

The Clay County MOsaic

"Fitting the Pieces Together"

Quarterly Newsletter of the Clay County Archives & Historical Library, Inc.

July-August-September 2011

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MOsaic by Internet

If you would like to receive your future newsletters online, we will need to have your e-mail address.

Please send it to:

info@claycountyarchives.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I love hearing stories. Stories about places and people I know... but not well enough. And, curiously, the stories I want to hear are not about what is happening today, but what happened yesterday. There seems to be something that compels me to know more about what happened before. I think that "thing" that compels is a realization that what happened yesterday puts what happens today into perspective, into focus. How can one know the meaning of the events of today without knowing of the events of yesterday? So what happens today, really, has no relevance or meaning without knowing what happened yesterday.

In the long run, what happens today only has bearing on what happens tomorrow. Oh, sure, you can be happy or sad (or something in between) about the events of today, but the fallout of those events won't really be known until tomorrow... or, at least not fully known. When someone tells you to "sleep on it", they are giving you sage advice. For instance, consider some life changing event. Like a birth or a death (or something in between). Or, more dramatically, the loss of a job or the loss of freedom. You may feel the impact in the pit of your stomach at the time, but to truly know what that event really means will require time, time for the implications to be revealed.

Will those pangs subside over time? Will they intensify? How will they affect your behavior? And, that, I think, is the crux of it all. To understand the behavior of today requires one to know the events of yesterday. Behavior, of course, can be defined in many ways. Surely in the traditional sense as in how a person lives and reacts to daily events. But also as how "things are the way they are." You must know what happened yesterday to understand why things are the way they are today. Once you know the "why" of yesterday, maybe you'll have enough knowledge to help shape the way things are tomorrow. It occurs to me that the tired (but true) quote of George Santayana, "Those who cannot

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GENERAL INFORMATION

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday through Wednesday -- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
First Wednesday of Month -- 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Closed on National Holidays

MEMBERSHIP FOR CALENDAR YEAR

Individual & Family (one address) -- \$15.00
(Memberships paid after October 1 will apply to next calendar year.)

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Unlimited *On-Site* Research
Subscription to *The Clay County MOsaic*, our quarterly newsletter.

RESEARCH POLICY & FEES

Non-members pay \$5.00 per day for on-site research. Member and non-member research requests by mail are accepted. Each request must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope and an initial research fee of \$10.00 per surname for one hour of research. Additional hours are \$10.00 per hour.

COPY PRICES

Original records (such as probate material)	\$1/page
Other published material	15 cents per page
Microfilm printouts	25 cents per page
Computer printouts	5 cents per page
Outsize copies	50 cents per page
Photographs	
Standard Quality	50 cents
Archival Quality	\$5.00

Personal imaging will be charged at the above rates.

WORLD HISTORY ACCORDING TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

Throughout this issue, we'll be including excerpts from the book, *Non Campus Mentis*, compiled by Professor Anders Henriksson, of Shepherd College in West Virginia. These bits of "history" were culled from term papers and exams written by college students there and elsewhere. While their actual words (including spellings) are taken verbatim from the students' works, they are often combined with others written on the same subject. Here's an example:

"History, a record of things left behind by past generations, started in 1815. Thus we should try to view historical times as the behind of the present. This gives incite into the anals of the past."

SPECIAL GIFTS PROGRAM

Benefactors -- \$1,000 & up (cumulative)

Patrons -- \$500-\$999 (cumulative)

Contributors -- \$100-\$499

Friends -- \$25-\$99

BENEFACTORS

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2011 PROGRAM

CONTRIBUTORS

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Keith Nelson
Sylvia Wees

FRIENDS

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Reta McCall Gaebler
Doug Kinney
Estella Morrison
Jill and Michael Weiland

ARCHIVES GIFT SHOP

OUR NEW PUBLICATION

Reprint of the 1865 Clay County Historical Atlas, with features in **color**, just like the original! Cost is \$20, which includes sales tax, plus \$2 for mail delivery.

THE STORY OF LIBERTY...from settlement to suburb, a movie available in two formats:

DVD -- \$15 each

S-VHS -- \$10 each

(add \$2 for shipping and handling)

The VHS version is available in two formats, for older model players & for the current model players. Specify which of the formats you desire.

GREETING CARDS

Christmas cards – 12 for \$10

Note cards 10 for \$5

DOCTOR ON THE WESTERN FRONTIER

The Diaries of Dr. William Wallace Dougherty, 1854-1880 \$12, plus \$5 for mail delivery

I KNEW FRANK...I WISH I HAD KNOWN JESSE Family, Friends and Neighbors in the Life and Times of the James Boys

Hardback: \$55.00 members

\$60.00 non-members

Soft cover: \$17.00 members

\$22.00 non-members

GUERRILLAS AND OTHER CURIOSITIES

Bud, Donnie and Me

Soft cover: \$15 members

\$17 non-members

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS (all postpaid):

1877 Historical Atlas of Clay County 15.00

Every-Name Index to 1877 Atlas 13.00

Clay County Births, 1883-84 7.00

Clay County Deaths, 1883-84 7.00

DAR Sesquicentennial Book 18.00

Every-name Index to DAR Book 11.00

Please make your check payable to:

Clay County Archives

And mail to:

P. O. Box 99

Liberty MO 64069

OF INTEREST TO GENEALOGISTS

USGenWeb has a "Tombstone Transcription Project" where you can transcribe tombstone information in your area and donate it to them, where it will be compiled and made public. Read how you can join at http://usgw.tombstones.org/memor_2.html#project

"Discover Your Missouri Roots" will give you information on searching your St. Louis, Missouri ancestors. Check them out at <http://www.stlouisgenealogy.com/default.htm> This does not appear to be free, however.

At this site: http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2009/09/genealogy-myths-real-fools-gold-or-both.html read about various genealogy myths that just aren't true.

RECENT ACCESSIONS

State Historical Society of Missouri 1996-1997 and 2000-2001 Directories of Local Museums and Genealogical Agencies in Missouri, with references for volunteers; 1998 Clay County Bar Association; 1991-1992 Directory of State, District and County Officials; and numerous newspapers, donated by Jane Elliott.

Book "J.D. Gitthens & the Civil War", donated by Keith Nelson.

Seven Copies of book "Hughes Family Research", donated by Chuck Simmons.

Photographs and negatives to add to the Neal Ray/Marcel collection, donated by Neal Ray.

These items are available for our patrons to use in their research. Thank you to these generous donors.

WORLD HISTORY ACCORDING TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

"Around the year 1000, people were afraid than an acropolis was lurking around the corner."

"In 1066 England was overrun by Norman the Conqueror."

"During the Middle Ages everyone was middle aged. People lived in or near the soil. Most were kept busy sewing the crops. Serfs were denured and bonded to the ground. In times of crises the serfs would seek refuge in the lord's castle."

**EXCERPTS FROM OUR
PUBLICATION, “DOCTOR ON THE
WESTERN FRONTIER: THE DIARIES
OF DR. WILLIAM WALLACE
DOUGHERTY,
1854 – 1880”**

Monday, May 27, 1872

Mattie commenced teaching in the public school this morning, was there for an hour or so, got along very well.

Tuesday, May 28, 1872

Mattie is still teaching.

Wednesday, June 5, 1872

This is the semi centennial anniversary. Great many in town – old citizens. Burnett of California, Doniphan, Atchison and Taney – fine speeches – good time generally.

Note: It was the 50th Anniversary of Clay County. Jacob T. Hicks, Liberty photographer, took a picture of several of the old citizens, including Dr. Dougherty. The Archives has a copy of the picture. By this time (Alexander) Doniphan was at Richmond and (David Rice) Atchison in Plattsburg. (Peter) Burnett was the first governor of California and the person who traveled the greatest distance to attend this celebration.

Monday, June 17, 1872

Moved into the back room of Nathan & Beauchamp today, get rooms for nothing, and will make me a good office.

Monday, July 1, 1872

This is the day for the Big Mass Meeting. Sure enough, the masses came in – and such a day I never saw before. The worst conducted political meeting I ever saw. Nothing done. Broke up in a row, but no one hurt.

Tuesday, August 6, 1872

Went to Kansas City to see if I could get a Gal. Battery for Mr. Newlee – could not find one. Got Mattie and Ella's Hair jewelry & Cousin Annie's hair – 18⁰⁰.

Saturday, August 10, 1872

Wyatt Wills daughter killed with a shotgun her brother today. He was whipping a little sister, she interfered and he pursued her with an ax, she shot him dead.

Note: The Wills killing was truly a case of self-defense for both the girl who shot the insane brother and the rest of the family. He had terrorized them for years, and yet the family did not want to have him sent to the asylum. There was too much disgrace attached to it.

Wednesday, August 14, 1872

This is the day Barnum, the great Humbug, is to be in Kansas City with his traveling show.

Friday, October 11, 1872

Note: Dr. Daughter has traveled back to Indiana.

Got to Paoli about 9 a.m. Willie Frazer was the first to meet me, did not know who I was. Seemed rejoiced when I told him. Went around and seen some of my old acquaintances whom I had not seen, some for 23 years. No one recognized me, except Mr. Comingo an old Editor of the Eagle.

Saturday, October 12, 1872

Went to see Bro. Mike Dougherty today, found him at his farm alone. His children are all married & gone. He looks quite old and much afflicted with rheumatism.

Sunday, October 13, 1872

Mr. Patton & I took a stroll through the old cemetery - visited the grave of my first wife & child – buried them in 1847 – July. Sad memories.

Note: Dr. Dougherty's first wife was Miss Hannah Dougherty, a cousin. She died during the delivery of their only child, Newton. Dr. Dougherty later married Mary Frazer. Mr. Patton is Mary's brother-in-law.

Tuesday, October 15, 1872

Got off train at 6 this morning and rode to town on a wagon – found all well. Home once more.

GYPSY NINA'S BOOK

In this issue we continue reprinting Gypsy Nina's book, which she wrote in 1939, just as World War II was beginning and she was touring Europe.

Gypsy Nina's real name was Helen Swan and she was a Liberty girl.

My Book by Gypsy Nina

(fancy becoming good friends with a person whose first impression of you is, "get her")... Well, I got a room – which was more to the point – and I might tell you, it was a load off my mind as I was opening at the Casino that night and had to unpack, and have my costumes pressed – I just knew everything looked like the wrath o' God...

I took off my hat, gloves, furs, stockings, and went completely Cannes and came downstairs – and Florence said I looked a bit less like Lady-Muck-Heap slumming, - so she picked up enough courage to introduce herself and asked me to eat at her table...thinking to herself, now I'm stuck with THIS for 2 weeks... I don't think she like me much – but she is really timid, inside and forward, brazen Wenches like me, scare her to Bits – But do you know...

We struck up a friendship rightaway – funny, because we are distinctly opposite...she is lovely – very tall and dark and willowy – sort of Moorish or Mexican looking...very quiet and deep and blasé...she has no temper, and people's peculiarities and idiosyncrasies don't bother her in the least – wouldn't it be wonderful to be that way? How, with me it's different...if a person has a habit I don't like, I become allergic to them at once and can't go near them... my nerves all go into a huddle and keep egging me on to do the most outlandish things – and I sit there, trying to look nonchalant-like – quite sure I'll have a running, barking fit every time they do it – not that you are at all interested in my various fits...but, I mean to say, I just want you to understand what a wonderful disposition Florence really has... and as if a disposition wasn't enough, she is so pretty, all the men fall in a Faint just looking at her – (don't it beat all how some people have Everything?) – she has this large, full mouth, and when she kinda pouts it at a man and looks at him with her black, black eyes – I tell you he just swoons! it happens all the time – but I don't care, 'cause I know I'm not pretty, and anyway, I'm engaged and I don't care if any other men think I'm pretty or not...so I just sit around with that sort of don't-mind-me-I-just-came-along-for-the-ride feeling – But Florence once paid me a grand compliment – said I had the Most Terrific personality she ever saw on a human – now, wasn't that a nice thing to say? – even if she didn't mean it, it was still nice – and I've been ever so set up about it ever since... and actually, when anyone pays you such a compliment, you

simply can't resent her captivating all the men you don't want, anyway... Where was I? – Oh yes...

We have opened at the Casino now and we are all getting along nice and friendly and having lots of fun... Our Gala Night was lovely – with the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and Tyrone Power and Annabella and all sorts of people there... then I was so glad I'd come, and I felt almost like paying extra commission to the one who'd thought of booking me in Cannes – almost – not quite... Between shows we'd all meet across the street at the side-walk Café... Stafford and Louise, King Kong, Mr. Gleize, the Booker, various musicians, and us we'd all sit around the little tables with their gay colored cloths and talk shop and watch the huge tropical Moon silhouette the palm trees and turrets atop the Casino into a phantom picture – really if it could make a bunch of Actors look up from their beer and stop talking about how they laid 'em in the aisles at Pottsville – well you know it is a beautiful sight – If you get a chance, go and sit there – tap on the window for Ramon to come out and tell him you want JAMBONE SANDWICH AVEC BEAUCOUP DE PICKLES and I'm quite sure he will know Who sent you – but alas! There is a war now and the beautiful pink stucco Casino EST FERME MAIS OUI (as Florence would say).

After Cannes, Florence, Alvarez and I were booked together at the Casino Middlekerke, Belgium...and we had a wonderful Week cycling and Taking pictures and enjoying the Sunshine and Bathing – I told Florence I was ashamed to take my salary I was having such a good time and she said Ca na pil Rien – (French for don't let it throw you kid!) At aperitif time several French acts and Florence and Alvarez and I usually drove up to West-End for a Cinzano – (Ostend is East End – then there is West End – of what I can't tell you but we went to West – End Anyway) and it was pretty up there – One day we went to an old café ---- It was down-stairs with windows Overlooking a Swimming Pool below the surface of the water --- so that the bodies of the swimmers were quite Visible but not the heads ---- looked like a Bunch of headless somethings-or-other...Once in a while, one would Dive and swim down and peer in the Window at us – Gosh, people look awful fishy when you see them at the bottom of a pool – so all kind of bleery and drowned-like – did you ever notice that? Or did you ever meet anybody under-water?

This bunch spoke French all the time – (our friends, I mean – not the swimmers) and it's such a funny feeling to be the only Furriner in the bunch and you sit there trying to look Intelligent, while they are telling funny stories, and Jokes, and laughing themselves into a Frenzy!

To Be Continued in the next MOsaic

**MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS
FROM MICROFILM
OF EARLY CLAY COUNTY
NEWSPAPERS**

Articles from the *Excelsior Springs Daily Call*

August 24, 1903

Madstone A visitor here has two. Will sell or trade one for vacant real estate. Apply at this office.
Note: Does anyone know what this is? The dictionary was no help.

The following is a full page ad:

Watch this Page
John S. Lewis

The Drygoods Man, Will Have Something of Interest to say. He's too Busy today.

September 14, 1903

Attempted Jail Delivery

Had it not been for Ed Cave Saturday night at about 10 minutes of 12 o'clock at the county jail at Liberty. Fourteen prisoners would have been going in every direction.

Deputy Cave is also nightwatch and makes it his business to visit the jail every half hour. The work of getting out had been going on the officers believe for several nights.

The prisoners of late have seemed to be in great glee, have made it a point to sing almost constantly for three to four hours. This can now be easily explained. It was to drown the noise of sawing one heavy rod running far across the window and three upright rods.

This was a complete success and had it not been for Mr. Cave the jail would have been an empty cage – as all that was left for the prisoners to do was to pry off a heavy wire screen back from the window.

Six or eight of the prisoners, if found guilty will receive penitentiary sentence.

Andy Wymore, the sheriff and deputy W.K. Taul were summoned and in company with Mr. Cave watched the remainder of the night. Andy in the cell with the prisoners and Messrs Taul and Cave at the windows on the outside.

It would have been a risky move for any of the prisoners to have even thought of making their escape after the arrival of the above named officials, who do not know what fear is.

Deputy Cave certainly deserves a great deal of credit for his promptness on the scene.

BASEBALL

Don't forget the greatest game since that of the Doctors and the Land Sharks. The Painters vs the Clerks. Proceeds to go to the Ladies of the Improvement Society. Thursday Sept. 17.

October 16, 1903

A football team has been organized in the High School. The line up is not definitely decided upon.

A number of heavy players will make up the team and with proper work should make a good showing.

November 6, 1903

Perhaps a Little Premature.

Tomorrow at 2:30 the Richmond foot ball team will beat the Excelsior Springs team on Miller's field. Admission is 25 cents, ladies free. – Richmond Conservator.

Note: The game resulted in a 0 to 0 tie.

December 7, 1903

Moving Pictures Tonight

Sisk and Rupe have installed in the west room of the Ettenson building facing Siloam Court one of Edison's latest improved Stereopticon and Moving picture machines and give their first public entertainment, Saturday night, Dec. 5.

Performance to begin promptly at 8 o'clock. Admission 10 cents.

Program:

- Railroad Train Through Tunnel
- Ice Boat Racing
- Runaway Horse
- Fire in Camp
- Village Blacksmith Shop
- Picking Peaches
- Chicago Fire Run
- Fire Engine at Work
- Barnyard Scene
- Spanish Artillery in Action
- Boer Cavalry Charge
- Boxing Contest by the Gorden Sisters
- Stereopticon views of the Spanish War and many others.

Articles from the *Liberty Tribune*

March 23, 1906

Badly Mixed Wives
Harper's Weekly

In the early part of the last century there lived in an old New England town a Mr. Church, who in the course of his earthly life was bereft of four wives, all of whom were buried in the same lot. In his old age it became necessary to remove the remains to a new cemetery. This he undertook himself, but in the process the bones became hopelessly mixed. His "New England conscience"

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**MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS
FROM MICROFILM
OF EARLY CLAY COUNTY
NEWSPAPERS**

(Continued from page 6)

would not allow him, under the painful circumstances, to use the original headstones, so he procured new ones, one of which bore the following inscription:

“Here lies Hannah Church and probably a potion of Emily.”

Another:

“Sacred to the memory of Emily Church, who seems to be mixed with Matilda.”

Then followed these lines:

“Stranger, pause and drop a tear;
For Emily Church lies buried here,
Mixed in some perplexing manner
With Mary, Matilda and probably Hannah.”

April 21, 1916

Warning to Motorists

All motorists, local or otherwise, are hereby notified that I shall hereafter enforce the city ordinance against speeding within the city limits, without favor. Speeding has become a menace on some of the streets and must be stopped. Show down, or you will be prosecuted. This means you.

J.W. Corbin,
City Marshal

Articles from the *Liberty Advance*

March 10, 1911

And Josephine is Coming

“Josephine” the prize cow of the Missouri experiment station at Columbia, which is the pride of every true Missourian’s heart because of her great butter record, will be with the farmers’ train, which will arrive at the Burlington depot Saturday at 1 o’clock and remain for 45 minutes. Six lecturers will be with the train and make talks on topics of interest to farmers and questions will be answered.

Distribution of pamphlets and cow peas will also be made. Every farmer who can do so should come to Liberty Saturday and hear these talks. “Josephine is well worth seeing, too.”

March 24, 1911

TICK TACK BLACKED HER EYE.

Late Tuesday evening, Mrs. S.E. Price thought the chimney had fallen off her house, when some mischievous boys put a tick tack into operation against the front door of her residence in the east part of town, and started out to investigate. This was no

ordinary tick tack, being made out of a piece of tiling and a rope, hence when the tiling hit Mrs. Price in the face it blacked both of her eyes and otherwise painfully bruised her. Mrs. Price recognized the boys but would not have them arrested because of their parents. Innocent fun is all right – even if it is with an ordinary tick tack – but boys who resort to such methods for amusement as those used at the Price home are carrying things too far. A butter paddle, properly applied, might put a curb on their humor.

Note: Does anyone know what a tick tack is? Let us know.

March 31, 1911

Cooking by Electricity Now

A.C. Smith, traveling salesman for the General Electric company of Kansas City, was here last Friday as a guest of Harry Walker of the Liberty Electric Light company, who holds the agency here for the electric heaters being installed in this part of the country by the Kansas City firm. While here Mr. Smith installed several of these cookers and the order for several more is ready to be made if they prove satisfactory to the users, and both Mr. Smith and Mr. Walker are confident that they will be. The use of electricity for practical purposes is rapidly spreading and we are glad to see our people and electric company endeavoring to keep abreast of the times.

The Smallpox Cure for Corns.

It is a generally accepted fact that about nine-tenths of the people of the United States suffer from corns and bunions and most of them are always seeking a positive cure for them. So far no actual remedy has even been disclosed, although learned doctors and chiropodists have devoted their life time to the effort; hence the savior of the nation may have arisen in the person of George Gibson of St. Joseph who last Saturday declared that he had discovered a positive and effective cure.

“Four years ago,” said Mr. Gibson, “I was afflicted with corns and bunions so badly that at times I almost wished for death. When I was at the height of troubles with these pests I was stricken with smallpox. When I recovered from that infernal disease every corn and every bunion that had made life a hell on earth for me had disappeared and I have never been troubled since. If you have corns, get the smallpox.”

**WORLD HISTORY ACCORDING TO
COLLEGE STUDENTS**

“Witch hunts erupted in countries such as Germany, England, Scotland and Salem. The victim profile was older post-marsupial women. Those arrested were torched until they told a story. The worst of this could be the rack or burning with hot porkers. Some unfortunate women were made to endure the public duckling stool.”

CRAWLING THROUGH THE CEMETERIES WITH KEN

By Ken Neth (Known around the Archives as Mr. Cemetery.)

Our cemetery count is now up to 338. The Millen gravesite was sourced from the 1877 Atlas. A change of location was found for Ed Snail who was killed by the bushwhackers in Smithville.

If the weather holds, we will probably be able to conduct a cemetery tour for the northwest portion of the county. No date has been set at this time.

DID YOU KNOW?

President James Garfield, who was assassinated by Charles Guiteau in 1881, could simultaneously write with one hand in Greek and the other hand in Latin.

Born in a log cabin in Ohio, Garfield rose from a one-room schoolhouse to a New England college. He was a preacher, a teacher and a Civil War General.

After he was shot, he lingered for 79 days before he died, probably as much from doctors probing for a bullet with unwashed hands as from the bullet itself.

Interestingly, Secretary of War Robert Todd Lincoln, son of an assassinated President, had visited with Garfield the night before the shooting and would also be present at the assassination of William McKinley in 1901.

*From American Heritage Magazine,
Spring 2011*

WORLD HISTORY ACCORDING TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

“Cesar was assinated on the Yikes of March. When he was assinated, he is reported to have said, ‘Me too, Brutus!’”

“Cesar inspired his men by stating, ‘I came, I saw, I went.’”

“When not working in the church, Bach composed pieces on a spinster in his home.”

“Many Colonists became convicted patriots after reading *Horse Sense* by the escaped Englishman Thomas Pain.”

“(Egyptian) Rulers were entitled Faroos. A famed one was King Toot. It was a special custom among them not to marry their wives.”

“Prehistoric people spent all day banging rocks together so that they could find something to eat. This was the Stoned Age.”

“The Sumerian culture, which was oldest, began about 3,500 years before Christmas.”

“Zorroastrologism was founded by Zorro. This was a duelist religion.”

“Men during this period were usually about thirty years old and women only twelve or thirteen.”

“(Roman) Senators wore purple tubas as a sign of respect”.

“Richard the Loined Heart became highly popular as his life was promoted by the matadors who formed a circle around his mother.”

“Castles became more elaborate with thick walls, moats and towers topped by rows of crustaceans.”

“Renaissance merchants were beautiful and almost lifelike. They enriched themselves by planting wool and selling it for clothing. They increased these profits by paying interest to people who borrowed money from them. This produced even more grits for the mills of change.”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 1)

remember the past are condemned to repeat it” applies here.

Of course, when I use the terms yesterday, today and tomorrow, I’m referring to the passage of time. The impact of some events can be felt in the near future (a matter of seconds, minutes or hours) but I contend that the vast majority of events (important events, anyway) require more time than that.

Beyond the understanding that knowledge of the past affords, enrichment seems to take place. Once yesterday is digested, I have a greater appreciation for today. And there seems to be some foundational principle in effect. When I know more about the past of a person or place, I seem to proceed with surer footing. Knowing where, and where not, to tread.

So, with that perspective, I would like to suggest that we not live our lives in the past, but take time to discover the past so that we can better live today and shape a better tomorrow.

Stuart E. Elliott

100 YEARS AGO
EXTRACTS FROM THE
LIBERTY TRIBUNE

July 21, 1911

A GIRL GOES SHOPPING

Little Grace **Simpson** of Randolph Buys Dresses and Hats for a Trip Planned

The attention of clerks and merchants in Liberty stores was attracted Monday to a little lady 13 years of age with a very sweet face and sparkling eyes, whose strenuous shopping reminded those at the dry goods store and millinery shops of the buyers just before the holidays in December.

The little girl had slipped away from her home one mile north of Randolph early Monday morning and with \$60 in her possession came to Liberty. She spent about \$30 here buying dry goods and hats and had two suit cases packed.

Grace Simpson was her name and she had planned to make a trip with a girl friend at Harlem.

Mrs. Henderson Simpson came after her daughter Monday night. The merchants here took back most of the goods the little girl had purchased. Mrs. Simpson kept all the goods purchased that she could use. She lives on the **Reed** place north of Randolph.

Martin Hayes' Ride

"It's the chauffeur's life for me," said young Martin **Hayes** Wednesday as he gave an old automobile at **Fischer's** a vigorous crank and sprang lightly into the driver's seat, then giving the horn a couple of toots in a professional way. Down the street Martin gayly rode and looked with pity on people who had to walk. But his joy-ride soon ended, for the engine "went dead" on Mill street, and, crank it as many times as he could, he was unable to put life into the still and pulseless machine.

Martin's guests in the car were invited to leave the easy cushioned seats and help him push. So the auto party not only had to walk, but put their shoulders to the wheel and push.

It took the party about an hour to go from the mill to the garage, and there was no need of a speed law.

Martin says he will never invite his friends for another auto ride unless he is driving a Courier or a Stoddard-Dayton.

BOYS DRIVE A BULL

People around the square were surprised and amused one evening this week when they saw a large 2-year-old bull in harness trotting along the paved streets hooked up to a buggy with a bunch of jolly youngsters riding gayly along.

The animal belongs to Frank **Cockrell**, south of town, and the boys were his sons. The new kind of "driving horse" has become very popular with them. Harness is used and the animal takes the bit as if his ancestors since the year one had been subject to the same harnessing.

Besides this animal for driving, the boys have broken a large boar hog so they can ride it and when they are not out pleasuring driving, they are having fun riding the hog.

YOUR SWEETHEART

will not judge you so critically about the cost of the engagement ring as she will about the quality of it.

The Easiest Way

is to put all your troubles in the matter on us, and be assured that the result will be greatly to your advantage. Our stock is selected for quality and value.

W.W. WHITESIDE
Jeweler and Optician

North Side Square Liberty, Mo.

August 4, 1911

A House of Walnut

If you are a lover of wood, perhaps cherishing an old table or cabinet you have paid ransom for to a dealer in antiques, you will be skeptical about this story of a house that is all of clear, lustrous, old walnut. But there is such a house, from foundation to roof, inside and out, built of walnut cut and dressed on the place. It is the home of Frank D. **Winn**, six miles north of Kansas City, near Randolph, Mo.

On a high point of the farm surrounded by magnificent maples stands the old homestead. Eastward and southward the wooded meadows slope off to lakes – the beginning of a chain that will supply fishing for frequenters of this new Kansas City summer resort. Some day it will have as a neighbor a modern hotel, glaring in its newness and shiny with the veneers that make up the present day idea of decoration.

When Willis W. Winn purchased the farm from the elder **Younger**, father of "Cole" Younger and brothers. The early day place contained over four hundred acres, much of it heavily timbered with walnut. In the winter of 1865 Willis Winn began the construction of the house. Samuel **Simmons** of Liberty was the contractor. He was the father of Joe Simmons. The trees were cut from the land and dressed by hand. There were not many planing mills then and planks were hewn out of the logs and

(Continued to Page 10)

100 YEARS AGO
EXTRACTS FROM THE
LIBERTY TRIBUNE
(Continued from Page 9)

dressed with adze and plane. Laborous work it was, and the worker of wood in those days was a master of his craft. Joist, sills, beams, weather boarding, shingles – every piece in the house is solid walnut. There are nine rooms in the home and a spacious hall opening on the front porch. The six fireplaces in the house are of a style rarely found in houses built now. The simple lines followed in the woodwork are particularly happy for the massive fireplaces. The uprights on both sides are surmounted by a top board twenty inches wide and two inches thick, and all of walnut, its color grown richer after many years.

Much of the furniture in the house is walnut, hand made. An escritoire and several wardrobes show the richness of the walnut in more highly finished things. Several years ago Mr. Winn found some slabs of walnut that had been left from the house building and had seasoned for fifty years. He had these made into tables and desks.

If the house ever is razed it will prove a gold mine for the cabinet maker. The walnut increases in value as it ages. -- *Star*

August 11, 1911

Harlem Wants Better Jail.

Judge C.M. **Crouse** and George **Totman** of Harlem were before the county court Monday and asked if the court could not repair the old wooden jail there and put it in condition for the safe keeping of prisoners.

Harlem has no town organization and all the arrests made are in state cases. It is often necessary to round up bad characters that come over from Kansas City and hold men arrested until they can be arraigned.

The members of the court said they would visit Harlem and consider the matter of having the jail fixed up.

Set Fire to Jail.

As a plan for escape, several prisoners set fire to the old wooden calaboose at Harlem Wednesday night, but they came near being smothered and burned to death. Anyhow they didn't escape, and Ernest **Simrall** went down to Harlem Thursday when the men were to be arraigned before Justice Crouse.

September 1, 1911

Bitten By a Snake.

A copperhead snake bit James **McGinness** on the finger of his left hand last Thursday evening when he was cutting weeds at his home on the Ben

Gray place, in Nebo neighborhood. Jim was in Liberty Friday morning to see a doctor. He treated the place himself at first by wrapping the skin of the snake around his finger and by taking "snake medicine." Thursday night quite a high fever was in the hand but Friday it had gone down.

Mr. McGinness was cleaning the weeds out of his mowing machine, that was choked up, when the reptile bit him.

September 29, 1911

"Casey Jones" Caused Insanity

The constant singing of the song, "Casey Jones" and his attempt to compose more verses to the last two strains are thought to have caused the insanity of Harry **Robards** a 17-year-old boy of six miles north of Springfield, Mo., said a dispatch.

He was ordered taken to Nevada asylum by the Green county court after a commission adjudged him insane.

He sang the song all the time he was in court.

W.C.T.U. COLUMN
By the Press Superintendent

Prohibition Will Yet Triumph

Congressman Richmond Pearson **Hobson** says, "I believe that this fight has demonstrated to students of prohibition and temperance that the next move to make will not be confined to individual states but should extend to the United States." And I make a forecast that from this second battle of Maine a movement will begin that will end in putting prohibition in the Constitution of the United States."

"The result of the great battle just fought in Maine is but one incident in the great onward march of prohibition. The power of the liquor trust of this nation has been demonstrated as never before."

"If liquor money is effectual in overcoming the influence of the church, the educators, the grangers, the reformers, the women and the children, it is high time there should be a great uprising of the moral and religious forces of this nation. The nation must overthrow the liquor traffic, or the liquor traffic will overthrow the nation."

Bitten by A Bug

Judge Lewis G. **Hopkins**, who got home from Perham, Minn. last week, has been greatly troubled with a sore on his hand. He thinks a bug of some kind bit him while up there, and he has suffered a great deal. The judge says it wasn't a big fish that bit him as reported.

BANISHMENT FROM MISSOURI IN 1864

Note: The following article, written by Mrs. B.A.C. Emerson of Denver, Colorado, was excerpted from Volume XXVI (Page 62) of the Confederate Veteran magazine. The Archives has a bound set of these magazines; this particular issue was published in 1918.

Near the close of the year 1864 this order of banishment was issued in Missouri and began to be enforced. The order was that all women and children whose husbands, fathers or brothers were in the Confederate army were to be banished and sent South to some point within the Confederate lines.

Rosecrans was the general in command. Many of the best families were compelled to leave their homes and were permitted to take only what they could pack in trunks. Sales were made, and household furniture was auctioned off for what it would bring, which was little. Southern people would not buy, for they felt that it was only a question of time when an order would be served on them to go; Yankees would not buy, saying: "We might be punished for buying Rebel goods." Consequently these sales were almost the same as giving the things away.

A day was set, and those who had received notice to be ready to leave were ordered to come to the headquarters' post, from which they were to start with an escort, "To see them through the lines," as they phrased it. Farm wagons and teams were pressed into service by the Federal authorities. If wagon covers could be had, they were used; if not, straw was placed in the bottom of the wagon bed, and the women and children were packed in like sardines in a box until all the space was taken up. Then another wagon was drawn up to the platform where they were being loaded with this precious human freight, and so on until all that had been ordered in for shipment with this cargo were loaded in this cramped condition. Mrs. McCoy, who lived near Missouri City, her husband, Capt. Moses McCoy, being in Gen. Joe Shelby's command, was sick, scarcely able to sit up, and having a babe two years old and two other small children, asked permission to delay being sent away until she was better able to stand the trip. "No," said the commander of the Liberty post, "the order can't be changed; you must go with this crowd that have been ordered to be ready for this day's departure."

It was February and cold; the ground was frozen. Cameron, forty miles away, was the nearest railroad station and had to be reached overland, mostly prairie, in these rough farm wagons. On the way the children suffered both with cold and cramped limbs in the bottom of these closely packed wagons, jolting along over the frozen ground...

What those women and children suffered on this trip southward into Arkansas and into the

Confederate lines will never be known. Many of those unfortunate Southerners never recovered the breaking up of their homes. Some of them never returned to Missouri nor ever saw their homes again. Captain McCoy and his wife, my sister, lived in Texas after the war ended. She is still living at the time of this writing. These people were banished for no offense but being Southerners and in sympathy with the confederacy...

Note: This "banishment" is not the same as that of Order Number 11, which took place a year earlier and did not extend to Clay County.

WHY WE SEARCH (Author Unknown)

Your tombstone stands among the rest
Neglected and alone
The name and date have worn off
The weathered marble stone.

It reaches out to all who care
It's now too late to mourn
You did not know that I'd exist
You died ... and I was born.

Yet each of us are cells of you
In flesh, in blood, in bone
Our hearts contract and beat a pulse
Entirely not our own.

Dear ancestor, the place you filled
Some hundred years ago
Spreads out among the ones you left
Who would have loved you so.

I wonder how you lived and loved
I wonder if you knew
That someday I would find this place
And come to visit you.

From www.mogenweb.org/macon

WORLD HISTORY ACCORDING TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

"Alexander the Great conquered Persia, Egypt, and Japan. Sadly, he died with no hairs."

"At times people mortified themselves with cheese cloth and ashes in order to display their faith."

"John Huss refused to decant his ideas about the church and was therefore burned as a steak."

"Another problem was that France was full of French people. Dickens made this point in *The Tail of Two Sisters*, which he required us to read."

ARCHIVES ANNUAL MEETING

All members and people interest in local history are invited to our annual membership meeting be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 19th at the Tighe Center at Our Lady of Mercy Country Home, 2115 Maturana Drive, Liberty. There will be an election for the Officers of the Board for next year. There will be a presentation by Stuart Elliott, our current president, on Cyrus Curtis an early merchant in Clay County.

Breakfast will be catered by Mary Ann Pfeiffer. The cost will be \$12.50 per person, payable to the Clay County Archives.

Reservations are due by November 9th and may be made by calling the Archives at 816-781-3611 or Carol Olson at 816-452-3450 or 816-916-6381. Please contact the Archives for more information.

IT'S A "WIN-WHEN" SITUATION

The Clay County Tourism Bureau has launched a membership drive for most of the historical sites in the county. Between September 1st and November 1st, if you join or renew your membership with a participating organization, you will be entered in a drawing for a prize package. Join or renew at more than one organization and have multiple chances to win.

The Archives is participating in this endeavor. If you join or renew during the time period shown above, your membership will extend from that time through 2012. **WIN -- WHEN** you join!!

The Clay County MOsaic

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