Oscar Williams of Birmingham; and Arthur H. Williams of Beaumont.

One of the children of this union, Anna Paulina Euphrosina Williams, married Henry Bollinger on October 20, 1898. Upon her death January 29, 1957, she left her entire estate of approximately \$100,000 in trust, the income to be used solely for the benefit of First Lutheran School, blessing and enriching the lives of hundreds of students from that time to the present.

The silver-plated flagon, rediscovered in 1949, was greatly admired by Henrietta Moore Johnson. She purchased it from the congregation and the

[illegible]

money was used to purchase a new silver communion flagon marked in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Moore. Upon her death March 3rd, 1979, she willed the old flagon back to the church.

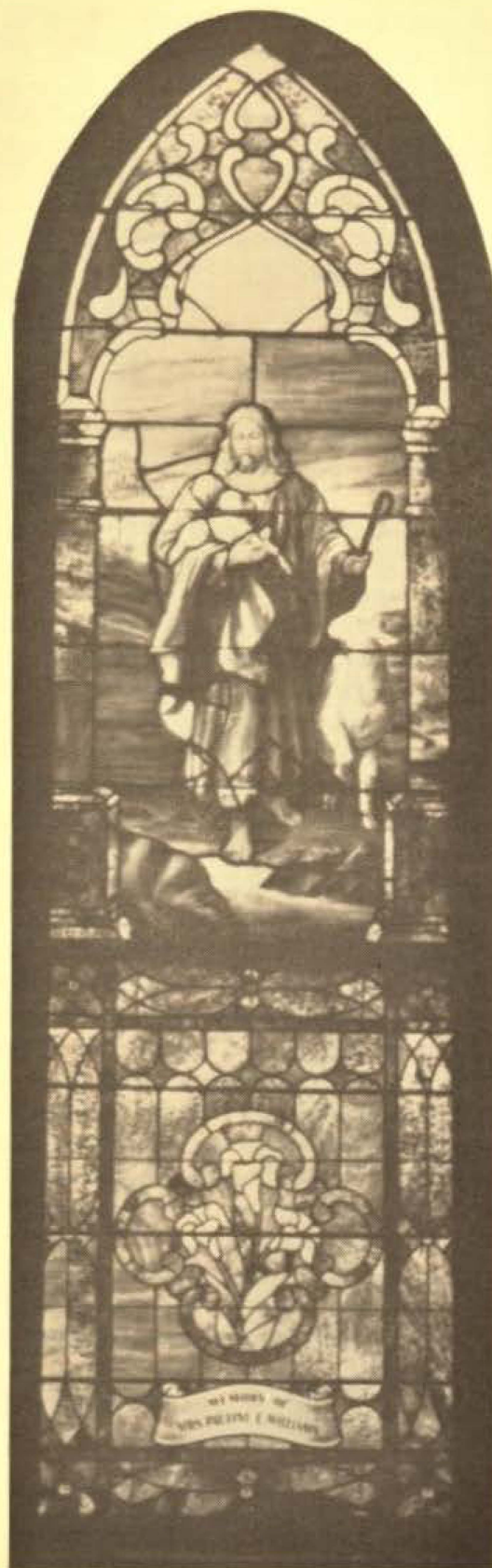
Nicholas Kelly, chairman of the Historical Committee, had the flagon expertly repaired and resilvered, using \$267.80 in funds from the William R. Kelly Memorial Fund. It has recently been appraised at \$1,500.00. It is anticipated that it will be used for serving at congregational "state occasions."



Flagon donated to First Lutheran Church by Mr. & Mrs. S. A. Williams

Sources of information:

Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas, pages 1377-78
Undated obituary of Mrs. S. A. Williams from Ruge Scrapbook
1900 Census, Arkansas, Sebastian County, Upper Township,
Fort Smith



Pauline Williams Memorial Window.
Photo by Riggs Studio.

City Clerk's records, Fort Smith, Seb., AR
Tauf, Trau and Todten Registers, First Lutheran Church,
Fort Smith, Seb., AR
Fort Smith Elevator, Fort Smith, Seb., AR, 2 April 1897
Southwest American, Fort Smith, Seb., AR, 22 March 1922

FORT SMITH ARCHITECTURE

Two Examples of the German Influence

By David Helton¹

Two of Fort Smith's oldest structures exhibit characteristic German construction techniques reminiscent of the old country. Utilizing native materials and frontier craftsmanship, the Joseph Knoble Brewery and the Casper Reutzel House are today graphic evidence of the important contribution of the hardy German settlers to the establishment and growth of Fort Smith. Architecturally they constitute a unique heritage.

The Joseph Knoble Brewery was built about 1848 on the corner of North Third and E Street by Joseph Knoble, a native of Wittenberg, Germany. The Knoble homestead was located on the same property and until some years ago the original foundation of the house, which was of similar construction techniques, was visible. The brewery itself, consists of a three-story structure of thick rough hewn native stone walls constructed on a hillside in typical German fashion, thus the first story of the building is earth-sheltered on the south and east elevations. On the first floor, the window and door openings are of segmentally arched native stone, while the upper floors have flat stone linels. Originally the windows were covered with movable board shutters. In many such German structures in

America, the windows were sheltered with shingled awnings or hoods known as "outlookers", though no evidence exists to suggest this was the case with the brewery.

Internally, the brewery was organized in accordance with its function. The third floor, which is approached by an outside stairway from the second floor outdoor beer garden, served as the brewing floor of the plant. A portion of this area was used as the malting floor, where the barley was sprouted and then dried prior to its conversion to mash. In an adjacent area this mash was united with hops and placed in a brewing kettle. Later yeast was added and the fermentation process commenced. Within 70 to 80 hours the beer was ready for kegging. The second floor, below the brewing floor, was the kegging room, which was so ingeniously arranged that opening a valve permitted the beer to flow from the kettle on the third floor directly into the kegs on the second. The kegs were then stored in the coolness of the vault on the first floor to stop the fermentation process.

To the east of the second floor, which is itself a ground floor due to the hillside, was the summer beer garden. The first floor of the brewery is an inside beer garden, which may be entered by a door beside the stair leading to the summer beer garden or by an inside stairway from the second floor. Connected to the tap room by a long passageway is the beer vault and ice storage. In the early days of Fort Smith, the only source of ice was that cut from the frozen Arkansas River in winter and stored in the deep cavity of this hillside and similar cellars. The beer vault of the Knoble Brewery has a flagging floor which permitted the ice as it melted to drain into the sand beneath the floor. With its heavy vaulting and masterful stonework, the beer vault is the most thoroughly Germanic and old world structure in Fort Smith.

The Joseph Knoble Brewery was restored by the Carl H. Wortz, Jr. Family and has been lovingly maintained by the same family for more than twenty years.



Joseph Knoble Brewery.

Photograph courtesy Fort Smith Heritage Foundation.

¹ David Helton is Executive Director of the Fort Smith Heritage Foundation, Inc.



Casper Reutzel House.
Photograph courtesy Fort Smith Heritage Foundation

The Casper Reutzel House was constructed about 1850 by Casper Reutzel at the corner of North Fifth and D Streets and is contemporary with the Knoble Brewery. Mr. Reutzel was a native of Dormstadt, Germany and owned the largest cotton shipping firm on the Arkansas River during this period. The house itself is a mixture of Upper Mississippi Valley French Cottage and Germanic elements. It is completely unique in Western Arkansas. The one-story structure with full attic is a

modified raised cottage constructed *poteaux-sur-solle* (posts-on-foundation) in which logs were hewn flat on all sides and set into a hewn log sill. The spaces between were filled in this case with brick and lime mortar. The exterior was then plastered. The photograph above, taken during restoration, clearly reveals the superstructure. The roofline of the Reutzel House is equally reminiscent of its French cottage origin and reveals a modified bonnet at the front porch. These architectural features are more prevalent in the older French and German settlements of Missouri and extremely rare in Arkansas.

The full cellar beneath the house contains gun ports which were used to fend off renegade Indian attacks and recalls the earliest frontier days of Fort Smith. The interior of the house contains stenciling which is typical of early German residences in America.

On the grounds of the Reutzel house, now incorporated into a later residence, is the old ice house and cistern water supply of rough hewn stone and similar in construction to the Knoble Brewery.

The Casper Reutzel House was authentically restored in 1973 by Sue R. Cross and Randall R. Viquet.

References:

Julie E. Yadon, Sue R. Cross, Randall R. Viquet. *Reflections of Fort Smith*, 1976

Carl H. Wortz, Jr. *Joseph Knoble's Brewery*, undated

Mary N. Euper. "A Closer Look into Our Past," *First Lutheran Newsletter*, October 1980.

FORT SMITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

PICTORIAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Fort Smith Public Library has launched a project to collect and catalog photographs from historical Fort Smith.

Some 550 pictures, slides, postcards, etc. already in library collections are being copied for this project, and Thelma Wray, librarian, is asking residents to loan old photos and postcards for copying.

All material loaned for this purpose will be handled carefully and returned to the owner; but this way they will be preserved permanently for the public, as well as in private collections.

An 8x10 copy of each of these pictures will be filed for use by the public and a 4x5 negative kept on file from which additional copies may be made.

Eventually, historical slide presentations will be developed from the photographs in the collection.

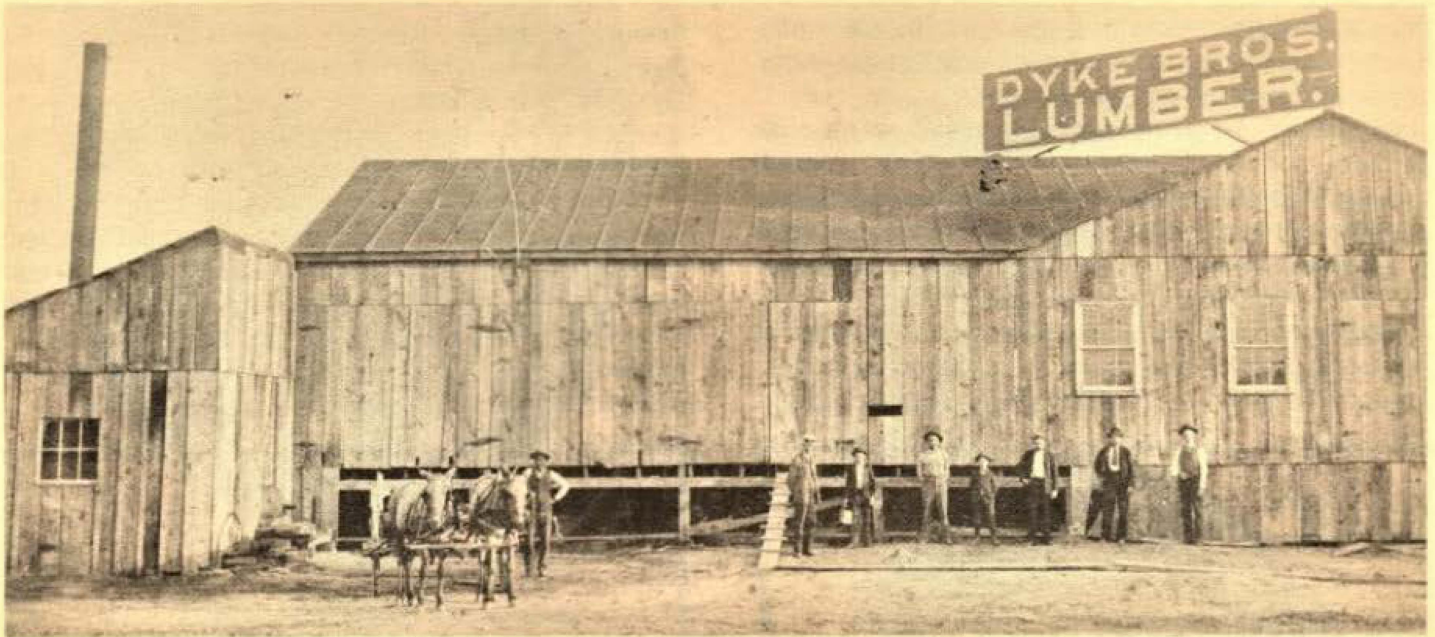
A grant from the W. T. and May P. Hennessy Foundation is being used to buy supplies and materials for the project. Free-lance photographer Arlie Metheny is donating his time to copy the pictures.

INDUSTRY

DYKE BROS. LUMBER COMPANY

DYKE - MILLER - PARKE FAMILIES

By: Amelia Martin



Fort Smith Mill, 1891

Back in 1870, when M. T. Dyke, Sr. and his brother, Nathaniel Dyke, came to the Arkansas River Valley from Indiana, the War Between the States had only been over for five years.

These two sons of Nathaniel Dyke and Martha Emily Trester of Aurora, Indiana, saw the opportunities in Arkansas for growth and expansion in the lumber and millwork business, and established with their uncle, J. G. Miller, a saw mill at Piney, Arkansas, about sixty miles down the Arkansas River from Fort Smith, where Piney Creek emptied into the Arkansas.

They named the company *J. G. Miller and Dyke*, and continued in business at Piney until 1879, when they moved the mill and lumber yard to Fort Smith.



Store on Garrison Avenue 1879

The store was first located on Garrison Avenue between Tenth Street and Towson Avenue, where the New Theater now stands, and the mill was located at the present site, South 9th and D Streets in 1889.

Now a part of the Western Division of Dyke Industries, Inc., Dyke Bros. is one of the very few building material wholesalers, manufacturers, and distributors who have been in existence under the same ownership and management for over 110 years.

When J. G. Miller retired in 1891 the firm name became *Dyke Bros.*

Expansion was rapid. Special woodworking equipment was installed to manufacture sash, doors, windows, blinds, frames, mouldings, siding, flooring, ceilings, pickets, lath and trim.

A glass and glazing operation was set up to glaze the sash, windows and doors manufactured in the mill. A putty plant was also set up.

The registered trademark, *Dyke-Bilt*, soon became the standard for the highest quality millwork, which was stamped with the trademark.

This was a "First" of a number of Dyke "firsts" in new creation and design that have aided and added to the expansion of the millwork industry.

Others were: the complete manufacture of wood window units ready to set in the framed opening; the

development, manufacture and assembly of ready hung adjustable-jam door units; and the assembly of bifold and pocket door units. Dyke Bros. was the first to promote and distribute asphalt roofing and dry-wall board, as well as a number of other newly created building material items to provide the trade with the very latest in building material products.

Dyke Bros. pioneered to help lumber dealers with their pricing problems by publishing a constantly brought up to date catalog with suggested selling prices and the dealer's cost in code.

In recent years, new offices, metal warehouse building and a number of "tree-type" lumber storage facilities have been constructed. These were needed to provide increased services for the customers of the expanded line of buiding materials which the Fort Smith unit carries now.

Nathaniel Dyke, Sr., retired from the business in 1911 and the company was reorganized with M. T. Dyke, Sr. and his three sons, Nathaniel Dyke,

Francis (Frank) W. Dyke, and Martin T. Dyke, Jr. forming the partnership. Mr. Dyke remained actively at the head of the business until about three years before his death, when he retired because of ill health, and management passed into the hands of his three sons, with the firm name unchanged.

The General Office was moved to Little Rock in 1947. Upon the death of Nathaniel Dyke in 1962, Francis W. Dyke acquired the firm. In 1970, James T. Dyke purchased the firm from his father, Francis W. Dyke. In 1973, when all of the Dyke Companies were merged to form Dyke Industries, Inc., Dyke Bros. became a part of the Western Division.

The continued success of Dyke Bros. for 111 years is a tribute to its founders, Martin Trester Dyke, Nathaniel Dyke and J. G. Miller, so it seems very appropriate to conclude this history with a brief biography of each of them. To these has been added the biography of Capt. Frank Parke, an early settler of Fort Smith and father-in-law of M. T. Dyke.¹

M. T. DYKE.
N. DYKE.

PRICE CURRENT

1889.

DYKE BROS.

MANUFACTURERS OF

: : Lumber, : :

Sash, Doors, Blinds,

: : Paints, Oils, Etc. : :

MOULDINGS,

NEWELS, STAIR WORK, ETC.

Office and Salesroom, 821 GARRISON AVENUE.

Wareroom 9 NORTH NINTH STREET.

Planing Mill and Yard, CABELL, PARK and CABEL STS.

FORT SMITH, ARK.

TO THE TRADE.

In presenting our new Price Current for 1889, we desire to call attention to the general revision of prices, as well as to the addition of many new styles of Doors, some of which have never been listed before.

Having added to and improved our facilities for manufacturing, we are better than ever able to meet promptly the demands of our large and rapidly increasing trade, and by personal attention to all the details of our business, secure prompt attention and quick shipments to all orders intrusted to our care.

We will continue to make a *Specialty* of all kinds of *Odd and Special Work*, including Mouldings and interior Finish of every description, for which our facilities are unsurpassed.

Our stock of *Regular Sizes* is at all times large, and contains a complete assortment, enabling us to make immediate shipments of such orders.

Estimates, Price Lists, Moulding Books, or any information in our line furnished on application.

Yours truly,

DYKE BROS.

Fort Smith, Ark., Jan. 9, '89.

Statement of Company Policy and covers from 1889 Dyke Bros. Catalog and Price List.

¹ A more detailed and expanded history of these families and the related John Ish family has been placed in the DYKE Family File, Arkansas Room, Fort Smith Public Library.



MARTIN TRESTER DYKE 1856-1932

Martin Trester Dyke was born December 8, 1856 at Aurora, Indiana, one of five children born to Nathaniel Dyke and Emily Martha Trester, and died in Fort Smith, Arkansas, August, 1932.

He was married in Fort Smith, November 13, 1883, to Miss Myrtle McCullough Parke, who was born October 24, 1859, and died July, 1937. They were the parents of eight children: Mary Trester Dyke, 1884-1921; Myrtle Parke Dyke, 1887-1957; Natalie Dyke, 1888-1911; Nathaniel Dyke, Jr., 1891-1962; Francis Willard Dyke, 1893-1973, married Virginia Lee Benton, Dec. 11, 1924 in Little Rock, Ark.; Elaine Sparks Dyke, 1895-1896; Martin Trester Dyke, Jr., b. 1897, and Sarah Emily Dyke 1901 (lived one week).

Martin and Myrtle Dyke were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He served as church secretary and secretary of the building committee of the church. He was also a Mason. In July, 1900, he was chosen by the Isaac Parker Republican Club as delegate to the League Convention in Little Rock on July 6.

JOHN. G. MILLER

John G. Miller, uncle and business partner of M. T. and Nathaniel Dyke, was born in Indiana in 1842, the son of W. B. and Sarah A. Miller.

W. B. Miller was a native of England, a miller by trade, and came to America with his parents at the age of eight years. The family settled in Dearborn County, Indiana, where Mr. Miller erected a stone mill. In 1889 this mill was still being run by his

youngest son. W. B. was married in Indiana.

John G. Miller was educated in Indiana and served an apprenticeship in the milling business.

During the Civil War he served three years with the Sixteenth Indiana Infantry. After the war he continued in the milling business until he came to Arkansas in 1870 and with Nathaniel Dyke established the J. G. Miller & Dyke Company at Georgetown. The name of Georgetown was later changed to Piney Station.

The Millers moved to Clarksville, Johnson County, in 1877, and from there to Fort Smith in 1879.

He married Miss Mary J. Trester, a native of Indiana in 1867, and to them were born five children: Carl, Daisy, Roy, May and Florence. Roy, the third child, died at the age of five years.

Mr. Miller was a Republican, a member of the Masonic fraternity, K of H, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



NATHANIEL DYKE 1862-1941

Nathaniel Dyke, the third member of the firm of Miller and Dyke, was born January 5, 1862 in Aurora, Indiana and died March 24, 1941 in Fort Smith. He was married to Miss Emily M. Trester in Indiana, and came to Fort Smith in 1888.

He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, which he served as steward, organist and instructor of the church choir. He was educated in Indiana and had unusual musical talent.

Nathaniel Dyke's father, also named Nathaniel Dyke, was a veteran of the War of 1812.

CAPT. FRANK PARKE

Mrs. M. T. Dyke, nee Myrtle Parke, was the daughter of Capt. Frank Parke, one of the early settlers of Fort Smith, moving to Fort Smith in 1854.

Capt. Parke was born in County Leitrim, Ireland, July 11, 1829, and died December 1902 in Fort Smith. He was the son of Thomas Parke and grandson of John Parke, who was born in England, but later moved to Ireland and lived there until his death.

Thomas Parke, who had spent his entire life in Ireland, was the owner of much property. He married Miss Mary McGarry, who was also born in Ireland. To this union were born twelve children.

The family came to America in 1849, settling in the State of Ohio, where the mother died on April 9, 1874 in her 96th year.² The father died while Frank Parke was still a young man.

Frank Parke was a merchant in Ireland, and continued this occupation the few years he was in

Ohio. He came to Fort Smith in 1854 to work for Mitchell Sparks³, a cousin.

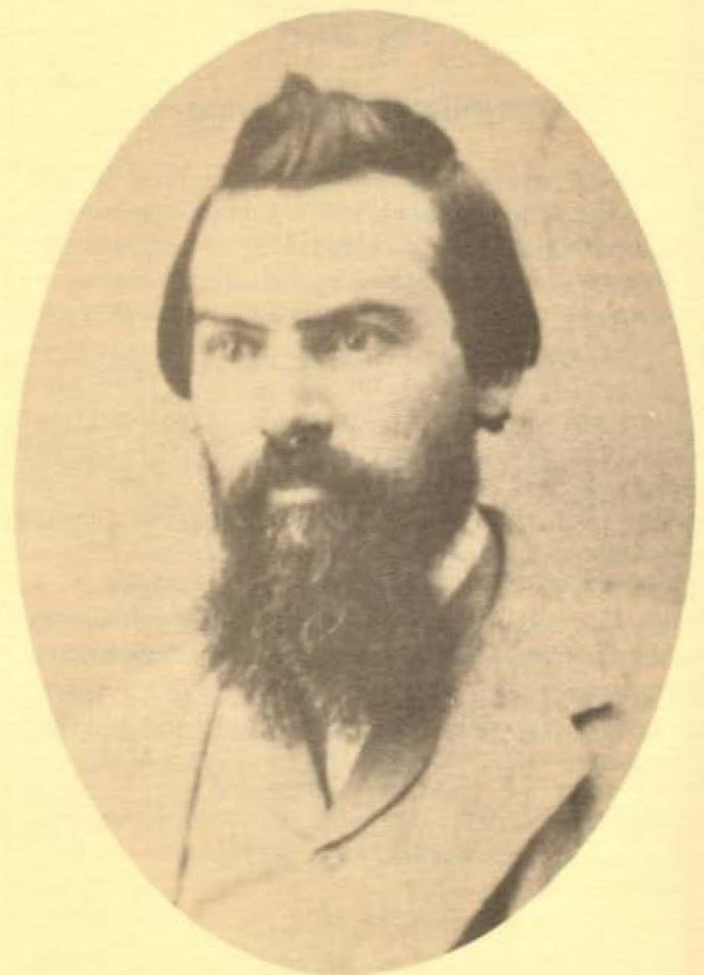
At the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in the Confederate Army as a private, and resigned at the close of the war as a major of the quartermaster's department.

After the war he was a merchant in the Choctaw Nation for several years and served as mayor of Skullyville, Choctaw nation.⁴ He returned to Fort Smith in 1873 where he was a merchant under the firm name of a Parke & Sparks. Later he was associated with the firm of Parke, Patrick, Cunningham & Co. until this firm was dissolved because of Mr. Parke's health.

Mr. Parke was one of the largest real estate owners of the city; owned valuable suburban property and over 2,000 acres of the best coal land in Sebastian County.



Sarah Jane Ish Parke



Capt. Frank Parke

Photographs courtesy Mrs. John D. Wood

² *Tri-weekly Fort Smith Herald*, April 30, 1874.

³ Sparks family was featured in Volume 2, Number 2, October 1976, *Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*.

⁴ *Tri-weekly Fort Smith Herald*, Feb. 23, 1871.

The home he occupied on North Fourth Street had previously served as the first court house and the first school in Fort Smith. The teachers in the school were Messrs Ward and Dell, and Henry M. Stanley of African fame also taught there.

Frank Parke was married to Miss Sarah Jane Ish August 28, 1856 at Canehill at her father's residence. She was a native of Washington County, Arkansas, and a granddaughter of one of the early pioneers of Tennessee, who was killed by the Cherokee Indians. Her father was one of the early settlers of Washington County, Arkansas. She was a missionary to the Indians at Asbury Mission, Eufaula, Indian Territory, and Major Parke met her there.

Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Parke, three who died before 1889. The six who survived were:

1. Myrtle, wife of Martin T. Dyke.
2. Frank, b. Oct. 18, 1866; d. 1923, Fort Smith; graduated in law in 1888 at the Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.
3. Mary, b. Aug. 23, 1869, Scullyville, I. T.; d. July 8, 1960; a graduate of Nashville college for young ladies in 1887 with post graduate course in 1888; m. April 18, 1899, Fort Smith, Arkansas, David Darius Taylor, b. Jan. 26, 1862, Slate Mills, Virginia; d. July 9, 1927.
4. Adelaide, b. June 25, 1872; d. 1948, Fort Smith; unmarried.
5. Phebe, who wrote a column for the Fort Smith newspaper for many years; b. Dec. 16, 1875; d. 1939, Fort Smith; unmarried.
6. Augustus Winfield, b. July 14, 1878, Fort Smith; d. Sept. 10, 1961, Little Rock, Arkansas; m. July 15, 1901, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Florence Bertie Smythe, b. Nov. 22, 1878, Springfield, Illinois.

The deceased children were: Lilly May; Lalla Rookh, who was born Dec. 25, 1861, died during the Civil War on the way to Texas; and Jane, who died in infancy.

When Capt. Parke retired as a merchant, he devoted his full time to the real estate business.

He was a Democrat and a Prohibitionist; a member of the Masonic fraternity, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His father, grandfather, and his ancestors as far back as the days of the Wesleys, were Methodists. At the time of his death in December, 1902, he was the commander of DuVal Camp of United Confederate Veterans.

Mrs. Parke, who died January 19, 1918, rendered valuable service to the Confederacy during the War Between the States as the head of the underground intelligence system at Fort Smith. After the Federal occupation, she and other members of the family were taken to Texas by Cooper's Brigade of Indians, accompanied by Maj. Parke, and returned to Fort Smith after peace was declared.

She was actively associated for many years with the work of the Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and served as state treasurer of that society for 17 years and state president one year. She was president of the Fort Smith Hospital Board at the time of the cyclone in 1898.

She was survived by four daughters, Mrs. M. T. Dyke and Misses Adelaide and Phebe Parke of Fort Smith, and Mrs. D. D. Taylor of Moberly, Mo.; two sons, Frank Parke of Fort Smith, and A. W. Parke, of the Parke-Harper News Service and editor of the Little Rock Trade Record, of Little Rock; one brother, W. W. Ish, of Red Oak, Okla., and five grandsons and three granddaughters. One grandson, Lieutenant Nathaniel Dyke, was in the service at Camp Pike.

Sources:

1. Dyke Industries publications, pictures and Dyke family records, used by permission of Mrs. Francis W. Dyke, the former Virginia Lee Benton.
2. *Goodspeed Biographical Memiors of Northwest Arkansas*, Pub. 1889, pages 1310, 1347, and 1354-55.
3. *JOHN ISH, Soldier of the War of 1812 and Pioneer*, compiled by Carol Taylor Ackley (Mrs. John Davis) Woods, Fort Smith, Arkansas, and published in *Arkansas Pioneers and Allied Families*; Mrs. Larry P. Clark, Pub. 1976, pages 496-500.
4. Ish family photographs courtesy of Mrs. John D. Woods, great-great granddaughter of Capt. and Mrs. Frank Parke.
5. *Tri-weekly Fort Smith Herald*, Feb. 23, 1871 and April 30, 1874.

PROMOTE YOUR FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Enlist Members

Give Gift Memberships

Help Locate and Share Historical Photographs; Diaries; Family, Industry, Community History Articles; etc. Help staff research and copy public records for publication in *The Journal*.

If you can help, complete and return the Talent Search Form inserted in this issue.

Or Call THELMA WRAY at 783-0229

POETS AND POETRY

Among the many tributes to the cherished flags of the Confederacy, is this one by Mrs. Melcenia A. Cato, of Fort Smith:

CONFEDERATE FLAGS

Let them keep these faded banners,
Once our glory and our pride.
Nobly they have been defended —
Freemen's blood their folds have dyed.

Time shall tell in song and story
How the noble and the brave,
Wrapped in fame's eternal glory,
Died, those honored flags to save.

Over this fair Southern country,
Sleep the noble and the good —
Grassy mounds devoid of headstones,
Scattered over field and wood.

Hearts bereaved have ceased their sighings;
Weeping eyes their tears have dried,
And the victor and the vanquished
Peacefully walk side by side.

Time has given us home and loved ones,
As in happy days of yore;
Still our aching hearts remember
Dear ones who shall come no more.

Keep those flags; we do not want them;
They would but increase our pain;
Oh, if you could only give us
Back our cherished sons again!

Confederate Flags, written by Melcenia A. Cato, twenty-one years a resident of Fort Smith, was included in the poetry collection entitled, "The Poets and Poetry of Arkansas", compiled by Fred W. Allsopp and printed by the Central Printing Company, Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1933. Mrs. Cato's name was erroneously spelled "Caton" by Mr. Allsopp, but he says this of her, "Mrs. Melcina A. Caton was called the 'Mrs. Hemans of the South' by Blackburn. He was undoubtedly referring to Felica Dorothea Hemans who wrote 'Landing of the Pilgram Fathers'."

Mrs. Cato, the wife of Dr. M. D. Cato, was born in Kentucky circa 1824, and died in Fort Smith April 16, 1890. Fort Smith death records say she was white, married, and the daughter of Edward Ashley. These death records also show that Dr. Cato¹, a physician, who died in Fort Smith October 27, 1890, was widower, born in Kentucky, the son of Henry Cato.

The family is listed as residents of the Sugarloaf Township in the 1870 Sebastian County Census Records with four sons: William, 26; Garvis, 21; Shama, 12; and Sutan, 8, all born in Kentucky.

Mrs. Cato was a regular writer for *The Fort Smith Elevator*. Another of her poems, *Wilt Thou Pray For Me*, is taken from the Friday, May 11, 1883 issue of *The Elevator*.

WILT THOU PRAY FOR ME

By Mrs. M. A. Cato

When the twilight shades are stealing
Over wood and bower --
When the silent days are falling
On each folded flower --
Then with quiet steps to wander
To some loved retreat,
And commune with God our Saviour,
O, It is most sweet.

Sweet to watch the stars above us,
With their timid ray;
Sweet to think of those who love us,
Far, O far away;
Sweet to feel while softly pleading
On our bended knee,
We are one in mind and spirit,
Though far apart we be.

O those hours of bliss, how sacred
To the trusting soul,
Far surpassing all earth's pleasure --
Richest mines of gold
Could not bring our hearts the rapture
Which we often find.
When the bliss of heaven opens
On the humble mind.

Soon beyond these earthly sorrows
Parted friends shall meet.
Loving hearts in joy united
Find a bliss complete;
Never more the grief of parting
Shall the bosom swell,
Never more be heard the sad word,
"Dearest friend farewell."

O, at evening's quite hour
When you bend the knee
At the feet of sovereign mercy,
Wilt thou think of me?
Wilt thou pray I may be faithful
To the God above,
Pray that we may meet in heaven
In that clime of love?

¹ Dr. Cato's biography is included in *Physicians and Medicine, Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas 1817-1976*, by Amelia Whitaker Martin, which is available from Sebastian Medical Publications, 2121 Wolfe Lane, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

NORTHERN TROOPS

IN FORT SMITH 1863

The following story was written for a Fort Smith newspaper, name and date unknown, by George Sengal:

"Few, if any of the buildings of pioneer days remain standing in Fort Smith today. Some are left behind which were standing at the beginning of the Civil War and were occupied by the northern troops when they took possession of Fort Smith in 1863. The Second Kansas Cavalry under command of Col. Cloud were the first northern troops that entered Fort Smith in 1863. Crossing the Arkansas River at Van Buren, they came into Fort Smith on North Sixth Street, then known as Knox Street.

They made a halt at Mr. Dell's school which stood where George H. Lyman now lives, and after interrogating the pupils proceeded to Garrison Avenue. This regiment took possession of the old store building, 305 Garrison Avenue and fitted it up for winter quarters. Rabbs Second Indian Battery

soon followed the Cavalry and they fitted up the E. B. Bright store building on the alley corner, between Third and Fourth Street. They occupied that building as barracks until they were ordered south with other troops and were nearly wiped out at Poison Springs, when that fierce battle was fought in Southern Arkansas.

Indiana Soldiers Buried Here

The members of Rabb's Battery were fine looking young men and were closely connected with the Second Kansas Cavalry between whom a warm friendship existed. Rabb's Battery was equipped with Parrot cannons, the first ever seen here, and they lost them at the above battle. The members of Rabb's Battery set aside a lot in the National Cemetery where a number of their comrades are interred; the headstones are there now, and were made by members of the company from native sand stone.

CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS

Buried in the Fort Smith National Cemetery (VA)

We thank Mr. Stephen H. Jorgensen, Director, Fort Smith National Cemetery, for his cooperation in making this information available.

A normal entry includes name, rank, unit data and date of death. Where an omission is noted, the information is not on record. The asterisk (*) indicated that the soldier *may* have been a Civil War participant; the record does not provide enough information to positively identify him as such.

A file of data concerning Civil War Veterans in the Fort Smith area is being set up at the Fort Smith Public Library by The Fort Smith Historical Society and the United Daughters of the Confederacy of Fort Smith.

Please share with us any information you may have about Civil War Soldiers of this area.

Documents and photographs you wish to keep will be copied at the library and returned to you.

Adams, Thomas J. * Co I, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
8SEP1887

Adamson, Abijah, Pvt, Co E, 13th Kansas Cavalry,
19JUN1864

Aday, Booze J., Pvt, Co I, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
26JUL1920

Aldridge, John, Pvt, Co F, 2nd Arkansas Infantry,
21JUL1864

Alexander, Thomas, * Pvt, Co D, 10th U S Cavalry,
15MAR1885

Allen, Henry, Pvt, Co H, 57th U S Col'd Infantry,
25MAY1866

Allen, Moses, Pvt, Co I, 57th U S Col'd Infantry,
15JUN1901

Allis, P., * Pvt, Co B, 4th Arkansas Cavalry
Ammon, Jacob, Pvt, 3rd Independent Battery,
Ohio Light Artillery, 23JUL1924

Amos, Presley, Pvt, 3rd Independent Battery,
Kansas Light Artillery, 25MAY1864

Anderson, Enie, W., Pvt, Co K, 1st Arkansas
Infantry, 13JAN1864

Anderson, Joseph L., Pvt, Co M, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
11JUN1864

Anderson, P. J., Pvt, Co C, 11th Kansas Cavalry,
20SEP1864

Anderson, William, Pvt, Co F, 12th Kansas Infantry,
9AUG1864

Ankin, Edward, * Pvt, Co D, 10th U S Cavalry,
8AUG1886

Anthony, William, Pvt, Co 1, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
5APR1864

Artis, Henry, * Pvt, Co G, 63rd U S Col'd Infantry,
29MAR1892

Ashburn, Lewis S., * Cpl, 2nd Kansas Light Artillery,
27AUG1886

Ashmore, James W., Pvt, Co G, 1st Arkansas
Cavalry, 22APR1865

Akkins, John W., * Pvt, Co B, 1st Arkansas Cavalry

Austin, Elezer B., Pvt, Co B, 2nd Kansas Cavalry,
27AUG1864

Austin, Jack, Pvt, Co D, U S Col'd Infantry,
2APR1866

Awalt, Ezekial N, Pvt, 30th Iowa Infantry,
26MAR1936

Baize, Abednego, Pvt, Capt Lee's Co. F, Stone
County Regiment, Missouri Home Guards,
20NOV1893

Bakell, J. M., * Pvt, Co H, 4th Arkansas Cavalry

Baker, Archibald W. O., Pvt, Co B, 14th Kansas
Cavalry, 8JUL1864

Baker, George, * Pvt, Co B, 2nd Arkansas Cavalry

Baldwin, Charles, Pvt, 19th US Infantry,
(Unassigned), 11FEB1866

Ballard, John, Wheelwright, 40th Co, Iowa Infantry,
1NOV1865

Banther, Robert, * Pvt, Co B, 2nd Arkansas Infantry

Barber, Henry L., Cpl, Co E, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
5APR1864

Barclay, William H., Pvt, Co G, 5th Iowa Cavalry,
19APR1909

Barkman, Robert, Pvt, Co F, 57th US C T, 7JUN1866

Barnard, Solomon, Pvt, Co I, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
29MAR1865

Barnes, Alexander F, 1st Lt, Co M, 14th Kansas
Cavalry, 30JAN1865

Barnes, John, Pvt, Co H, 7th Colorado Volunteers,
8OCT1863

Barnes, Morgan B., Cpl, Co H, 2nd Arkansas
Cavalry, 23JUN1864

Barnes, Sidney M., Col, 8th Kentucky Infantry,
19MAY1890

Barnes, Thomas H., Maj. 47th Reg't, Kentucky,
13MAR1898

Barron, James P. Musician, Co A, 32nd Illinois
Infantry, 8JUN1931

Bartram, David E., Sgt, Co L, 3rd Wisconsin
Volunteers, Infantry, 8SEP1863

Beacon, Stephen, Pvt, Co M, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
----1864

Beecher, Augustus H., Pvt, Co G, 137 New York Inf.
23DEC1932

Beeler, Marion N., Capt, Co B, 13th Kansas Infantry,
13AUG1864

Befill, William, * Pvt, Co B, 2nd Arkansas Infantry

Bell, Archibald, * Pvt, Co F, 2nd Arkansas Cavalry

Bell, John, Sgt, Co L, 2nd Kansas Cavalry,
29MAY1864

Bell, John, Pvt, Co D, 11th U S Col'd Heavy Artillery,
20AUG1864

Bell, Marshall, Pvt, Co L, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
16JUL1864

Bell, Nathaniel, Pvt, Co E, 57th U S Col'd Infantry,
17JAN1915

Belze, John G., Pvt, Co D, 13th Kansas Infantry,
30NOV1864

Bennett, James E., Surgeon, U S Army, 16SEP1884

Berry, John, Pvt, Co A, 10th Missouri Cavalry,
14SEP1913

Bethel, James, Pvt, Co I, 24th U S Infantry,
10JUL1923

Bias, John, Pvt, Co B, 16th Missouri Cavalry, 28 or
29SEP1937

Big, Jim, Pvt, Co M, 9th Kansas Cavalry, 12JUL1864

Biggs, James D., * Pvt, Co's G&K, 5th Tennessee
Infantry, 8DEC1899

Bigtree, Isaac, Pvt, Co A, 12th Kansas Infantry,
15OCT1864

Bladis, Robert, Pvt, Co E, 11th U S Col'd Infantry,
7JUN1864

Blakeley, Samuel, Pvt, Co I, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
19MAY1864

Blakely, Robert J., * Pvt, Co I, 2nd Louisiana
Infantry, 1JUN1885

Bleam, Joseph, Pvt, Co F, 19th U S Infantry,
13SEP1867

Boissen, Christian, * Pvt, Co K, 7th U S Cavalry,
21JAN1923

Bolden, ---, Pvt, Co E, 2nd Kansas Cavalry,
6JUN1863

Boles, Alexander, Pvt, 2nd Independent Battery,
Kansas Light Artillery, 22DEC1863

Booksland, A., Cpl, 3rd Independent Battery, Iowa
Artillery, 5SEP1865

Bothiers, Gustave, Pvt, Co D, 57th U S Col'd
Infantry, 27MAY1866

Bouden, Alfred, Pvt, Co K, 19th U S Infantry,
16AUG1868

Bowcum, William R., Pvt, Co D, 2nd Kansas Cavalry,
29JUN1864

Bowlegs, Robert, Pvt, Co I, 79th U S Col'd Infantry,
19MAY1864

Bowman, James H., 1st Lt, Co D, 47th Illinois
Infantry, 19OCT1916

Boyd, William P., Pvt, Co D, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
4APR1864

Boyer, William H., Pvt, Co I, 2nd Arkansas Infantry,
16FEB1865

Brewer, Alfred, Pvt, Co G, 79th U S Col'd Infantry,
25MAY1864

Brewer, Lewis, Pvt, 1st Battery, Arkansas Light
Artillery, 16DEC1864

Brosius, John H., Pvt, 2nd Battery, Indiana Light
Artillery, 21APR1864

Brown, Charles, Pvt, Co B, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 24MAY1864
 Brown, George, * Pvt, Co A, 63rd U S - C T,
 14NOV1894
 Brown, James, H., * Pvt, Co I, 2nd Arkansas Infantry
 Brown, L., Pvt, Co B, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 22SEP1864
 Brown, William, * Cpl, Co C, 2nd Arkansas Infantry,
 4JUL1884
 Bryan, John M., Pvt, Co B, 40th Iowa Infantry,
 26MAR1865
 Bunch, Woodson, Pvt, Co M, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 19JUN1864
 Burns, Israel W., * Sgt, Co M, 8th Missouri Cavalry,
 10NOV1879
 Bush, George W., Pvt, Co E, 9th Michigan Infantry,
 3SEP1920
 Bushenbaugh, Philip, Pvt, Co G, 2nd Kansas Col'd,
 24MAY1864
 Buskell, Henry, Pvt, Co M, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 21MAY1864
 Buxton, John M., Pvt, Co M, 9th Kansas Cavalry
 19JUN1864
 Byer, August, Pvt, Co B, 3rd U S Cavalry,
 11FEB1866
 Caine, Edward, Pvt, Co A, 1st Ohio Light Artillery,
 18FEB1889
 Calhoun, Samuel, Pvt, Co E, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 20JUL1864
 Calvin, John, Cpl, Co H, 57th U S Col'd Infantry,
 6APR1913
 Campbell, Baskal, Pvt, Co H, 14th Kansas Cavalry
 Campbell, Joseph B., U S Signal Corps,
 25NOV1889
 Campbell, Matthew D., Pvt, Co A, 1st Missouri
 Engineers, 30OCT1891
 Canon, Lewis, Pvt, Co C, U S Col'd Infantry,
 2JAN1866
 Cardon, Thomas A., * Pvt, Co I, 2nd Arkansas
 Infantry
 Carey, Green, Pvt, Co E, 11th U S Col'd, 26JUL1864
 Carmichael, E. T., Pvt, Co F, 20th Texas Cavalry,
 CSA, 6MAR1862
 Carmichael, John W., Sgt, Co H, 22nd Iowa Infantry,
 11MAR1888
 Carney, James, Pvt, Co G, U S Col'd Infantry,
 6AUG1865
 Carr, Jack, Pvt, Co B, 54th U S Col'd Infantry,
 26JUN1864
 Carrickson, James, Pvt, Co K, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 6JUN1864
 Carrico, Leander C., Pvt, Co E, 1st Missouri
 Cavalry, 18SEP1931
 Carroll, Geo., Pvt, Co B, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 10SEP1864
 Carroll, J. C., Pvt, * Co H, 3rd Arkansas Cavalry
 Carter, James, Pvt, Co F, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 19SEP1864
 Carter, Nathaniel, Sgt, Co H, 57th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 11MAR1916
 Carver, J. F., * Pvt, Co G, 4th Arkansas Cavalry
 Casey, Miles P., Pvt, Co K, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 19SEP1863
 Caskill, John, Pvt, Co M, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 28MAY1864
 Cassidy, John, Pvt, Co F, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 4DEC1864
 Chamby, Isaac, Pvt, Co C, 2nd Arkansas Infantry,
 22MAY1864
 Chapelle, William C., Lt Col, Missouri State
 Guards, CSA, 10DEC1862
 Chapman, Isaac, Pvt, Co I, 13th Kansas Infantry,
 11MAY1864
 Chapman, John D., Pvt, Co F, 25th Wisconsin
 Infantry and Co E, 23rd Regiment, Veterans
 Reserve Corps, 25SEP1907
 Cheer, W., Pvt, Co F, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 26FEB1865
 Chief, Joseph, Pvt, Co G, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 14JUL1864
 Clark, James A., Pvt, Co A, 15th Michigan Infantry,
 22NOV1916
 Clark, Lafayette, Pvt, Co D, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 2JUL1864
 Clarke, Charles Magnus, 2nd Lt, Co A, 19th U S
 Infantry 6MAY1868
 Clark, Hiram H., Pvt, Co F, 19th U S Infantry,
 16SEP1867
 Clay Thomas, * Pvt, 2nd Arkansas Infantry
 Clayton, William H. H., 2nd Lt, 124th Pa
 Infantry, 14DEC1920
 Clendening, James H., Lt Col, 68th USCT
 Infantry, 21DEC1898
 Clifton, Alexander, * Pvt, Co D, 10th U S
 Cavalry, 16MAR1893
 Cline, Charles, Pvt, Co G, 12th Kansas
 Infantry, 28SEP1864
 Clipper, Philipp O., Pvt, Co E, 3rd U S
 Cavalry, 5MAY1866
 Cockrum, John L., Sgt, Co H, 1st Tenn
 Cavalry, 15JUL1919
 Collier, Henry C., Pvt, Co B, 4th Arkansas
 Cavalry, 10JAN1933
 Collins, John B., Pvt, Co D, 14th Kansas
 Cavalry, 29AUG1864
 Comiger, James, Pvt, Co I, 79th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 9JUN1864
 Cook, Emanuel H., Pvt, Co I, 14th Kansas
 Cavalry, 5APR1864
 Cooper, Alexander, Pvt, Co E, 3rd Illinois
 Cavalry, 4JUN1864
 Cooper, Peter C., Pvt, Co H, 2nd Kansas Cavalry,
 24SEP1864
 Copeland, Martin, Pvt, Co A, 1st Arkansas
 Infantry, 2SEP1864

Cotter, John H., Pvt, Co A, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 25AUG1864
 Cotter, William, Pvt, Co A, 6th Kansas Cavalry
 Cowan, John, Pvt, Cpl, Co E, 6th Kansas
 Cavalry, 17JAN1910
 Crabtree, Joseph, Pvt, Co F, 3rd Arkansas
 Cavalry, 7APR1865
 Crag, I, * Pvt, 14th Kansas Cavalry
 Craig, John, * Pvt, 11th Kansas Cavalry,
 23JUN1909
 Crawford, Columbus, * Pvt, 3rd Arkansas Cavalry
 Crawford, Davis, 1st Kansas Cavalry, 8JUN1864
 Crawford, Edward, *, Pvt, 2nd Arkansas Infantry
 Crawford, Joseph A., * Capt, 14th Penna Cavalry,
 24JUL1885
 Creekmore, (Creekmon), Randolph B., * Pvt 6th
 Kentucky Cavalry 29JUN1893
 Cronie, David A., Pvt, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 16JUL1864

 Dame, James M., Pvt, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 17JUN1864
 Dane, Benoni W. Pvt, 70th Indiana Infantry,
 27AUG1916
 Dareen, Patrick, * Pvt, 14th Kansas Cavalry
 Daugherty, Joseph T., Pvt, Co C, 1st Arkansas
 Cavalry, 13JUL1898
 Davenport, Henderson, Pvt, Co A, 83rd U S
 Col'd Infantry, 3JUN1864
 Davis, John, Pvt, Co D, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 5APR1864
 Davis, Phillip, * Pvt, Co H, 2nd Nebraska
 Cavalry, 13JUL1884
 Davis, Richard, Pvt, Co H, 79th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 18JUN1864
 Davis, William H., Pvt, Co C, 83rd U S Col'd
 Infantry, 18JUN1864
 Dawson, Aikin, Pvt, Co C, 11th U S Col'd,
 23JUN1864
 Dawson, (Dorson), Isaac B, * Pvt, 15th
 Kansas Cavalry
 Dawtard, Cam, * Pvt, Co F, 3rd Arkansas Cavalry
 Day, James L., Cpl, Co D, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 12DEC1863
 Deaton, George W., * Cpl, Co E, 1st Arkansas
 Infantry
 Denning, Frank, Pvt Co K, 83rd U S Col'd Infantry,
 30JUN1864
 Diddleton, Robert, Pvt, Co F, 3rd Arkansas
 Cavalry, 3APR1864
 Dilda, James S., Pvt, Co A, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 27SEP1864
 Dixon, John, * Pvt, Co D, 10th U S (Ark)
 Cavalry, 2APR1872
 Doland, James, * Pvt, Co I, 3rd Arkansas Cavalry
 Donovan, William, Pvt, Co E, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 5JUN1864

 Doran, Hugh, Pvt, Co B, 3rd U S Cavalry,
 9MAY1866
 Dragod, George, Pvt, Co K, 12th Missouri
 Infantry, 17JUN1864
 Draper, Richard, * Pvt, Co L, 8th Kentucky
 Cavalry, 4MAR1902
 Ducker, Sharp, Pvt, Co K, 58th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 6AUG1931
 Dudley, William A., Pvt, Co C, 1st Arkansas
 Cavalry, 21MAR1863
 Duff, Christopher, Sgt, 6JAN1889
 Duffy, Michael, * Pvt, Co F, 19th U S Infantry,
 27 or 22JAN1867
 Duncan, Dennis, Pvt, Co F, 83rd U S Col'd
 Infantry, 23JUN1864
 Dunfort, J., * Pvt, Co G, 2nd Arkansas Infantry
 Dunn, Alexander, Sgt, Co B, 113th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 14SEP1903
 Dunn, Jones A., Pvt, Co E, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 5APR1864
 Dutton, J. W., Pvt, Co E, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 9JUN1864
 Dyer, Sidney, Pvt, Co F, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 21JUN1864

 Ear, John A., Citizen, 14FEB1864
 Eberhard, Anton, Pvt, Co M, 2nd Wisconsin
 Cavalry, 4JAN1892
 Eldon, Mead, Pvt, Co G, 11th U S Col'd, 13JUL1864
 Elwood, William L., Pvt, 2nd Arkansas Cavalry,
 21JAN1928
 Erner, William, * Pvt, Co A, 2nd Arkansas Cavalry
 Etchison, William, Pvt, Co I, 9th Kansas
 Cavalry, 7JUL1864
 Etrix, William, Pvt, Co C, 1st Kansas Infantry,
 16NOV1864
 Etton, E. C., Pvt, Co D, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 July 1864
 Evans, Henry, Sgt, Co M, U S Col'd Infantry,
 24SEP1864
 Evans, Henry, Pvt, Co H, 1st Kansas Col'd
 Infantry, 18MAY1864
 Evans, John, Pvt, Co A, 11th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 23MAY1864
 Evans, Robert, * Pvt, (A Pin Indian),
 Pvt, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 Evans, Sidney, * Pvt, Co E, 1st Arkansas Cavalry

 Farnay (Fiarnay), Patrick, Pvt, Co A, 19th U S
 Infantry, 17NOV1867
 Fintel, Frederick, Pvt, Co A, 9th Iowa Cavalry,
 9SEP1865
 Fitzgibbons, James, * Pvt, 3rd Arkansas Cavalry
 Flannigan, James, * Pvt, Co B, 2nd Arkansas
 Infantry
 Fletcher, David E., Pvt, Co M, 9th Kansas
 Cavalry, 6MAY1864

Fogle, George A., Sgt, 59th Illinois Infantry,
 23OCT1910
 Folkman, Frank, Pvt, Co C, 2nd Kansas Cavalry,
 4SEP1863
 Folks, Isiah, Pvt, Co B, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 18JUN1864
 Ford, John D., Pvt, Co F, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 15JAN1865
 Ford, Martin, Cpl, Co H, 13th Kansas Cavalry,
 16JUL1864
 Ford, William, * Pvt, Co B, 2nd Arkansas Infantry
 Fountain, Hardin, Pvt, Co F, 12th Kansas Infantry,
 25AUG1864
 Fox, Jesse, Pvt, Unassigned, 22MAY1864
 Fox, William, Pvt, Unassigned, 27MAY1864
 Fraley, John, Pvt, 1st Battery, Delaware Heavy
 Artillery, 27DEC1920
 Francis, Thomas, Pvt, Co D, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 12AUG1864
 Franklin, Samuel B., Pvt, Co H, 38th Illinois
 Infantry, 6MAY1930
 Frazier, Geo. G., Pvt, Co C, 3rd Arkansas
 Cavalry, 16NOV1890
 Fyffe, Benjamin, Pvt, 1st Battery, 1st Arkansas
 Light Artillery, 23AUG1864

 Gaines, A. W., * Major, Paymaster, U S Army,
 19FEB1860
 Galberson, Samuel B., Pvt, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 20JUL1864
 Gallaher, Thomas J., Cpl, Co B, 4th Arkansas
 Cavalry, 13NOV1916
 Gammon, T. H., * Pvt, Co G, 1st Arkansas Cavalry
 Ganes, Huston, Pvt, Co H, 2nd Kansas Col'd
 Infantry, 29APR1864
 Gantz, Daniel, Cpl, Co D, 46th Ohio Infantry,
 8OCT1925
 Gardner, James, Sgt, Co E, 57th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 26MAR1917
 Gardner, Thaddius A., Pvt, Co H, 3rd Arkansas
 Cavalry, 19APR1915
 Garrett, Joseph, Pvt, Co K, 83rd U S Col'd Infantry,
 19JUN1864
 Gatlin, Richard C., BGen, Confederate States of
 America, 8SEP1896
 Geer, Walter, Pvt, Co G, 18th Iowa Infantry,
 30SEP1864 Also listed as Alby or Aby W.
 Geer or Gear.
 Gerber, Flonan, Pvt, F Battery, 1st Missouri
 Light Artillery, 26MAY1924
 Gibbons, James, Capt, Co B, Arkansas Militia,
 24MAY1864
 Gibson, Joseph D., 1st Sgt, Co A, 1st Arkansas
 Infantry, 14JUN1865
 Gilbert, L. M., Pvt, Co A, 3rd U S Cavalry,
 24JUL1866
 Gillis, William, Pvt, 2nd Battery, Indiana
 Light Artillery, 6JUN1864

 Glancey, John C., Pvt, Co E, 2nd Kansas Cavalry,
 28MAR1864
 Gloeser, Gottlieb, Pvt, Co's A and H, 22nd Ohio
 Infantry, 17APR1865
 Goddard, Ellet (Elliot), Pvt, Co E, 3rd Iowa
 Cavalry, 3AUG1925
 Gordon, Lester, Pvt, Co D, 18th, Iowa Infantry,
 5JUL1865
 Gordy, Cyrus, Pvt, Co F, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 17MAY1864
 Gowing, Lafayette, Cpl, Co L, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 5APR1864
 Goyer, J. B., * Pvt, Co B, 1st Arkansas Infantry
 Graham, John R., Pvt, Co B, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 26SEP1864
 Gramlich, Joseph, Pvt, Co E, 144th Illinois
 Infantry, 8AUG1930
 Grattain, William, * Pvt, Co E, 3rd Arkansas
 Cavalry
 Gray, Elijah, Cpl, Co C, 40th Iowa Infantry,
 24APR1865
 Gray, G. R., Pvt, Co B, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 24SEP1864
 Gray, J. A., 6JUN1863
 Green, Louis (Lewis) L., Pvt, Co K, 183rd
 Ohio Infantry, 26AUG1910
 Greer, William, Pvt, Co F, 12th Kansas Infantry,
 20FEB1865
 Gregg, Wesley F., Pvt, Co A, 1st Arkansas
 Infantry, 14MAY1865
 Griffin, Peter, * Pvt, Co B, 27th Iowa Infantry,
 Griffin, Thomas R., Pvt, Co H, 6th Kansas
 Cavalry, 29JUL1864
 Grimsley, Barnett W., Sgt, Co L, 3rd West
 Virginia Cavalry, 6JAN1933
 Grober, Reinholt, Pvt, Co B, 2nd Kansas
 Cavalry, 11DEC1929
 Grosh, Charles R., * Capt, Co D, 195th Penna
 Infantry, 29DEC1868
 Guest, Frederick, * , 29DEC1868
 Gunter, Thomas, Pvt, Co E, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 25NOV1884
 Gurley, J. B., Pvt, Co B, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 10JUL1864
 Gurley, William H., Pvt, 2nd Battery, Indiana
 Light Artillery, 14MAY1864

 Hadsell, Marshall D., 1st Lt, Co H, 152nd Indiana
 Infantry, 8SEP1916
 Haight, Henry, Pvt, Co I, 12th Kansas Infantry,
 18JUL1864
 Hainey, Samuel, Pvt, Co A, 11th U S Colored
 Infantry, 7JUN1864
 Hale, J. M., Sgt, Co G, 1st Arkansas Cavalry,
 22MAY1865
 Haley, George, Cpl, Co H, 17th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 1AUG1927
 Hall, Daniel, Pvt, Co A, 1st Arkansas Battery,
 8JUL1864

Hall, E. B., Sgt, Co G, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 25APR1865
 Hall, William H., Pvt, Co F, 1st Arkansas Infantry,
 5MAY1864
 Hallet, Geo., Pvt, Co I, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 10JUL1864
 Hamberry, John, * Pvt, Co G., 14th Kansas Cavalry
 Hamcotter, John, Pvt, Co H, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 UnkDEC1863
 Hampton, William H., Cpl, Co B, 26th Kentucky
 Infantry, 8MAR1909
 Hampton, Murry, Pvt, Co M, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 4JUN1864
 Handy, John, Pvt, Co F, 12th Kansas Infantry,
 28JUN1864
 Hanford, (Handford), George, Pvt, Co I, 12th
 Kansas Infantry, 5SEP1864
 Harbour, John H. S., Pvt, Co B, Marine Regiment
 of U S Volunteers, 20JUN1933
 Harper, William H. Cpl, Co C, 1st Arkansas
 Cavalry, 21FEB1922
 Harris, Charles, Pvt, Co C, 57th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 25NOV1865
 Harris, Frederick, Pvt, Co E, 4th Arkansas
 Cavalry, 27MAY1864
 Harris, Gilmore, Pvt, Co B, 2nd Arkansas Infantry
 Harris, Robert D., Cpl, Co I, 2nd Arkansas
 Cavalry, 14OCT1864
 Harris, T. J., * Capt, 9th Kansas Cavalry
 Harrison, Edmune, Pvt, Co G, 36th U S Col'd
 Infantry, 8NOV1892
 Harryman, John P., Sgt., Co F, 9th Kansas
 Cavalry, 1JUL1864
 Hart, H. C., Pvt, Co C, 2nd Arkansas Infantry,
 29MAY1864
 Hart, Lewis, Pvt, Co D, 8th Missouri Cavalry,
 5NOV1908
 Hart, Martin, * Capt, 2nd Kansas Cavalry
 Hartley, Lewis T., Pvt, Co H, 16th Kansas
 Cavalry, 30JAN1920
 Hartzell, W., Pvt, Confederate States of America
 Harvey, Allen, Pvt, Co K, U S Col'd Infantry,
 28JUN1864
 Harvey, Douglas, Cpl, Co K, 83rd U S Col'd Infantry,
 27JUN1864
 Hatchet, James Pvt, Co F, 57th U S Col'd Infantry,
 10JUN1886
 Havely, John, Pvt, Co F, 12th Kansas Infantry,
 28JUL1864
 Hawkins, James, * Pvt, Co H, 1st Arkansas Infantry
 Hawkins, John, Cpl, Co B, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 28MAY1864
 Hayes, J. W., Lieut, 2nd Kansas Cavalry, 18JAN1864
 Hays, John L., United States Army, 18JAN1864
 Height, Joseph, Pvt, Co H, 9th Kansas Cavalry,
 13JAN1864
 Heilton, John C., Pvt, Co G, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 15MAY1864
 Heller, Valentine U., Sgt, Co E, 40th Iowa
 Infantry, 15APR1865
 Hellis, William, Pvt, Co C, 1st Arkansas
 Infantry, 2NOV1864
 Henderson, J. C., Pvt, Co C, 14th Kansas
 Cavalry, 20SEP1864
 Henley, Jesse, * Pvt Co F, 3rd Arkansas Infantry
 Herdelberger, John Pvt, Co K, 3rd Missouri
 Infantry, 6SEP1888 (Could have been a veteran
 of the Mexican War.)
 Hey, F. L., Pvt, Co F, 14th Kansas Cavalry,
 8DEC1863
 Hicks, J. W. R., Pvt, Co H, 2nd Kansas Col'd,
 11JUN1864
 Hill, Edwards, * Sgt, Co B, 3rd Wisconsin Infantry
 Hill, Henry W., (Greenup N.) Pvt, Co E, 6th
 Kansas Cavalry, 9AUG1864
 Hillard, J. J., Pvt, Co K, 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 30JUL1864
 Hinton, Zackeous, Pvt, Co F., 13th Kansas
 Volunteers, 13JAN1864
 Hissell, William H., Pvt, Co A, 22nd Ohio
 Infantry, 26APR1863
 Hoghe, Ester, U. S. Army 9DEC1863
 Hollan, Jerry, Cook, 1st Arkansas Light
 Artillery, Col'd, 2FEB1935
 Hollow, James,* Pvt, Co H., 14th Kansas Cavalry
 Holtman, Joel, Pvt, Co E., 6th Kansas Cavalry,
 3SEP1864
 Hood, Henry*, Pvt, Co B., 1st U.S. Cavalry,
 Hope, William P, Pvt, Co C., 2nd Arkansas Infantry
 28DEC1925
 House, Matthew P., Pvt, Co D., 11th Missouri
 Infantry 31OCT1927
 Howard, Frederick, Pvt, Co A., 13th Kansas Cavalry,
 17AUG1864
 Howard, Jesse, Pvt, Co H., 2nd Kansas Cavalry,
 29MAY1864
 Howard, Samuel A., Pvt, Co B., 11th Kansas Cavalry,
 18JUN1915
 Howard, Thomas, Pvt, Co D., 83rd U.S. Col'd
 Infantry, 12JUN1864
 Howdeshell, (Hoddeshell), D. Pvt, Co I., 14th
 Kansas Cavalry, 2SEP1864
 Howell, Green, Pvt, Co A., 11th U.S. Col'd Infantry,
 23MAY1864
 Hozier, J. C., Sgt. Co K., 1st Arkansas Cavalry,
 3JUN1864
 Hubbard, George B., Pvt, Co G., 19th U.S. Infantry,
 18SEP1868
 Hull, John,* Kansas Cavalry
 Humes, Thomas H.* Sgt., 117th Indiana Infantry,
 29APR1887
 Humphrey, Andrew J. Pvt, Co B., 6th Kansas
 Cavalry, 14DEC1865
 Hurley, - - -, Lieut, 18JAN1864
 Hutcheson, Sargent W., Sgt., Co K., 1st Arkansas
 Cavalry, 11JUN1864

Hutchin, Joel J., Pvt, Co E., 6th Kansas Cavalry,
27JUL1864

Hutchison, William G., * Sgt, Co F., 1st Arkansas
Cavalry

Jabo, Joseph, * 24AUG1868

Jackson, I., Pvt, Co H., 1st Arkansas Infantry,
3SEP1863

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8JUL1864

Jackson, Robert D., Pvt, Co H., 18th Iowa Infantry,
13MAY1864

Jamerson, Joe T., * Pvt, Co I, 49th Missouri Infantry,
19APR1891

James, Jesse, Pvt, Co I., 1st Arkansas Cavalry

Janney, Nathan, Sgt, Co G., 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry,
25SEP1864

Jeffry, George, Pvt, Co G., 83rd U.S. Col'd Infantry,
25JUN1864

Jelks, Levi, Cpt, Co B., 49th U.S. Col'd Infantry,
26JUN1921

Jeneson, James, Sgt, Co K., 59th U.S. Col'd
Infantry, 18MAY1904, Also listed as: Jenison,
Jemeson, Jameson

Johnson, Burton H., Pvt, Co E., 6th Kansas Cavalry,
5APR1864

Johnson, James Anderson, Capt, 68th Indiana
Infantry Regiment, 30JAN1894

Johnson, John, 1st Sgt, Co C., 4th U.S. Col'd
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Johnson, John, Pvt, Co B., 1st Arkansas Infantry,
8APR1864

Johnson, Walter, * Pvt, Co M., 11th U.S. (Ark)
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Infantry, 30JUL1864

Johnson, William S. Pvt, Co B., 14th Kansas
Infantry, 27JUN1864

Johnston, Jacob, * Pvt, Co A., 4th Arkansas Cavalry

Johnston, W.N. Pvt, Co C., 2nd Kansas Infantry,
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10JUN1866

Jones, Joseph, Pvt, Co L., 9th Kansas Cavalry,
10JUL1864

Jones, Thomas J., * Pvt, 14th Kansas Cavalry

Joybec, A., * Pvt, 6th Kansas Cavalry

Joyce, George W., Pvt, Co D., 18th Iowa Infantry
30JUN1864

Joynes, Thad, * Pvt, Co M., 3rd Arkansas Infantry
Judkins, Sylvanus, Pvt, Co H., 1st Maine Cavalry,
29NOV1911

Justice, Henry, Pvt, Co I., 38th Ohio Infantry,
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Kelley, John, * Pvt, Co A., 19th U. S. Infantry,
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Kelley, Peter, Pvt, Co E., 12th Kansas Infantry,
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Kennedy, Allen, Pvt, Co A., 13th Arkansas Infantry,
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Kennedy, Isham, * Pvt, Co I, 2nd Arkansas Cavalry,
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Kent, Orange B., Cpt, 5th Illinois Light Artillery,
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Kern, John N., * 1st Sgt, Co E., 33rd Indiana Infantry
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Kersey, Jasper N, Cpl., Co E., 1st Arkansas Infantry,
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Kibler (Kibber), John, Pvt, 2nd Battery, Kansas
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Kindle, Andrew J. Pvt, Co C., 195th Ohio Infantry,
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Kinker, C.W. Pvt, Co B., 14th Kansas Cavalry,
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Klinker, John, Pvt, Co B., 40th Iowa Infantry,
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Knollman, Henry, Pvt, 2nd Battery, Indiana Light
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Infantry, 18MAR1913

Krockman (Krockmann), John, Pvt, Co A., 22nd
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HERCLERODE MEIER/MYERS -

Desire to contact descendants of the HERCLERODE MEIER/MYERS Family of Lebanon County,
PA. Contact Philip G. Brown, 665 River Road, Fair Haven, N. J., 07701.

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1881 NEWSPAPERS

Abstracted From Fort Smith *New Era* newspaper.

Jan. 5, 1881

We understand from good authority that a move is now on foot to light the city by electricity. Solid men are being interested in the project, and the matter will soon be pushed forward.

The project for the paving of Garrison Avenue from Howard Street to the Forks of the road is receiving the attention of some of the business men along the proposed line, and something will probably be attempted before long. The idea is a good one, and if carried out will add to the value of the property facing, and will be a great benefit to everyone having business on the avenue.

The fire of Friday morning last seems to have opened the eyes of our people to the helpless condition of the city in case of such accidents, and some of the enterprising young men are making an effort to organize and put in trim the fire department, which seems to have died out completely for want of use. We have a well equipped hook and ladder truck and a hand engine which, though not quite equal to a Button steamer, is better than nothing if put in serviceable condition. The Council should assist in the matter, and see that the present enthusiasm does not die out for want of encouragement.

ST. LOUIS, ARKANSAS AND TEXAS RAILROAD THE PROBABLE ROUTE FROM HERE ACROSS THE TEXAS LINE.

Col. White, of the above railroad, and his party, who have been making an examination of the country between here and the southern state line, have finished their labors, and returned to this city on Sunday last. They report having found a practicable route, where little difficulty will be found in building the road. The probable line followed will be from here to Greenwood; thence through Hodges prairie, leaving Salem to the left, to Tomlinson P.O. and Waldron; thence either through Eagle Gap or Foran Gap; if through Foran Gap the road will strike Dallas, Polk County; if through Eagle Gap it will touch Cove P.O., leaving Dallas to the left - this to be determined by the engineers; thence, leaving Silver Hill to the left and Ultima Thule to the right, crossing Little River at Line Ferry, and on to the right of Rocky Comfort, it crosses Red River at Lainsport, and runs on to either Dallas, Texas, or Longview, to connect with the Texas Pacific. This is the route that will probably be followed by the engineers, but may be changed in some places through the mountains. In passing through the Foran Gap the work will require some tunneling, but

avoids heavy grades, and if through Eagle Gap, there may be no tunneling needed, but considerable grading. We understand the engineers will be here in two or three weeks to commence their work. This is the continuation of the road from Fayetteville, and is the most important one, to Fort Smith, projected, as it places us directly upon the great highway between the Atlantic and Pacific. The party express themselves as delighted with the country through which they have passed, and carry back with them many specimens of the mineral and timber products.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

The following marriage licenses have been issued since our last report:

Thos. W. Lindsey and Sallie Hurst.

Henry D. Garrettson and Anna Rosa Bonner.

Antonio Fabrizio and Jiaviauna Dominica

W. H. Vaughn and Ozite Atkinson.

Henderson Sheldon and Katie Johnson.

Row at the Theater

On Friday evening last while the performance of the Norton Troupe was in progress at Brogan's Hall, some of the "boys", probably not thinking they were getting an equivalent for their money, started a little matinee in which pistols played the leading part. As the trouble commenced near the door of egress, the audience made for the stage and dressing room, but before anything like a panic was created the disturbers were arrested and removed. Nobody hurt, and the sequel was written upon the Police Court records.

Jan. 12, 1881

Three hundred bales of cotton on the railway platform awaiting shipment.

A first class meal for 25 cents at the Turner House, S. Harris, proprietor.

Capt. Samuel Sixkiller, Chief of the Indian Police under Hon. J. Q. Tuffts, of the Union Agency, Indian Territory, is in spite of his fierce name, a clever, amiable gentleman and an efficient officer. He wields considerable influence and is down upon all lawbreakers in the Territory. To aid him in his duties he has been appointed U.S. Deputy Marshal by Chief Marshal Dell, in which capacity he does much good service.

We acknowledge the compliments of an invitation from General J. A. Williamson, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington, D. C. and wife, to

be present at the marriage of their daughter, Corinne, on the 20th inst at the Church of the Ascension, to Dwight K. Tripp, Esq. The fair bride, who is a very accomplished young lady, was in her earliest childhood a resident of this city, while her father, General Williamson was stationed here, and also afterwards, while he was Cashier of the First National Bank of Arkansas at this place. We hope to be present at the joyous occasion, and in the meantime offer our heartiest good wishes for the welfare and happiness of the young couple.

***** **COME BACK AGAIN**

Some months ago the U.S. Marshal was solicited by the gentlemen managing the Fair Association of Western Arkansas to assist them in preparing their new grounds about a mile from town by letting them have some prisoners from the U.S. Jail. With this request the Marshal promptly complied, sending out ten men, ex-Mayor and Col. J. R. Kannady, (Uncle Jerry) being responsible for their safety. One of the men John Vann, a Cherokee negro, who had some six months to serve, allured doubtless by the bright sunshine of early October and totally unmindful of the kindness of Uncle Jerry, to say nothing of that of Uncle Sammy, walked away one fine day and was never more heard of till a few days ago, when he sent a postal card from V _____ Indian Territory to Jailor Ayers that he was about to return to his duty, and sure enough he did, and registered last Saturday at Hotel Ayers, where comfortable quarters, lots of good grub awaited the returned prodigal. John will serve out his time.

***** **NAVIGATION RESUMED**

The Ice at the Railroad Crossing Broken Up, and Transfer Resumed

Superintendent Hartman, of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway, with 200 men, has been hard at work during the past three days cutting out and opening a channel through the ice for the railway transfer boat which has been frozen in for the past two weeks. On Tuesday evening the boat was enabled to make the trip from bank to bank and is now kept moving night and day to keep the channel open. Freight has accumulated at Van Buren until it is mountains high, so to speak, and the railroad men and means will be put to their best to clear away the blockade and get down to regular business again. The stoppage of the transfer has been a great detriment to business here, and our merchants appreciate the energy of Col. Hartman in getting over the difficulty so soon.

***** **PAY OF U.S. DEPUTIES AT THE LATE ELECTION**

The special U.S. Deputy Marshals who served as such at the late national election, will receive no pay till an appropriation is made for that purpose by Congress. An estimate of the amount due in the

Western District of Arkansas having been asked for by the Department of Justice, the U.S. Marshal of the District has complied with the request and will pay deputies when he receives funds for that purpose, which will not be for some months yet. Hence Deputies may save themselves the trouble of writing to the U.S. Marshal about it. They will receive their pay from the Marshal as soon as he is furnished with the funds.

***** **FAIR ASSOCIATION**

Important Meeting of the Stockholders on Saturday last.

The stockholders of the Fair Association of Western Arkansas, met Saturday afternoon last. The stock books of the Association were opened and fifty-one additional shares were taken.

Mr. Fishback was called to the chair and a committee was appointed to report a list of names for Directors, who, after a short time reported the following gentlemen, who were elected directors for the ensuing year:

B. Bear, I. Cohn, D. P. Upham, Geo. Sengel, S. A. Williams, Frank Parke, J. R. Kannady, S. A. Williamson, G. C. Falconer, R. S. McCarty, G. D. Redwine, R. T. Kerr, J. C. Wilkinson, I. C. Parker, J. E. Reynolds.

The following officers were elected:

I. C. Parker, President; R. T. Kerr, Vice President; J. S. Williamson, Secretary; H. Stone, Treasurer; D. P. Upham, Superintendent; Assistants, J. R. Kannady, Wm. M. Fishback, W. H. Rogers.

The standing committees will be appointed by the President on his return home.

A committee consisting of J. D. Falconer, J. C. Wilkinson and Frank Parke was appointed to solicit subscriptions to the stock of the Association.

In the matter of territory the boundaries were changed by the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution heretofore adopted by the Board of Directors fixing the territorial limits of this district be, and the same is hereby, so amended as to read "The State of Arkansas and the Indian Country."

The next meeting of the Association is set for the first Saturday in February, at the Circuit Court room, in Fort Smith.

***** **January 19, 1881**

Some of the boys who are fond of hunting stole the bag of shot used as a weight for closing the post-office door, on Monday night.

The Frontier Guards have been invited to proceed to Washington and take part in the inauguration ceremonies of President Garfield. Of course, they'll all be there.

A movement has been set on foot looking to the erection of a courthouse in this city. We publish the order of the County Court in relation to the matter in this issue. This is an important move, and will receive the support of all interested in our city.

On Friday evening last, some one just for the fun of the thing, and possibly just to see how much of a crowd he could draw, discharged a pistol on the Avenue just in front of P.R. Davis' store. In five minutes full 300 citizens were asking each other who was shot, and Mayor Brizzolara was trying to give somebody ten dollars to point out the shooter. Such fun is worth paying for, and it is the duty of every good citizen to aid the officers in stopping this pistol business.

A gentleman of means at Helena is about to erect a number of cottages in that city to sell on easy terms to parties seeking homes there. If some one here would do the same thing he would find it a profitable investment and at the same time earn the reputation of a public benefactor. Lots could be had at reasonable prices sufficiently close to the business center - for the valuation of property has not been inflated to any great degree off of Garrison Avenue. Will some moneyed men make the start?

MARRIAGE LICENSES

There is a very perceptible fading off in the demand for this article, as will be seen from the fact that only four have been issued since our last report, as follows:

Theodore Vogel and Katie Thienes
Owen Hutchins and Maggie Triplett
Henry L. Crowson and Mary A. Booker
Bernard Epple and Emma Krone

Jan. 26, 1881

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Notwithstanding the severe weather the demand for marriage licenses is still dull, only two having been called for in the past seven days:

Joseph Lanigan and Annie Priest
Lafayette Perry and Alice A. Reed

Feb. 2, 1881

The supper given last Thursday night by the ladies, for the purpose of raising funds to purchase uniforms for the Frontier Guards, was a success. There was a large attendance and after the supper, which was gracefully served by the ladies, the first drill in public was rendered by the guards in a very commendable manner. The entertainment wound up with the merry dance, which was enjoyed by all.

Feb. 9, 1881

A PRACTICAL BUT UNPLEASANT JOKE

Last Thursday the majority of the prisoners in the U.S. Jail were suddenly seized after dinner with

purging, though unaccompanied by gripes. The attack soon passed off aided by the application of a few simple remedies administered by Dr. Bennett, prison physician. When it is considered, that there were about eighty prisoners in the two prison rooms, all but 22 of whom were taken, the effect, with the scanty accommodations, may well better be imagined than described.

The cause of the mishap is not known. For while some ascribe it to the beef, which at this season of the year is not of the best, some to the pork, both of which was served on that day, others think it was the result of a trick played by somebody. However it may be, there was no harm done.

Feb. 16, 1881

IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

At the last meeting (8th inst.) of the Citizens Association the following resolutions were unanimously passed after ample discussion. A delegation from Van Buren was in attendance consisting of Messrs Stater, Huckleberry, Lynch & McKibben:

WHEREAS: Two railroads are projected from Missouri across Arkansas to Texas; another from Missouri across Arkansas to Louisiana; another from Kansas City through Arkansas to Memphis; another from Southwest Kansas to Arkansas City and yet another from, ILL. across Arkansas to Texas, thus ribbing together the two great parallel lines from the Atlantic to the Pacific seaboard. And

WHEREAS: Owing to the refunding of the United States debt at low rates of interest, enormous amounts of both foreign and domestic capital are seeking investments in railroad enterprises in the Southwest, rather than four per cent bonds, thus rendering this the golden opportunity of our state. And

WHEREAS: Arkansas has the lands to give and is forbidden by our constitution to give bonds to railroads and therefore has no inducements, as other states have, to offer them unless it is friendly legislation, to refuse which would be to throw away the greatest opportunity which now lies before her and to postpone perhaps for another generation the completion of the great enterprises now on foot for her development; therefore

RESOLVED: 1st, That our Senator and Representatives be and they are hereby requested to vote against any and all legislation having a tendency to discourage the investment of capital in railroad enterprises in this state and that they be especially requested to support the effort now being made by the roads wishing to cross the state to merge the whole of their respective lines into one through line.

RESOLVED 2nd, That they be requested to solicit aid in their legislative efforts from the Senators and

Representatives living along the line of any of the above prospected routes.

RESOLVED 3rd, That in the opinion of this Association, it would be unwise, impolitic and detrimental to the best interests of the state to repeal the act of 1879, taxing the net earnings of railroads.

JAY GOULD INVITED

The following resolutions were also passed:

WHEREAS, Mr. Jay Gould is soon expected to visit Arkansas to investigate its resources and topography, and

WHEREAS, Fort Smith is in the midst of the richest mineral and agricultural region of the state and is so geographically located that it must be the center of a great future railroad system, and

WHEREAS, We desire to invite the inspection of capitalists from abroad. It is therefore.

RESOLVED, That we extend to Mr. Gould and party an earnest invitation to visit Fort Smith, and that the following committee be appointed to provide special transportation, and escort the party from Little Rock in the event of acceptance.

COMMITTEE

Hon. Wm M. Fishback, Col. J. R. Kannady, Maj. Frank Parke, Major Thos. Lanigan, Capt. Frank Freer and Lawrence Lamb.

Feb. 23, 1881

The Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad has a telephone from the depot in Van Buren to the transfer boat. It is a novelty and quite a convenience.

The bill introduced in the Arkansas Legislature by E. B. Moore, of Fayetteville, providing for holding elections for state officers every four years is a very good one. We have too much legislating, too much unhealthy excitement incident to frequent elections. No one profits by it but demagogues. People get tired of being called upon so often to vote. Hence bad, designing men can get up a cheaply bought crowd, to do the voting for the people. The people would be better off to have their state and county officials elected only once in four years. It takes the smartest man some time before he is well posted in the duties of his office and to turn him out in a year or two just after he has been well qualified to be a good officer, is nonsense. It is true, there might be a bad man elected for four years. Well, in that case the people have only to blame themselves, and it will serve them as a warning to select a good man next time.

FORT SMITH BAR ASSOCIATION

The members of the legal profession have recently formed an organization for mutual improvement, and to advance the dignity of their calling, which, when rightly exercised, is one of the noblest. But, as in every other profession, there are

unworthy members and to exclude such is one of the duties and objects of the organization.

The organization is as yet temporary with Col. Geo. A. Grace as Chairman, and Maj. P. J. M. McGreevey, Secretary. A committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by laws but has not reported yet.

EDUCATION AMONG THE COLORED PEOPLE

The colored citizens of Fort Smith are putting forth an effort to better their educational facilities. The first regular mass meeting of the citizens at Howard School Monday night resulted in the transaction of the following:

Rev. A. A. Williams was elected Chairman *pro tem*, who after stating the object of the meeting gave way to the following permanent officers:

President, Lewis Bolden; Vice President, Rev. Hudson Trice; Secretary Prof. J. C. Hawkins; Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Browne; Reporter, Walter Scott.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. RESOLVED, That we need a larger and better school building, one well furnished with good comfortable furniture and grounds more healthful and attractive.

2. RESOLVED, That we make the effort to do all we can for the purpose by opening a subscription list and holding regular meetings.

3. RESOLVED, That we select a committee of two of our most reliable and influential citizens be appointed to solicit their aid among our fellow citizens.

4. RESOLVED, That a committee be appointed to wait on the school board and solicit their aid and encouragement, and also endorsement to our list.

After the adoption of these resolutions the subscription list was opened with a most satisfactory result.

The Soliciting committee are Messrs Lewis Bolden and Alfred Browne. Committee to visit School Board, Rev. A. A. Williams and Wesley F. Lewis. After this the meeting adjourned to meet Monday night, Feb. 21st, 1881. The public are earnestly invited to attend, our aim is to erect a good house and encourage educational interests among our people. It is our purpose to continue until the end is reached.

Reporter, W. Scott.

POPULATION OF ARKANSAS

Counties	No.
Arkansas	8,038
Ashely	10,156
Baxter	6,004
Benton	20,328

Boone	12,137
Bradley	6,285
Calhoun	5,671
Carroll	13,337
Chicot	10,117
Clark	15,771
Clay	7,213
Columbia	14,087
Conway	12,754
Craighead	7,037
Crawford	14,740
Crittendon	9,415
Cross	5,051
Dallas	6,507
Desha	8,773
Dersey	8,370
Drew	12,231
Faulkner	12,785
Franklin	14,951
Fulton	6,720
Garland	9,023
Grant	6,185
Greene	7,481
Hempstead	19,015
Hot Springs	7,775
Howard	9,927
Independence	18,086
Izard	18,856
Jackson	10,877
Jefferson	22,385
Johnson	11,565
Lafayette	5,739
Lawrence	8,782
Lee	13,288
Lincoln	9,255
Little River	6,404
Logan	14,885
Lonoke	12,147
Madison	11,455
Marion	7,907
Miller	9,919
Mississippi	7,382
Monroe	9,570
Montgomery	5,428
Newton	6,127
Nevada	12,959
Ouachita	11,757
Perry	3,872
Phillips	21,262
Pike	6,345
Poinsett	2,192
Polk	5,857
Pope	14,325
Prairie	8,435
Pulaski	32,663
Randolph	11,724
St. Francis	8,399
Saline	8,393

Scott	9,174
Searcy	7,278
Sebastian	19,560
Sevier	6,192
Sharp	9,047
Stone	4,089
Union	13,417
Van Buren	9,565
Washington	23,844
White	17,794
Woodruff	8,646
Yell	13,852

Total	802,564
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FROM THE BEAUTIFUL INDIAN TERRITORY

A Soldier's Letter - The Payne Boomers - Soldiers Life on the Frontier

FORT RENO, INDIAN TERRITORY,

February 7, 1881

Editor NEW ERA

Dear Sir: Let me give you a little description of the Payne Campaign. Our company moved out Dec. 8th to take part in the repulse of the Oklahoma invaders. I will give you a brief statement of the part the troops took in it.

Company H 4th Cav. Lieut. Mason in command, had arrived at Caldwell, Kansas from Colorado. Company G 4con, Lieut. Wood in command, moved out early in Nov. to a prominent camp about thirty-five miles from Ft. Reno, where his company was prominently posted. Dec. 8 Company I 23rd mounted Infantry, 21 strong, Lieut. Pardee in command, accompanied by Company F 4th Cav. from Ft. Sill, moved to the camp where Company G 4th Cav. was located.

On Dec. 9th, Capt. G. W. Randall of Company H 23rd with D. Bonister arrived in camp from Reno. He took command. On Dec. 10th early in the morning a courier from Lieut. Mason, Company A 4con called for reinforcements, having headed off Payne and a party of invaders who were moving along the line. Randall at once took Companys F A G 4con and marched in light order leaving all company property to follow. Randall overtook Lieut. Mason when two days out with Payne and party feeling their way along the line, Payne halted for two days, during this time Company C. 4th Cav. Captain Crews in command arrived at the permanent camp now called Camp Wood. Company I 23rd Infantry, and Company C kept parties 4 to 6 men out in every direction and looking for what the soldiers called boomers and invaders.

Randall went in person to Caldwell, Kansas where telegraph and railroads were at his command. Payne and Boomers concluded to take the back track as far as Humerville, Kansas, where they went in camp. The soldiers having recovered their

rations, blankets and forage for stock camped down and had a kind of a time the boys call a picnic. Nothing to do but spin yarns, drink, sleep and a little guard duty at night. Well, the Caldwellites had an eye on their pocket book, so they concluded that if they could get two or three companys of soldiers with their horses and Payne and Boomers it would be a business stroke not to be missed, so they sent their big guns to the Boomers, and the Boomers took the bait readily.

Payne and followers took up their march for Caldwell. The Caldwellites were in high spirits; they had hit it hot.

Company H 4th Cav. remained at Caldwell, Company F went to Humerville and G 4th Cav went to Arkansas City and went in camp to watch the border for Boomers. Company C and I at Camp Wood, kept up a regular scouting party out 5 to 10 days. While this was going on, hay and corn and oats and rations arrived in abundance. The soldiers while out scouting would kill antelope, wild turkey and any amount of ducks and prairie chickens, which they would bring in with them, and the boys really had a holiday feast. If not a picnic. Dec. 30 Company H 23rd marched or rode to Reno in 5 hours in a cold wind from the north, leaving Company C 4th Cav. at Camp Wood. Mustered for pay 31, and then marched down to the river and set to work cutting ice and filling an ice house.

Jan. 16 Company H 4th Cav. came in from Caldwell and took post here, Jan. 20th Company G 4th Cav. came in from Arkansas City, Jan. 26 Company G 4th Cav. Lieut Wood, moved out to Camp Wood to relieve Company C 4th Cav. who moved to their post Fort Sill. Jan. 24 Mrs. Bowers, a woman with two small children, living temporarily here died. Sick four days. 23 January, 16 recruits from Columbus, Ohio, arrived for Company I 23rd regiment. While Company I was out Company E, colored regiment came in from Ft. Sill and took post, also Company G 23rd infantry came in from Cantonment North Fork Canadian River, and took post. Feb. 1, Company F came in from Hummerville, Kansas, on their way to Fort Sill Indian Territory. Company G 4th Cav. at Camp Wood is the only one now out.

Some ten days back some parties hauling manure out of one of the corrals were caught half way between the post and a milk ranch with 12 sacks of corn, on their way to the milk ranch, kept by a discharged soldier, John Brown, who has sixty cows and sells all his milk, winter and summer at 40 cents a gallon. A large number of persons were brought before a court of officers, to find out the guilty parties. Well, J. Brown went in the guard house for four days, and then given four days to leave hook and line for a place where such things don't often happen.

Each company in the army has a man whose trade was tailor before he enlisted. Now, the man who was tailor in Company I 23rd Regiment Infantry, time is out. A good, sober man and a good tailor has a chance to enlist as a private soldier, and he can have clothes to alter for officers and men, sure pay, good room to work in or a tent while in the field and excused from most all kinds of soldiers' duty. With a machine such a man can make over one hundred dollars a month clear. And if the man don't drink or gamble, he can lay by enough to set him up in business at the end of five years. The one whose time is just out left for Omaha to-day, he had a wife and several children. His wife made from \$40 to \$50 a month as laundress for the company. Should you know of a good man who can practice self-denial for several years, let him write to Capt. G. M. Randall, Fort Reno and he will get full particulars and secure the place. We also want a good blacksmith and horse shoer, a fine opening for a good man, a poor one will not be acceptable on any condition.

Soldier.

March 2, 1881

The transfer boat at Van Buren is in good running order now, and transfers are being made with regularity and speed.

At Washington City, in the House of Representatives the vote on the bill for a railroad from Arkansas City, Kansas, to Fort Smith was 121 for it, and 34 against it.

Two marriages took place on our Gretna Green last Tuesday afternoon. Rev. H. Turner was the officiating minister, and the contracting couples were Mr. Wm Winklepleck and Miss Polly R. Frowzier, and Mr. Hugh Hope and Miss Isabelle Ray all from the Indian Territory. Fort Smith is acquiring fame as a rendezvous for runaway couples, as it is but a step across the line into the Indian Territory, and no license required.

THE COURT HOUSE AT GREENWOOD BURNED

A Sad, But Long Expected Calamity

Last Wednesday night the Courthouse at Greenwood, the county seat of the County of Sebastian, for there are two county seats, was burned to the ground with all its records. The house itself was but a mere shell of wood and of little value, though it cost the people enough to have had in its stead a far more substantial and safe building. But the destruction of all the county records is a most serious loss and calamity to the people of the whole county.

To the shame of this county it must be said, that, though one of the most populous and prosperous in the whole state, its care of the public records and the means of holding its courts are the most shabby of any county in the state. This is all owing to the

wretched wrangling about the county seat, in the interest of a few persons who would sacrifice the public good to their own private advantage. Sebastian County ought to have but-one county seat, and one fire-proof building ever. The Greenwood district will have to go to the expense of building another courthouse, and as experience is the best teacher, the next courthouse will probably be built on a different plan.

The Fort Smith district will meet with a like catastrophe, sooner or later, unless the people of Fort Smith have a better place for the records of the district, which now is over a saloon, when the damage is done it will be to late to wish it were otherwise.

As we said a few weeks since, when the question of building a courthouse was agitated here, it is simply a criminal neglect and wretched parsimony not to have a solid substantial fire-proof building for the preservation of our public records and the holding of our courts.

Death of a Noble Indian Chief

John Chupco, Chief of the Seminoles, one of the five civilized tribes of the Indian Territory, died on the 17th of February last at Wewoka, the capital of the Seminoles, of pneumonia, in his sixtieth year.

John Chupco, or Long John, as his fellow soldiers in the Union Army used to call him, was born in Florida and came west after the surrender of the Seminoles under Billy Bowlegs, John Jumper and other noted chiefs, in the early part of 1850.

He was Principal Chief of the Seminole Nation continuously during the last fifteen years, and a professing Christian. He was like a father to his people, wise in the council, the friend of the widow and the fatherless and earnest in the worship of God.

When the rebellion broke out, he wisely and patriotically joined the Union forces, and served all during war, amid great suffering to his people, who were driven from their country by the Confederate forces.

Physically, he was one of the finest specimens of his race, six feet seven inches tall, straight as an arrow, and of dignified and courteous bearing. In him his people have lost one of their best friends, a wise counselor and most prominent man.

March 9, 1881

Messrs Tucker & Rouse of Memphis, Tenn. have rented the fine building of E. C. Brogan on Garrison Avenue, and are fitting it up for a first class saloon and billiard hall.

Inquiries have been made by strangers coming into the city whether the stock that daily perambulates our streets, are owned by the merchants or by the city government. Cattle,

horses, and hogs, overrun the avenue and all parts of the town, and they should by all means be confined by their owners. We need a strictly enforced ordinance, and should have it immediately, to clear the streets of this great nuisance. It certainly does not add to the appearance and good character of a progressive city like Fort Smith, to have its principal streets resemble a stock farm.

A lively interest is now being manifested in regard to the bridging of the river at Van Buren. Mr. Converse, President of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway Company is greatly interested in Arkansas railroads and manifests a desire to co-operate with the St. Louis, Arkansas, and Southern railroad in bridging the river at Van Buren. It will have to be done, and the present is as good as any time. We hope the people of Van Buren and Fort Smith will agitate the matter and help the boom forward, in order that it will be built as soon as possible.

THE PAYNE TRIAL

The celebrated Payne case came up yesterday in the U.S. Court before Judge Parker. Very able arguments were made on both sides, occupying the whole day. On the part of Captain Payne and the invaders of Oklahoma, Judge Parker of St. Louis, and Judge W. Walker of this city endeavored to prove that the lands claimed to be public were so in fact, while Judge Duncan of Iowa, himself a Cherokee and thoroughbred gentlemen of fine physical appearance and elegant manners, defended the rights of the Indians in conjunction with Hon. W. H. H. Clayton U.S. District Attorney, who showed himself very fully posted on the matter.

Altogether the proceedings in court yesterday were of a highly interesting nature, being of national importance and conducted with great dignity and ability.

Judge Parker took the case under advisement till the May term of court.

March 16, 1881

Miss Nancy Thompson is still living at Tulleshassec Mission. She came as a missionary to the Cherokees in Georgia in 1821, and who can measure the good she has accomplished. Sixty years in the wilderness helping to educate the Indians. Verily she should have a warm corner in the hearts of these people.

A sand bar forming in the river at Van Buren is causing a good deal of trouble.

March 23, 1881

Mr. Chas M. Tinney, an attorney from Virginia, Illinois is visiting our city. He is the Associate Editor of the Virginia Gazette, Published by Mr. Cad

Allard. Mr. Tinney thinks of severing his connection in Illinois, and making Fort Smith his home.

Mr. W. J. Echols and family, and niece Miss Anna Carter, of Senatobia, Mississippi, are among the newly acquired citizens of Fort Smith.

Reeves & O'Daniels have added another specimen to their collection of curiosities. This time it is a large alligator, taken from the Poteau River. Its length is seven and one half feet, and its weight 123 pounds.

It is on exhibition with the "Yaller" coon, and any purchasing groceries there can see it free of charge.

White Bear and Buffalo Chips, Cheyenne Indians who were sentenced to one year's imprisonment at Detroit for larceny, by the U.S. Court, returned last Thursday, and paid a visit to their old quarters the U.S. Jail. These Indians look quite like young gentlemen, being dressed in a neat suit of black, with stylish hats, instead of the savage blanket which adorned their bodies when brought to Ft. Smith.

Buffalo Chips has learned to make chairs, while White Bear will be able to set up in the tin business. Both have learned to read and write.

Moral -- If you wish to become useful and high toned, steal something and pass one year at the model prison of the world, the House of Correction at Detroit, Michigan.

The Arkansas Industrial University has 400 students.

April 6, 1881

The Pistol Bill passed both houses of the General Assembly. Fifty dollars is the lowest fine now for carrying pistols.

Mr. George H. Williams will soon have his wonderful brick machine running; enough capital having been subscribed to start it. The machine turns out about twenty-five thousand brick an hour.

The Arkansas River at Van Buren, was sounded last Thursday, and rock bottom found at a depth of 13 feet on Van Buren side.

An offer of \$2,500 was refused by a property owner for twenty-five feet on Garrison Avenue last week.

April 13, 1881

SECURE HOMES

The Secretary of the Building Association will be at the City Hall from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday the 16th inst., and those who have not yet paid their first installment in this Association can do so then. This closes the time for the first payment. The money will be loaned on Tuesday, the 26th inst. Who will be the

fortunate one to dwell under his own vine and fig tree through this charitable Association?

Those who have not taken stock can do so any time during this week, or at the above time and place without any extra fee.

By order Board Directors.
J. S. Williamson, Sec'y

April 20, 1881

ATTENTION

We gladly publish the following circular issued by Hon. James L. Denton, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. It is just what is needed and contains suggestions which should be fully carried out by school directors:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT. LITTLE ROCK, April 9, 1881.

To School Directors:

Your attention is called to the fact that the Legislature amended Section fifty-four (54) of the school law so as to read as follows:

"That the electors of each organized schools district shall, annually, on the third Saturday in May, at 2 o'clock p.m., hold a public meeting to be designed the "Annual School Meeting of the District."

The business to be transacted remains unchanged. Give Section fifty-six (56) a careful reading, that the action of the meeting may not be invalidated by any irregularity. If any of the directors should not attend the meeting, the voters may choose judges in place of those not attending, and a director may administer the oath to judges and clerks, for school purposes.

The five-mill tax should be more generally voted than ever before. Good schools cost money. It is worse than folly to think of educating the masses on the two-mill tax levied by the state. Such a wild experiment would soon swamp the commonwealth. The district tax is the principal source of revenue for the support of schools. A district that depends solely on a meager allowance from the state school fund, will never accomplish anything. Where such a blind policy obtains, it results in very short terms and very poor teachers. Local taxation is the life of the free school system. Educational sentiment possesses most vitality in the states that rely mainly on district taxation for the support of schools.

Call on your County Examiner for notices of the Annual Meeting. Post in three or more conspicuous places, at least fifteen (15) days previous to the meetings. See Section sixty-nine (69) of the school law. Urge the voters of your district to attend the meeting and make liberal provision for the education of their children.

Respectfully,
James L. Denton
State Superintendent Public Inst.

Mr.. Frank Weaver of the Independent, is entitled to our sincere thanks for his offer of assistance in case of need on account of the fire in our office.

The NEW ERA has always been one of the brightest lights of Western Arkansas, and the office in which it is published came near being not only a light but a flaming conflagration last Friday evening, only the opportune aid of many friends prevented such a catastrophe. The origin of the fire is not known.

Arkansas has 1000 post-offices.

DIED

KNOBLE -- Last Monday morning at his residence on Wayen Street, Mr. Joseph Knoble in his 54 year.

April 27, 1881

OUR COTTON COMPRESS AND OIL MILL

Last Friday morning a special train arrived in our city at 6 o'clock from Little Rock, under the escort of the efficient superintendent, T. Hartman, bringing E. Urquhart, Zeb Ward, and Logan H. Roots, of Little Rock; Messrs James Miller and J. W. Cochrane of Memphis; Judge Huntington, of Boston. A large number of the most active businessmen of this city assembled at an early hour in the Baird house parlor to welcome the distinguished guests. It was soon explained that the object of the visit was an earnest determination on the part of the principal owners of the mammoth oil mill and compress properties in Little Rock and Baring Cross to invest in the compress and oil mill properties in Fort Smith. After a full and free conference a company was organized. At a meeting held at the Baird house Friday afternoon at three o'clock articles of Association were prepared by the committee appointed for the purpose. The corporation will be known as the Fort Smith Oil and Cotton Compress Company, and will have for its purpose the manufacture of oil from cotton seed, making oil cake soap and other articles from cotton seed; buying, selling and ginning cotton, compressing cotton, and the manufacture of thread, yarn, rope, twine and cloths. The authorized capital will be \$100,000, of which \$60,000 has been subscribed. A committee was appointed to select a site for buildings, which will be done during the week.

May 4, 1881

Mr. J. P. Clark is the gentleman who secured the first loan from our Building and Loan Association. He intends building a commodious dwelling on the site of the old one.

Mr. Levi Zinn is soliciting subscriptions from our merchants to defray the expenses of sprinkling our streets this summer. He intends having a sprinkler.

After empanneling the Grand Jury, Judge Parker delivered his charge to it, instructing them in their duties and laying special stress upon the evils arising in the Indian Territory from the illicit whiskey trade.

The first case called was that of
PAYNE, THE OKLAHOMA INVADER.

This celebrated case had been before the court last term and Judge Parker rendered his decision upon it, a decision which is final, no appeal under the law being possible. Judge Parker held that the occupancy of the ceded lands in the Indian Territory by citizens of the United States was illegal, and that, while the Indians had re-conveyed their title to these lands to the government, it was altogether with the latter to say what disposition shall be made of them. The opinion delivered was quite lengthy and we probably will give it in our next number. This ends the Payne boom.

The following cases have been disposed of thus far:

Elias Jenkins, assault with intent to kill, not guilty.

Wm Drew, violating Int. Rev., trial progressing.

May 11, 1881

A party of young people chartered the steamer "Jennie May" and went on a moonlight excursion last evening up the broad Arkansas. A barge was taken along, also the string band for dancing purposes. The steamer left the wharf at 8:30 p.m. and it was 2 a.m. when she returned. All voted the excursion a success, and will expect another soon.

The city fathers charge one dollar for dog license and fifty cents for the certificate. This is barefaced robbery and should not be submitted to by the people. Why charge half a dollar for certifying that the tax has been paid? Suppose the sheriff should charge in like proportion for his certificate that the taxes were paid. We repeat, the extra charge is a swindle upon the people whether done by "law" or otherwise and should be abated.

May 18, 1881

The Postmaster General has ordered the steamboat mail route discontinued between Little Rock and Fort Smith.

Our city is to have a street railway. Articles of Association have been filed at Little Rock for the Fort Smith Street Railway Company. The Company is composed of three gentlemen, Messrs John Vaughan, F. T. Smith, and Wm. J. Echols. The capital is \$10,000.

The cotton compress and oil mill will be erected on the Little Rock Railway near Dr. DuVal's residence. The machinery has been purchased and

work will commence at an early day. The first assessment upon stock has been collected, and the compress will be ready for work by September 1st.

VISITORS FROM OKLAHOMA

Col. D. N. McIntosh of the Creek Nation is in attendance on the U.S. Court here. The Col. is of a famous family and though a thorough Indian is also a thoroughbred gentleman and accomplished scholar. We had several pleasant interviews with him. He raised and commanded a regiment on the Confederate side during the late "unpleasantness," but is thoroughly reconstructed, an evidence of which is, that he supported and voted for a colored man now a Supreme Judge of his nation. The Colonel says, that in his nation they have buried the hatchet and have no difference among them as to race or color.

Judge G. W. Stidham, one of the leading men of the Creek Nation, also paid us a pleasant visit. Judge Stidham crossed the Mississippi in 1829, when his tribe was moving west to its present domain and has held numerous positions of honor and trust among his people and is a man of keen sense of honor and justice.

Mr. John E. Simpson, a prominent citizen of Eufala, Indian Territory, is in town in attendance on the U.S. Court and paid us a sociable visit.

May 25, 1881

NOTICE

Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway
Superintendent's Office
Little Rock, Ark. May 18, 1881

"Horsehead Creek" Station, on this road, will hereafter be called Hartman, to conform with the name of the Post Office at that point. Agents of this road and connecting lines will please observe the change.

T. Hartman, Superintendent

The school tax election held on last Saturday was in favor of the five mills tax. This secures the continuance of our public schools, which are now flourishing finely.

Mr. Frank W. Smith of Little Rock, representing Messrs O'Dougherty & Sarchet, publishers of the Union City Directory of the five leading cities of the state, arrived here last evening and is stopping at the Baird house. The work of compiling has been finished in all the cities included in the work except this city. Mr. Smith will commence work at once. Little Rock, Hot Springs, Pine Bluff, Eureka Springs and Fort Smith are the cities to be placed in the work. A city directory is what we long have needed, heretofore we have only been accorded a business directory in works of a similar character. Our business and professional men should see to it that our city is creditably represented.

Sometime near the beginning of the present month a large lot of cattle was stolen from Col. John S. Simpson and other parties near Eufala, I.T. The crime was fastened upon the three Weldon boys and a notorious character by the name of David Best. The U.S. Marshal placed writs in the hands of the Chief of Police of the Indian Territory, Capt. Sam Sixkiller, a very efficient officer by a Creek Police, John Porter, at the instance of Indian Agent Tufts and were turned over to Lieut. Hendricks at Muskogee last Thursday. Hendricks is a posse of Capt. Sixkiller, and was to have turned the prisoners over to him. On Thursday night he went to a meeting at Muskogee and while there, Bob Sewell, also a member of the U.S. Indian Police got the key of the jail and released all of the scoundrels. He is supposed to have been heavily bribed. The escaped thieves will doubtless be captured again before long.

June 1, 1881

OFF FOR DETROIT

U.S. Marshal Dell in company with deputies J. T. Ayers, Thomas E. Lacy, J. M. Caldwell, Addison Beck, together with Bass Reeves and George Maledon as guards departed Tuesday morning last with 21 prisoners sentenced to the House of Correction at Detroit, Michigan. This makes 90 convicts transported by Marshal Dell during the short period that he has been in office. The following names are a list of those forming the last batch, viz:

Walking-the-same, Bone-Heart, Burning Sun, Henry Lewis, Following, Jas. W. Henderson, David Vaughn, Bud Impson, Abraham Lee, Albert Cole, Bald-Eagle, Almost-Together, Black Arrow, He-wa-ka, Brooks Cribbs, Henry Williams, George Lowery, John W. Coen, Frank Webster, Henry Gains, Mrs. Arena Howe.

THE FRONTIER GUARDS

By CRITIQUE

The thirtieth day of beauteous May,

With sunny gloam and golden beam,

With flowers gay, brave decoration day,

That honors the dead, who sweetly dream.

A noble oration by Colonel Grace,

A sprinkling well of the nation's wards,

But the noblest feature of the place,

Was the gallant boys of the Frontier Guards

I heard the tramp, the gallant tread,

The brave Devany at their head,

I moved beside the cedar tree

Just as the Captain smiled at me.

"Lieutenant Read, ain't he a pet"

The lady smiled and said "you bet,"

And somebody murmured, "you darling man"

"Your the sweetest one of the Frontier clan."

Lieutenant Shelton with courtly tread
 Slightly bows his plumed head
 And sweet blue eyes glance towards
 The gallant officer of the Frontier Guards.
 But I must not forget the Martial Cohn
 A statue militaire, as if carved of stone
 But the soldier who set our hearts on fire
 Was the glorious veteran, Sergeant Pryor.
 With gray attire and many a button
 That flashed his beauty, came Sergeant Sutton,
 Just then a girl as sly as a mouse
 Threw a kiss at Private Rouse.
 The rear closed up with a Cherokee
 Who looked as war-like as he could be
 And next to Gid marched Willie Dell
 I knew who admired, but dare not tell.
 And Miss _____ remarked "I will not budge"
 "Until I see the Soldier Judge,"
 He passed along, a vision fair
 But heeded not, love's voiceless prayer.
 "He give not a glance of his hero eye
 But like a soldier marches by,
 "Oh, Yantis darling, my buttoned love,
 Has thou forgot thy promised dove?
 I cannot name the glorious array
 Who marched as Guards, Decoration Day
 But every man who trod the sward
 Caught the girls, if a "Frontier Guard."
 And wives looked proud that day,
 Whose husbands marched in the bright array
 They seemed to say "If you want a solid pard
 You'll have to marry a Frontier Guard."

June 8, 1881

The contract for rebuilding the courthouse at Greenwood was given to Mr. Geo. Holt, of Alma.

The Frontier Guards were out on the reserve drilling last Monday. For a first attempt at company drill they did extremely well. The unmilitary habit of talking in ranks detracts very much from the appearance of the Company, as does the petty insubordination that is occasionally shown by some of the members.

"PILGRIMS TO THE 'PEN' "

TWENTY UNITED STATES PRISONERS PASS THROUGH THE CITY TO THE DETROIT PRISON - ALMOST A MURDER.

People at the Union Depot were startled yesterday morning by the arrival of a strange and motley crew of men who disembarked from the Iron Mountain Train. They were the United States Marshal of Texas and a half dozen deputies, having in charge twenty prisoners -- nineteen men and one woman. A more villainous and desperate looking set was never seen outside of Texas. Some were murderers and others horse thieves and general hard characters. The woman was under sentence

for ten years for murder. There were eight full-blooded Osage Indians, all convicted of horse and cattle stealing. Six of them are said to be quite wealthy, being worth from \$18,000 to \$20,000 each.

The Deputy Marshals attracted as much attention as their charges, on account of their rough, uncouth appearance. Everyone of them carried in his hand a revolver almost as big as a carbine. During the presence of the party at the depot a sanguinary affray, at first rather serious, but when explained extremely ludicrous, almost occurred, and was averted only by the presence of mind of United States Marshal Dell. The prisoners were marched into the waiting room and huddled together at the west end. All the Deputy Marshals stood around guarding them with revolvers in hand. A countryman who had been drinking a cup of coffee at the counter, without being aware of the party behind them, stepped right in their midst. One of the Marshals, thinking that a rescue of the prisoners was intended, sprang toward the stranger and pointed his revolver at him. Officer Dickson, who observed all this, supposed that a shooting affray was imminent, and rushed between the men, seizing the Marshal's revolver. In a twinkling the other men had their weapons pointed in the officer's face. Any movement on the part of Dickson might have cost him his life; hardly realizing the true state of affairs, he stood paralyzed with astonishment. Fortunately, Marshal Dell came in, and taking in the situation at a glance, ordered his men to put down their arms. A general explanation followed, and what might have been a bloody destruction of life terminated happily all around.

The Marshal and his aids left on an east bound train with their prisoners for Detroit, Mich., where the latter are to be placed in the United States Penitentiary.--*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

The G.D. has made a slight mistake in the above article. The U.S. Marshal was not from Texas, but was Marshal Dell from Fort Smith, Ark. The countryman was drunk and notwithstanding the request of the guards repeatedly made, persisted in his attempt to get among the prisoners. Such conduct looking suspicious Deputy Ayers threw his six-shooter down on the irrepressible individual and ordered him out from among the prisoners. Officer Dickson perceiving this, rushed forward and seized Ayer's revolver, which the other guards immediately resented by drawing their revolvers on the officer. We think that the deputies did exactly right in the matter, as such a commotion would materially assist any of the prisoners in their desire to escape, and no attempt was made by the police to remove the offending party. The justice of the act was acknowledged by the officer, and we are glad that it had a happy termination.

June 15, 1881

The new buildings on the avenue are going up very fast, and scarcely a vestige of the old frame shells remain on the Park Maine and Lane block.

Another brick building will soon be in the course of erection on the Avenue, next to Pappenheimer's store.

FRONTIER GUARD'S PICNIC

The excursion of the *Frontier Guards* last Thursday on the *Jennie May*, down the Arkansas three miles below Van Buren, was a fine affair and greatly enjoyed by all participants numbering, besides the military about 120 ladies and gentlemen, the elite of the Frontier City. The *Frontier Guards* are rapidly acquiring under the instruction of Capt. P. T. Devany and his officers, a fine soldierly appearance and efficiency and are a credit to the city. The *Frontier Guards* are composed of some of the best young men of this city and deserve great credit for the labor, expense and trouble they have been at in forming so creditable an organization.

June 22, 1881

Mr. Cad Allard has taken charge of the Elevator, as editor and part owner.

DOOMED

FIVE MURDERERS SENTENCED TO BE HUNG

On Thursday morning, June 16th, there were sentenced in the United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas by Judge I. C. Parker, three white men and two Indians to be hung on

September 9th

1881, for the crime of murder committed in the Indian Territory. The scene was an impressive one and was witnessed by a large number of spectators, who had gathered in the ample court room. The prisoners were seated in a row, in front of the Judge's seat, surrounded by U.S. Deputy Marshals.

The first man called up was

George W. Padgett,

a Texican, 22 years old, who shot and killed his employer. Wm H. Stephens, a Texas cattle man, who was taking 3,000 head of cattle to the states from Texas through the Indian Territory. The men had a trifling dispute, when Padgett shot Stephens off his horse. The murderer was pursued instantly by other cattle men and Major Hood, of Emporia, Kansas, who at the time, was trying to buy Stephen's herd, captured him after a race of some miles. His relatives live in Jacksboro, Texas. He is a native of Smith County, Texas.

William Brown

the next man called up, is a white man, a native of Davis County, Mo., and about twenty-six years of

age. He killed a young man, Ralph Tate, near Fort Sill, Chickasaw Nation some 300 miles west of here, mistaking him for another man, with whom he had had a difficulty. The father of the young man, on hearing of his son's death, hunted up Brown, who had fled to Texas, and, after obtaining a special commission from the U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas, brought him to Fort Smith, having traveled with his prisoner 400 miles through a wild country. During all this trip Tate had the prisoner chained to his own body, being determined to bring him to justice or die in the attempt.

The next man told to stand up and be sentenced was an Irishman,

Pat McGowan,

aged 35. Last year he rented some land and raised a crop with one Latta. The latter sold out to him before the crop was gathered and went to a place twelve miles away. In July last year Pat McGowan went to Latta's place and without saying a word shot him down in presence of his family. He was promptly arrested, tried and found guilty and doubtless will suffer the extreme penalty of the law, unless a presidential pardon interferes. His wife and four children were here at the trial and present in court most of the time, the youngest being a few months old.

The last sentenced were

TWO CREEK INDIANS

aged twenty and eighteen respectively, named Amos and Abel Manley, who committed some of the most awful deeds of blood ever recorded.

On the 14th of December they knocked late at night at the humble cabin of a man named McVeigh, living some miles from Eufaula, Indian Territory. They were hospitably received and made comfortable before the fire. During the night McVeigh, a young man with a young wife and twin babes, had to get up with one of the babies, who was ill. While sitting before the fire, holding his child, he was shot dead by one of the assassins while the other ran out and got an axe, with which he attacked a young man, Barrett, employed by McVeigh.

The unfortunate young man received a fearful cut in his head, another in his neck, either of them supposed to be mortal. The fiends also cut off his right hand and tried to chop off his legs, cutting the flesh to the bone. He was left for dead in a pool of his own blood.

The fiends then turned upon the young wife

JUST MADE A WIDOW,

intending to take the life of the last witness of their hellish deeds. But just then a dog belonging to the house commenced barking vigorously at the door, turning his head frequently in the direction of the road, as if some one was approaching. This saved the life of the young mother and probably of her twin babies, for the cowardly assassins, immediately fled

from the scene of their horrible deeds.

The poor woman who, believing both her husband and Barrett dead, gathered up her babes and fled to the nearest neighbor's house, half a mile distant, which proved to be Dr. L. C. Tennant's, where she was kindly cared for and where, wonderful to relate, shortly afterwards young Barrett also arrived in a condition too frightful to contemplate. But he lived and was able to appear against the assassins, his crippled arm and immense scars in head, neck and thighs being telling mementoes of the cruelty of his assailants.

It is but just to state that, as soon as the murder became known, leading citizens of the Creek Nation offered

A REWARD OF \$200

for the capture of the murderers. They were soon apprehended by Captain Berryhill of the Creek Police Force, and L. H. Posey, a leading Creek citizen, who turned them over to the U.S. Chief of Police of the Indian Territory, Capt. Sam Sixkiller, who also holds a commission under Marshal Dell, as Deputy U.S. Marshal, and who, with his guards, delivered them in safe custody to the Marshal.

Before sentence being pronounced, at the inquiry by Judge Parker if they had anything to say, why sentence should not be pronounced, all declined to make any remarks except Padgett, who merely said: "I had to do it," meaning the killing of Stephens.

All took their doom without the betrayal of any emotions. The day set for the execution, September 9th, eleven weeks from next Friday, is sufficiently distant to give the condemned, as the Judge remarked, time to ponder seriously over their perilous situation and try to make their peace with God, and not waste their precious remaining hours on this earth in planning to escape their doom.

A LIVELY BUSINESS

THE BIGGEST U.S. COURT IN THE COUNTRY

Since last August there were convicted in the U.S.

Court for the Western District of Arkansas

253 PERSONS

and sentenced as follows:

Jail at Fort Smith, Ark., 157; Penitentiary at Little Rock, Ark., 10; House of Correction, Detroit, Michigan, 81; to be hung Sept. 9, 1881 at Fort Smith, 5; Total 253.

The May term, including the months of May, June and July has been in session since the first Monday in May and will last some time longer. All the criminal cases have been disposed of except one important murder case, that of two Seminole Indians, Thomas Factor and Tulwahargo, accused of murdering two white men, Scott Davis and a Mr. Bateman in the Indian Territory sometime last winter. After disposing of this case the civil docket will occupy the court some weeks longer. In fact the

court is in session nearly all the year around.

THE BOYS IN BLUE

U.S. Marshal Dell, of the Western District of Arkansas, has ordered a handsome uniform for his officers guards and bailiffs of dark blue cloth, with light blue cord at the side of the pataloons, and gilt buttons on the coats; the caps are to be of the U.S. officers fatigue pattern, with the letters indicating the rank of the wearer in gold letters in front. This uniform is to be worn by the deputies when on duty at court, as guards transporting prisoners or any other time they see fit. While out endeavoring to make arrests in the State of Indian Territory the uniform need not to be worn for obvious reasons. When thus attired, misunderstandings like that at the Union Depot at St. Louis recently will not occur again. All the officials under Marshal Dell are highly pleased with the arrangement.

June 29, 1881

The brick work on several of our new buildings is going forward very rapidly. There are, at latest accounts, eighteen two and three story bricks in various stages of erection.

THE FOURTH

We are to have a grand time next Monday, the 4th. A picnic will be given under the auspices of the Frontier Guard, and there will be orations, a prize drill; fireworks, music, dancing and other amusements. A red plume will be given to the best drilled men in the company.

Below we publish the programme. Let everybody attend. Miller's grove is a most beautiful spot in the upper end of the town.

PROGRAMME:

Sunrise Salute, 100 guns; on arrival of company upon the grounds Hail Columbia; salute 13 guns; Prayer, by chaplain; Reading Declaration Independence, by I. C. Parker; music; Oration by Hon. Wm H. H. Clayton; music; salute of 38 guns; Competitive Drill; Address by Hon. V. Dell,

DINNER.

Afternoon exercises; music; address by Col. Wm M. Cravens; music; Fat Man's Race; Climbing Greased Pole; Wheelbarrow race; Salute; Adjourned until 8 o'clock; dancing; music; fireworks; illumination.

THINK CHRISTMAS —

GIVE



The JOURNAL

\$10⁰⁰ Per Year

\$5⁰⁰ Per Copy

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li - some sort of graphic is used, other than a portrait.
 por - a portrait of the person(s) named is on page indicated.
 (---) - for such as spouse, title, marital status, degree, etc.
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