CHAPTER XIV.

CITIES AND TOWNS OF SHELBY COUNTY.

SHELBYVILLE.

As previously stated, Shelbyville was laid out by the county seat commissioners, in the fall of 1835. Prior to that time Lewis H. Gillaspy lived a little south-east of the town site, his land forming a part of the town. He was the first settler near the site.

Upon the organization of the county, Maj. Dickerson and others bestirred themselves to have the county seat located upon lands in which they were interested. They sought out the commissioners and notified them that the geographical center of the county was better suited for the county seat than any location elsewhere, and as they were restricted by law to a point three miles from said center, there was but little difficulty in getting them to a conclusion.

To the county court, at the October term, 1835, the commissioners made the following report : —

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

We, the undersigned, being notified by Henry Shurlds, Secretary of State of the State of Missouri, of our appointment as commissioners for selecting the seat of justice for Shelby county, did,— after causing the time and place of our meeting to be published in a public newspaper, viz.: the Palmyra *Courier*, which circulates in said county of Shelby, and causing the requisite number of advertisements to be set up in the most public places in said county — proceed, on the 5th day of October last, to view the different sites proposed by the citizens of said county ; and, after a thorough examination of all of the most eligible places within three miles of the geographical center (to which we were restricted by the act organizing said county), did select the following described lots : Twenty-five acres in the south-east corner of the south-west quarter of section 20, township 58 North, range 10 West ; also, 25 acres in the south-west corner of the south-

east quarter of the same section, donated by Obadiah Dickerson and Abraham Vandiver; also, ten acres of land in the north end of the west half of the north-east quarter of section 29, township and range aforesaid, donated by Lewis H. Gillaspy; and ten acres of land in the north end of east half of the north-west quarter of section 29, township and range aforesaid, donated by Samuel J. Parker.

<div style="text-align:right">

JOSEPH HARDY,

JAMES H. LAY,

ELIAS KINCHELOE,

Commissioners.

</div>

October 7, 1835.

In addition to the within donation of land, Obadiah Dickerson donated $50, as evidenced by his due bill dated October 7, 1835.

<div style="text-align:right">ELIAS KINCHELOE.</div>

As to the title of the land on which Shelbyville stands, Commissioner Elias Kincheloe made to the county court the following report:—

An abstract of title of the land selected for the seat of justice by the commissioners as evidenced by the title papers exhibited, to wit: A deed from O. Dickerson and wife and Abraham Vandiver and wife for 50 acres. Dickerson and Vandiver purchased of Andrew H. Crary and holds his deed duly acknowleged and certified. Crary holds the certificate of the receivers of the land-office for the land conveyed by him to Dickerson and Vandiver.

A deed from Moses D. Bates and wife and Lewis H. Gillaspy for 10 acres of land. Moses D. Bates holds the receiver's certificate for the land conveyed by him and wife and Gillaspy to the county of Shelby.

A deed from Samuel J. Parker for 10 acres of land. Parker holds the certificate of the receiver for the land conveyed by him to the county of Shelby.

The donation embraces 70 acres of land — 50 out of section 20, and 20 out of section 29, in township No. 58, of range No. 10, west, and is 125.22 poles north and south, by 89.44 poles from east to west.

<div style="text-align:right">ELIAS KINCHELOE.</div>

<div style="text-align:center">"THE FIRSTS."</div>

The first house in the place was built by Abraham Vandiver late in the fall of 1835 and completed in the early winter of 1836. It was of huge hewed logs, a story and a half high, and was built on lot 7, in block 8, or just south of the extreme south-west corner of the square — immediately south of the present site of Smith's City Hotel. It is still (1884) standing, in a good state of preservation, having been weatherboarded many years ago, and presenting a substantial and comfortable appearance. Here the first tavern stand was opened, the first courts in the town held, and the first goods sold.

March 15, 1836, the first sale of town lots came off. Thomas J. Bounds was the town commissioner, and it was under his direction that the town was surveyed.

May 21, of the same year, Abraham Vandiver took out license to keep an inn or tavern, and July 6, the first term of the county court was held here.

In April, 1837, Joseph and Thomas Holman and Robert Blackford opened grocery stores, and in June following Robert Brewington started a similar establishment. In July, Thomas O. and Hamlet W. Eskridge opened a tavern. In March, 1840, Joab Moberly had a tavern, and his and George Gaines', at Oak Dale, were then the only licensed places of entertainment in the county. But in that day no man turned a traveler away if there was room in his cabin, and the entertainment was usually without money and without price.

The name of the first child born can not now be definitely learned; but John Irwin was born in 1836, and if not the first he was certainly among the first-born of the town. His father, Dr. Thomas H. Irwin, settled in Shelbyville in 1836.

The first marriage was that of Gilbert Edmonds and Minerva J. Vandiver, at the house of Abraham Vandiver, November 12, 1835. Rev. Richard Sharp performed the ceremony.

The first physician was Dr. John W. Long, who came in the spring of 1836.

DIGGING FOR WATER.

In the first settlement of Shelbyville there was great inconvenience experienced from the want of water. It was found to be impossible to obtain a supply by digging to any ordinary depth. People began to talk of removing the county seat to some other locality, where water *could be* obtained.

At last the county court took action. In June, 1836, $100 was paid out of the county treasury to Abraham Vandiver, " for digging and walling a well on the public square in Shelbyville."

In October following a contract was let to Ezekiel Kennedy to dig another well, " within 25 rods of the public square," for $299, and of this sum $100 was paid him in advance. In December the remainder was paid.

Concerning these wells Mr. Holliday says: —

At that time (1836) there was no water in Shelbyville, and the supply was hauled from Black creek. This unpleasant way of getting water was a source of so much annoyance that measures were taken to

have a public well dug, and to this end a subscription was raised by the citizens, and an appropriation made by the county court, which amounted in the aggregate to $250. Ezekiel Kennedy was appointed a special commissioner to let the contract for sinking the well. A. Vandiver undertook the work on the spot selected, which was about 140 feet north-west of the court-house. He hauled the rock for a wall, and dug down about 100 feet when he found water; but it being a weak stream, the contractor intended to dig to a greater depth; but on the night following the discovery of water a heavy rain set in, which caused a caving in of the wall and the labor was thus entirely lost.

However, the people again subscribed, and the court made another appropriation for the same purpose. A "wise" man was consulted as to the best spot whereon to commence the digging. Acting under his advice, a new well was dug on the east side of lot 6 of block 9, on the line between the sidewalk and the street. The work was commenced and carried forward with energy, and the rock for walling was on the ground. At the depth of 100 feet water was struck, but the quantity was so great, and flowed with so much force, that the workmen had barely time to escape with their lives — leaving their implements behind. The water raised in the well so fast that to build a wall was impossible, and it was determined to throw the rock in loose until a foundation was formed whereon to build a wall, which was done, and the wall commenced 26 feet from the bottom and finished to the surface. All congratulated themselves upon having an abundance of the necessary fluid, which was of a superior quality, and the indications were sufficient to justify the hopes; but, alas, for human expectations! The stream formed a channel around the pile of rocks at the bottom, and the water disappeared, leaving the well entirely dry.

The citizens, although sorely disappointed, were not disheartened. They again raised funds, and under the supervision of a committee of citizens, employed a company of Norwegians, who had just arrived, to remove the rock from the well. The work was pushed forward rapidly; the rock was all taken out, yet no water was found, although the committee were satisfied that it was not far away. The earth, in three-fourths of a circle was removed, thus leaving a portion of the circle untouched as a dam to keep the water out until a wall could be built to hold the water. The wall was built a good distance upward, and the earth on the unwalled portion of the well was thrown out, when, to the satisfaction of all, the water flowed in copiously. Attempts were then made to complete the wall. Two men laid the rock at the bottom and a number assisted at the top. A frame was improvised for the occasion, upon which a long rope and pulley were fastened, with a horse at one end of the rope and a whisky barrel at the other. By driving the horse near the frame, the barrel, which was filled with rock, would descend to the bottom, where it would be emptied and filled with water; and by starting the horse on a trot down the street the barrel would ascend. In this manner the work progressed, and the wall completed 30 feet upward from the bottom.

We were well paid for our trouble, for we had plenty of splendid living water for a long time after. However, the constant action of the water upon the earth behind the rocks soon caused a caving-in of the entire wall. Dirt was then hauled and the hole filled up.

Some years afterward, when the town had increased in size, it was decided to repair the old well. The former great quantity of water, however, had disappeared, and the last enterprise of the citizens did not prove remunerative; besides, the citizens had provided cisterns for their own use, and thus the old well being almost unused, got out of repairs and was finally filled up.

GENERAL HISTORY.

From 1840 to 1860 the town grew slowly. Only an occasional new comer moved in; and only an occasional house was built. The Hannibal and St. Joseph road was built on the Southern route and Shelbyville left out in the cold, and certain projects for another railroad to run through the town from east to west or from north to south proved unsubstantial and vanished into thin air.

If the town had been ever so progressive, the hard and heavy hand of war which was laid upon it from 1861 to 1865 would have crushed every enterprise and forbidden every advancement. The town became a military post and soldiers were stationed here the greater portion of the time. The court-house was surrounded by a strong stockade, and the building itself was used for quarters for the soldiers, and as a prison for captured "secesh." Ofttimes the military were quartered in private houses and at the hotels.

After the war business revived somewhat, and some improvements were made. Progress was slow in this respect, however. Since 1876 the majority of the best buildings have been put up. In the fall of 1877, M. H. Marmaduke's corner front, on the north side of the southwest corner of the square, a two-story brick building, was built. The Collier block, adjoining the Marmaduke building on the north, was built in 1875, by Collier, Darrah & Co., and cost $3,500. Dussair, Levan & Co. (J. C. Dussair, J. D. Levan and W. L. Willard) completed their fine brick block in September, 1881, at a cost of $2,500. The brick work of this building was done by William Moore, the woodwork by Doores Bros.

BURGLAR SHOT.

In the early spring of 1871, a negro burglar, named Joe Chandler, who had recently come from Marion county with a Mr. Fletcher, was shot and killed by a trap-gun in Dussair & Co.'s store. The merchants had missed various articles from their grocery department, and

discovering that the thief had entered a back window, they placed a gun in such a position that it would be discharged by anyone attempting to raise the sash. The negro Chandler was the victim. In the morning he was found dead within a few yards of the window. In his pockets were found a box of matches, a knife and some other articles he had taken from another establishment, that of Judge Mc-Leod. At the time of his death the negro was in the employ of Wilson Vaughn.

SCHOOLS.

In September, 1857, Hezekiah Ellis opened a select school in the old Methodist Church building. His assistants were R. C. Arendt and Miss Parmelia White. There had been select schools prior to this, but no particular information concerning them can be obtained.

In September, 1858, Mr. Ellis opened school in the Shelbyville Seminary (now standing) with Prof. Dodd, R. C. Arendt and Miss Draper as his assistants. Six months later Ellis left the school by reason of the death of his father, and his assistants conducted it. The trustees thought $500 an ample annual salary to pay the principal, but Mr. Ellis refused to accept this amount and established a school of his own. He used the Baptist Church for a female department, with Misses Susan and Annie Bower as teachers. The male department was in the Christian Church, presided over by Mr. Ellis and Mr. Charles Johnson. In September, 1860, Mr. Ellis began teaching in a building which he had erected in what was known as the Carothers block. Mr. Ellis served as a teacher in Shelbyville for four years.

Cotemporary with Mr. Ellis were Rev. Joseph Dines, in 1859, and a Mr. Leonard, who taught the Methodist school in 1860.

The public school building was built after considerable controversy among the people, many of whom were opposed to the public school system. Until the new school-house was built the present colored school building was used.

A TRAGEDY.

While the subject of building a new school-house and improving the public schools generally was under discussion a most unfortunate incident occurred. At a school election in April, 1871, there was considerable excitement and much dissatisfaction among the opponents of the schools over the result of the election, which was for directors or trustees, and resulted in a triumph for the friends of the school, who had voted the newly enfranchised negroes to achieve their victory.

Mr. J. M. Ennis had been opposed to the directors who were elected. Mr. W. R. Hill, a young married man of the place, and an ex-Confederate soldier, had voted for the successful ticket. After the election was over there was a short quarrel between the two men on the south-east corner of the square, near Mr. Ennis' place of business. Hill advanced upon Ennis and struck him in the face. He was about to repeat the blow, when Ennis, with a small pocket-knife with which he had been whittling, made a thrust upward and forward against him. The blade penetrated Hill's stomach sufficiently to produce a fatal wound. The parties were then separated. Mr. Hill started for Dr. Priest's office, on the west side of the square, saying, "I am stabbed! He has cut me bad." He fell twice before reaching the office. All that could be was done for him, but he died three days afterward.

Ennis was arrested and had a preliminary examination, but was never indicted, the prevalent opinion being that he acted in self defense, and that it would be impossible to secure a conviction.

INCORPORATIONS.

For nearly 25 years after it was founded Shelbyville was unincorporated, and remained as but a small village without any municipal organization or regulation whatever. Breaches of the peace were taken cognizance of by justices of the peace, when they were noticed at all, but in other respects the people did nearly as in the day when there was "no king in Israel," and "every man did that which was right in his own eyes."

The first incorporation was as a town, and made by the county court January 5, 1859, on the petition of Elias T. Holliday and 78 others. The metes and bounds of the town as fixed by the county court were doubtless definite and well understood by the people at that day, but are somewhat vague and uncertain now, being as follows : —

Beginning at the north-east corner of Wilson Vaughn's stable ; thence west until it strikes the small branch running through the lands of the heirs of Jane Hall, deceased ; thence down said branch to the big branch known as Bound's branch ; thence down and following the course of said branch to a point due north of the west side of the lot now occupied by Mrs. Harriet Rust ; thence south to a point due west of the south side of the lot owned by Felix J. Carley, formerly owned by William Dines, and now in the occupancy of A. Lockyer ; thence east to a point due south of the beginning ; thence north to the beginning.

Under this incorporation the following composed the first board of trustees :   John F. Benjamin, Wilson Vaughn, John Dickerson, William B. Cotton and George W. Webb.

At the April term of the county court, 1867, Shelbyville was reincorporated as a town by the following order : —

Now, at this day, comes Anthony Gooch and others, and present to this court a petition signed by two-thirds of the tax-paying inhabitants of the town of Shelbyville, in the county of Shelby, and State of Missouri, praying the county court of Shelby county, now sitting, to incorporate the town of Shelbyville by the following metes and bounds : Beginning 20 rods north and 25 rods east of the south-west corner of the east half of the north-east quarter of section twenty (20) ; township fifty-eight (58) ; range ten (10), west, running west 105 rods ; thence south to the north line of Vandiver's addition to the town of Shelbyville ; thence west 120 rods; thence south to a point 80 rods south of the south line of said section 20 ; thence east to a point due south of the place of beginning ; thence north to the beginning. Now, in the opinion of the court, the prayer of the petitioners being reasonable, it is ordered and adjudged that the said town of Shelbyville be, and the same is hereby incorporated by the name and style of the '' Inhabitants of the Town of Shelbyville.''   And it is further ordered that L. Dobbin, M. J. Manville, James W. Darrah, Anthony Gooch and Charles A. Benjamin be appointed the first Board of Trustees in and for said corporation.

In August, 1877, the town was organized as a city of the fourth class, pursuant of the following ordinance, and the result of the election called thereunder : —

Be it ordained by the Inhabitants of the Town of Shelbyville, Mo. : —

SECTION 1. That from and after the 21st day of August, A. D., 1877, the town of Shelbyville, Mo., be, and the same is hereby declared a city of the fourth class under the name of the '' City of Shelbyville,'' described by the following metes and bounds.   [Boundaries same as given above.]   In compliance with an act of the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, entitled '' an act for the classification of cities and towns,'' and in compliance with an act of the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, entitled '' an act for the government of cities of the fourth class.''

SEC. 2. That an election is hereby ordered to be held at the court-house in the town of Shelbyville, Mo., on Tuesday, the 21st day of August, A. D. 1877, for the purpose of ratifying or rejecting Section No. 1 of this ordinance.

SEC. 3. All persons voting at said election in favor of said proposition shall have written or printed on their ballots the words, '' For

new organization," and those voting against said proposition, the words, " Against new organization."

H. B. DINES, *Chairman.*

J. J. BRAGG, *Clerk.*

Passed July 31, 1877.

The election resulted in favor of incorporation by a large majority, and H. B. Dines, chairman of the Board of Trustees, made the following proclamation : —

By virtue of the power vested in me as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the town of Shelbyville, Mo., I hereby proclaim the result of the election held in the town of Shelbyville, Mo., at which the proposition to organize said town as a city of the fourth class, was submitted on the 21st day of August, 1877, to be that a majority of the voters voting at said election voted in favor of said proposition, and now, by virtue of said vote, I declare the town of Shelbyville, as described by the metes and bounds in said proposition, organized as a city of the fourth class.

H. B. DINES,
Chairman Board of Trustees.

Published August 29, 1877.

The first officers under the city corporation were H. B. Dines, mayor; J. C. Hale, attorney; S. V. Vaughn, clerk; S. C. Gunby, collector, marshal and street commissioner. The aldermen were J. W. Darrah and Samuel F. Dunn of the First ward, and Lewis A. Hayward and R. C. Calvert of the Second ward.

SHELBINA.

EARLY HISTORY.

The city of Shelbina was laid out August 11, 1857, by Josiah Hunt, acting as attorney for William Osborne, of Waterville, N. Y. Maj. Hunt was the land commissioner of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Company. The first dwelling places on the town site were one or two little shanties north of the railroad track. Mr. George Sparks claims he hauled the first load of poles of which the first shanty was built. Prior to this the site was raw, wild prairie, with but one house — that of George T. Hill — in view.

After the town was regularly laid out shanties went up on both sides of the track. These were occupied for the most part, if not entirely, by the railroad hands, the track-builders and the track-layers. In the fall of 1857 a few medium-sized frame houses were built. Kemper Bros. had the first store on the north side of the track opposite the depot. They kept a small general stock. Soon after a num-

ber of saloons were built along the north side, and fighting whisky flowed freely.

All the best buildings were small frames, but some time in the fall of the year Mr. P. Thomas came and built Thomas' Hotel, a large frame building which stood south of the depot, on the present site of the Waverly Hotel, on Chestnut street, between Center and Second. For some time this hotel did a rushing business. There was a large influx of strangers and others. The patronage was large, the accommodations meager, and the fare scanty and coarse. Guests were " doubled-up " or " threbled-up " — three in a hard bed some times, and were forced to submit to many other discomforts, and pay well therefor. Like many another hotel of the present day, claiming to be first-class, there was nothing first-class about this one but the prices. Transient people came and went by the hundreds, and swore at the hotel and the landlord, but Mr. Thomas only smiled at them, and went on piling up the boiled potatoes, fried fat bacon, soggy bread and sloppy coffee ; master of the situation, and indifferent to public opinion and sentiment.

In the winter, or by the spring of 1858, R. A. Moffitt had a store on the south side of the track, on the corner of Center and Chestnut. Judge Samuel B. Hardy had a small store in a building on the north side of the track, corner of Center and Maple, where the American House is now situated. W. A. Reid opened a general store this spring in a two-story building south of the track, on Chestnut street. Near by, on the same street, one, Kircher, opened a grocery store. John Meyer had a hardware establishment in the same block. Perhaps there were 25 houses in the place this spring.

The town now progressed slowly. There was not a very general prevalence of good order and sobriety. The place was a great resort for railroaders and rough characters, frequenters of the numerous saloons, and on Saturdays there were numerous brawls and rows. Life in a new railroad town is seldom pleasant to those disposed to quietude and sobriety, and life in Shelbina was no exception to the rule. Sober, temperate and enterprising people were slow to come in. Only the bravest of them ventured to settle here.

The first religious services were held over Reid's store, in the fall of 1858, by Rev. Powers, a Baptist minister of Monroe county. Afterwards preaching was had in Thomas' Hotel, for some time, or until the school-house was built, and subsequently all denominations used Miller's Hall on Center Street.

The first school-house was built some time in 1859. It stood in

the south-western part of the town, and is still standing, but has been remodeled. Among the first teachers was Charles M. King.

It is claimed that the first child born in the place was a daughter of M. P. Thomas, the hotel keeper.

Dr. H. C. Lee was the first practicing physician to locate in Shelbina. He came in 1857. After the war he unfortunately became bereft of reason, and in a fit of insanity he shot and killed one James Parker, a saloon keeper. Dr. Lee had shot Parker's dog, and ever afterward he was haunted by the fear and belief that Parker was trying to kill him in retaliation. At last, one night, he went to Parker's residence, called him out and shot him. After a thorough investigation and examination it was decided that he was insane, and he was sent to the asylum at Fulton, where he now is. Dr. Ross was the second physician.

It is believed that a Mr. Edmonds was the first resident lawyer.

The first post-office was established in 1858, and W. A. Reid was the first postmaster. He had the office in his store, and was postmaster until after the war broke out. Robert Montgomery was his successor. There was a daily mail from the first.[1]

In 1861 the population of this place was about 500. Sparks, Hill & Co. had a considerable tobacco factory on the north side of the track, and did a good business. There were numerous good stores and business of all kinds was fairly active. The first brick building had been put up in 1859 by Kemper Bros., south of the depot on Chestnut street, where now the bank building is. It was a two-story structure and afterwards was burned. Nearly all the business was done along Chestnut street.

THE WAR.

The first Federal troops to pass through Shelbina belonged to the Second Iowa Infantry, Col. S. R. Curtis commanding, and were on their way from Hannibal to St. Joseph. Not long afterwards came Capt. Foreman's Home Guards, and then about September 1, came Williams' Third Iowa, and Hurlbut's men. On the 3d of September occurred the Shelbina fight, described elsewhere.

Afterwards in July, 1864, came Bill Anderson and his band of cutthroats and brigands, who effectually cleaned out the town, as narrated

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[1] From January, 1, 1883, to January 1, 1884, the gross revenue of the Shelbina office was $2,900.26. The amount of money orders issued was $14,397.24; money orders paid, $8,313.45. John S. Chandler is the present postmaster.

on other pages of this volume. At intervals during the war Federal troops came in and occupied the place for a day or so at a time.

The Federal authorities levied a tax on the people of Shelbina and vicinity, amounting to about $20,000 to pay for the damage done by Anderson and his band. This was done under an old general order requiring that "citizens of disloyal sympathies" should be held accountable for all damage done by rebel raiders to the property of "loyal men." Of course there was some consternation among the people when it was learned that they were to suffer for something they could no more help than the people of Illinois, and $20,000 was a large sum. The good Catholic priest of the parish, Father D. S. Phelan, volunteered to go to St. Louis and see Gen. Rosecrans about the matter ; and he did go and made such intercession that the General revoked the order and removed the tax from the people.

The town was often disturbed by alarms of various kinds — that the bushwhackers were coming, that the town was to be destroyed, etc. Sometimes the merchants actually boxed up their goods and removed the entire contents of their stock to Quincy for safety, and as soon as the danger had passed moved them back again and resumed business. In spite of all this the merchants who continued in trade made money. Prices were constantly advancing, and everybody had plenty of money. Calico was sold at 50 cents per yard, and muslin at 85 cents. But hogs were $8 and $9 per hundred, and other produce brought proportionate prices. Most people, too, had no confidence in greenbacks, believing they would be eventually repudiated, and so sought to convert them into goods or something else of value. Some persons bought gold and horded it.

WAR PRICES.

An incident showing the tendency of people to advance prices in those days is related of old Billy Wood, who was the first drayman in the town. In 1861, Uncle Billy charged per load for hauling goods only 15 cents, but gradually he adopted " war prices " and raised his charges to 25 cents, then 30 cents, and so on up to 50 cents a load. He kept an account with W. A. Reid, and one day in 1864 he called to square up. Looking over his long account, the most of which he considered paid, Reid saw that he had erased all of his old 15 and 25 cents charges and increased them to 50 cents each, bringing the merchant in debt to the drayman.

Calling Billy's attention to the erasures and substitutions, Reid

asked for an explanation. " Why, you see," replied the old man, " them charges hez riz, like everything else — come up, you see — these is war times, you know. Drayin' *wunst* was fifteen cents, but *now* its four bits."

" Hand me back that account of mine against you," replied Reid, and immediately he began the process of erasion and substitution. " What you doin' ? " demanded Billy. " Changing my charges to war prices," replied Reid ; " calico once was 12½ cents per yard, now it is 50 cents ; *my* charges have risen too ! " " Oh, hold on ! " demanded the old drayman : " goods is goods, and drayin' is drayin,' and drayin' *always wuz* wuth 50 cents a load ! "

PEACE.

After the war Shelbina began to improve. The buildings crept down Center street, and thence along Walnut, and the town began to spread out over the prairie. A newspaper was established and the place was well advertised. Among others who moved in was Hon. John F. Benjamin, of Shelbyville, who in 1872 assisted in starting a national bank, and erected a $15,000 residence.

The panic in 1873 hurt the town very seriously. Property of all kinds depreciated in value and was very cheap, and business was dull. After 1874 there was some improvement, and from 1881 to the present it has grown very considerably. The population is of a profitable and substantial character, and of such stuff as makes the prosperity of a city abiding and increasing. The corporation is now entirely out of debt.

The Shelbina Collegiate Institute was built in 1877 at a cost of about $6,000. Dr. Leo Baer was the first president. The present principal is Erastus L. Ripley, A. B., and Mrs. Caroline A. Ripley, Mrs. I. D. A. Winter, Miss Ada A. Williams and Miss Rosa Moreman as his assistants. The present number of students is about 90. The board of directors is composed of William A. Reid, president ; J. W. Ford, treasurer ; C. H. Myers, secretary ; and Chester Cotton, S. B. Parsons, J. H. Ford and W. O. L. Jewett.

The First National Bank of Shelbina was established in 1872. Hon. John F. Benjamin was the president and F. P. Jackson, cashier. This institution was succeeded by the Bank of Shelbina, of which David Taylor was president and W. A. Reid, cashier. In 1878 Reid & Taylor bought out the other stockholders and established their present banking house.

As a trading and business point no town in North-east Missouri of

anything near equal size is superior to or equals Shelbina.   Farmers from Monroe, Shelby and Macon counties all visit it, either to purchase supplies or to ship produce.   It grows in favor year by year as its advantages increase and become known.

TRAGEDIES.

Two homicides occurred in Shelbina, one about the close of the war and the other in 1866.   The first was the stabbing and fatal wounding of William Sparks, a tobacconist, by Zach. Ooley, a farmer.   The two were fighting and Sparks was getting the better of his antagonist, when the latter stabbed him in the knee with a pocket-knife.   Erysipelas resulted and Sparks died some days or weeks later.   Ooley fled, was absent a year or more, when he returned and remained for some time, and then left and went to Texas, where he died.   He was never arrested.

In the fall of 1866 James A. McConnell, a farmer, living south of town, was stabbed by Jim Ferrill, who lived near Woodlawn.   The two men were engaged in an affray, in which it appears McConnell was the aggressor.   Ferrill ran and McConnell chased him and came upon him, when Ferrill stabbed him fatally.   Both were drunk at the time.   Ferrill was never apprehended, but a few years ago, in a difficulty, he was killed by Buck Noel, of Monroe county.

OFFICIAL HISTORY.

Shelbina was first incorporated as a town March 5, 1867, on the petition of W. W. Weatherby and others.   The first board of trustees was composed of W. W. Weatherby, Daniel Taylor, John W. Miller, Simeon Downing and John W. Shafer.

In the spring of 1878 it was incorporated as a city of the fourth class.   The first election of officers occurred April 2, when W. T. Dean was elected mayor.   One week later, April 9, another election was held and J. W. Towson chosen mayor; J. J. Foster, marshal, J. W. Ford and W. H. Warren, aldermen from the First ward; G. A. Jenks and Charles Miller, aldermen from the Second ward.   J. W. Ford was chosen president, and G. A. Jenks, clerk of the board of aldermen.

1879. — Mayor, J. W. Towson; marshal, J. J. Foster; new aldermen elected, James Hawley, from No. 1, and B. F. Monson, from No. 2; clerk, W. T. Dean.

1880. — Mayor, W. T. Dean; marshal, J. J. Foster; new aldermen, J. W. Ford, No. 1; C. H. Lasley, No. 2.

1881. — Mayor, W. T. Dean ; marshal, J. J. Foster ; aldermen from ward No. 1, John S. Preston for long term and· David Morgan for short term, and from ward No. 2, H. J. Thomas for long term and Lewis Hale for short term.

1882. — Mayor, W. T. Dean ; marshal, J. J. Foster ; new aldermen, J. W. Barr from No. 1, vice David Morgan, and Lewis Hale from No. 2, to succeed himself.

1883. — Mayor, W. T. Dean ; new aldermen, W. A. Reid from No. 1 and H. J. Thomas from No. 2.

1884. — Mayor, John J. Foster ; marshal, T. H. Carothers ; aldermen, First ward, David Morgan, W. A. Reid; Second ward, S. G. Parsons, H. J. Thomas ; clerk, W. A. Reid.

<div align="center">CLARENCE.</div>

The town of Clarence is situated on the east half of section 17, township 57, range 12, about one mile and a half from the western line of the county. It was laid out October 20, 1857, by John Duff, the principal contractor for the building of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad. He was of course not the sole owner of the town site, which belonged to the Land Company, whose agent he was. Duff's action in laying out the town was duly acknowledged, as the record shows, before Gen. Thomas A. Harris, then a notary public of Hannibal.

The town site was originally listed as swamp land, and purchased from Shelby county by Fleming Turner, who sold it to John Duff & Co. The land was first conveyed by the Government to the State, and by the State to the county.

It is said that the town was named for one of old John Duff's children, who took his name, perhaps, from the famed Duke of Clarence — "False, fleeting, perjured·Clarence, who stabbed me in the field by Tewksbury."

The first house in the place was built by Wilson Hamilton, in the fall of 1857, not long after the town was laid out. It was a small frame, and stood on lot 10, block 7 of the original town, or north of the railroad depot and on the corner of Maple and Center streets, where now (1884) the lumber yard of Herriman & Waples is situated. Hamilton had at first a few goods, chiefly railroad supplies, but not long afterwards opened a sort of eating house.

In the spring of 1858 there were three families in the place. Wilson Hamilton was selling goods and running an eating house. C. S. Watson had a store south of the track, nearly opposite the depot, on lot

1, block 11, corner of Chestnut and Center streets. He had been a farming living east of town, and had purchased a small stock of merchandise from a free negro named Cy. Maynard, who had sold goods at Watson's Crossing, a mile or so east of town. The third family was that of Esquire J. M. Matterson.

The same spring came A. J. Higbee from Springfield, Ill., and built and opened a store across the street to the east from Hamilton's eating house — lot 1, block 6. Another early comer was one Wilson, who became at first a partner of Hamilton's.

In the spring of 1859 A. J. Higbee built the first two-story building in Clarence. It stood north of the railroad track, opposite the depot, and was a frame. The lower room was a store-room, and the upper apartments were occupied by Mr. Higbee's family. P. M. Doyle, of Hunnewell, became a partner of Higbee's this year. William B. Switzer came up from Granville and built a store-house, which is still standing, north of the track and west of the depot. Jim Byers had a saloon on the south side of the track; it is believed that he purchased this establishment from its founder. Another pioneer saloon keeper was W. H. Hall, now proprietor of the Olive Hotel. It is related that Hall kept a hotel (?) before the war, that is, he had *one* spare bed which he let to lodgers, and he fed all the hungry he could.

The first depot was built upon the completion of the railroad, in August, 1857, and is still standing. The first station agent was William R. Strachan, afterward notorious as the provost marshal of Northeast Missouri, and twice a member of the Legislature from this county. Strachan had a farm three miles north-east of Clarence, and on coming to the village he was for a time engaged with Wilson Hamilton.

In 1858 the first post-office was established, and C. S. Watson was made postmaster. In the spring of 1861, P. M. Doyle was commissioned, and the office was removed to the store of Higbee & Doyle.

Some time in the summer of 1859 the first religious services were held in the railroad depot by Rev. J. R. Winters, a Presbyterian. Not long afterward the Presbyterian Church congregation was organized. Rev. Winters, in 1868, while a State Senator from Marion county, introduced the proposition into the Legislature to strike out the word " white " from the constitution, and make negroes eligible to the right of suffrage.

A certain Dr. Greer is said to have been the first physician to locate in the place ; but it is said that his attainments were meager, and that his practice was still more so, and that a Dr. Lodge, who came in about

the close of the war, is really entitled to the distinction of being the first practicing physician in the town. Prior to him, however, Dr. Lyle and Dr. Hill, both of whom then lived in the county, ministered to the ills of the people of Clarence. Dr. Pipp was another early physician. Dr. Lodge now lives in Baltimore. Dr. Hill resides in Clarence and is still in active practice.

Probably a child of Wilson Hamilton was the first born in the village; but this can not certainly be learned. Anna Higbee, daughter of A. J. and Edith Higbee, was born in Clarence in October, 1860. She is now Mrs. J. D. Hale, of Macon.

The first school was taught by a Mr. Strong, who, as best remembered, did not finish his term. His successor was Dr. D. H. Matthews, still a resident of the town. Another early teacher was a Miss Galbreath. Perhaps the first room used as a private school room was in Higbee & Brown's building, on the north side, near the Presbyterian Church. The first public school-house, a brick, was built in 1865. It stood nearly half a mile from the railroad track, and now forms a portion of a dwelling house occupied by Watkins, the harness-maker.

The first cemetery was laid out during the war, half a mile north of the railroad. The first death in the village — or at least the first interment in the cemetery — was that of a child of David Bush, a blacksmith, in 1862 or 1863. Among the first burials was that of one Slaughter, a Federal soldier, who died at Palmyra, and whose body was brought here for interment.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War the village contained, perhaps, 75 or 100 inhabitants. It was not large enough to tempt either of the forces to occupy it, except temporarily, and it is best remembered that the rebel or Confederate troops never attempted to hold it. There was, of course, no progress made while the war lasted.

MURDER OF MR. SWITZER.

In the fall of 1864 Mr. William B. Switzer, one of the first merchants of the village, was murdered by a band of robbers from Macon county. Mr. Switzer had been appointed custodian of some money contributed by certain citizens to hire substitutes in case any of them were drafted. It was supposed that to obtain this money was the object of the robbers' raid, but it had been sent the previous day to Shelbyville for safe keeping. The robbers made their raid at night. Riding up to the residence of Mr. Switzer, they called him to the door, and when he appeared they demanded his

money. He had taken a revolver with him, and standing on the threshold he instantly opened fire on them. The fire was returned and one shot struck him in the thigh, severing the femoral artery and causing his death in a few minutes.

The robbers were identified as all belonging in Macon county, and all or nearly all as ex-Federal militiamen. Three of them were named John Rowland, Charles F———, and ——— Prickett. These three were arrested. F——— turned States evidence. It was sworn to that John Rowland fired the shot that killed Mr. Switzer. He was bound over, but escaped and forfeited his bond. Prickett was tried at Palmyra and acquitted. The fourth party was never apprehended. All lived in Macon county.

Mr. Switzer was well respected by his neighbors and fellow-citizens. He was known as a " Southern sympathizer," but never took up arms or did anything to violate his obligations as a loyal, law-abiding citizen.

After the war Clarence improved slowly for some years. In 1877, however, the town had a " boom." The large stretch of prairie about the town, hitherto bare and virgin, was settled up substantially, and then and from thence the town began to thrive.

FIRES.

Clarence has passed through two severe fires, which entailed considerable loss upon a small town like her, but from which she soon recovered. The first occurred September 23, 1879, on Chestnut street, south of, and nearly opposite to, the depot. The buildings burned were Hall's block, including Hall's Olive Hotel, Whitby & Co.'s dry goods establishment, a saloon, and a barber shop. The total loss was about $10,000.

The next fire was on a block west of the location of the first fire, and broke out February 15, 1884. The following business houses were consumed: R. E. Dale's restaurant, C. Z. Eberhardt's grocery store, M. Stahl's harness shop, Tembrook Bros.' and McWilliams & Wright's grocery stores, A. O. Dunham's shoe-shop, William Shutters' hardware store, R. P. Richardson's clothing house, Birch Roan's barber shop, and the post-office, A. Clark, postmaster. The aggregate loss was not far from $50,000.

John Lair's steam grist, saw and carding mill, which stood a little south-east of town, burned in the fall of 1883. The Clarence creamery, in the eastern portion, burned in July, 1884.

HOMICIDES.

Some exciting homicides have taken place in Clarence during its existence. In addition to the murder of Mr. Switzer during the war, Mr. Pat McCarty was assassinated on the night of October 6, 1874. Mr. McCarty was a prominent citizen of the place and the proprietor of the steam mill, which institution he had purchased from the founder, a Mr. Wilson. He (McCarty) was a man of strong feelings and passions, thorough as a friend and dangerous as an enemy. Somewhat addicted to drink, he was to be feared when in his cups, but when sober he was jolly, hearty and good-natured. He had many friends and many enemies.

On the night of his murder Mr. McCarty was at home with his family. He was seated near a window in his sitting room and had just put down from his lap a little child with which he had been playing, and had taken up a newspaper. The assassin fired upon him through the window and a heavy charge of buckshot penetrated his body, killing him instantly.

No clue was ever obtained as to the identity of the perpetrator. A coroner's jury was impaneled by Esq. Scates and a four days' investigation held without important results. Nothing but suspicion, doubtless much of which is unjust, remains to be entertained, regarding the dastardly perpetrator, who, afraid to meet his enemy in open daylight and in fair combat, stole upon him like an Indian and slew him mercilessly and cruelly before the eyes of those who knew him best and loved him most.

INCORPORATIONS.

The first incorporation of Clarence was as a town, June 4, 1866, on the petition of A. J. Higbee and 24 others, who were " two-thirds of the inhabitants of said town," says the record. The corporate limits were a mile square, the boundaries being as follows :—

Beginning at the north-west corner of the north-east quarter of section 17, township 57, range 12, running south one mile to the south-west corner of the south-east quarter of section 17, township 57, range 12, then east one mile to a stake; then north one mile to a stake, thence west one mile to the beginning.

George Merriman, A. J. Higbee, J. M. Mattison, Stephen Doyle and S. A. Durham were appointed the first board of trustees, of which A. J. Higbee was chairman.

On the 25th of September, 1877, Clarence was incorporated as a city of the fourth class. The first mayor was G. W. Chinn, who served until after the April election in 1881, when W. Houghton was chosen. Houghton was re-elected in 1881, but resigned in a few months and was succeeded by William Evans. The next mayor was G. W. Hodge. The present is S. M. Whitby, elected in April, 1884. R. E. Dale has been marshal since Mayor Hodge's administration.

HUNNEWELL.

EARLY HISTORY.

The town of Hunnewell was laid off August 15, 1857, by Josiah Hunt, land commissioner of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad. The town site was deeded July 28, of the same year, by Richard Drane and Susan J. Drane, his wife, and Benjamin West to John Duff, of Dedham, Mass., for $1,200. It comprised 62 1-2 acres of the north part of the west half of the south-west quarter of section 3, township 56, range 9. John Duff, it will be remembered, was the principal contractor for the building of the railroad.

The town was named for H. Hollis Hunnewell, of Boston, a native of New Hampshire, and connected with the Hannibal and St. Joseph Land Company.

In February or March, 1857, Stephen Doyle built a small store house a little west of what afterward became the town limits. This afterward became the store of Doyle, Kellogg & Co., and has claims to being the first store in or at the place. Practically, and to all intents and purposes, it was in the town. Here were kept "railroad supplies," for the benefit of the railroaders at work in the cut west of town and at Salt river.

Soon after the town was started, and before it was laid out, Richard Durbin built a house, still standing, on the south side of the railroad. It was a frame dwelling, a story and a half in height. Mr. Durbin's was the first family in the place.

Very soon after Durbin's house was built Snider & Co. built the third house for a store room. It was a frame and is still standing on the north side. The firm of Snider & Co. was composed of John H. Snider, W. F. Blackburn, A. L. Yancey and John Maddox. The first deed to a lot in the place was issued to W. F. Blackburn.

In June, 1857, the railroad was completed to the town site, and on the 4th of July there was an excursion to Monroe City and return on flat-cars. A few shanties were built near to the track, on either side, this year. Out at Salt river the railroaders had numerous shanties

clustered about on the bluff at the east end of the bridge, and the railroad company had about 60 men employed there and in the cut on this side for nearly two years.

In the fall of 1857 came the first hotel, which was moved up from Clinton by a Mr. Ball and his son-in-law, one Smith. The building, a large two-story frame, with a large piazza in the old Southern style, is still standing south of the track and the depot, and now used as a dwelling house. Of Smith, the early landlord, it is related that he disappeared very suddenly and mysteriously, and was never afterward heard from.

The railroad depot was built in the early fall after the town was laid out, and the first station agent was a man named Pollard. He remained but a short time and was succeeded by W. F. Blackburn, who was not only the station agent, but attended to the general business of the company — to the sale of lots and lands, etc.

The first post-office was established in Snider & Co.'s store in the fall of 1857, and John H. Snider was the first postmaster.

In 1859 the first school-house was built. It was a frame and was located in the western part of town, south of the track. Now it forms a part of the business house of Cox & Son. The first teacher was a man named Shaw, a Massachusetts Yankee and a graduate of Harvard.

The first preaching was done in this school-house, soon after its completion, by Rev. T. De Moss, a Methodist. Other early ministers were Rev. Hatch and Dr. Morton, Christians; Rev. Bowles, Baptist; and Rev. F. B. Sheetz, Episcopal.

Probably the first child born in Hunnewell was Maggie Durbin, a daughter of the first family in the place. Joe Blackburn was born April 10, 1858, a son of W. F. Blackburn, and Lon Durbin, a brother of Maggie, was born the same spring. The first death — at least that of an adult person — was that of Mrs. Charlotte Blackburn, who died February 25, 1859. She was the wife of W. F. Blackburn. The first resident physician of the place, Dr. A. L. Yancey, of Kentucky, came in 1857 and is still a citizen and in the practice.

The town would have grown much faster but for the fact that for some years after its existence a perfect title could not be made to the lots. Persons were afraid to purchase lest they might be dispossessed. Some houses were built on lots by parties who had no title at all, but took their chances on ultimately securing a perfect one.

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IN WAR TIMES.

When the war broke out, in the spring of 1861, the population of Hunnewell was nearly 500. There were four stores, two blacksmith and wagon shops, a good hotel, etc.

On June 13, 1861, the first Federal troops made their appearance. They belonged to the Second Iowa Infantry, Col. J. R. Curtis in command. They came from Hannibal by rail and were on their way to St. Joseph. The train stopped and numbers of the soldiers got off and scattered themselves about the town. Bad as is the sin of intemperance, it is to be hoped that these men were drunk, as it is said they were. Quite a number of country people were in town that day, but no one was in arms against the Federal authority.

The soldiers began an indiscriminate abuse of every body they met. Some of the farmers from the country got on their horses and started for home, alarmed at the behavior of the military. The soldiers called on them to halt and when they refused opened fire on them ; few of the troops ran as fast as they could for some distance and then dropping on their knees took deliberate aim with their muskets and fired at the fleeing farmers.

A horse ridden by Ray Moss was badly wounded, but no person was hurt. Ray Moss himself went home and as soon as possible took up arms against the Federal authority and never laid them down again until he laid his life down at Corinth. The soldiers arrested W. F. Blackburn, the station agent, and Russell W. Moss, the old pioneer, and carried them away. Tidings of these proceedings spread rapidly throughout the country, and served to greatly incense the people against the Federal soldiery and to strengthen the secession cause. The Second Iowa may have proved itself a gallant regiment and afterward contributed largely to the glory of the Federal arms, but it did a poor day's work for the Union cause that 13th of June, at Hunnewell.

Afterward, July 10, came the Monroe City fight, and with it the secession troops under Dr. Foster on their way to burn the Salt River railroad bridge. Foster was bent on burning the depot at Hunnewell. He called up the merchants who had goods stored therein and ordered that they be removed instantly. But Russell Moss and others entreated him to withhold his torch for the time and he was content to burn five cars, which were pushed out on the main track and sent down towards Salt river all aflame. The bridge was burned on the eve of the fight.

Then about the 1st of September came Martin E. Green's troops on their way to the Shelbina fight. The night of the Shelbina fight the Salt river bridge was again burned. In a day or two Federal troops poured in by thousands, and Pope undertook to carry out Fremont's orders for the "annihilation" of Green. The Salt river bridge was repaired, and a strong guard placed over it. The garrison constructed quarters at the bridge, in addition to the strong block house, using lumber from the stores in town.

During the Porter raid the Federal troops were stationed here at intervals and passed through occasionally in the unrelenting pursuit of the Confederates by Col. McNeil. Then the local militia were stationed for some time at the bridge, under Capt. Bishop and others.

In July, 1864, when Bill Anderson and his men burned the bridge and block house at Salt river, the people of Hunnewell were alarmed lest the guerillas should come up and clean out the town. They could see the smoke of the burning bridge plainly, and it was difficult to tell what would happen to them. Russell Moss volunteered to carry a white flag down to the bridge, and entreat the bushwhackers to remain away. Accordingly, bearing a large white cloth tied to a pole, he marched down the track to the bridge to interview Anderson, but the guerrillas had left, and it appeared they never intended harm to Hunnewell or its people.

TRAGEDIES.

Some serious tragedies took place at and near Hunnewell during the war. In the spring of 1863 a Union man named Perkins, living west of town, near Salt river, was taken from his home one night by some bushwhackers and disposed of up in the northern part of Jackson township. Some months afterward his remains were found in a secluded place, and identified by his wife from some articles found with them. He was a house carpenter, and among other effects the key of his tool chest was found and recognized by Mrs. Perkins.

In the spring of 1864 occurred a desperate fight at close quarters in Krigler's saloon, in Hunnewell. This affray came to be known as the Ezell-Maupin tragedy, and is vividly remembered by those who witnessed it.

On the day in question three men, John Maupin, and two named Baker and Snider, came into town from the eastward and halted, apparently to rest themselves, in Krigler's saloon. All were armed with heavy revolvers. John Maupin lived in this county, south or south-west of Shelbina. Early in the war he enlisted under Gen.

Price and lost his arm by an accidental shot from a comrade.   Baker and Snider were strangers.

That morning Capt. Foreman, of Paris, who had served in the Federal militia, came over to Hunnewell in search of some horses he had lost.   Ben Ezell, an ex-Federal soldier, reported to Foreman the presence of suspicious characters, and it was at once determined to capture them.   A dozen or more citizens armed themselves and under the leadership of Capt. Foreman advanced on the saloon.

Ben Ezell was the first to enter.   He was armed with a double-barreled shot-gun.   Cocking both barrels he leveled the gun at Maupin and called out, "Surrender," and instantly fired.   Wheeling half around he fired the other barrel at Baker, but missed, the charge tearing a fearful hole in the side of the building.   Baker and Maupin drew their revolvers and began firing.   Maupin, though fearfully and mortally wounded with a heavy load of buck and ball, shot as steadily and regularly as clockwork.

A general melee resulted.   Ezell ran out on the sidewalk.   Maupin followed and shot him dead, then fell over dead himself, the battle-light of his eyes mingling with their death glaze — game to the last. But before he died Maupin mortally wounded Ben Durbin, who died 12 days later.   For a one-armed man this John Maupin fought a hard fight.   Baker shot and fearfully wounded Capt. Foreman nigh to death — wounding him in three or four places.   Then Baker escaped. Snider ran over to the depot, unbuckled his revolvers and threw them on a flat car.   Then he went into the depot, sat down, and when the posse came upon him surrendered and begged for his life.   He was sent to Macon and then the Federal military authorities made short work of him — tried him by some sort of a court, and took him out and shot him.

John Maupin's sisters came after his body and took it away.   Not much was known of Maupin's life, but it was reported he had been a bushwhacker, and one of the girls said, " If all the rebel soldiers had been like my brother here, there would be more dead Feds. than there are, and the war would be over."   Maupin was evidently the leader of the party, who were probably all guerrillas, for when Ben Ezell fired the first shot he called out, " Now, boys, we're in for it — give 'em hell ! "

Dr. E. C. Davis examined the wound Ezell gave Maupin and yet wonders why the man lived five seconds.   He also examined Ezell's wound, and attended to the hurts of Durbin and Capt. Foreman. Ben Durbin was of the family of Durbins that settled the town.   Dr. Davis tried hard to save him, but could not.

July 4, 1864, William Meade shot and killed Bob Bonner on the main street in Hunnewell, north side of the track. The two men had a quarrel over a game of cards. An altercation resulted and Bonner choked Meade severely. Meade, goaded to frenzy, went home, procured a shot-gun, came back to town and, finding Bonner in a store, dared him out to fight. " Heel yourself, d——n you," said Meade, " for I mean to blow hell out of you! "

Bonner had been a drill-master in the Federal army. He was as brave as a lion, and no fear ever daunted him. Unarmed, he threw off his coat and ran out into the street where Meade was. When within three feet of the muzzle of Meade's shot-gun, Meade fired. The charge entered Bonner's body and he fell dead.

The body was taken charge of by the citizens, for it was not known where Bonner's relatives or friends were. It was buried in a field north of town. A year or two later a farmer, in plowing, broke into the shallow grave. The bones were dug up and taken charge of by Dr. E. C. Davis, in whose custody they still are. Meade straightway enlisted in the Federal army and was never arrested. He now resides in Kansas.

Another tragedy of the war was the killing of a stranger in or near Hunnewell, who was found with a trace chain about his neck, but the particulars in this case have not been learned.

SINCE THE WAR.

From 1865 to the present the town has not made much advance in population and general improvement over what it was at the breaking out of the war. It has, however, done the best it could. Its location has been against it and in favor of its rivals.

The town is entirely out of debt and has money to its credit in the treasury. Its affairs seem to be well managed and it is quiet and orderly. Although not the scene of many important events, life seems enjoyable to the citizens and their affairs are as prosperous as those of their neighbors.

The fine brick block of Blackburn & Balliet was begun in the fall and finished December 1, 1874. In the second story are two commodious and elegant halls, occupied by the Odd Fellows and Free Masons.

SCHOOL INTERESTS.

The present school house was completed in November, 1871, at a total cost of $4,500. S. J. Linthicum was the contractor and builder.

There is still due for this building about $2,200, for which the eight per cent bonds of the district are out. The first school in this house was begun September 1, 1872, with the Johnson family as teachers — Prof. C. B. Johnson, Mrs. E. B. Johnson, and their son, C. N. Johnson. Aggregate monthly wages, $140.

The school district was organized in March, 1870. Six directors composed the board of education, of which C. H. Godfrey was president and J. T. Davis, secretary. The enumeration of the children of school age for 1884 was 94 white males and 99 white females ; colored, 9 males and 6 females. Total white and colored, 208. Formerly there was a school for colored children, but latterly there is none.

<center>INCORPORATIONS.</center>

Hunnewell was first incorporated as a town May 3, 1869, by the following order of the county court : —

Now at this day comes William F. Blackburn and presents a petition signed by William F. Blackburn and 66 others, being two-thirds of the inhabitants of the town of Hunnewell, in Shelby county and State of Missouri, praying the county court of said county, now sitting, to incorporate the said town of Hunnewell by the following metes and bounds, to wit : Beginning at the north-east corner of section twelve (12), township fifty-six (56), range nine (9), thence west to the north-west corner of the north-east quarter of section eleven (11), township fifty-six (56), range nine (9), thence south one mile, thence east one and one-half miles to the range line, thence north to the beginning; and, in the opinion of the court, the prayer of the petitioners is reasonable ; it is therefore ordered by the court that the said town of Hunnewell be and the same is hereby incorporated by the name and style of " The Inhabitants of the Town of Hunnewell ; " and it is further ordered that William F. Blackburn, Daniel Bird, I. R. Jones, William Shorts and C. Hurd be appointed the first board of trustees within and for said incorporation, and the clerk is ordered to certify said board with a copy of this order.

April 29, 1882, an election was held at the store-house of William Janes to determine whether or not the town should be incorporated as a city of the fourth class, with boundaries as before set forth. A majority voting in favor of reincorporation, President Blackburn, of the board of trustees, made proclamation that " the said town of Hunnewell, Mo., has been, by virtue of such vote, reorganized as a city of the fourth class."

The first election for city officers was held at Janes' store-room May 20, 1882, when the following officers were elected : Mayor, S.

J. McAtee; aldermen from the East ward, Dr. E. C. Davis and Thomas Irons; from the West ward, P. J. Thiehoff and William C. Blackburn. The town was divided into wards by Center street and designated as the East and West ward. July 19, 1882, the town ordinances were adopted.

The officers elected in 1884 were: Mayor, T. F. Hughes; clerk, Phil. J. Thiehoff; marshal, William Tompkins; street commissioner, William Armstrong; aldermen — East ward, A. C. Balliet and Dr. E. C. Davis; West ward, W. B. Thiehoff and P. J. Thiehoff.

BETHEL.

The first building on the present site of the town of Bethel was the dwelling-house of Peter Stice, who came to the locality in the fall of 1835, having previously entered the land on both sides of North river (east half sec. 33 — 59 — 10). In November Stice threw a dam across the river and erected a small water-mill, a "corn-cracker," which was afterward resorted to by the settlers for miles around.

In the spring of 1844, Adam Shuele, David Wagner and Christian Presser came out from Pennsylvania or Ohio, and bought the land on and about the site from Chinn, Rookwood and Vandiver. In the fall Dr. William Keil (pronounced *Kile*), George Miller and three or four others came and laid the foundations of a colony, of which Dr. Keil was the acknowledged leader and head.

Dr. William Keil was a native of Prussia, but came directly from Pittsburg, Pa. He was a physician, and though not thoroughly well educated in the schools, possessed many accomplishments and intellectual attainments. He was well versed in theology and a forcible, fluent and eloquent speaker, and not long after his arrival in America began preaching. His doctrine was somewhat new. He belonged to no church organization or denomination whatever, and never sought to found any. Claiming the Bible as the word of God and believing strongly in Christianity, his doctrines and sentiments were akin to those of certain of the primitive Christians.

Traveling through western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio, Dr. Keil preached to the German families in those localities in their own language, and announced that he was in favor of establishing in the far West a settlement whose members should have the faith and practices of the early Christians, and should own all property in common. His sermons were so impressive and his arguments so convincing, that hundreds announced themselves ready to follow him wherever he led. Shuele, Wagner and Presser were sent to spy out the land.

Keil and his associates having made all due preparations, in the spring of 1845 about 500 colonists came in from Pennsylvania, Ohio and Iowa. At that time the buildings on the town site were the old corn-cracker water-mill, built by Peter Stice 10 years before, Vandiver's old brick house, and two cabins down on the banks of the river close by the mill. For some time there was serious discomfort on account of the lack of proper accommodations for the women and children, but all went to work at once to supply this deficiency and soon the numerous clay-walled houses, still to be seen, arose and life was fairly begun in the new colony.

Communistic as were the doctrines and practices of the colony, all was harmony and satisfaction. Some of the members were quite wealthy, but they poured their substance into the common treasury with the same alacrity that the humblest contributed their slender capital. All were on an equality in social standing, in the sharing of benefits and in the bearing of burdens. The colony was one grand happy family, whose code of morals and of ethics was the New Testament, whose practice was the divine injunction of the Golden Rule, and whose motto and legend was " *Gott mit Uns.*"

Everybody worked. There were no drones in the hive. The affairs were managed by Dr. Keil generally, but under him there were trustees and division superintendents. In a short time about 4,000 acres of land were purchased and numerous farms laid out. One superintendent managed the farm, another the mill, another the affairs in town, etc. There was a purchasing agent who bought what the colony needed, and there was a treasurer who took charge of the funds received; but no man — not even Dr. Keil — *owned* more than another.

Some of the colonists had been Rappists, or members of old Peter Rapp's colony, in Pennsylvania, and at New Harmony, Ind.; but the majority were new in their experience of communism.

Soon after the main colony was established at Bethel branches or off-shoots were formed. On the south side of North river, just opposite Bethel, the collection of houses was called Mamri. A mile northwest of Bethel, on the Chinn farm, was Hebron; a mile east, on the Rookwood farm, was Elam. Dr. Keil directed affairs from Bethel.

Upon the first settlement there was a great deal of sickness in the colony. The North river bottom was full of miasm, and toxic vapors swept over the country, poisoning the systems of the unacclimated people, and prostrating many a colonist upon a bed of fever. There were numerous deaths. A cemetery was laid out and established a

mile above Hebron and it was fed fat with victims.   There was much discontent and many drew out what they had put into the colony, abandoned it, and went elsewhere.   But others came to take the places of those who left, and for a year or two it was almost like a bee-hive with workers departing and arriving constantly.

At last the colonists rallied in force and tore out the many drifts that had accumulated in North river for two miles up and down the river, and were breeding pestilence and death, and it was not long until the colonists were as healthy as their neighbors.

All kinds of industries were established.   In the fall of 1845 work was begun on a large mill, on the site of old Peter Stice's, which was torn away, and its dam discarded.   The new mill was run by steam. It was a two-and-a-half story building, with the basement and lower story of brick and stone, and the upper portion a frame.   At first it was but a grist and saw mill, but afterwards a fulling and carding mill was added, and in time patent looms were put in and woolen cloth was manufactured.   Also, a distillery was established, and a superior article of corn and rye whisky was manufactured in considerable quan-tities.   The first miller was — Matthias.

There were shoe shops and blacksmith shops, a hatter's shop, and there was a glove factory which took the premium for the best gloves at the World's Fair, in New York City, in 1858.   The Bethel buck gloves were celebrated everywhere.   The first store was managed by David Wagner.

In 1848 the church building, a large brick structure, with formidable walls and a commanding tower, was erected.   Here preaching was had every Sabbath, the leader of the colony officiating as minister.   It must be borne in mind that there was no church organization ; the congregation was merely a voluntary association. There were no creeds, no records, no ordinances, no ceremonies, no discipline, or anything whatever to bind, obligate or restrain the freedom of the members, or impair their liberty of conscience and action.   The ceremony of " joining the church," the process of " experiencing religion " and the ordinary machinery of church government, all were unknown. People went to church when they pleased, and yet every Sabbath the church building, with all its vast capacity, was well filled with attentive, devout listeners and worshipers. Only the sick and decrepit and those of tender years stayed at home.

A school was taught in the church, and the children of the colonists universally attended.   Moses Miller was the first teacher in the church and had 130 scholars of all ages and attainments and of both sexes

under his care and instruction. Charles Ruge succeeded him, and probably Esq. Harrison Baer and Charles Knight were the next teachers. After them were some ladies. The elementary English branches were taught, and English was the language used in the school room; the scholars learned German at home.

The colony was divided into families and the family relation observed. Provisions were drawn from the colony's store house on certain days, rations being issued to each family in proportion to the number of members.

Early after the colony was fairly planted, the citizens of Shelby county began to form most favorable opinions regarding their new neighbors. At first they had regarded them with something of contempt and disgust for their ideas, manners and customs, then they contemplated them with curiosity, and at last admired them for their strict rectitude, uncompromising honesty, fidelity to their word, and unvarying attention to their own business. The mill and the shops were patronized for many miles away to the exclusion of other institutions managed by their relatives and friends.

The "long haired Missourians," bearded like Arab shieks, and somewhat as rough and wild, soon made friends with the mild-voiced colonists, their German manners and customs. Affiliations were readily entered into. The friendship and favor of the colonists were courted by the politicians. If the "Dutch vote" at Bethel could be secured it was a powerful factor in assuring the success of a candidate. After a time one of the leading colonists, Samuel Miller, was elected a justice of the county court.

Life in the colony was enjoyed to the best possible advantage. There was no ill-feeling, no malice, no contention. There were no scandals, for the men were honorable and the women were pure. There was no gossip, neither tale-bearing or evil report. The cosy little village nestled down upon the placid little North river was the abode of contentment and happiness,

<div style="text-align:center">And peace and quiet and loving words.</div>

At Elam there was a large hall, and this was used for dancing parties, which were frequent and well attended. Dr. Keil organized an instrumental music band, composed of 24 members, who were very proficient as performers. The colony was never without a musical organization of some sort.

Three or four times a year there were great feasts in the church. Christmas was uniformly observed in this manner, and so sometimes

were Easter and the Feast of Pentecost. The harvest home feast was a great occasion. At all of these assemblages were young and old, men, women and children, and all were happy and joyous. Although there was a great abundance of whisky in the colony after the distillery was established, and though it was accessible to every one, yet drunkenness was looked upon as disgraceful, and was very rare, so that the scenes of merry-making and rejoicing were not marred by certain practices which are the bane of assemblages to-day.

The colony flourished under its unwritten constitution and laws, and grew so large as to become unwieldy. A division was regarded as best for general interests. In 1851, or near that time, 160 acres of land were purchased in Adair county, on the Chariton river, 10 miles north-west of Kirksville. Afterwards 800 acres more were bought and a branch colony established and called Nineveh. A large steam mill, a tannery and several shops were built here, and many from the Bethel colony went up.

In June, 1855, there was another division of the colony, and this the most important one. Dr. Keil, the founder and leader, at the head of 75 families — or at least that number of wagons — drew out and left for the Pacific coast to establish another colony. The emigrants went at first to Washington Territory, which they reached in the fall in the midst of the rainy season. The continued wet weather disbanded the colonists for a time. Dr. Keil went to Portland, Ore., and engaged in the practice of medicine for two years. Then the colonists got together and formed a colony in Marion county, Ore., near Salem, which they called Aurora. Dr. Keil assumed the leadership.

After Dr. Keil left the Bethel colony Dr. Christopher C. Wolf assumed the leadership. The colony continued to flourish under his management, and upon the breaking out of the war the population was nearly 500, and the treasury and store-house were full. The distillery had 600 barrels of whisky in stock.

Nearly all the voters in the colony voted for Lincoln and Hamlin, and all were anti-slavery men. No slaves were ever held by the colony or any of its members. The men had supported Benton, and always had shown a deep attachment to the Federal Union. When the war broke out, therefore, none of the colonists were secessionists. Neither were any of them in favor of war upon any pretext or for any reason. Their method of settling controversies was by arbitration, and one divine precept was ever before their minds. "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." It would

have been better for our country had its representative men been of the same mind and views as the Bethel colonists.

Martin Green and Jo Porter's secession troops were here in August, 1861, and made a demand on the people for provisions, through their quartermasters, Capt. Frisbie McCullough and Col. Robert Shacklett. It chanced to be ration day, and the people were quietly notified to hasten and draw the flour out of the mill and take other supplies to their homes before the Rebel commissary wagons arrived.   Only 80 bushels of corn meal were obtained at that time from the mill. Some of the secession troops robbed the boot and shoe shops and the dry goods stores of some of their contents, but Cols. Green and Porter made them return the most of them.

In a few days Green's men made another descent upon Bethel. This time they made no formal demand for provisions, but swooped down upon the mill suddenly and cleaned it out.   It chanced, however, that the mill was full of grists belonging to the people of the surrounding country, the most of whom were secessionists themselves, so that Green and Porter foraged on their friends, at last, and the colony suffered but little loss.   A considerable quantity of tobacco and some groceries were taken at this time.

When Gen. Hurlbut's troops, from Kirksville, and Col. Moore's regiment, from Clark county, met here on their way in pursuit of Green, as narrated elsewhere, they stopped for some hours, remaining over night.   Then said the Federal officers : —

" Tell us, now, who are your rebel neighbors, and we will forage upon them.   We must have feed for our horses and provisions for ourselves, and it is but right that the rebels should furnish us with what we want.   The rebel troops plundered you, and we will retaliate upon their friends."   But the colonists answered : " We can not inform on the secession people, for they are our neighbors, with whom we are at peace.   They are as honest in their opinions as we are in ours, and we can not do anything to distress or annoy them.   If you want provisions and provender we have plenty, and will gladly furnish you.   We are Union people and Republicans and you are our protectors.   Everything we have is at your service. Here are hay and oats and corn in great plenty, and here are flour and meal and cured meats and fat cattle, sheep and hogs, and vegetables in abundance ; help yourselves, and if necessary, our women shall cook your meals for you while you stay.   Only do not distress our neighbors for their opinions' sake."

After this the simple, peace-loving citizens of Bethel were not

much molested.   When, in the fall of 1862, McNeil's and Benjamin's
troops rendezvoused here in their pursuit of Porter, some of Merrill's Horse took their meals from the citizens, but that was all.
Thereafter Rebel bushwhacker and Federal jayhawker respected these
people whose hands were not raised against any man, and against
whom no man's hand was raised.

Only two or three members of the colony, and they were young
men, entered the Federal service during the war.   In 1862, when
there was a general order for the enrollment of all able-bodied men,
Dr. Wolf and others went to Gov. Gamble and procured the exemption of the Bethel colonists.   The same year Dr. Wolf and the most
of the young men left the country? by permission of the State authorities, and went out to Oregon, and joined the colony at Aurora.   The
draft did not run among the Bethel people.

The colony lost $1,900 during the war, by the ignorance of Mr.
George Schull, the distiller, who, in his anxiety to obey the law, went
to Macon City and paid that amount of tax on whisky the colony had
in stock, and which had been made before the law went into effect.
The money thus erroneously paid was never refunded.   Whisky
advanced largely in price, but the colony failed to realize what it
should have realized, on the sale of what of the fluid it had, as it
hauled the stock off to Quincy and disposed of it before the prices
had risen much.

The colony sustained a most serious loss in the burning of its mill,
distillery, carding machine and factory on the 10th of April, 1872.
Everything was burned, even to the books of the establishment, and
there was no insurance.   The loss was about $20,000.   Work was at
once begun on a new building, which is the present mill, a large brick
saw and grist mill, run by steam, and built at a cost of $17,000.

After Dr. Wolf left Andrew Geisy became the leader ; he went to
Oregon in 1876.   After Geisy removed Jacob G. Miller became the
leader — the last one the colony had.

Dr. William Keil died in Oregon in 1879, and soon after his death
there was a general dissolution of both the colonies he had founded.
Representatives from the Oregon colony came on to arrange for a
division of the property, and arrangements for an equitable separation
were easily effected.   The title deeds to all the realty were made out
in the name and were in the possession of the leader of the colony,
from the start, and were deeded by him in a general warranty to his
successor.   Thus Keil deeded to Wolf, and Wolf to Geisy, etc.
Had either of the leaders been a rascal he might have transferred the

property for a valuable consideration to an innocent purchaser, and the colonists would have been left without recourse.

The Oregon colony appointed as its representatives Judge Samuel Miller, Capt. Will and Stephen Smith, who had a power of attorney for the settlement and conclusion of the business. The Bethel colony appointed Philip Miller, Philip Steinbach, John Shafer, Henry Will, Jr., and John G. Bauer. The commissioners, by the advice of Col. D. P. Dyer, of St. Louis, were able to make a division upon a plan that met the universal assent of both colonies.

The entire Bethel colony property was to be appraised by disinterested parties and divided among the members *pro rata*, according to the length of time they had been such. Each male member who was a minor when he joined the colony was allowed to count his membership from the time he was 20 years of age, and each female from the time she was 18. Every member was to be first allowed the value of the property he had put in, without interest.

Three appraisers were appointed — Hiram Pickett, George Lair and Frederick Haman. They made a fair valuation of all the property, which was satisfactory. Upon balancing accounts it appeared that the Bethel colony stood indebted to some of the Oregon colonists in the sum of about $17,000. They agreed to receive the mill for the debt. Then the value of the remainder of the property was aggregated, and divided by the whole number of years the colonists had served, when it was found that each male was entitled to a little more than $28 per year for every year he had been a member above the age of 20, and it was agreed that everyfemale should receive half that sum for every year of her membership after she was 18.

Upon this basis calculations were readily made, and each one's share easily apportioned. It took some time to cut up the land and town property and give every one his due, but at last everything was done and settled, and everyone was satisfied. There was no lawsuit, no controversy, no bitterness, no murmuring. Each member seemed to fear, not that he had not received enough, but that he had gotten more than his share. The affairs were all wound up, and each member received a legal title to his property, and began life on his own account.

The church building fell to the Keller sisters, Susan and Christina (Fink), Jacob Shriver, Jacob Hagler, J. G. Miller and Caspar Shafer, who still own it. All Christian denominations are allowed the use of it.

The mill was purchased of the Oregon colonists by Moses Miller,

Philip Miller, George Bauer and Henry Ziegler, at the very reasonable price of $9,000. It was then a buhr mill, but in the fall of 1883 the proprietors put in a full set of rolls, and the mill now makes flour by what is known as the roller process. It has a large and increasing patronage.

There are several general stores in the place, together with the usual mechanical and trades shops to be found in nearly every country town. Bethel still is and doubtless will always be a popular trading point for many people.

The town was incorporated as a town November 6, 1883, and Fred. Stecher, Henry Will, W. C. Bower, Philip Steinbach and George Bauer constituted the first board of trustees.

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