CHAPTER III.

HISTORY OF THE COUNTY FROM 1835 TO 1840.

The Settlers of 1835 — When the County was Organized — Naming the Streams — Fatal Accidents — Got Lost — "New York" — The "Pottawatomie War" — Building the Court House — Pioneer Mills — The "Bee Trails" — List of the Settlers in 1837 — The Mormon War — The "Iowa War" — The First Bridge — The First Homicide, Killing of John Bishop by John L. Faber.

SOME SETTLERS OF 1835.

The following are the names of more than 70 of the settlers of the county who were here upon the organization of the county, or in the spring of 1835. It is believed that this list comprises nearly all of the voters and heads of families who were in the county at that time : —

George Anderson, Josiah Abbott, James Y. Anderson, Thomas J. Bounds, W. B. Broughton, Anthony Blackford, James Blackford, Isaac Blackford, Samuel Bell, Alexander Buford, Silas Boyce, Samuel Buckner, Thomas H. Clements, William S. Chinn, Bryant Cochrane, Samuel Cochrane, J. W. Cochrane, Charles Christian, Obadiah Dickerson, Robert Duncan, William H. Davidson, Levi Dyer, George Eaton, Elisha K. Eaton, John Eaton, James Foley, Benjamin F. Forman, Jesse Gentry, George W. Gentry, Julius C. Gartrell, James G. Glenn, William J. Holliday, Thompson Holliday, Elias L. Holliday, Thomas Holeman, Charles A. Hollyman, Bradford Hunsucker, William D. B. Hill, Julius C. Jackson, Robert Joiner, Ezekiel Kennedy, Isham Kilgore, Charles Kilgore, Robert Lair, Addison Lair, Peter Looney, Oliver Latimer, Michael Lee, Russell W. Moss, J. M. Moss, John H. Milton, William Moore, William T. Matson (died same year), J. C. Mayes, S. W. Miller, Henry Musgrove, John McAfee, Samuel J. Parker, George Parker, Elijah Pepper, W. H. Payne, Peter Roff, John Ralls, Hiram Rookwood, Robert Reed, James Shaw, Cyrus A. Saunders, Henry Saunders, James Swartz, Peter Stice, Montillion H. Smith, Hill Shaw, John Sparrow, William Sparrow, Maj. Turner, William S. Townsend, John Thomas, Abraham Vandiver, Dr. Adolphus E. Wood, Nicholas Watkins.

The following are some who came in the fall of 1835 or in 1836 : John Dunn, James Graham, Alexander Gillaspy, Lewis Gillaspy,

Stephen Miller, James L. Peake, Samuel Bell, John Jacobs, Joseph West, James Ford, William Conner, Robert R. Moffitt, William Moffitt, Jesse Vanskike, Samuel M. Hewett, Francis Leflet, Samuel S. Matson, Elisha Moore, J. T. Tingle, G. H. Edmonds, S. O. Van Vactor, M. J. Priest.

After the organization of the county settlers came in rather plentifully for a few years. The majority of them located along the streams in the timber, and some came to Shelbyville as soon as it budded out into a town.

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

The principal streams were all named when the settlers came here. The original name of Salt river was Auhaha, or Oahaha, but it was soon called Salt river from the salt springs near it, in Ralls county. Black creek was originally called Jake's creek, and is so spoken of in the early records of Marion county. It is said that some time about the year 1820 a trapper named Jake —— built a cabin on its banks and lived there some time. Afterward the surveyors called it Black creek because of the dark color of the water when they first saw it. North river was originally called North *Two*-rivers, and South river, in Marion county, was *South* Two-rivers. The two streams unite half a mile from the Mississippi, into which they flow, in the eastern part of Marion. Tiger fork was named for the two panthers or "tigers" that John Winnegan killed in the winter of 1835. There were already two "Panther creeks" in this part of the State.

The small streams were named for the men who first settled or located upon them. Pollard's branch, in the western part of Black Creek township, was named for Elijah Pollard, Chinn's branch for W. S. Chinn, Hawkins' branch for William Hawkins, Broughton's branch for W. B. Broughton, Payton's branch for John Payton, Bell's branch for Samuel Bell, Parker's branch for George Parker, Holman's branch for Thomas Holman, etc. Clear creek, in the southwestern part of Tiger Fork township, and east of Shelbyville, was so named because it was fed by springs and the water was very clear. Otter creek, in the south-western part of the county, contained not only otters, but beavers, at an early day, but more of the former, and so derived its name. Board branch was so named for the abundance of board timber along its banks at an early day.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.

In the summer of 1837, John Payton, a settler who lived in the western part of the county, on the branch bearing his name, was dashed against a tree by his horse and instantly killed. Payton had been to Shelbyville to do some trading and became intoxicated. His wife and brother-in-law were with him, and all the parties were on horseback. On the way home, while east of the Salt river bottom, or about five miles from Shelbyville, in the direction of Clarence, Payton wanted to return to town and finish his spree. To induce him to continue on home his brother-in-law proposed a horse-race and Payton accepted. A tree leaned across the main road on which the men were running, but a path ran around it. It was believed that Payton turned his horse into this path and leaned over to one side to avoid being knocked off, but suddenly the horse turned again, and before Payton could recover himself he was dashed against the tree and killed in the presence of his wife and brother-in-law. Others thought his death was due to his intoxicated condition — that he swayed to one side as he ran and so struck the tree.

An inquest, the first in the county, was held on Payton's body, and a verdict of accidental death was returned. The fatal tree, black oak, stood for many years, and was often pointed out and known as " Payton's tree."

Not far from this time a party of men were engaged in raising a log house west of Shelbyville, and while raising a heavy log it slipped and fell upon a slave mam named " London," killing him instantly. The slave belonged to Capt. James Shaw.

GOT LOST.

A small colony of Norwegians settled on the head waters of North river in about 1839. One of the colony, a man named Peter Galena, came down to Shelbyville, and on his return towards his home he lost his way. His family became alarmed at his continued absence, and a number of citizens turned out to hunt for him. After searching for him a day and a half he was found wandering about on the prairie in the north-western part of the county, nearly dead from exposure, and half demented from terror and fright. He was taken home and cared for.

" NEW YORK."

In the fall of 1835 a company of speculators, at the head of which was Col. William Muldrow, of Marion county, entered about one-third

of the land in this county, thousands of acres at a time. Extensive tracts were entered in other counties. The money was furnished by Eastern capitalists, Rev. Dr. Ely, John McKee, Allen Gallaher and others, all from Pennsylvania. Dr. Ezra Stiles Ely was a prominent divine of Philadelphia, Pa., and put into the enterprise (and lost) $100,000.

The company founded the towns of Philadelphia, Marion City, and West Ely and Marion College, in Marion county, and sold thousands of dollars worth of lots to credulous Eastern investors, many of whom were persons of moderate means, who desired to secure homes in the great West. Some of these came on, and found that the flourishing " towns " and "cities " that had been described to them existed but on paper, and returned to their former homes disgusted and much poorer financially.

Col. Muldrow and his associates came over into Shelby and laid out a town in the north-western part of the county in the fall of 1835. This town was called New York. It was located on sections 1, 2, 12 and 13, in township 58, range 11. It was well and regularly laid out in streets, lots and blocks, and the *plat* was very pretty to look at. Quite a number of lots were disposed of to gullible parties else-where, but " New York " was always a town without houses.

Eventually the speculators came to grief. Other investments proved disastrous, and they soon found that people were acquainted with their schemes and would not bite. It is perhaps but fair to say, however, that Muldrow was only about 40 years ahead of the times. Such investments in 1875 as he proposed would have been profit-able.

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

In the fall of 1836 occurred the " Pottawatomie War," as it was derisively called for many years afterward. It was indeed no *war* at all, but was simply a ridiculous and altogether groundless scare or fright.

A party of about 60 friendly Pottawatomie Indians, men, women, and children, on a hunting expedition from Iowa into Missouri, — or, as some say, on the way from Iowa to the South-west, whither they had been ordered to remove by the Government, — passed through the western part of this county, and caused the trouble. The Indians were hungry and a few stragglers among them climbed into a settler's cornfield, west of Salt river, and helped themselves to a half dozen pumpkins for themselves and to an armful of· corn for their ponies.

The Indians had sent forward no notice of their coming, and came upon the settlers unawares. Some of the latter discovered the savages in the cornfield, and at once concluded that an Indian war, with all its woes and horrors, was upon the country, and that the pumpkin thieves were but the advance guard of the red-skinned and red-handed army following close after, bringing fire and slaughter and merciless torture and all the evils of savage warfare.

The alarm was given and messengers were sent throughout the county — to the isolated settlers instructing them to repair to a certain formidable log house for safety — to Shelbyville and Palmyra for help — and to other quarters in various "wild goose" chases. The messenger reached Shelbyville with his hair on end, his eyes a-bulge, and his horse a-foam. It was in the evening, but a company of men was soon raised and armed. It was too late to start out that night, and it was resolved to wait for reinforcements from Palmyra, and not to move out unless word was obtained that help was wanted immediately, or unless firing was heard in the threatened quarter. Pickets were put out and the men were ready to move at the sound of the trumpet.

Some of the settlers came galloping into town. Old Malachi Wood mounted himself on one horse, and placing his wife and a child on another, set out in a canter for safety. Presently his wife called out:

"Stop, Malachi, stop! I've dropped the baby! Stop, and help me save it!"

Without drawing his bridle-rein or even turning his head Malachi shouted back: —

"Never mind the baby. Let's save the old folks! *More babies can be had!*"

A Mr. W. O. Peake was the messenger sent to Palmyra for help. He reported that the Indians were ravaging the western part of Shelby county, that the inhabitants were fleeing from their homes, and that unless reinforcements were sent the county would be laid waste and no end of misery occasioned.

Palmyra at once flew to arms. In an hour or two a company of well-armed men were in the saddle and on the way to help our people. Gen. Benjamin Means loaned them some dragoon swords and other arms that had survived the Black Hawk War. Gen. David Willock gave them orders. John H. Curd was chosen captain. After a hard march all night the company reached Shelbyville next morning at about 9 o'clock.

Here they found the Shelbyville company waiting for them. Of course the Marion volunteers were hungry and thirsty. Something was given them to eat, and then something to drink. Dr. Long, of Shelbyville, stood treat for the entire company. Then somebody else "set up" the whisky for both companies. Then the men began to treat themselves. The whisky on draught was of the fighting variety, and the men were warriors and on the way to fight a stubborn foe, and of course it was proper that a great deal of stimulus should be indulged in.

The volunteers drank and drank, and grew first friendly, then garrulous and demonstrative, then spirited, then bellicose! A quarrel broke out between the two companies! Some Palmyreans treated themselves at the bar and tried to make Dr. Long pay for the whisky because he had first invited them to drink. Capt. Curd said it was "a hell of a way to do — invite men to drink and then make them pay for it." Dr. Long said that Capt. Curd was a "d——d liar." A fight between them resulted on the instant. To call a man a liar at that day meant fight, every time.

A general row resulted. Drunken men having pugilistic tendencies need but little provocation to induce them to fight. The pioneers of Marion and Shelby were not exceptions to this rule: —

"They fought like brave men, long and well,"

in regular Donnybrook style. Only one man was seriously hurt. Russell W. Moss hit a Marion county man named Dixon in the "short ribs," and as Dixon died not long after, and as he spat blood until his death, some thought the blow indirectly killed him.

As soon as Capt. Curd was through fighting he called up his company, he and Dr. Long shook hands, the other combatants shook hands, and soon both companies were friendly. Their enmity died out when the whisky did. Mounting their horses the two companies set out for the Indians, going in a westwardly direction. That night they encamped on Payton's branch.

The next morning they learned that the Indians had been gone nearly two days, and were then 50 miles away. Only one family had been left behind with a very sick squaw and a sick child. They were peaceable enough to be sure! An investigation showed that the "bloody-minded savages" had skinned, roasted alive and actually eaten some captive pumpkins; had murdered a hundred pound shoat and devoured it, entrails and all; had kept themselves *to* themselves and interfered

with no man, and finally had roamed on in search of other pumpkins to devour.

The volunteers were not coming back without accomplishing something. The Indian family was ordered to "puck-a-chee," that is, to evacuate the territory immediately, and they did so. In vain did the old squaw remonstrate that she was "heap sick," the fierce Palmyra dragoons, sword in hand, demanded that she should depart at once from the territory made sacred to white men and their posterity forever, and she departed.

The companies then turned to the right about and returned every man to his home. The Palmyra company would not pass through Shelbyville on its way back. The memory of its whisky and its pugilists was yet too vivid and painful. The men took the lower route and rode gravely away, gazing ruefully upon one another's blacked eyes, bloody noses and skinned faces.

The Shelby settlers soon returned to their homes. Nothing had been disturbed and no harm done. The Shelby county military company disbanded, after first returning thanks to the Palmyra volunteers " for the assistance they rendered us and the entertainment they furnished us !"

John B. Lewis was then living in a half finished cabin down in the sparsely settled country south-west of Walkersville. He had about $3,000 in gold, which he had brought to the country. A son of John Payton came galloping along calling out to all he met: " Indians! Indians! Fly for your lives!" Mr. Lewis put his wife and little children, three in number, all on one horse and started them for the Moore settlement, south a few miles. Mrs. Lewis rode away without making much of a toilet. She remembers that she went away bareheaded.

Mr. Lewis hastily buried his money and set out on foot. At Mr. Moore's the party "forted up," as they called it, until the next day. Two or three other families had gathered at Moore's for safety, converting his large, strong house into a fort.

Mr. Lewis states that the Indians had lost one of their number by death, and one or two others were sick. They killed a dog, which they hung up and shot full of arrows, and arranged arrows in a circle pointing towards the animal's carcass. This was done to kill and exorcise the evil spirit which they believed had infested their afflicted people. The white people, however, interpreted this token to mean hostility towards them. The suspended dog, the arrows in a circle, certain pow-wowing, and above all the raid on the pumpkin patch, they thought meant war and bloodshed !

BUILDING THE COURT-HOUSE.

The first steps taken by the county authorities towards the building of a court-house were at the November term, 1836. Maj. Obadiah Dickerson was appointed superintendent of public buildings and ordered to prepare and submit a plan together with the estimate of the cost of a court-house. At this time there was some money in the treasury and more to come, and the need of a capitol building for the county was most imperative. The court-house had been on wheels, as it were, and moved about from one private residence to another. The building could not well be longer delayed.

At the February term, 1837, the county court appropriated $4,000 to erect a court-house according to certain specifications. It was to cover an area 40 feet square; to be built of good, well burned brick laid in lime and cement, the foundation of stone; the first story was to be 14 feet high, and the second eight feet six inches; the wood work was to be well done, etc. It was at first specified that the building was to be painted and ornamented, but afterward these specifications were stricken out.

In September, 1837, the contract for the brick work of the building was let to Charles Smith for the sum of $1,870, and the wood work was let to Wait Barton for $2,175. An advance in cash was made to each of the parties upon their giving bond for the faithful performance of their contract.

The building progressed slowly. The country was quite new. Lumber yards were not in existence, and nearly all the material for the wood work had to be hauled in from Hannibal and Palmyra. There was not a brick house in the county, and the brick must be made and burned before they could be laid up in the walls. Nowadays the same building could be completed in two months; then it required more than a year to finish it.

Smith finished his part in the summer of 1838, and Barton his in November following. The following was Maj. Dickerson's report to the county court, accepting Barton's work: —

To the Shelby County Court — I, Obadiah Dickerson, appointed by the Shelby county court-superintendent of the erection of the court-house for the said county, do certify that I have superintended the performance of the contract of Wait Barton made for the erection of part of said building, and that said Barton has fully completed the work stipulated for on his contract in that behalf, and the work done by him as aforesaid is received, and there is now due him the sum of

$215.00, the painting left out. Given under my hand and seal this 9th day of November, A. D. 1838.

OBADIAH DICKERSON,

[L. S.] *Supt. Public Buildings.*

The brick of which the court-house was constructed were made on the premises near town owned by Josiah Beathards. The lumber was sawed at Gay's mill, on North river, in Marion county, near where Ebenezer Church now stands (sec. 18 — 58 — 8). In his sketches Mr. Holliday inadvertently calls this mill "Lyell's mill," which was on North river.

PIONEER MILLS.

The pioneers of Shelby county were not so badly off for mills as some of their compeers in other counties, who were quite often compelled to resort to the hominy block and the hand mill. Hand mills made their appearance almost if not quite with the first settlements, and soon after came the water mills.

At the November term of the circuit court, 1835, Peter Stice asked for a writ of *ad quod damnum* in order that there might be determined the propriety of erecting a water mill on the North river, on the east half of the north-west quarter of section 33, township 59, range 10, exactly at the present site of the town of Bethel. Stice built and furnished this mill in 1836, but it never did much grinding. About the same time Silas and Asa Boyce began the erection of a mill on Salt river, three and a half miles south-east of Shelbyville (se. nw. 10—57—10). The mill was completed by Anthony Blackford, Nehemiah Redding and others, and Boyce's mill was a well-known institution of the county for many years. John Gay, of Marion, was the millwright.

The next mill was built by Mr. William J. Holliday, in 1837, on Black creek, on the west half of the north-east quarter of section 27—58—10 ; this was about two and a half miles south of east of Shelbyville. Holliday's application for leave to build was made in March, 1837.

William H. Clagett, T. P. Lair and others made application the same time as Holliday, and built a mill afterward on the South Fabius, where the Newark road crosses that stream (nw. se. 11—59—9), which they operated for some time.

Mr. Holliday says that the first mill in the county was built on Black creek (sec. 6—57—9), near Oak Dale, by Julius A. Jackson, in 1835. It was a saw and grist mill combined, and was of great value to the people. It was destroyed by fire eight or ten years afterward. Other early settlers think this mill was not built until in 1837 or 1838.

Dutton's mill, on the north fork of Salt river, three miles south-east of Hager's Grove and 10 miles south of west of Shelbyville (ne. 35—58—12), was built sometime in the fall of 1837. It was begun by Julius A. Jackson, and before being fully completed the dam washed out.

In March, 1838, Hill Shaw built a mill on Black creek, in the south-eastern part of the county (ne. se. 29—57—9), two miles north-east of the present town of Lakenan.

In July, 1838, Adam and Michael Heckart made application for leave to build a mill on the North fork of Salt river, five miles south-west of Shelbyville and about three and a half miles north of where Lentner Station now stands (ne. 4—57—11), but it is not remembered that this mill was ever built. The Heckart's ran a horse mill for some time in this neighborhood, and afterward Heckart and Stayer oper-ated the Walker mill, at Walkersville.

In March, 1839, or some time in the spring of that year, Samuel Buckner put up a mill on North river, nearly two miles below Bethel (ne. 3—58—10), and it ran for some time.

Some time in 1838, Edwin G. and Warren Pratt built a mill on the Little Fabius, in the north-eastern corner of this county or in Knox.

In 1839 a Mr. Williams, of Marion county, entered the 80-acre tract on which the mill at Walkersville now stands, and contemplated the erection of a mill on the place, but died before the work was accomplished. The land was sold by the administrator, and David O. Walker and George W. Barker purchased it and built the mill and started the town of Walkersville, which was named for Mr. Walker. The mill was built in 1840.

Prior to the erection of these mills — and in truth occasionally aft-erwards — the settlers resorted to Gatewood's and Massie's mills, near Palmyra, and to Hickman's mill, at Florida, for their grinding. Nearly all of our home mills were but "corn-crackers" and were not prepared to grind and bolt wheat.

<div align="center">THE FIRST ROADS — THE " BEE TRAILS."</div>

The State Legislature, at the session of 1836–37, attached to Shelby county, for civil and military purposes, all of ranges 11 and 12 of township 60 — now Knox county. At the same session a State road was established from Paris, Monroe county, to the mouth of the Des Moines river, by the way of Shelbyville. The road was opened to Shelbyville the same year.

Previously the only roads running north were what were called the

" Bee roads." These were two in number, and in character were little better than trails. They ran through the central and eastern portion of the county in a general direction north and south, and were made by the settlers of the lower counties, who every autumn resorted to this country in quest of honey. The woods abounded with bee-trees, and the honey hunters took away with them each year tons of the delicious nectar. Where the trail crossed a stream it was called the " Bee ford," and thus there were the " Bee ford of Salt river," the "Bee ford of South Fabius," etc.

One of these roads was called the " Callaway trail," being the route commonly pursued by the honey hunters of Callaway county. It did not cross Black creek, but came on the divides between Black creek and North river to a point nearly four miles north-east of Shelbyville (sec. 14—58—10), where it left the divide and crossed a branch in the north-western part of that section, where there was plenty of water, and the bee hunters made it a general camping place and rendezvous. This branch was called Camp branch by the first settlers and hunters.

The " Boone trail," made by the bee hunters from Boone county, crossed Salt river above Walkersville, and Black creek south-west of Shelbyville, and came up to the bluff into the arm of prairie on which the town now stands, bearing north-east across the divide, and joining the Callaway trail south of the North river timber; from thence it wriggled along through the timber up to the headwaters of the Fabius and even up into the waters of the Des Moines, in Iowa.

A Mr. Christian had a ferry at the " Bee ford " over Salt river, in 1836. The location was below the Warren ford, near the mouth of Watkins' branch. The boat was a flat, propelled by poles.

LIST OF THE SETTLERS IN 1837.

In 1837 the following were the settlers then living in the county. At this time the north-western portion of the county was but sparsely settled, as the land in that quarter had not yet come into market: —

Township 57, Range 9. — Two Mr. Hickmans, Peter Rinkston, Gabriel Davis, Randolph Howe, Kennedy Mayes, George P. Mayes, Harvey Eidson, Samuel B. Hardy, Samuel Blackburn, George Barker, William B. Broughton, Russell W. Moss, Fontleroy Dye, Ramey Dye, Elijah Moore, John Thomas, Henry Saunders, Cyrus A. Saunders, Hill Shaw, Robert Duncan, Thomas J. Bounds, Joseph Holman, Joel Musgrove, Thomas H. Clements, David Smallwood, Richard Gartrell, Josiah Abbott, Julius C. Gartrell, Mrs. Desire Gooch, and others.

Township 58, Range 9. — Kindred Feltz, Stephen Gupton, Mrs. Temperance Gupton, William Montgomery, Edward Wilson, Henry Louthan, Robert Lair, Addison Lair, Robert Joiner, Anthony Minter, Alexander Buford, Charles N. Hollyman, Elisha Baldwin, Solomon W. Miller, Mrs. Caroline Looney, Oliver Latimer and George W. Gentry.

Township 59, Range 9. — Caleb Adduddle, Benjamin Jones, Mrs. Morgan, Thomas P. Lear, John Cadle, William White, Kemp M. Glasscock, Benjamin P. Glasscock, Daniel Wolf, Benjamin Talbot, Thomas G. Turner, Perry Forsythe and Mr. Whitelock.

Township 57, Range 10. — Samuel Buckner, Anthony Blackford, James Blackford, Isaac Blackford, Dr. Wood, George Eaton, Jefferson Gash, Col. William Lewis, John Eaton, Charles Smith, Samuel J. Smith, Maj. Obadiah Dickerson, George Anderson, Peter Roff and Samuel C. Smith.

Township 58, Range 10. — Albert G. Smith, Samuel Beal, Elijah Pepper, James Swartz, Mrs. Elizabeth Creel, Lewis H. Gillaspy, Alexander Gillaspy, Abraham Vandiver, Montillion H. Smith, Joseph West, Maj. H. Jones, John Easton, Ezekiel Kennedy, James C. Hawkins, Dr. Hawkins, Elijah Owens, E. L. Holliday, Mrs. Nancy Holliday, John Lemley, Josiah Bethard and Thomas Davis.

Township 59, Range 10. — James Ford, John Ralls, Samuel Cochrane, James G. Glenn, Robert McKitchen, Peter Looney, Joseph Moss, James Turner, Ferdinand Carter, John Moss, Peter Stice, John Serat, Lewis Kincaid, Elijah Hall, Hiram Rockwood, Sanford Pickett, James S. Pickett, William S. Chinn and Nathan Baker.

Township 57, Range 11. — David D. Walker, David Wood, Malcom Wood, William Wood, James Carothers, William Coard, Nicholas Watkins, Perry B. Moore, Isaac W. Moore, Mrs. Mary Wailes, Pettyman Blizzard, James R. Barr, Lacy Morris, Stanford Drain, James Carroll, Barclay Carroll, John B. Lewis, James Parker, George Parker, Capt. B. Melson, Major Taylor, Robert Brewington and Henry Brewington.

Township 58, Range 11. — John Thomas, John Dunn, Elijah Pollard, Philip Upton, John T. Victor, William Victor, Aaron B. Glasscock, Martin Baker and Michael See.

THE MORMON WAR.

For a condensed history of what came to be known as "the Mormon War" in Missouri, which closed with the year 1838, the reader is referred to pages 54-7 of the State history in this volume, an

acquaintance with which is necessary to a proper understanding of the part borne by Shelby county in that alleged "War."

In the fall of the year 1838, upon the calling out of Gen. John B. Clark's division, the militia of this county mustered, pursuant to the orders of Gen. David Willock, brigade commander for the brigade composed of the militia of this district. From Shelby county there was one company, mounted, numbering 70 or 80 men, and officered as follows : Captain, Samuel S. Matson ; first lieutenant, Peter Roff; second lieutenant, Albert G. Smith ; orderly sergeant, William H. Davidson. The company organized at Shelbyville and started southward for Paris, the general rendezvous, about the 20th of October.

The first night out the company encamped at Madison Buckner's, in Monroe county. At eventide the weather was mild, even balmy, and the sun went down like a huge, glowing disc of gold. But after nightfall the weather changed and down came, with almost the velocity of a cyclone, a severe cold wind that brought with it a storm of rain and sleet and fine snow. The men, as yet unprovided with tents, and having but few blankets, etc., suffered severely. The baggage had not all been brought up, and there was no such thing as shelter to be had there, and so the only way in which the men kept from freezing was by building huge fires around which they sat till daylight.

The next day Paris was reached. Here other companies were found — from Marion, Lewis, Ralls and Monroe. The other side of Paris the regiment to which the Shelby county company belonged was organized. O. H. Allen, of Lewis county, was elected colonel. The weather cleared off with a heavy frost ; it was cold, and the experience of the militia severe.

Marching was kept up toward the westward until Keytesville was reached, when word was received to halt and await further orders. Gen. Willock sent Mr. William J. Holliday as an express to Gen. John B. Clark, who returned orders to Willock to march his troops to Huntsville, Randolph county, and disband them. This was done and the Shelbyville company returned home, arriving about November 15, having been absent over two weeks, accomplishing nothing but their own fatigue, discomfort and distress.

THE "IOWA WAR."

In the late fall of 1839 the State of Missouri and the Territory of Iowa had a serious disputation regarding the boundary line between

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them, which dispute or quarrel was called in this State the "Iowa war," and in Iowa is known as "the boundary war," or the "Missouri war." The Missouri authorities claimed that the northern boundary of their State was about ten miles north of where it is at present. The Iowans denied this. The sheriff of Clarke county, Mo., went on the disputed tract to collect taxes, and the Iowans arrested him.

Warlike measures were adopted, and Gov. Boggs, of Missouri, and Gov. Lucas, of Iowa, called out their militia on each side. Gen. David Willock was sent to the Iowa border, and ordered the militia in this quarter of the State to follow him. Willock commanded a division of militia, and one of the brigade commanders was Gen. O. H. Allen, of Lewis, the same who had been the colonel of the militia in the Mormon war.

About the 12th of December, 1839, the company of Shelby county militia was again ordered out, this time to serve as infantry and to join Gen. Allen's brigade, in Clarke county. About 60 men mustered. The captain was Samuel S. Matson ; the lieutenants, Russell W. Moss and Albert G. Smith, and the orderly sergeant was either William H. Davidson or J. M. Ennis. The men were poorly equipped, and it seemed that another season of suffering, such as had been experienced in the Mormon war, was again to be undergone. The company set out on foot, but only reached John Glover's pasture, a point a mile and a half north of Newark, where they learned that peace had been declared, and they returned home. The dispute was referred to Congress, which decided in favor of Iowa.

THE FIRST BRIDGE.

In the spring of 1839 the first bridge was built in the county. It was thrown across Black creek, west of Shelbyville. The following petition, written by Elijah G. Pollard, was presented to the county court : —

We, the undersigned petitioners, are subject to many inconveniences for the want of a bridge across Black creek, at or near the ford on the road leading from Shelbyville to Holman's cabins, on Salt river. We pray the county court to take into consideration the necessity of building a bridge at the above named place, for the benefit of the settlers living west of Shelbyville. We, the undersigned, are willing to pay one-half of the amount the bridge may cost, as follows : —

Elijah G. Pollard . . . $10 00	Thomas J. McAfee . . $10 00
John Dunn 15 00	John McAfee 10 00
A. B. Glasgow 10 00	Robert McAfee . . . 10 00
Madison J. Priest . . . 10 00	Maj. H. Jones . . . 5 00

William Gooch, $1 00.

It is not believed that the county rendered any assistance in building this bridge, and the settlers did it themselves. Two long logs were thrown across the stream for stringers or cords, and across these strong slabs were laid and pinned. On the ends of the stringers dirt was thrown and they were securely fastened. The middle of the bridge sank down, and when the creek was high the water ran over it, sometimes to a depth of five feet, but the stringers held, and the bridge lasted many years.

FIRST HOMICIDE.

In 1839 occurred the first homicide in the county. John L. Faber shot and killed one, John Bishop, in the brick tavern on the southwest corner of the public square in Shelbyville, now (1884) Smith's hotel. The victim died against the east wall of the bar-room.

Faber was a bachelor and lived in Knox county. He was a great trader, and it is said bought everything offered for sale to him. He owned a dozen old hunting rifles, shot pouches, etc., and one of his houses was a perfect museum of trumpery. He bought a horse of Thomas J. McAfee, of this county, which Faber said McAfee warranted to work, but which, when hitched up, would not pull a pound. Whereupon Faber said McAfee had just as good a right to steal the money he received for the horse, and was just as much of a thief as if he had.

McAfee had married a step-daughter of Major Obadiah Dickerson. The old Major said sternly to him: "If you don't properly resent this charge and these insults of Faber's I will disown you, sir, forever." The first time the two met they were in the tavern before mentioned. McAfee at once assaulted Faber, catching him around the body. Bishop was Faber's friend, and he ran in and caught McAfee around the body and tried to separate the struggling combatants. Faber, finding he was in McAfee's strong grasp so tightly that he could not release himself, drew his pistol, and passing it around his antagonist, felt the muzzle come in contact with a body, which he thought was McAfee's. Instantly he pulled the trigger. The shot killed Bishop, as the pistol was against his body, and not McAfee's. Faber surrendered himself, and was released on preliminary examination. He was never indicted.

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