

**A SHORT HISTORY
OF
CALDWELL
COUNTY**

**By
Bertha Ellis Booth**



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**Published by Hamilton Public Schools
1936**

**reprinted
with new index
by
Missouri Mormon Frontier Foundation**

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Missouri Mormon Frontier Foundation

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From the collection of Robert & Lucretia Hawley, Hamilton, Missouri.

Dr. Bertha Booth (1876-1964) and Glenn Setzer (1893-1979) at the dedication of a marker at Haun's Mill, Caldwell County, Missouri on July 13, 1941. The marker reads

SOUTHWEST OF HERE
ON OCTOBER 30, 1838,
OCCURRED THE INCIDENT
GENERALLY KNOWN AS THE
HAUN'S MILL MASSACRE.
THIS SITE LOCATED BY
WM. R. PEMBERTON.
THIS MARKER PLACED HERE BY
GLENN M. SETZER,

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Photo of Bertha Booth & Glenn Setzer frontspiece

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Preface to the Reprint

Due to the good quality of the information gathered by Bertha Booth in days when she could interview people now long dead and the scarcity of copies of her "short history," the Missouri Mormon Frontier Foundation has asked for and received permission from the Hamilton Public School Board to reprint her history. Only the type style and size has been changed. A few obvious typos have been corrected. We have tried not to introduce new typos.

The new table of contents and index by Annette W. Curtis provides name and subject access to specific information quickly. The smaller page size makes it easier to use.

The Missouri Mormon Frontier Foundation, a nonsectarian organization dedicated to collecting and preserving information related to the Mormon experience in western Missouri, hope many people find this reprint helpful. All history is related and none can be understood without understanding the broader picture.

The Board and the Northwest Chapter
Missouri Mormon Frontier Foundation
P.O. Box 3186
Independence MO 64055

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PREFACE

This short history was written by Dr. Bertha Booth to meet the needs of the schools in celebrating the 100th birthday of our county. We believe it is fitting and proper that the descendants of pioneers of this county should know more of our notable history. Knowing something of the interests and talents of Dr. Booth, we asked her to prepare a series of lessons suitable for class room use. This she graciously consented to do.

Dr. Booth is a graduate of Hamilton High School and Kidder Institute. She holds an A. B. degree from Drury College, took her A. M. degree at the University of Missouri, and was granted her Ph. D. from the University of Chicago. She has done additional graduate work at Cornell and Washington Universities.

Miss Booth has been for many years a teacher. She taught two years in the public schools of Caldwell County before going to college, and was an instructor in academies, junior and senior colleges, and universities for eighteen years.

We wish to express to Dr. Booth our deep and sincere appreciation for making possible this study of Caldwell County history.

E. F. Allison, Sup't.
Hamilton Public Schools

SHORT HISTORY OF CALDWELL COUNTY

Chapter I

From the Indian Days to the End of the Mormon Occupation

Traditional Indian History

Prior to the coming of the white man, the territory now included in Caldwell County is supposed to have been used by the Missouri Indians as a hunting-ground. The presence of arrow-heads shows that they made occasional camps within its boundary. It is said that there was an Indian village a little north of the Daviess County line and that an Indian trail from it ran a few miles east of Kingston to a camp in Fairview Township. A northern tribe, possibly the Sioux, having invaded the Missouri country, was defeated in a fierce battle near Flat Rock Ford over Crooked River in Rockford Township over 150 years ago. The old timers yet alive in the county recall that even up to 1870 they met occasional groups of wandering, begging Indians who caused great alarm to the women and children but were quite harmless.

Earliest White Settler in Caldwell County

Caldwell County was once a part of Ray County. For many years after the organization of Ray County, the territory now included in Caldwell was unsettled. Over

it roved migratory Indians and white hunters, but it was not considered desirable for homes because it had too much prairie land. Early settlers avoided prairie sod which refused to be broken by their weak plows and preferred the timber land which, having been cleared, gave them mellow soil and also provided them with wood for building cabins and for fuel.

It as in the spring of 1831 that the first settler built his cabin in what is now Caldwell County. This was Jesse Mann Sr. who came up from his home in Ray County and settled on the N. W. 1/4 of the S. W. 1/4 of section 22, township 56, range 28, one half mile northeast of the public square of Kingston. He picked out a location on upper Shoal Creek where he had plenty of timber, water, and game. Part of his farm is now the home of Mrs. Inskipp of Kingston and his original forty acres corners with the Fox-Hunt grounds.

Jesse Mann, Sr. was a Virginian and had come to Ray County in 1820. He was a slave-owner and brought his slaves with him into Caldwell County. In the summer of 1831, three other Ray County settlers joined this "Shoal Creek Settlement" as it was called. One of these was Jesse M. Mann who settled one half mile south of his father on Log Creek.

In May, 1832, occurred the first wedding in this county. Julia Mann, daughter of Jesse Mann, Sr., was married to Hardin Stone, who later ran a well-known mill just over the Daviess County line. (It is of interest to know that the millstone on the Hamilton Library ground

once belonged to the old Hardin Stone Mill).

In the summer of 1832, most of these Shoal Creek settlers went back to the better settled parts of Ray County because of the scare over the Black Hawk War, but Jesse M. Mann remained and became the first permanent settler of the county. Within the next year, several new settlers came. Among them were Robert White and Jacob Haun who became millers in Fairview Township: Samuel Hill who settled in Kingston Township but later held hundreds of acres throughout the county and was the ancestor of the Hill family of New York Township; the Lyons brothers and Sam Richey who founded Salem in Kingston Township (see below); James Crowley who came from Ray County to settle near the present Cottonwood Church in Grant Township; Samuel McGee a settler in Rockford Township; James Frazier a settler in Lincoln Township; Jesse Clevenger a settler in Mirabile Township; and Zephaniah Woolsey, a settler in Fairview Township. Many of these pioneer names are to be found in Caldwell County today. By 1835, probably twenty-five or thirty families were living in the present boundaries of Caldwell County.

The First Town in Caldwell County

Now we come to the first town in our county. In 1833, the three Lyons brothers, who were Mormon exiles from Jackson County, settled at Log Creek, two miles southeast of Kingston. They built a horse mill (the first mill in the county), a blacksmith shop and three cabins for their families. Four other families were quickly drawn

to this little backwoods settlement, among them being Samuel Richey of Ohio. This made a village which the settlers named Salem. Salem was the voting precinct for north Ray County (as this county was then called). In 1839 John Duston came here from New York, and buying several acres of land near Salem (or Salemtown as many called it), he laid it out in town lots, hoping for a future city. A tavern was built there, and the stage coach which went to Richmond made stops there, but the little village did not grow. When the county seat was moved from Far West to the new town Kingston after the Mormon exodus from the county, Salem was abandoned, and now nothing is left to mark its site.

The Earliest Mills in Caldwell County

In pioneer days mills held a very important position. The first settlers in Caldwell County were forced to make a trip by ox team to take their grist to the mills of Ray County. There were three types of mills used in early Caldwell County history. There were water, sweep, and tread mills. The favorite location for a pioneer mill was by a creek which provided waterpower, but many early mills were run by horse or ox power. In the sweep (or pull-around) type of mills, a horse or ox was hitched to the end of the sweep. It was customary for the farmer who brought grist to be ground to use his own horses to provide power for the mill, and many old people still recall how they as children rode the hoses, or even the sweep, while the grist was being ground.

The Lyons brothers in the fall of 1833 built the first

mill in the county, a horse mill, at Salem in Kingston Township and made good money. In 1834, Robert White built a water mill on Shoal Creek in Fairview Township near what was later known as Mormontown Ford. This mill was washed away in the flood of 1839. In 1834, Jacob Haun, a Mormon settler, started another water mill on Shoal Creek in Fairview Township near the White Mill. It was on the N. W. 1/4 of the N. E. 1/4 of section 17, a site destined to become one of the most famous spots in Caldwell County because of the Mormon troubles (see below). This mill stood until torn down in 1845. The Mormons started a water mill on Shoal Creek a little west of the old bridge on the old Hamilton-Kingston road. At the expulsion of the Mormons, this unfinished mill was sold to Wilhoit and Massingill who ran it until it was washed away in the forties. Mills built after 1838 will be described in Chapter II.

Mormon Occupation of Caldwell County

Up to this time, there was no Caldwell County for, as we have seen, the territory was a part of Ray County. It was organized as a separate county in December 1836 with the county seat at Far West. It was named by Gen. Alexander W. Doniphan (of Mexican War fame) in honor of Cap't Caldwell, an early Indian fighter of Kentucky. But at this point, we must learn why it was necessary to organize Caldwell County just at this time. The answer involves an eventful period not only in the history of the county, but in the history of Missouri and the United States. I refer to the "Mormon Occupation" of this county 1836-1839. A very brief sketch of the

Mormon movement is given for a better understanding of the events which follow.

Joseph Smith, the founder of the church of the Latter Day Saints or Mormons as commonly called, was living in the State of New York when in 1823 he claimed to have a divine revelation which told him to dig up certain gold plates. These gold plates, written in mystic characters, contained the Book of Mormon which gave a new religion to the world. Smith's preaching gained many converts. He and his converts first settled at Kirtland, Ohio, but because of opposition, they moved west to Independence, Jackson County, Missouri, seeking a location where they could worship as they wished. Opposition to the Saints (or Mormons) also developed there and they were driven from that county into Clay County where they stayed until they settled in Caldwell County. It was in 1833 that we saw the first Mormon families coming into the backwoods of our county. More families followed in 1834 to escape the growing persecution in other counties.

In 1836 an arrangement was made by the state legislature by which an entire county was to be given to the Saints (or Mormons). Two new counties were to be carved out of the northern part of Ray County. The extreme north end was to be Daviess County, reserved for Gentile settlers (Gentile was the term applied to a person who was not a Mormon); the middle section was to be Caldwell County.

This new county was to be reserved for Mormons.

To be sure several Gentile settlers already were living in the future Caldwell County, but all hoped that these Gentiles would sell out to the Mormons and that thus the Mormon question which had been disturbing western Missouri for several years would be settled when the Mormons had a county to themselves. Some of the Gentile families, however, did not wish to sell their farms and so stayed.

In the fall of 1836, the Mormons began to enter the county in large numbers. The so called "Mormon immigration" came in from the south over the Rock Ford of Crooked River in Rockford Township. The townships showing the largest Mormon population were Mirabile, Rockford, Kingston, Fairview, and Kidder. They preferred timber land to prairie land and settled thickly along Shoal Creek and the other creeks in the county.

They established Far West as the headquarters of the church in Missouri. This town lay five miles northwest of the present site of Kingston in the northeast corner of Mirabile township. By 1838, it was a growing city of over 4000 people. Plans had been made for the building of a great temple there. The excavation had been dug and the corner stone laid. In Far West was the first school house in the county (probably built in 1836) which was also used for a church, town hall and county court house. Besides the city of Far West, there was the hamlet at Salem and another hamlet at Haun's Mill in Fairview Township. In 1838, Haun's Mill settlement was made up of a blacksmith shop, the mill, several log cabins and several families living in covered wagons

because they had not yet entered lands.

It is interesting to note the names of great leaders in the Latter Day Saints (Mormon) Church who once were citizens of this county. Joseph Smith, the prophet who founded the church; Hiram Smith, his brother; Brigham Young, afterwards president of the church in Utah; John Taylor, another president; Bishop Partridge, Sidney Rigdon, Parley P. Pratt, John D. Lee.

By 1838, serious troubles began to appear between the Mormons and the Gentiles in this county and surrounding counties. These quarrels led to what is known as the "Mormon War" which occurred in the fall of 1838. Throughout this war, the Missouri militia was under the command of Gen. Doniphan (already mentioned) and Gen. Lucas, while the Mormon Caldwell County militia was under Gen. Hinkle.

The first engagement was at Crooked River near the south edge of Rockford Township where the Gentiles were routed. This skirmish infuriated the Gentiles to strong action. On October 30, occurred the so-called "Haun's Mill Massacre" in which a Gentile force from Livingston County attacked the settlement at Haun's Mill in Fairview Township. Seventeen Mormons were killed, among them Thos. McBride, an old Revolutionary War soldier. The next day, the survivors buried their dead in an unfinished well. For years the site of this attack has been used as a cornfield, and today it is impossible to find the exact site of the Haun's Mill Massacre. October 31, the day after the attack on Haun's Mill, Gen. Hinkle

commanding the Mormon forces at Far West, surrendered the town to the state militia also giving up the leaders of the church as prisoners.

After the surrender of Far West, the Gentiles demanded the immediate removal of the Mormons from the whole state. Some Mormons sold their farms at a low price, some traded for a team and wagon; some even abandoned their farms without sale, in their haste to leave for Illinois which was to be their home until they went to Utah. By June 1839, most Mormons had left Caldwell County. The few who were left were dissenters from the faith or the authority of the church.

After the expulsion of the Mormons, most of the empty houses of Far West were removed to farms. Upon the removal of the county seat to Kingston which was founded in 1843, the town dwindled away. Today the old temple foundation remains to remind us of the exciting period of the Mormon occupation of Caldwell County.

Chapter II

Between the Mormon Exodus and the Civil War

After the expulsion of the Mormons, the population of Caldwell County fell to less than 1000 people, but this number was soon considerably increased by the coming of new settlers who either entered unimproved land directly from the government or purchased the Mormon

lands at very low prices. Some of the early settlers paid the government as little as twelve cents an acre for their homes. Ilett Tobbin, who in 1840 settled near the present site of Braymer, bought much land at this price and will be remembered as the largest land owner in the history of the county (about 1500 acres). There was no land tax until after 1842.

The haste attending the sale of the abandoned Mormon farms led later to great confusion in land titles in this county. As late as 1890 cases appeared in our county courts to clear disputed or clouded titles to lands to which Mormon claims (often in the hands of speculators) had been filed long after the Mormon exodus.

Shortly after the Mormon period, several outstanding settlers came into Caldwell County.

George Smith ("Sheep" Smith) drove over 1000 head of sheep from Ohio to Mirabile Township in 1844 and became the pioneer wool grower of Missouri. He was later elected Lieutenant-Governor of Missouri.

Major T. W. Higgins was the first settler to choose prairie land for a home. People considered him very foolish because he preferred prairie land to timber land. He married the daughter of Wesley Hines, another well known pioneer of Rockford Township.

Charley Ross was a picturesque figure of Fairview Township in the early forties. He bought Mormon land

and entered other land from the government, becoming wealthy.

John T. Davis was the first settler in Davis Township (which was named for the Davis family). When he came here in 1839, the county was wild, and wolves and panthers were numerous. Since his cabin had nothing but cloth at the door and window, he built a bonfire every night to keep away the wild animals. William McCray was an early blacksmith, farmer and justice of the peace in Lincoln Township. He once held a murder trial under an elm tree because there was no way to get to the court house.

Dr. W. F. Crawford of Mirabile was miller, doctor, store keeper, farmer, and stock raiser. Dwight Dodge of Kingston Township was preacher, farmer, and carpenter. In fact, these early pioneers were often men of many talents. Then there were the Estes, Plumb, Doll, Penney, Goodman, Buster, Hudgins, Sackman, Ellis, Pemberton and dozens of other families all of whom were splendid types of pioneers.

New Mills

With the coming of more settlers, more mills started up. The Fugitt water mill, north of Far West on Shoal Creek, ran from 1839 until 1859 when it was washed away. The Gardner horse mill was north of Mirabile and later well known as the Sackman Mill. In 1843, Solomon Cox built a water mill on Shoal [Creek] near Salem which was a noted institution until washed away

in the fifties. In 1847 Sam Richey built a “pull around” horse mill near Salem, which after his death was run by his wife. Old people in the south part of the county yet talk about “Mother Richey’s” Mill. The Richey millstones may be seen today in the old McClelland graveyard in Kingston Township.

In 1848, Wm. Marquam built an ox mill at Mirabile for meal and saw logs and he also had a wool carding mill. This in later times was the Dr. Crawford Mill which ran for many years. Dr. Crawford always kept a lantern hanging in front of the mill at night to guide late customers. This mill was torn down in 1933.

In 1844, Robert White built his second water mill on Shoal [Creek] which later became the well known Filson Mill. In the fifties, Wm. Hawks ran a water mill on his farm on Shoal Creek in New York Township which ground meal and sawed logs. In fact, most of these mills had certain days for grinding and certain days for sawing logs. Later mills were Murphy’s Mill near Breckenridge and Marshall’s Mill near Catawba. The millstones from Marshall’s Mill were recently dug up and sold as relics. Settlers in the extreme north end of Caldwell County often took their grist to the Uncle Jerry Lenhart Mill just over the Daviess County line.

Militia Musters

An interesting feature of the forties was a militia muster. By state law every able bodied man between eighteen and forty-five belonged to the county militia

and must report to the militia muster for practice. Such musters were held at Far West and Kingston and drew great crowds. Col. T. N. O. Butts was the commanding officer. The purpose of the musters was to insure protection to the people, but because the drill was of little value, the law was repealed in 1846.

Mexican War and California Gold Rush

During the Mexican War, only a few settlers from this county went to war. The greatest effect of the war was in the prosperity which came to the citizens in the sale of flour, bacon, corn and horses to the U. S. Army. During the California gold rush of 1849-50, over one hundred men went west to hunt gold. Solomon Cox, miller of Kingston Township, and several others died in California. None of the men came back with wealth.

Fords and Bridges

In the early days of this county, there were no bridges. When people came to creeks, they hunted places where it was easy to ford the streams. Such fords became known usually by the name of the near-by farms. Probably the most famous ford in Caldwell County was Flat Rock Ford over Crooked River in Rockford Township, scene of a traditional Indian battle and the entry of the Mormons into Caldwell County. There were probably fifty fords in frequent use in this county in its earlier history. In this brief history only a few of these can be mentioned. Several fords occurred near mills—Cox's Mill Ford, Gardner's Mill Ford, Hawks's Mill

Ford, two fords near the Filson Mill. Others were Henkins Ford (later Henkins bridge) in New York Township, Mapes Ford west of Kingston, a well known "baptizing hole" fifty years or more ago, the Kingston Ford over Shoal [Creek] which preceded the old Kingston covered bridge on the old Hamilton and Kingston road.

The first bridge in the county was the covered wooden bridge over Shoal [Creek] near Kingston, built in 1859. After many repairs, it was torn down in 1894 to give place to a steel bridge. By 1875, there were four bridges in the county.

Early Roads

The early pioneers came into the county by following trails rather than roads. Tall prairie grass grew on either side. A state road from Richmond to Gallatin which passed through Kingston was for years the only thoroughfare connecting our county with the Missouri River. Merchandise intended for this section was carried by boat to Camden in Ray County and then carried over this state road by ox team to its destination. This road passed through the site where Hamilton was later and Lexington. Hamilton, scarcely yet started, was made a stage station.

Another old state road ran from the direction of Chillicothe into Gomer Township. Going in a southeast direction, it ran past the old William Clampitt farm in Gomer Township toward Kingston. This road also was

a stage road and the Clampitt house (or Clampitt Hotel as often called) was a night stop for the stage coach. Traces of this road may still be found in fields and farm yards.

There was the so called Overland or County seat road which ran east to west through the middle of the county in use in the forties and fifties. It led to Plattsburg, Missouri. This old road now forms part of corn fields or pastures.

In Mormon days, a good road connected Richmond with Far West, while small roads connected Far West with Salem and Salem with Haun's Mill.

Stage Coaches

Old timers who recall the stage coach days speak of the resemblance between the old stage coach and the modern bus, except that the stage coach was drawn by four to eight horses. These coaches carried both passengers and mail. Since it took a day to make the Lexington-Hamilton run, two coaches were used on the route. Each day a driver started from each town and ordinarily they met at mid-day at the mid-way point, Knoxville. Naturally with the advent of the railroad, stage coaches fell into disuse.

The Hannibal-St. Joseph Railroad

The most important event in the history of our county was the building of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad (now the Burlington) through the northern part

of the county in 1858-59. Prosperity began to be felt after the line was surveyed in 1854. Land prices went up. Town companies were formed and the towns of Hamilton and Breckenridge were started. Later on Kidder and Nettleton came into existence as a result of the railroad. When the first train went through Hamilton in 1859, people came here from all directions to see the train go through.

Several results followed the coming of the railroad. Farmers began to raise bigger crops because they could get them to market; new settlers began buying or renting "railroad land" which was land given to the railroad company by the U. S. government. Lastly the covered mover wagon of earlier days began to disappear, for now new settlers came into Caldwell on the train.

Organization of the Townships

Caldwell county has not always had twelve townships as at present. Soon after the organization of the county, there were four townships. Rockford which comprised the present western tier of counties (Kidder, Mirabile and Rockford); Blythe which comprised Hamilton, Kingston and Grant; Grand River which took in all of range 26 and 27 which lay north of Shoal Creek; and Davis which took in all of range 26 and 27 which lay south of Shoal [Creek].

In 1867 changes were made. Rockford was subdivided; the part north of Shoal [Creek] was Kidder Township, the part south of Shoal [Creek] was Mirabile.

Grand River Township was sub-divided. Range 26 became Elm, Range 27 became Grand River. Blythe was sub-divided into Hamilton, eight miles long, and Kingston ten miles long. This made seven townships. In 1870, the twelve townships of equal size were arranged as at present and the name of Grand River township was changed to New York Township by petition of the residents thereof, most of whom had come as settlers from the state of New York in the late sixties.

Chapter III

The Civil War Period and the Succeeding Years in Caldwell County

Slavery in Caldwell County

During the early years of the history of our county, it was settled largely by people from the southern states, many of whom brought slaves with them. Jesse Mann Sr., the first settler, was a slave owner. Sometimes these slave owners owned large plantations in the county worked by slave labor. Sometimes they owned one slave, just as they owned one horse, to help with the work on a small farm.

Some of the well known slave owners of the county were the Terrill and Hershberger families of Breckenridge Township, James Paxton and Rev. Eli Penney of Mirabile Township, Col. T. N. O. Butts of the south part of the county. All of these men represented the best type of masters. They buried the dead slaves in

the family burying grounds. They sometimes freed a favorite and faithful slave in their wills. An old slave block used to stand in Kingston where slaves were auctioned off to the highest bidder.

Civil War Sentiment in the County

After the coming of the railroad, the majority of the new settlers to the county came from the northern and eastern states. When the Civil War broke out, there was naturally a strong division of sentiment between the Unionists and the Secessionists (Southern partisans) in the county. A slight majority of the people being on the Union side. In this situation, there developed bitter quarrels between neighbors, which at times resulted in ruthless cruelty. Enmities arose which lasted for years after the war.

Bushwhackers in the County

While no real battle occurred in the county, there was considerable "guerrilla fighting" (as they called it) done by bushwhackers on each side. You may have heard people say that some of their relatives were killed by the bushwhackers in the Civil War. Bushwhackers are unorganized bands of fighters, often lawless in action.

Organization of the Unionists and Secessionists

At the beginning of the war, the Secessionists were first to organize in the county. In the summer of 1861, a small company of Caldwell county Minute Men was

organized at Kingston with Dr. Bassett as captain. This company later joined Gen. Price's Army and fought in the battles of Lexington and Wilson's Creek. The secession leaders in the county were Cap't Bassett, Col. T. N. O. Butts, Sheriff John C. Myers who resigned his office to enter the Confederate Army (see below for his tragic death), John Burroughs (Borrows) at that time postmaster of Hamilton, John Ardinger a merchant at Kingston. (Both Burroughs and Ardinger were members of the town company which had started Hamilton).

Soon after the organization of the Caldwell County Minute Men of the Confederates, the Union men organized the first company of Home Guards in Missouri outside of St. Louis. Cap't. E. D. Johnson of Mirabile Township was the commanding officer. While called Home Guards they pledged themselves to go wherever they could do the most good. The Home Guards organization was followed by companies of militia. Leaders among the Unionists of the county were Cap't. W. T. Filson of New York Township, Major Wm. Plumb of Kidder Township, Major M. L. James of Kingston Township. These men all became well known in Civil War days in this county. The Southern sympathizers called the Noblitt men "Wolf Hunters" and the James men "James' Jayhawkers". On account of the aggressive work of Filson and James, their country homes were raided by Confederate partisans.

Military Camps in Towns

During the war, companies of militia or Federal

Troops were always stationed in Hamilton. A militia company camped in the town park and a company of the regular army camped in the old Mallory Grove west of town on the old Kidder road. Kingston, being the county seat with the county money and the county records was closely watched by the militia. At one time, so the story goes, the wooden covered bridge on the Hamilton-Kingston road was smeared with oil by the Confederates who intended to burn it but it was saved by the reported approach of a Union force.

The town of Mirabile was strongly Unionist and the Mirabile tavern (still used in 1936 as a residence) was headquarters for Union soldiers. Breckenridge was strongly southern in population and sentiment and the only secession flag ever raised in the county was hoisted there in the spring of 1861. This however was soon cut down to save it from the Union militia. Breckenridge was never without a Union Militia camp.

Disloyalty Lists

According to General Order 24, issued by the Missouri Military Department in 1862, citizens of all counties were required to be enrolled either as loyal or disloyal to the United States and state governments. Old Caldwell County records contain the names of the so called disloyal citizens (those who sympathized with the Confederacy. These "disloyal" citizens were required to surrender all their fire-arms and quietly pursue their regular business. Such men had to be very careful in both word and action for the sake of their lives and

property.

Skirmishes in Caldwell County

While no important engagements took place within the county, two skirmishes occurred.

The Corn Stalk Fight. The people of the southern part of the county were largely Confederate in sentiment and several men from there enlisted early in the Confederate Army. In October 1861, a number of Confederate recruits were in camp on the east fork of Crooked River in the south-west corner of Lincoln Township. Major James then with his battalion at Cameron resolved to break up this recruiting camp of the "rebels". He set out with 150 men and sent Lieutenant Plumb (later Major Plumb) ahead with a scouting party. As Plumb passed a field of corn stalks, an attack was made on his party by the southerners who were hidden in ambush in the corn field. While it was a doubtful victory for the Unionists, it drove the recruits away from the county.

The Weldon Settlement Skirmish. An odd skirmish occurred in 1864 in the Weldon Settlement near Breckenridge between two groups of Union militia, both out hunting "rebels" and in the fight which followed, Cap't. Givens of the Daviess County Militia was killed.

Thrailkill-Taylor Raid in 1864

The most exciting event of the whole war in

Caldwell County was the raid made in the county in July 1864 by three hundred Confederate soldiers under the leadership of Major John Thraikill and Fletch Taylor. The event is usually called the Thraikill Raid. The Unionists claimed that the object of the raid was to obtain plunder and recruits and to punish the residents of this county for the stand they had taken against the Confederacy. This raid in Caldwell County, however, was a part of a longer raid in Clay, Ray and Clinton Counties. Thraikill was in regular Confederate service, while Taylor had been under the guerrilla leader, Quantrell. Coming up through Ray County, they held up and robbed the Lexington-Hamilton coach at Knoxville. Crossing into Lincoln Township of this county, they captured a company of Home Guards who had gathered to oppose the progress of the raiders. They paroled these prisoners and started on the Kingston road.

In the meantime, hearing of the entry of Thraikill in the county, Major Cox, then in charge of the Militia, ordered all the militia in the county to go to Black Oak, in the south part of the county to stop Thraikill. This left Kingston without defense. Cox and his militia were too slow. Thraikill went on toward the county seat. On the approach of the raiders, there was a general stampede of the male population of Kingston to get out of town. The invaders broke open the safe of the court house and got about \$8000 of county money besides the cash of several private individuals. (This was before the day of banks in Caldwell County, and public and private funds were kept in the court house safe.) The stores (except that of John Ardinger, a Southerner) were robbed of food

and clothing. After an hour's stay in Kingston, the raiders proceeded to Mirabile where they plundered stores and a few homes.

Two Thraikill men were captured on the Mirabile road and were promptly killed by the militia. They were buried in the nearby Morrie cemetery. It was reported that Thraikill himself never killed a Union prisoner.

When Major Cox realized that Thraikill had evaded him and had raided Kingston and Mirabile, he set out in pursuit with his militia. He overtook the raiders at Camden Point in Platte County where the engagement ended in a decisive victory for the Thraikill men.

The Tragedies on Crab Apple Creek in 1862

Along Crab Apple Creek in Lincoln Township near the Ray County line in the Confederate Community above mentioned, lived the large Baker family. Five of the sons had served in the Southern Army. Two sons had returned home and had not reported to the federal authorities of the county as the military law required. The militia was sent down to arrest them. In the series of events which followed, three of the Bakers and Alex Richey (a relative of the Bakers and son of "Mother" Richey) were killed, the Baker homes were burnt to the ground and Cap't. Langford of the militia was killed.

Killing of Other Southern Sympathizers

Other Confederate ex-soldiers and Southern

sympathizers in Caldwell County who met death at the hands of groups of Unionists during the war were John C. Myers, H. D. Whiteneck, R. S. McBeath, Absolom Harpold, Henry Gist. Accounts of the tragic deaths of these men may be found in the larger histories of Caldwell County or may still be heard in the stores told by old men and women who as children in this county heard about these deaths or even witnessed the burials.

Immigration After the Civil War

Immediately after the close of the war, the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad began an intensive advertising campaign in the eastern and middle states to sell the land which they owned in the sections through which their road ran. As a result of this effort, a large immigration of settlers, mostly from the East, came into Caldwell County during 1867-69. They were seeking cheap land for good land was selling at from five to twelve dollars an acre. It was at this time that many families from the state of New York settled near each other in what is now New York Township (commonly called the "York Settlement" in earlier days).

The new comers found many pioneer conditions yet existing in the county. The prairies were still covered with tall prairie grass. Prairie fires were common and the first job of the new settler was to plough up a considerable tract near his home to protect it from such a danger. There were no fences, few bridges and few good roads. Although roads had been laid out by the section lines, people preferred to follow trails through the

open prairie when they came to town on horseback or in the farm wagon to do their trading.

Cattle and horses were branded with the owner's mark and farmers kept their cattle "on the range" (on the open prairie). The boys or women had the daily job of rounding them up in the afternoon. About 1880, the stock law came in force in Caldwell county which forced farmer to fence in their stock. The road system was well established by this time. Pioneer ways had passed away.

Plan to Move the County Seat

In 1867, a scheme was formed to make Hamilton the county seat of Caldwell County. During the boom following the close of the war Hamilton had become the largest town in the county. Some of its citizens had long desired to make it the county seat, but it clearly was too far from the center of the county. By the proposed plan, this objection would be removed.

The petition asked the Missouri legislature to change the county lines of Harrison, Daviess and Caldwell Counties. The southern tier of townships of Harrison County should be given to Daviess County. The southern tier of townships in Daviess County should be given to Caldwell County. By this plan, Hamilton would stand near the center of Caldwell County. Naturally Kingston organized a spirited fight against losing the county seat. The plan failed to pass in the legislature and Kingston kept the county seat.

Town, Early Hotels, and Early Cemeteries in Caldwell County

History of the Towns

During the one hundred years history of our county, a number of hamlets, post office settlements and even a small city have passed out of existence. As we have already seen, the first hamlet, Salem, came into being 1833 in Kingston Township and died soon after the new county seat of Kingston was laid out in 1843. The small city of Far West in Mirabile Township was laid out in 1836 and it too eventually became a ghost town.

A post office with a railroad station, Emmett, was located in Kidder Township in the late fifties at the home of P. S. Kenney, a very prominent man of that section. It was a one man hamlet, for Kenney had a store, was post master, station and freight agent. After the town of Kidder was laid out in 1860, the railroad station with the post office at Emmett was moved to Kidder. Grand River was a hamlet consisting of store and post office in Breckenridge Township in the middle fifties. When Breckenridge was laid out, the post office was taken there.

Black Oak in Davis Township was a village planted by the Davis family in 1871. It fell into decline, especially after the founding of Braymer in the same township in 1887, when the Milwaukee Railroad was built through the south part of the county. Elk Grove, an early hamlet in Davis Township, was founded also but

has long been abandoned.

Proctorville in Fairview Township was laid out in 1869 by David Proctor, an outstanding pioneer of that township. It is now mainly a church center. Catawba in the same township once had a population of one hundred fifty. Its name too exists now mainly as a church center.

Glassville in Lincoln Township lost its post office and existence when the new town of Cowgill was founded on the new Milwaukee [rail]road. The rural free mail delivery, established about thirty years ago [1906] in the county, meant the death of small post offices like Gould Farm in New York Township and Kerr near Far West.

The history of Bonanza is very interesting. It was located on Shoal Creek in the western part of New York Township. The origin of the village was due to the existence of the once famous Bonanza spring which is within the bed of Shoal Creek. The early settlers knew of this spring but did not like its taste. Prior to 1881, the medicinal virtues of the water were practically unknown.

In that year a company was formed to exploit the spring and build a town. A wave of prosperity came to Bonanza. Three hotels were built and were needed, for during the next two years, hundreds of people came daily to drink of the Bonanza water. It was shipped away in bottles and barrels. Then trouble arose between members of the town company and the town's growth was halted forever. A few years ago it lost its post office through

the rural delivery. Now its name belongs largely to school, church and neighborhood.

There are eight towns at present in the limits of Caldwell County.

Kingston. The oldest town now in existence in the county is Kingston. This town was laid out in 1843 as the new county seat. The center of population had moved toward the middle of the county and it was inconvenient for people to go to Far West. The new county capital was named for Judge King, a popular circuit judge of Richmond, later to be governor of the state. The mail came in twice a week from Plattsburg and Richmond. In the seventies and eighties "Billy" Dodge's hack carried the mail and passengers between Hamilton and Kingston. The height of Kingston's prosperity came in 1890 when the long desired railroad was obtained. The Hamilton and Kingston (commonly called H. and K.) line was short lived for the road bed and equipment materials were poor. The rental on the rails used up the income. Again Kingston became an inland town, with a consequent loss in population and business.

Mirabile. The second permanent town was Mirabile. William Marquam (pronounced Marcam) in 1848 or 1849 moved a stock of goods with the log store building from the dying town of Far West to his land in the south part of Mirabile Township. He also started up a blacksmith shop and an ox mill. Thus he had a hamlet all his own which people ordinarily called "Marquam's

Store". After two other stores and the brick tavern had been built, Mr. Marquam platted the village and called it Mirabile, a Latin word meaning wonderful. (At that time there was a craze for giving Latin names to new towns in the new sections). Being off the railroad, Mirabile has made little advance in its long history.

Hamilton. The land on which Hamilton now stands was on the old pioneer road from Gallatin to Lexington. Before the town was planned, hunters and trappers had used the place as a temporary stopping place. An old trapper named Nixon before 1854 lived in a shack on the present Davis (Main) Street on the site of the old elevator, south of the present railroad track. Deer used to feed in his yard every day, and he shot many a bear nearby. When it became an assured fact that the railroad was going to run right through his front yard, he left.

The land of the original town of Hamilton was entered from the government in 1854 after having been surveyed by Albert G. Davis, the founder of the town. In the spring of 1855 Mr. Davis and the other members of the town company (who held the land) named the future town Hamilton, partly for Alexander Hamilton and partly for Joseph Hamilton, a hero of the War of 1812. In the fall of 1855 the first sale of town lots took place, with plenty of free whiskey for buyers. By that time, Mr. Davis had built the first house in town. (See below for Davis Hotel). He also built the first store building (located on site of present Courter Theater). He was the first post master. A blacksmith shop, other stores and houses followed. The railroad came through in February

1859. By 1861 there were about twenty-five families in the town. In the early sixties, Hamilton was not as good a town as was Kidder.

The boom in sales of town and farm lands in 1867-68 brought a decided growth to Hamilton, and it soon became the largest town in the county. Wild animals in the vicinity of the town were fast disappearing. It is said that the last deer seen around town was killed in 1879 just south of the present Fair Grounds.

Memorable events in the earlier history of Hamilton were the big free barbeque given July 4, 1872, in the Dudley pasture, the explosion at the Hamilton Mill in 1870 when several lives were lost, the visit of the grasshoppers to the vicinity of Hamilton in 1875, several big fires of the eighties which changed Davis (Main) Street from frame to brick buildings.

Breckenridge. This town was laid out in the fall of 1856 by the Breckenridge town company as a result of the coming of the railroad. Jerome Terrill, Henry Gist and J. A. Price were leading men in this company. The town was named for John C. Breckenridge, a leading Democrat of Kentucky at the time and later vice-president of the United States. As already stated, the first settlers in and around the town were from southern states.

The customary sale of town lots, advertised far and wide, came shortly after. The first building in Breckenridge was a frame one used by P. S. Kenney

(afterwards of Kidder) as a store. The second was a saloon, which ordinarily came quickly into a new town in those days.

The new Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad at that time was working from the two terminals. The eastern end reached Breckenridge late in 1858 and for a few months, due to a delay on the western end, Breckenridge stood at the end of the railroad. This made much business there for a time. The growth of Breckenridge, like that of Hamilton, was slow until late in the sixties.

Kidder. This town was laid out in 1860 by Henry P. Kidder and E. L. Baker representing the Kidder Land Company. This company was made up a New England men which accounts for the large number of eastern people in the early population of Kidder. The town leaders in this early time were A. W. Rice, land agent and hotel keeper; James Beaumont, postmaster; P. S. Kenney, merchant who erected a three story building. The big moment in the history of Kidder was the opening of Thayer College in 1869. (See Chapter V). The interests of the town have always been centered in school and church.

Nettleton. This town was laid out in 1868. The original name was Gomer but in 1870 it was changed to Nettleton in honor of an official of the Hannibal and St. Joseph [Rail] Road.

Polo. In 1871, J. M. Stone sold to Oliver Farabee an acre of land on which Farabee built a store. Soon another

man built a wagon shop and blacksmith shop close by. This laid the foundation of Polo. It was named for an Illinois town. The old part of Polo was not platted, and land in that portion is still sold by metes and bounds. Since the railroad was built in that section, Polo has made a marked growth.

Braymer and Cowgill. These towns owe their existence to the construction of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroads through southern Caldwell County in 1887. Braymer was named for David Braymer, a wealthy farmer who gave land to secure the railroad. Cowgill was named for Judge James Cowgill, once of Hamilton, who owned considerable land in Lincoln Township. He later was mayor of Kansas City.

Shoal in New York Township is a railroad station started with the construction of the Rock Island Railroad in 1930.

Early Taverns and Hotels in Caldwell County

During the prosperous days of Far West, two hotels were located there, being kept by John Whitmer and Mr. Warmesley both of the Mormon faith. The Whitmer hotel stood until about 1900, and was then used as a stable on a nearby farm. The next hotel (or rather tavern) was started in 1839 at Salem. John Duston was trying to create a boom in that village and gave a man named McHenry a bonus of five acres of land for starting the Salem tavern. In those days, a tavern had a tap room in front where liquor was "on tap".

When the new town of Kingston was started in 1843, Walter Doak, an early settler, turned his home into a hotel to keep new-comers. He later sold out to a man named Baxter who continued it as a hotel. In the late fifties, the Hugh Chain family built a hotel and ran it for several years as the Kingston House. This stood until recent years.

Mirabile's first and only hotel in its history was built about 1851. It is used today as a residence. It is made of brick in old-fashioned, rectangular tavern style, with a great hall in the middle, and with dining room and tap room (or office) on either side. Fire places and chimneys are built at the end. Isaac Stout built it but it has passed through numerous hands in its life of eighty-five years. Its most thrilling days were in the Civil War when the Home Guards were quartered there. This old inn is one of the historic buildings in our county.

Hamilton's first hotel was the home of A. G. Davis, the founder of the town. It was built in the summer of 1855, the lumber for it having been shipped by boat from St. Louis to Camden, Ray County; thence it was carried by ox team to Hamilton. Its site was the north half of the present site of the Johnson Grocery on north Davis Street. It was the stage coach station.

In April 1856, the Davis family moved into this house and opened it as a hotel to keep stage travelers over night or to board new settlers who had no house ready. It was known as the Davis Hotel or as the Lone Star Hotel because at first it was the only house for miles

on the route. During the sixties this building became the well known Claypool Hotel. In 1863 the big frame Hamilton House was built by Wm. Goodman and Enos Dudley on the site of the present city hall. It remained a landmark until it burned down in the middle [eighteen-]eighties. Other early hotels in Hamilton before 1880 were the Western House on north Davis Street and the Harry House on Ardinger (present site of Davis Motor Company).

The Kidder Hotel was the first house built in Kidder in 1860 and was run by A. W. Rice on Front Street. During the Civil War, the soldiers who were camped here, used to hold "cotillion" dances and suppers at this hotel.

The Caldwell House of Breckenridge was built in 1857 when the town company was selling lots. In 1864 the Scanlon family built a big stone house and used it as a hotel for railroaders. It is said they had so many boarders that they bought flour by the carload. This house is still in excellent shape.

Mention has been made of the Clampitt Hotel which stood in Gomer Township in the sixties and seventies and was used for a night stop by the stage line. It was of typical tavern shape, much like the old Mirabile inn.

Old Cemeteries in Caldwell County

A visit to the old cemeteries of our county is worthwhile, for there lie the pioneers of whom we hear

in the county's history. The oldest cemetery in the county is the burial plot used by the first families in this county in the Shoal Creek settlement of 1832. These graves lie one half mile east of Kingston. While the names are known, the graves have long since been plowed over.

The Mormon cemetery west of the old town of Far West is next in age. It is thought to have contained two hundred graves, but records of only four of the dead have been kept. The grave stones have disappeared and the field has been under cultivation. The graves in the Old Salem (or Richey) Cemetery have likewise been lost, with little record of the dead. Many other small burial plots in the county have been plowed over when early families sold their farms to strangers.

The White Cemetery in Fairview Township is considered the oldest cemetery in the county still in use. Records show its use in 1845 but tradition says it is even older, saying that some of the Mormons wounded at Haun's Mill Massacre (which occurred at no great distance) died soon after, and were the first to be buried in the White Graveyard.

Other old cemeteries whose stones by their inscriptions show early use are Bonanza (also called Ernsbarger or Rutherford) in 1839, Paxton Farm in Mirabile Township in 1842, Cox in New York Township in 1843, Pleasant Ridge in New York Township in 1845, and Hines in Rockford Township in 1846.

It is interesting to note that soldiers of the following

wars are buried in Caldwell County: Revolutionary, War of 1812, Black Hawk War, Mormon War, Florida Indian War, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, and World War.

Early Schools, Early Churches, Early Physicians in Caldwell County. Historical Map of the County.

Mormon Schools in Caldwell County

The first schools in the county were the schools maintained by the Mormon settlers. These schools were free, being supported by the church tithing system. A commodious schoolhouse was erected in 1836 at Far West and was used also for a church, court house, and town hall. An abandoned log cabin on Long Creek in Kingston Township was used in 1838 for a school, the teaching being Mary Ann Duty, a Mormon. The Mormons also built a school in the center of Mirabile Township. In fact, they had several schoolhouses in the county for they insisted on education as a part of their religion.

Subscription Schools in Caldwell County

After the Mormon period, pupils attended subscription schools. A subscription school (or select school as later called) was one in which the parents paid the teachers for teaching their children. The tuition charges were very low, often ten cents a month for each child in attendance. These schools were usually kept at

the home of the teacher who taught without a certificate.

Some subscription schools existed in the forties. They were frequent in the fifties for not all of the county had been divided into school districts. They existed in the sixties to a limited extent. At times they were combined with the new tax supported schools. If the tax money could support only four or five months of school, the teacher often carried the school on for two or three months more as a subscription school.

Some of these old subscription schools are still remembered. An old log cabin which stood in the yard of the Mrs. George Walters farm in Mirabile Township served as a subscription school in the fifties. The log cabin finally became the first home of the new district school opened in Pleasant Valley district. The Black Oak subscription school in Davis Township opened in 1852, being the only school for miles around.

In the late sixties a subscription school, taught in the parlor of Mrs. Stephen Cole, was started southeast of Hamilton for the benefit of those children who lived at some distance from a free district school. This was the step which led to the organization of Liberty Bell district.

Free or Tax Supported Schools in Caldwell County

No record could be found at Kingston on the organization of school districts in the county. The first free school in the county of which a record was available was built by the old township of Blythe in 1846. It stood

in Kingston south of the public square. It later became the Kingston town school.

A log school in Fairview Township north of Catawba was built in 1847 and another in the same township in 1852. The Plum Creek School house, northwest of Mirabile, was built before 1852. It had a school term of three to five months. In the fifties the Log Creek School south of Mirabile was started. The building was a schoolhouse left from Mormon days. It was "boxed up," that is, the slab lumber ran up and down. The teacher received twenty dollars a month and boarded around but was expected to help with the work.

Cottonwood district school near Polo, Terrill district school in Breckenridge township, Radical district school in New York Township, were all started in the early sixties. P roctorville district school started in the late sixties. Van Note district east of Hamilton was organized in 1871.

The first free school in Hamilton Township was built in the fifties in the present Independence district south of Hamilton. It was a log school and stood on the old Streeter farm near the Tom Creek Coal Mine. Hamilton had no free school at the time and several children walked from town to attend this district school. In 1860 the log building was moved to the Dodge farm and was known for years as the Dodge schoolhouse.

Early Schools in the Towns

The first school in Hamilton was a subscription school taught by Mary Gartland soon after the town was founded. The log house stood south of the present Presbyterian Church. This was followed in 1864 by the first free school in Hamilton, a one-room school conducted in the second floor of a tin shop on north Davis Street, north of the lumber yard. The teacher was Mrs. Elizabeth Lenderson. In 1865, the first public schoolhouse was built, a one-room school on the present site of the M. E. parsonage. An additional room was later built.

The early public school of Kidder was a one-room school built in 1862 by the land company. It was used on Sundays as a church. The Breckenridge schools also started in a one-room school. The early Kingston town school used the old Blythe Township schoolhouse already mentioned.

High Schools in Caldwell County

Before 1869 no school work of high school grade was given in this county. In that year Thayer College (Later Kidder Institute) opened its doors at Kidder under the control of the Congregational Church. It offered both college and academy courses.

In 1872 the Hamilton Public School was graded and the high school organized by D. M. Ferguson. In 1873 the High school of Breckenridge was organized by Prof. Hamilton. In 1874 the high school at Kingston was organized by Stephen C. Rogers. The public school

system in the county was now well established.

School Equipment in Early District Schools

In the early district schools the furniture consisted of long benches and desks, rudely made of logs which were planed off. The benches had no backs, and the children were supposed to sit up straight facing the wall. When they recited, they turned around and faced the teacher. The long log desks might extend along three walls of the room in front of the pupils or there might be but one desk. If the pupils wished to write, they went to it. The subjects taught were commonly the three Rs, occasionally Geography and Grammar. Often there was no uniformity of text books even in the same school.

Early School Funds in Caldwell County

The record of school funds at Kingston begins with 1853. Caldwell county received school money that year. Until 1864 all school money was paid to the township instead of the school district. In 1856 the "Stray Fund" was set aside for school support. This money arose from the sale of stray unbranded stock which were taken up.

Early Churches and Preachers in Caldwell County

Rev. John Stone and Rev. Winant Vanderpool, both Primitive (or Old School) Baptists from Ray County, held occasional services in the cabins of the first settlers along Shoal Creek in 1832-33. During the Mormon period, most of the preaching in the county was done by

preachers of that faith.

The first sermon after their departure was preached June 1839 by Rev. Rainwater, a Methodist from Knoxville. He held services at the home of a new settler west of Kingston. The yard was crowded with people who had come a great distance to hear the gospel. The field looked so promising that in 1840 another preacher came to the county and organized churches at Far West and the community west of Kingston.

The Old School Baptists in 1840 organized a church at Log Creek and the church organization exists to this day, the oldest church in the county.

Some other old church organizations follow:

Black Oak M. E. South	1845
Proctorville M. E.	1856
Breckenridge M. E. South	1856
Catawba M. E.	1857
Kingston Christian	1865
Hamilton Christian	1865
Breckenridge Presbyterian	1866
Presbyterian N.Y. Township	1869
Hamilton Presbyterian	1867
Hamilton Baptist	1868
Hamilton Congregational	1868
Breckenridge Congregational	1866
Plum Creek Presbyterian	1853
(transferred to Mirabile in 1854)	
Elk Grove M. E.	1863

German Baptist (near Polo)	1866
Kidder Congregational	1865
Hopewell Missionary Baptist	1866
Barwick M. E.	1867
Hamilton M. E.	1867
United Brethren of Davis Township	1869
Breckenridge Baptist	1868

While some of these church organizations were early, few congregations had church buildings at an early date. In the winter they met at the homes of members or in schoolhouses. In the summer, they held camp meetings in groves or worshiped under arbors built of boughs for temporary shelter. Possibly the first Sunday school in the county was started in Fairview Township in 1847 by Rev. Oster, a Protestant Methodist preacher, at the home of the old Pioneer, Charley Ross.

A well known preacher of the forties and fifties was Elder Eli Penny of the Primitive Baptist Church who was a plantation owner in Mirabile Township. Most of the marriages of that early period were performed by Elder Penney. He was the grandfather of J. C. Penney the chain store man.

A courageous preacher of the fifties and sixties was Dr. Daniel Proctor, a farmer, merchant, doctor, preacher and founder of Proctorville. He belonged to the (North) Methodist Episcopal Church. During the Civil War, North M. E. preachers in this section were regarded as abolitionists hence subject to attack. Dr. Proctor was threatened with death if he continued to preach. He laid

his gun down on the open Bible and went on with his sermon.

Rev. James Whitten was another (North) M. E. Preacher in this county whose life was endangered because of the sectional feelings aroused by the war.

Elder (or Father) Andrew Baker was an outstanding figure in the history of the (Missionary) Baptists in this county, by organizing several churches of that denomination. Hopewell Church was his charge. He lived in New York Township in a big stone house which still stands as one of the interesting landmarks of the county. Another (Missionary) Baptist preacher of the fifties and sixties was Robert C. Hill, a farmer-preacher of Lincoln Township who helped to organize several churches.

The first ministers to preach the gospel in Hamilton were Rev. Eli Penney and Rev. John Fine, a farmer-preacher of the Christian Church. They held church in the town depot. By 1870 there were many preachers with regular stations throughout the county.

Early Physicians in Caldwell County

In the early years of the county doctors were few and lived at a distance from many settlers. Therefore it was necessary to depend much on home remedies. Mothers gathered herbs and kept old medicinal recipes for bodily ills. The herb or "yarb" doctors among the settlers were in good standing and made little or no charge for

services. Few facts could be learned about the early doctors who practiced in the county before 1850.

Dr. Wm. McClellan, Dr. Sampson Agard and Dr. James Earl were practicing physicians among the Mormons. Dr. Earl became a dissenter and after the Mormon exodus, he remained as a doctor in this county.

Physicians of the Forties

Records show that Dr. Bassett of Kingston practiced all over the county from the forties to the sixties. Dr. Tucker of Utica and Dr. Grant of Knoxville were frequently called into the county. Dr. Grant was in charge of the scarlet fever epidemic of 1856 in Fairview Township when Ilett Tobbin lost five children within a few days. In those days severe epidemics were frequent. People tell of the typhoid epidemic of 1839, of the small pox epidemic of 1848, the diphtheria and scarlet fever of the fifties and seventies. Doctors answered calls on horseback carrying their powders in saddle bags.

Physicians of the Fifties

At Mirabile during this period Dr. John McClintock was an eye doctor, miller and merchant; Dr. J. R. Jones was a doctor and farmer. The last two men were physicians of fine training. Dr. David Proctor of Fairview Township has already been mentioned as a pioneer preacher. The first physician in the town of Hamilton was Dr. Thomas Kavanaugh who came in with the new settlers and was an early postman.

Physicians of the Sixties

Some physicians who afterwards became widely known moved into the county in the sixties; Dr. M. Bottom and J. S. Halstead of Breckenridge, Dr. Lemuel Dunn and Dr. N. M. Smith of Kingston, Dr. Nunn and Dr. Ressegeau of Hamilton, Dr. Eloisia Smith (a woman doctor) of Kidder. Isaac Alee, an 1812 war veteran who lived west of town was as herb doctor. His old accounts show that he charge twenty-five cents for a call and twenty-five cents for two bottles of herb medicine. By 1870 the county was well supplied with doctors.

Conclusion

So closes this brief history of Caldwell County. Many interesting events in the hundred years life of the county have perforce been omitted because of limited space. For the same reason, the names of many splendid pioneers have been omitted. Then too the writer is quite aware of the incompleteness of her research on some points which yet defy thorough investigation. The purpose throughout has been to bring to the boys and girls of this county a realization of its struggles and growth through one hundred years. If a deepened interest in our local history results, this labor of love will not have been in vain.

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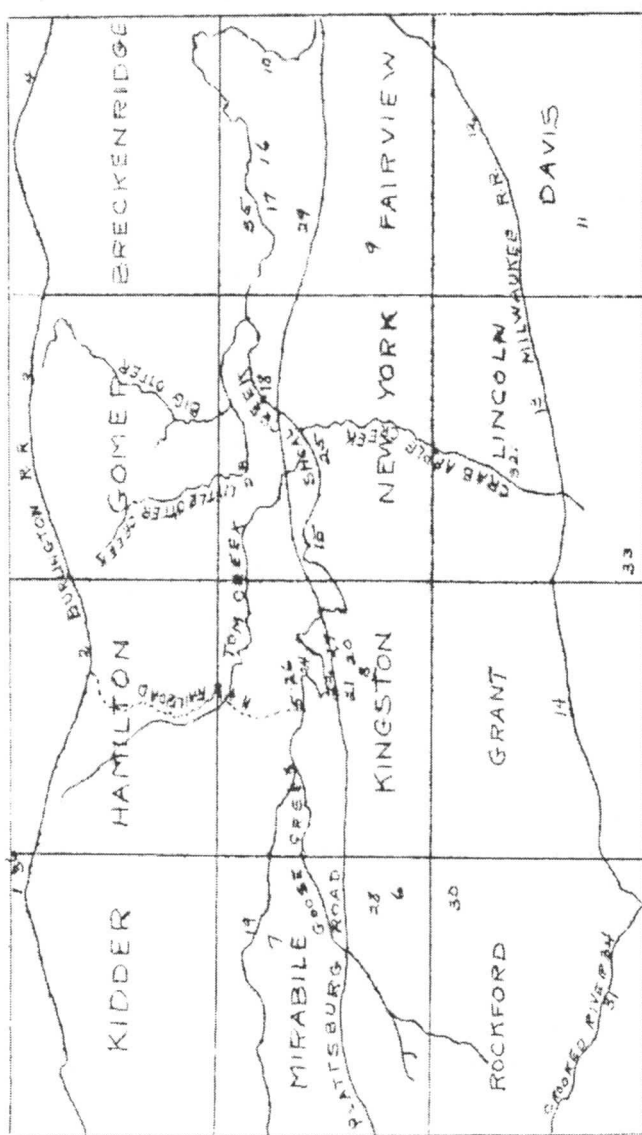
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Historical Map of Caldwell County

In order that pupils may easily learn the location of the historical sites mentioned in this history, a historical map of Caldwell County is given. The sites on the map are enumerated below.

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|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
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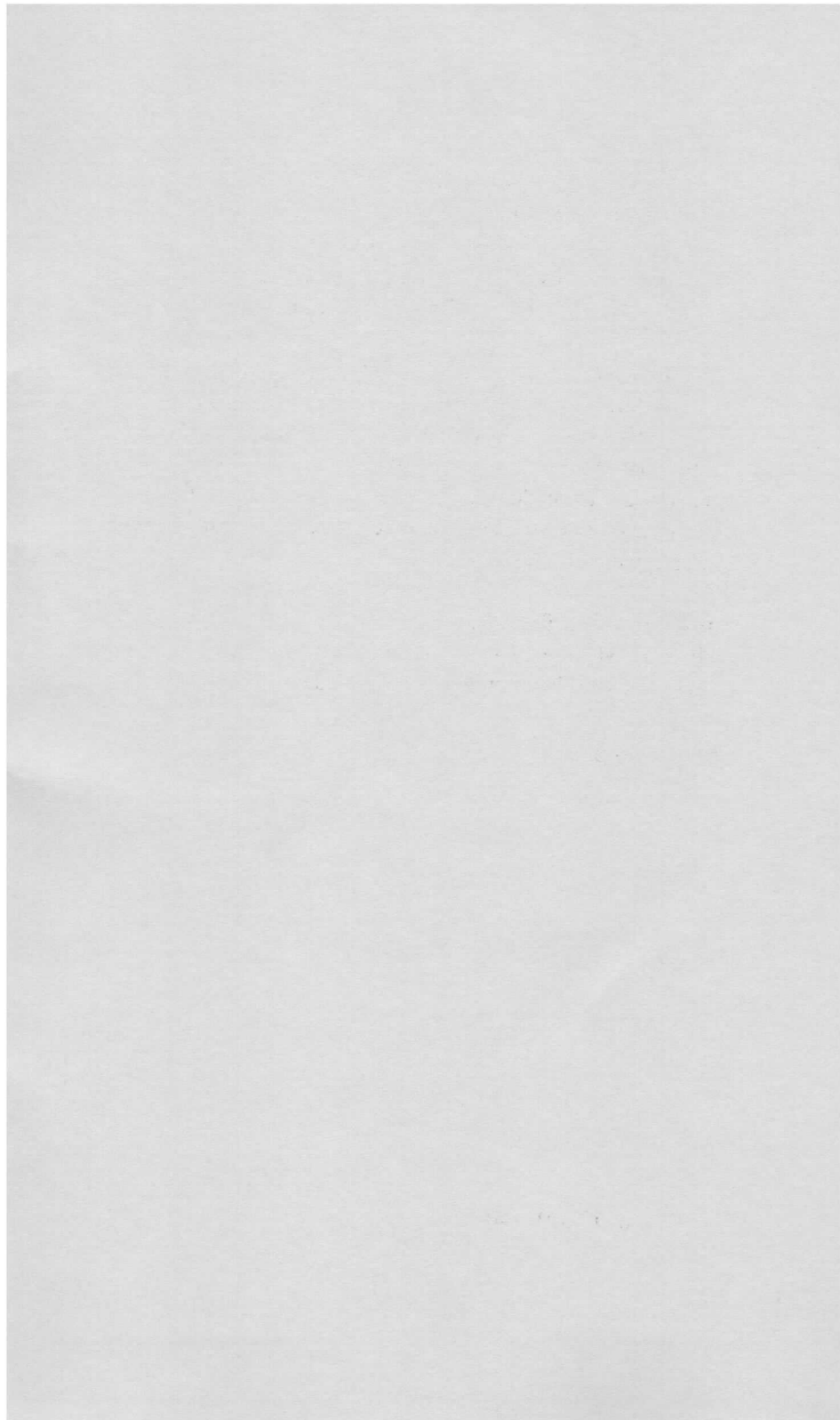
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This unbiased account of Caldwell County, Missouri
history was written for Caldwell County students about
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Missouri settlers or to people of the Mormon faith.
Her research was done when many of the old traditional
memories were still vividly remembered by those she
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