



Elijah P. Lovejoy Memorial Library

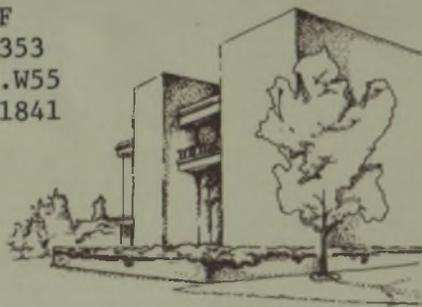
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1841



**Southern Illinois University
at Edwardsville**

THE VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI
ILLUSTRATED
IN A SERIES OF VIEWS.



Edited by Lewis Poult Thomas,
Painted and lithographed

by

J. C. WILD.

Accompanied with Historical Descriptions.

Published Monthly in Numbers, each Number containing four Views, at \$1 per number

St. Louis. Mo.

1841.

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Entered according to act of Congress by J. C. Wild in the Year 1841 in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Mo.

DEDICATION.

I.

Home of the Free! Land of the Great and Good,
Whose heritage is glory! Hail to thee!
Thou oft, undaunted nobly hath withstood,
Europa's best and proudest chivalry,
And conqu'ring won a mighty destiny,
First midst the nations, and thy flag of light,
Gleams in all climes a brilliant galaxy,
To guide to Freedom from foul Slav'ry's might—
Typing thy hero-sons apotheosis bright.

II.

Land of my birth! to thee I dedicate,
My hope, my love, my life, and yield my will
Up to thy guidance, and my ev'ry fate
To compass good, by either thought or skill,
By any service whatso'er, I still
Am thine, O honored parent! and upon
Thy bosom nourishing all free from ill,
Exultingly I claim to be thy son,
Thine! glorious mother thou, of God-like Washington!

III.

O who can count *thy* Grachii?—who foretel,
The race of heroes owing thee their birth?
Though but a youthful mother, thou may'st well
Challenge thy sister-lands throughout the Earth,
And most of them may envious weep their dearth,
Not Europe's oldest matrons—not old Rome—
Such noble sons could gather round her hearth,
For Fame has pag'd within Time's brightest tome,
Their names!—Thy Revolution's Soldiery!—MY HOME!

INTRODUCTION.

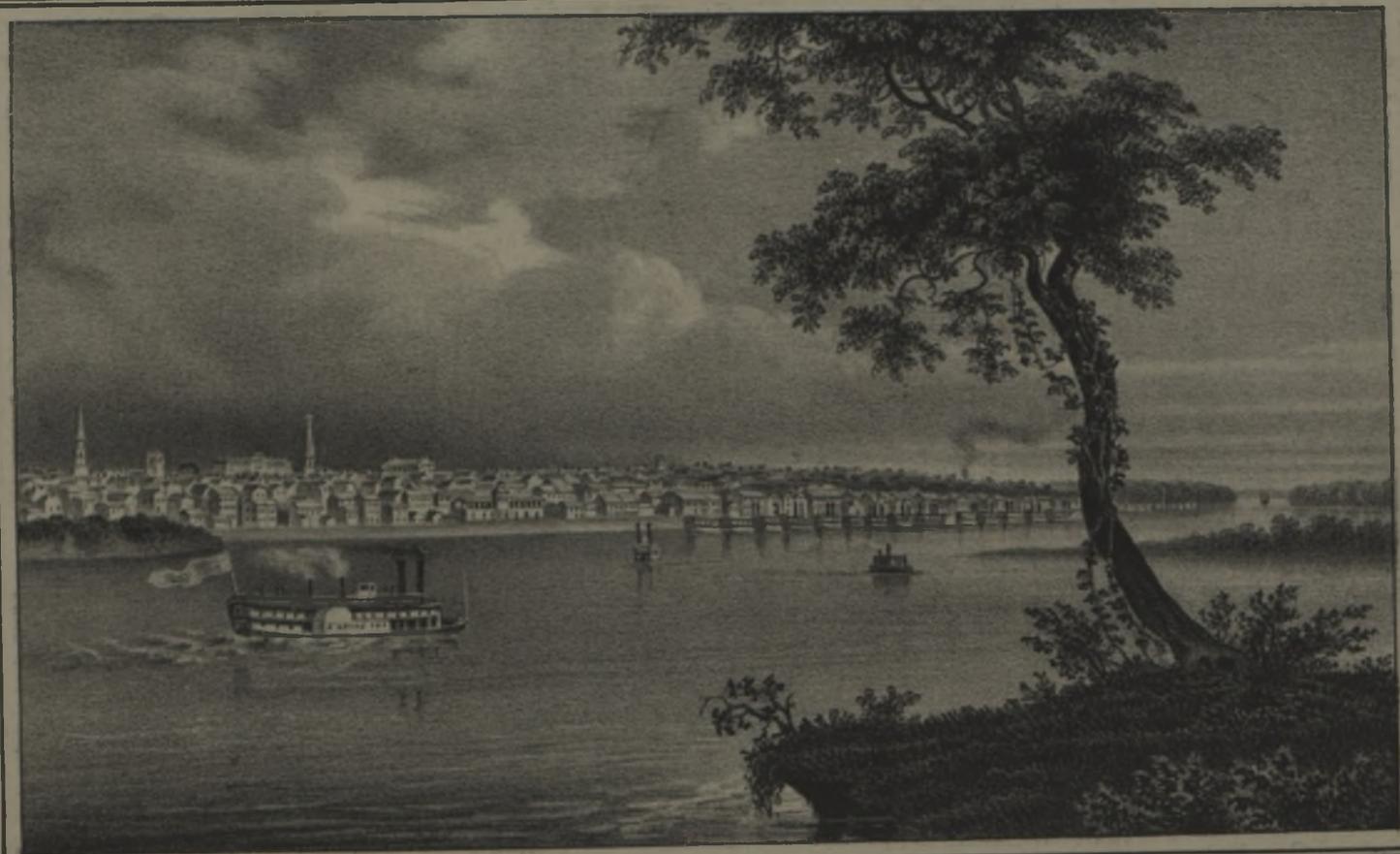
"Westward the Star of Empire takes its way,
The four first acts already past,
The fifth shall close the drama of the day—
Time's noblest offspring is the last."

The great Valley of the Mississippi embraces, properly speaking, all the territory watered by the "Father of Waters" and his many tributaries. Commencing at the sources of the Mississippi in the North, it extends to the Gulf of Mexico in the South, bounded Southwestwardly by Texas, and Southeastwardly by the hills of Alabama and Tennessee, and stretching from the Alleghanies in the East, to the Rocky Mountains in the West. It includes every variety of soil, mineral, vegetation and climate, and is intersected by water courses, affording nearly thirty thousand miles of steam navigation. Of the cities and towns, and most beautiful and remarkable places, in this vast valley, comparatively, but little is known by the citizens of the Atlantic States, and even the majority of the citizens, inhabiting distant positions on the banks of the great rivers of the West, are, upon these subjects, but imperfectly informed. It is the design of this work, in presenting views of the principal places and picturesque scenes, on the Ohio and Mississippi, accompanied by brief, but succinct descriptions, to give the reader an opportunity, of forming something like a correct idea of that portion of the valley, denominated, "The Great West." Her extensive prairies of rich alluvial, gemmed with countless varieties of the most beautiful flowers, and ample enough for pasturage to many millions of cattle—her boundless forests, luxuriant with almost every species of timber—her myriad streams, affording incalculable water-power—her mighty rivers—her marble quarries—her exhaustless beds of coal—her mines of copper—her mountains of iron and leagues of lead, are teeming sources, from whence her inhabitants, for century after century, will draw the most abundant wealth. On the banks of her rivers, cities spring up as if by magic, and Commerce pays for her produce in the luxuries of every clime. Tens of thousands of immigrants settle annually upon her fertile soil, to reap its blessings, and above her waving woods the church-spire points, and the glittering cross gleams with the light and hope of Heaven. She has reared

proud temples, dedicated to Religion, the Arts, Sciences, and Laws, and she is the prolific mother and bountiful nurse of many noble sons, distinguished in every honorable field of ambition. As we gaze upon her rich savannahs, her lofty forests, and her majestic rivers, and think of her rapid growth as a portion of this powerful Republic, and of its future greatness, and the immense influence she must wield over its destinies; the imagination wearies, and we are lost in the contemplation. It was to make the "Great West" known, as she is, that we undertook this work; and in offering it to the public, we give the assurance, that the views are all accurately drawn, and the descriptions as correct as could be procured, and as full in detail, as the nature of the sketches and our allotted space, would allow.

THE EDITOR.

Pl. 1



VIEW OF ST. LOUIS.
FROM THE ILLINOIS SHORE.

Entered according to Act of Congress in the Year 1855 by J. C. Will in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Mo.

SKETCH OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

Eighteen miles below the junction of the dark Missouri with the clear and pellucid Mississippi, which receives from its great tributary the turpid character that thence marks its course, stands the rock founded City of St. Louis. It is situated on the West bank of the Mississippi, in latitude $38^{\circ} 36'$ N. longitude $89^{\circ} 56'$ W. from Washington, from which place it is distant 916 miles, nearly 200 from the mouth of the Ohio, and 1200 from New Orleans. It was founded in 1764 by M. Laclède, who, in company with a few others, obtained from the French Director General of Louisiana (of which province the now State of Missouri was then a part,) the exclusive right to trade with the Indians on the Missouri and West of the upper Mississippi. Laclède and his followers, on the 15th of February in that year, selected the position for a trading post, drew the lines of a town, and named it in honor of, the then reigning monarch of France, Louis XV. In 1770 Louisiana having passed into the possession of Spain, St. Louis, the seat of Government of the upper province, was occupied by a body of troops under Pedro Peirinas, who established himself as Governor, in the name of the Spanish king. In 1800 Bounaparte opened negotiations with the minister of Spain, Godoy, (the celebrated Prince of Peace,) which resulted in the retrocession of Louisiana to France, from which Government it was purchased by the United States, under the administration of Mr. Jefferson. During the first year of the settlement of St. Louis, a store house and a few log huts were erected, and the adventurous colonists, from various causes, but chiefly from the scarcity of provisions, experienced many hardships, on account of which the place obtained the name of *Pain Court*. The year 1780 was rendered memorable in the annals of the town, as "L'annee du grand coup," or *the year of the great blow*. St. Louis then mustering but one hundred fighting men, was attacked by bands collected from several tribes of Indians and numbering nearly fifteen hundred strong, instigated as was supposed by the English. Twenty of the inhabitants were killed and horribly mangled by the savages, who, however, were forced to retreat. The little Spartan band of colonists in defending themselves, performed many deeds of daring and heroism, which would have been worthy of the proudest period of chivalry. In (April) 1785 the Mississippi rose thirty feet higher, than it had ever been known before, and though the rise of waters did but little damage, it formed an interesting epoch to the inhabitants, who designated the year of the occurrence as, "L'annee des grandes

Eaux," or *the year of the great waters*. About this period but little intercourse was had with New Orleans. The voyage was not only protracted, being performed in barges and consuming four or five months in going and returning, but it was also very dangerous on account of numerous renegades from civilization, who formed bands of robbers and infested the shores of the river. In consequence of their depredations, the navigators of the Mississippi resorted to voyaging with several barges in company, for mutual protection, and in 1788 ten boats arrived at St. Louis at one time, and were joyously hailed by the colonists, who ever after termed that year, *the year of the ten boats*. The town, however, increased but slowly in population, and it was not until some years after the purchase of Louisiana, that American emigration began to pour in, and when the successful application of steam to navigation was made, and Missouri admitted into the Union, and an adequate charter obtained for St. Louis, it began to develop its resources and improve with great rapidity.

Under its recently granted charter, the City is included in an irregular pentagon, having three of its angles westward, in the rear, and one at its north and another at its southern extremity on the Mississippi, along the channel of which its line runs about five miles; its farthest westward angle is distant about a mile and a half from the river. The compact portion of the City is nearly central in the area of its limits and presents a beautiful view, when beheld from the opposite shore in Illinois, or from various other points in approaching it. The fleet of steam boats and other craft lining the landing for a mile—the white fronted warehouses extending for an equal length—the dense mass of buildings in the rear, seemingly mingling with the horizon in the distance, with here and there a church tower, a bellfry, or a steeple looming to the skies, exhibit a panorama of exceeding beauty, that bursts upon the vision of the delighted beholder, as if it sprung from the wilderness at the will of a magician. Dividing the Mississippi for nearly a mile, in front of the upper part of the City, is "Bloody Island," appropriately so called, from its having been the theatre of several tragic "affairs of honor."

The site of St. Louis, was happily located near a heavily timbered region, in a healthy position, on an elevated shore, rising gradually from the water for half a mile, until it joins a large prairie that stretches far away to the West. Limestone composes the substratum of the soil, and is easily quarried in large quantities for building purposes. Nearly all the warehouses that present their fronts to the river are reared of this material, their cellars having supplied the stone for their superstructures, and some of the quarries are so deep, that many of the stores on the Main street, extend, like the oaks of Virgil, as far to the nether world, as they tower to heaven, having three

stories *under* ground, dug out from the solid rock. The City is divided into North, Central and South St. Louis, and is suburbed by many additions, bearing the names of the persons who planned them. The streets intersect each other at right angles, and are divided into blocks or squares, generally of three hundred feet on each front. They are well paved or McAdamized in the centre and have side walks of brick; those in the upper or newer part of the City are broad and spacious. Here and there, in the older streets, some old French mansion, or other building, is obtruded upon the side walk, but the ordinances prevent the obstruction from being perpetuated, by prohibiting rebuilding upon the same site. The dwellings are mostly built of brick, which is manufactured in the suburbs, of an excellent quality. A very large proportion of the houses have all the modern improvements, and will compare in size and architecture with the best in the Atlantic cities, and a few recently erected, may, from their splendour, not inappropriately, be termed palaces.

The municipal government is organized under a Mayor, a Recorder, a Board of Aldermen, consisting of ten members, (two from each of the five wards in the city,) and a Board of Delegates, consisting of fifteen, (three from each ward), a City Marshal, his two deputies, and a City Guard. The Honorable John D. Dagget is the present Mayor, Honorable Archibald Carr, Recorder, and Elliott Lee, Esq., Marshal. These officers are elected annually by the citizens.

There are three markets in St. Louis, the Centre and the North, owned by the City, and the South, belonging to a joint stock Company. The principal supply of provisions is derived from the fertile farms in the American bottom, in Illinois, directly opposite the City, with which a constant communication is kept up by steam-ferry boats, plying between the City and Illinois-town. The lakes, a few miles back of the town, furnish excellent fish and water fowl; and venison and smaller game are procured in the vicinity in great abundance, and consequently are sold at low prices. Water is supplied from the Mississippi, and is forced by steam to a reservoir, on the top of an ancient mound in the northern part of the City, whence it is conveyed by iron pipes into all the streets. A gas light company has been chartered, and is preparing to light the City with gas, having contracted for that purpose. In its operations it will use coal, which can be procured in any quantity within a few miles on either side of the river. There are six efficient fire and hose companies, furnished with all the necessary appliances and possessing ornamental buildings, for the preservation of their apparatus and the accommodation of their members.

St. Louis has fourteen Churches—two Methodist, two Presbyterian, two Episcopal, two Roman Catholic, one Associate Reformed Presbyterian, one

German Lutheran, one Unitarian, one Baptist, and an African Methodist, and an African Baptist Church. The foundation for another Catholic Church has been laid, and the building is in progress.

Under the school law of the State, several common schools have been organized in appropriate buildings, and arrangements have been made for the establishment of others as soon as the fund, set apart for the purpose, can be made available.

The St. Louis University, under the charge of Jesuits, and founded by the Very Rev. P. J. Verhaegen, has a spacious building in the city, possesses a large and choice library, and is amply endowed. It has numerous pupils, whose education and morals are under the care of kind, able, and experienced teachers.

Kemper College, an Episcopal institution, having University powers, and founded by the Right Rev. Bishop Kemper, is under the Presidential charge of the Rev. S. A. Crane, and is in a most flourishing and prosperous condition. The College proper is located in a very beautiful and healthy situation, with extensive grounds, about four miles from the city. Its Medical department (which is free from sectarian influence,) has a spacious amphitheatre, capable of holding 400 pupils, and situated on a commanding site in the city. It was erected chiefly through the individual enterprise of Professor Jos. N. McDowell, the Dean of the Faculty, and is now being enlarged with the additions of an extensive Lecture Hall, Chemical Laboratory, &c. &c. The Medical class of the first session was highly respectable, both as to the number and character of the students. For the next, (2d session,) a large number of pupils is already entered, and the school is now on "the full tide of successful experiment." The Faculty is composed of six professors, most of whom are remarkably eloquent lecturers, and they are all gentlemen of talent and long professional experience.

The Convent of the Sacred Heart, an institution of Nuns, is a deservedly popular Seminary for the education of Young ladies. There are also several private female academies, besides numerous schools for the education of both sexes.

There is a large number of literary, social, and benevolent Societies in St. Louis; among them is the Western Academy of Sciences, which has an extensive museum in Zoology, Botany, Conchology, Geology, &c. &c. The other Societies are: the German Academy, German Benevolent Society, German Union Club, Hibernian Society, St. Andrews Society, Native American Society, St. Louis Typographical Association, Society of the Illuminati, Medical Society, Law Library Association, Lyceum and Library Association, Tract, Sunday School, Bible, Colonization, Total Abstinence and Temperance Societies.

The Masonic Fraternity have five Lodges, including the Grand Lodge of Missouri; and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows have six, including their Grand Lodge.

The elymosinary institutions consist of two Orphan Asylums, one under the care of Protestant ladies, and the other under care of the Sisters of Charity, and the St. Louis Hospital, a large and spacious building, with ample grounds, also under the superintendence of the "Sisters of Charity," who are indeed "min'string angels" to the afflicted, regardless of sect or creed, or whether they are doomed to disease in the destitution of poverty, or solaced in sickness with the luxuries of wealth.

The places of amusement are, a Theatre, erected by a joint stock company at the cost of \$70,000; a Museum, which is private property, and contains, besides a variety of curiosities, a collection of rare Indian antiquities and fossil remains; and a Concert Hall, which is a spacious building, with a splendid saloon appropriated to musical entertainments and dancing assemblies. In hotels and private boarding houses, St. Louis is hardly excelled any where. The Planters' House is an immense building, four stories high, extending 230 feet along the front of an entire square. There are besides, five or six other large Hotels, all affording excellent accommodations.

There are published here, three daily newspapers of Whig politics, one Democratic, one Neutral, one sustaining Native Americanism, and one weekly, printed in the German language, and one devoted to Agriculture. A weekly paper is also issued from the office of each daily. They are all conducted with zeal and ability, and latterly their bearing towards each other has been not only free from the virulence that too often disgraces the press, but has been characterised by high-toned and friendly courtesy.

Commerce, until within a few years, was almost the only absorbing interest in St. Louis, as a means of wealth, but of late the inhabitants have begun to direct their attention to various branches of Manufactures and the Arts, and now, nearly every month, we are struck with the appearance of some newly established manufactory. White Lead and Litharage are made here and shipped in large quantities to Southern and Eastern markets. Shot is also produced in abundance, and a Type Foundry has recently been established. There are also two extensive Iron Foundries, three large water and steam Flouring Mills, nine steam Saw Mills, a manufactory of Mill Stones, two new and extensive Bagging and Rope Factories, a Sugar Refinery, several Planing Machines and Distilleries, besides various other manufacturing establishments, all in successful operation. Piano Fortes of exquisite tone and beautiful workmanship are made at Hermann, about eighty miles in the interior, and are sent here for sale. Nearly every variety of household furniture is

manufactured in the city, of the best materials and in the most modern style.

Quarries of beautiful marble have been opened within the city limits, and some of the material manufactured into elegant mantles. Iron is found in vast abundance in the interior of Missouri, and valuable Copper mines have also been recently discovered. The Lead trade centres at St. Louis, and forms, perhaps, the chief item in the commerce of the place. We have no data for ascertaining the amount of this article annually exported, but its value is enormous, and it is the principal means of the merchants in drawing for exchanges on the Atlantic cities, for which purpose it answers as specie. Flour, Pork, Lard, Whiskey, Grain and other produce, is shipped from here in vast quantities, and Hemp and Tobacco are greatly increasing every year, and will soon be among the leading staples. The principal depot of the American Fur Company is situated in St. Louis, and the amount of furs and peltries exported by the Company, and others engaged in the trade, amounts annually to an immense sum.

The present Bank of the State of Missouri, with a capital of \$5,000,000, is located here, and there are besides, ten Insurance Companies with an aggregate capital of \$1,500,000, with the right of increasing to an aggregate of \$3,900,000. All of these, with but one exception, have banking privileges, without however the right of making issues.

The rapid growth and prosperity of St. Louis, present a strong illustration of the power of steam in advancing civilization and refinement. The "General Pike" arrived at this city in 1817, and was the first steam vessel that appeared here. Her advent produced an important era in the history of the place, and gave an impetus to its growth, which has been happily augmented by the increase of steam navigation. The population in 1810 was about 800, in 1820 it was estimated at 2,000, in 1830 at 6,500, and at this present writing, (in June, 1841,) it numbers 30,000 within the city limits.

There are now owned in St. Louis, sixty-seven steamboats, the largest of which is 750 tons burthen, the smallest 150 tons. They are engaged as follows:

15 in the New Orleans trade, aggregate tons,	- - -	7,800
15 in the Galena and Upper Mississippi trade, aggregate tons,	- - -	3,000
15 in the Missouri trade, aggregate tons,	- - -	2,700
12 in the Illinois trade, aggregate tons,	- - -	2,100
10 in the Ohio trade, aggregate tons,	- - -	2,400

67 boats, Aggregate tons, 18,000

Besides these boats, there is a large number of others of various sizes that

trade to this port and are owned in the other cities and towns on the western waters. We have counted thirty steamboats in port at one time, all taking in or discharging cargo. Hitherto, but little attention has been paid here to boat-building; the boats belonging here having been, for the most part, built in Pittsburgh and Cincinnati; the last Legislature, however, chartered a steamboat-building Company, which is now about going into operation. St. Louis possesses a very complete and spacious Floating Dock, where boats of any size, from the smallest to the largest, can be hauled out perfectly dry, and subjected to the tools of the ship-wrights in a few hours.

In favorable business locations, the rents of the largest warehouses are from two to three thousand dollars each per annum, and the prices of ground for lots of 100 feet in depth is as high, in many situations, as 500 dollars per front foot. The official statement of the City Register shows the amount of property taxed in the different Wards of the city for the year 1841, as follows:

FIRST WARD.	{	Lots,	-	-	-	-	\$1,101,435	
	{	Improvements,	-	-	-	-	539,920	
SECOND WARD.	{	Lots,	-	-	-	-	1,341,485	
	{	Improvements,	-	-	-	-	812,850	
THIRD WARD.	{	Lots,	-	-	-	-	1,668,040	
	{	Improvements,	-	-	-	-	893,900	
FOURTH WARD.	{	Lots,	-	-	-	-	1,713,145	
	{	Improvements,	-	-	-	-	520,900	
Total,							-	\$8,591,675

In the northern part of the city are several large ancient mounds, and on the southern limits is situated the U. S. Arsenal, a short distance below which is an extensive cave. The village of Carondelet is five miles from the city to the south, and six miles further on are Jefferson Barracks, the head quarters of Gen. Atkinson. The towns of Cahokia, Illinois, Brooklyn, Bellville and Alton, in Illinois; and Belle-Fontaine, Florissant, Manchester and St. Charles, in Missouri, are all in the vicinity of St. Louis, the distance to the farthest not exceeding twenty miles. On the south western boarders of the city is Chouteau's lake, a beautiful sheet of limpid water, which supplies a large flouring mill, and is navigated for two or three miles by a Boat Club in an elegant barge, and by fishermen and sportsmen in yawls and skiffs. About four miles from the city there is a delightful watering place, with an excellent mineral spring, celebrated for its medicinal virtues. Many very fine farm-houses are scattered around in the neighborhood of the city, and some beautiful villas, with extensive parks and gardens.

There is perhaps no place in the Union that is now so rapidly increasing in population and improvement as St. Louis. Every boat that ascends the river

brings accessions to her inhabitants, and in every direction within her widely extended limits, builders are erecting houses, while each day, beholds her citizens extending their enterprise, into new schemes of commerce, manufactures and the arts. With the Mississippi navigable above for a thousand miles, and the Missouri for upwards of two thousand, (besides the branches and tributaries of both these rivers,) and being located in the centre of one of the richest portions of the West, she must continue, for years and years to come, to increase in population, wealth and importance, and it is impossible to augur what may be her future greatness.

Pl. 2.



ST. LOUIS CATHEDRAL.

MISSOURI.

Entered according to act of Congress by J. C. Wild in the Year 1841 in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Mo.

ST. LOUIS CATHEDRAL.

The Catholics, who are ever among the foremost pioneers of Religion and refinement, were the first to found a Church in the Valley of the Mississippi. As early as the days of La Salle and Tonti, they planted the sacred emblem of the Cross in the then Indian village of Cahokia, (nearly opposite St. Louis,) where with the assistance of the natives, of hundreds of whom they had made converts, they erected a church of logs and dedicated it to the Holy Trinity. Some years after, and almost coeval with the foundation of the town itself, a church was founded in St. Louis on the same square now occupied by the Cathedral. A literary friend, of refined taste, has furnished us with the following sketch of the Cathedral drawn from an attentive inspection of it. "The St. Louis Cathedral is a building not unworthy of the Ancient Catholic faith. This noble edifice was consecrated on the 26th of October, 1834, by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Rosati, the estimable Bishop of this diocess, to whose architectural taste and persevering energy his flock are indebted for its design and execution. The few faults in its architecture are overlooked in its general beauty and symetry. The length of the whole building is 136 feet, and its breadth 84. The front is of polished free stone, and 50 feet in height. It has a portico 40 feet wide supported by four columns of the Doric order, with corresponding entablature, frieze, cornice and pediment. The freize has the following incriptions in bas relief. "In honorem S. Ludovici. Deo Uni et Trino. Dicitum, A. D. MDCCCXXXIV. The spire rests upon a stone tower which rises from the foundation to a height of 40 feet above the pediment, and is 20 feet square. The shape of the spire is octagon, and it is surmounted by a gilt ball and cross 10 feet high. There is a fine chime of bells in the steeple, consisting of three large ones weighing severally 3,600 lbs., 1,900 lbs. and 1,500 lbs., and three of a smaller size. There is also a large clock in the tower, which was made in Cincinnati. It now keeps accurate time, and strikes the hours on the large bells. There are inscriptions on each side of the portico, and over the three doors opening from it into the church are slabs of Italian marble with gilt inscriptions. Corresponding with the pediment, a cornice, frieze and entablature, extend from it to the corners of the front, and about 20 feet along the sides, surmounted by a parapet wall on which there are six stone candelabra of classic design, and about 9 feet in height. The porch is enclosed in front by a heavy iron railing, and is ascended by a flight of steps from the east and from the west, rising six feet from the pavement. The entire front has a fine appearance and would have been one of the most beautiful in the country, had its effect not

been impaired by the spire, which appears to be disproportioned and unsuitable. On entering the interior from the centre door the coup d'œil is most imposing. Through the dim, religious light from the coloured window screens, the eyes rest with ease and pleasure on the magnificent sanctuary. It is elevated nine steps from the floor, and is 40 feet by 30 in size. In its centre is beheld the altar, with its tabernacle and rich ornaments. The altar piece is a large painting representing the crucifixion, and on each side of it there are two fluted corinthian columns of rich blue marble, with gilt capitals, supporting a gorgeous entablature of the same order. This is surmounted by a corresponding pediment, broken in the centre, to admit before an elliptical window, a transparent painting representing the Dove, the emblem of the Holy Ghost, surrounded by a glory, and cherubs appearing in the clouds. From this transparency "a stained and shadowy stream of light" falls on the altar beneath. At either side, on the top of the pediment, an angel is represented supporting the tables of the old law, and of the gospel. These are the objects that first arrest the attention on entering the church. We then discover, on the western side of the sanctuary, the Bishop's seat, with a rich mahogany canopy, and hung with crimson damask. Opposite it, is a valuable painting of Saint Louis, titular saint of the Cathedral, presented by Louis XVIII. The sides of the sanctuary are adorned by pilasters of the Doric order, richly painted in imitation of marble, and variously ornamented with emblematical forms. All the details within the sanctuary are finished in the most perfect manner, and present a scene of richness and magnificence seldom surpassed. When the eye is sated with this spectacle, it is attracted by the two rows of Doric columns which separate the nave of the church from the aisles. There are five on each side. They are four feet in diameter, and twenty-six feet high; are built of brick and covered with stucco, which is painted in imitation of rich marble. The pulpit is attached to one of them on the eastern side, and is built of mahogany and curled maple, and overhung by a rich mahogany canopy, surmounted by a gilt cross. There are four rows of pews in the nave, divided by a passage through the centre, and by one on either side. In each aisle there are two rows of pews, with a passage between them, and each is terminated by a chapel, at the same elevation as the sanctuary, and enclosed by a balustrade. The one on the east is dedicated to St. Patrick, and is adorned by an altar piece representing the Apostle of Ireland in his pontifical robes. Above it is a painting, by an old master, resting upon an entablature supported by two fluted columns with gilt capitals, and within the pediment broken to receive it. The chapel on the west is of course similar in its architecture, and the subject of its altar-piece is the founder of the order of Sisters of Charity, Saint Vincent de Paul, saving a child that has been abandoned to perish

in the snow, and holding another in his arms. In this chapel also a beautiful oil painting fills the recess above the altar-piece. There are seven arched windows on each side of the church, eighteen feet high, which are adorned by transparent screens covering their entire surface, and representing affecting passages in the life of our Saviour. The walls are colored and adorned with arabesque and emblematical ornaments, harmonizing in tint and design with the general plan. On casting the eye back to the entrance, we discover two spacious galleries over the doors, and in the recesses on either side, are confessionals and a baptismal fount. There are several valuable oil paintings in the church, of great merit and antiquity. Beneath the altars of the aisles are entrances to a commodious chapel, eighty-four feet by thirty in size, extending under the sanctuary. In the centre of the northern side is the altar—it is of the Tuscan order. On it is a marble tabernacle, in which the Holy Eucharist is kept during the week, and here the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered every morning. In this chapel are a number of confessionals. A solemn silence, a dim light, and a spiritual repose seem to pervade this subterranean sanctuary, and excite the soul with devotional feelings.

The organ was made in Cincinnati. It cost nearly \$5,000 and is surpassed by few in the U. States for size, power and tone. It is not visible from the body of the Church, being placed in a loft behind the altar of St. Patrick and communicating with a small gallery appropriated to the choir on the eastern side of the sanctuary. A similar gallery, on the western side, is used by the Sisters of Charity who have charge of the Orphan Asylum contiguous to the Church.

The Cathedral is under the charge of the Very Rev. P. J. Verhaegen, Superior of the Society of Jesus in this Province, and Vicar General of the Diocese in the absence of the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Rosati, who is now on a visit to Rome. He is assisted by the Rev. Mr. Donnelly, Rev. Mr. Fontbonne, Rev. Mr. Renaud and the Rev. Mr. Fisher.

Mr. Verhaegen has an established reputation for profound theological learning. His sermons show that he can draw upon a rich mental treasury, and that in the illustration of any dogmas or christain practice, he has only to select from his familiar acquisitions such arguments or facts as may best illustrate or prove his end. He may be characterized by a peculiarly philosophical turn of mind, unwilling to arrive at any result unless it be based on a well established axiom. His discourses therefore, are truly logical in their arrangement and matter, and, granting his premises, it seems to be difficult to escape from his conclusions. He is much beloved for his many virtues, and admired for the manly frankness and sincere courtesy of his deportment.

Divine service is offered in the Cathedral by three successive congregations

on Sunday morning at 6, 9, and 10 o'clock A. M.; otherwise, although two successive congregations assist in the celebration of Mass, at the University, it would be impossible to accommodate the numerous Catholic population of the city, which has been variously estimated at from eight to fourteen thousand. We think ten thousand is nearly correct. An English and a French sermon is preached alternately every other Sunday. Under the energetic direction of the Rev. Mr. Donnelly, upwards of 250 pupils from the city, are now instructed at the Cathedral Sunday Schools.'

Pl 3.



ST. LOUIS COURT HOUSE.

MEERBOLD.

Entered according to act of Congress by J. C. Wild in the Year 1845 in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Mo.

SAINT LOUIS COURT HOUSE.

The Saint Louis Court House and grounds occupy an entire square, inclosed by iron palisades, in the central part of the city, bounded north by Chesnut street, east by Fourth street, south by Market street, and west by Fifth street. The building presents a similar front to each of the cardinal points of the compass. The view is taken from the southeast corner of Fourth and Market streets and shows the eastern and southern fronts of the Court House, and also the eastern and southern fronts of the Planters' House. The plan of the building covers an area of 14,808 square feet. The main building is 183 feet in length and 64 feet in breadth. The northern and southern fronts project, each, 24 feet from the line of the main building, thereby giving the form of a cross to the ground plan. The north and south porticos project 12 feet from the body of the building and are supported by six cast iron columns, the shafts of which are each 32 feet in height and 5 feet 2 inches in diameter at the base. The east and west porticos have the same projection and extend across the entire width of the building; they are supported by the same number of columns of the material and dimensions of the others. On the north and south sides of the main building extend areas communicating with the basement story; the eastern and western departments of which are divided into eight fire proof offices, formed by the series of groin arches which support the principal floor, and are separated by an isle extending from east to west, intersected by a smaller isle extending north and south across the building. On the principal floor are two large court rooms, attached to each of which is a clerk's office, rendered fire proof by double walls and arched ceilings. On this floor are also two rooms, one for the use of the Probate Court, and the other to be used as a consultation and library room. In the centre of the building and commencing on this floor is a Rotunda, sixty feet in diameter, extending through the roof and finished by a dome, the summit of which is one hundred and thirty feet above the yard. In this rotunda are three galleries, placed one above the other, supported by cast iron columns; this room will contain nearly 4,000 persons.

On the second floor are two large court rooms, with a fire proof clerk's office attached to each; these offices are immediately above those on the first floor, and are so constructed as to render that portion of the building, (the north front), entirely fire proof from the foundation to the roof, which here is merely a covering for the arch that is thrown over the fire proof depart-

ment. On this floor are also two rooms, one for a grand jury and the other for a pettit jury room.

In the story above, or Triglyph story, are eight rooms to be used as jury rooms. Under the north portico are arranged water closets, supplied with cleansing water from the city reservoir, and communicating by a common sewer with the Mississippi river. These closets are so arranged by elevation and arched cisterns, valves and stops, that a constant head of water is maintained sufficient to drain the whole at any time. The basement is constructed of fine hammered blue limestone; the antæ, trimmings to door and window openings, and also the entablature and cornices are of the same material; the rest of the face walls is of superior pressed brick. The party walls of the basement, or the abutments to arched vaults, which support the principal floor, are of coursed rubble-work; the other party walls and rotunda walls are of hard burnt brick.

The general order of the building is Grecian Doric. It was planned and erected by Henry Singleton, Esq., Architect, aided by Joseph Foster, Esq., Assistant Architect and Builder.

COURTS.

The city and county of St. Louis form the third Judicial District of the Supreme Court of Missouri, which holds two terms here in each year, commencing on the third Mondays in May and September. Its bench, when full, consists of three Judges. The Honorable Mathias McGirk, late chief justice, presided over it for many years with signal ability. Judge McGirk, by his resignation a few months since, created a vacancy on the bench which has not since been filled. The Honorable Geo. Tompkins now presides, assisted by his associate, the Honorable Wm. B. Napton. They are both gentlemen of great learning in their profession and zealous in the discharge of their duties. The decisions of the Supreme Court of Missouri are held in high consideration, not only at home, but also in the neighbouring States. It has appellate and no original jurisdiction, except in a few special cases. It was created by the constitution and is co-eval with the State.

The County of St. Louis presents the anomaly of forming, of itself, one circuit. It composes the eighth Judicial Circuit of the State. The Circuit Court is organized under one Judge, and holds three terms per annum, commencing on the third Mondays in March, July and November. It has the highest original law and equity jurisdiction. The Honorable Luke E. Lallow, one of the most able and distinguished jurists in the country, presided over the Circuit Court of St. Louis for many years. On his recent retirement from the bench, he was succeeded by the Honorable Brian Mullanphy, a gentleman of high reputation for legal learning, and for activity and zeal in the despatch of his official business.

The Court of Common Pleas, of St. Louis county, was created during the legislative sessions of 1840—41. It has one Judge and holds four terms per annum, commencing on the first Mondays in February, May, August and November. It has exclusive jurisdiction in all matters of contract, and in some other specified cases, where the issue does not exceed \$500, and concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court in most other matters of law. The Court of Common Pleas has no equity jurisdiction and none in ejectments or in covenants of insurance, or on penal bonds, &c., unless transmitted to it by a change of venue. The Honorable P. Hill Engle, having distinguished himself at the bar, was called to the bench of this Court, where he presides with ability and dignity.

The Criminal Court of St. Louis county was instituted during the legislative session of 1838—9. It holds its terms in January, March, May, July, September and November. Until the formation of this Court, the criminal jurisdiction, as in the other counties, was vested in the Circuit Court. The Criminal Court has but one Judge, the Honorable James B. Bowlin, who was commissioned when the Court was established. Some of the most interesting and important trials in the annals of criminal jurisprudence have been had in this Court. The Judge presides with dignity, gives his decisions with promptness and precision, and his bearing towards the bar and others, is uniformly urbane and courteous; in the exercise of his judicial functions he is characterized by philanthropy, and in sentencing the criminal he most kindly "tempers justice with mercy." The charges of the Judge to the grand jury and to the negroes lately convicted of murder and arson, are marked with eloquence and power, and form part of the forensic literature of the West. The judicial duties of Judge Bowlin do not interfere with his practice in the civil Courts, in which he is a distinguished Attorney, acting in that capacity for the Bank of Missouri.

The Saint Louis County Court had formerly but four Judges over whom the Honorable Mary P. Leduc, an estimable and venerated citizen, presided for many years. Upon the recent re-organization of this Court, Judge Leduc resigned. This Court now consists of seven Judges, the Probate business has been taken from it, and its duties are chiefly confined to county business generally. The County Court holds its regular terms on the first Mondays of March, June, September and December. Its bench consists of the following gentlemen, selected from different townships in the county, with reference to their respectability and experience in county matters, viz: presiding Judge, the Honorable Henry Walton; Associate Judges, the Honorable Joseph Le Blond, James J. Purdy, John K. Walker, James Rusell, Henry McCullough and Stephen Lanham.

The Probate Court has just been established under the Honorable Peter Ferguson, elected by the voters of the county. Judge Ferguson for many years filled a highly responsible situation in the County Court, and with much practical knowledge and experience, possesses every other requisite for his judicial station.

The U. S. Circuit Court, Judge Catron presiding, assisted by his associate Judge Wells of the U. S. District Court, holds a session annually in St. Louis in March.

The St. Louis Bar consists of about eighty members, composed of gentlemen from every section of the Union, with an aggregate of talent, learning and experience, in proportion to its numbers, not excelled by any Bar in the country.



THEATRE ST LOUIS.

MISSOURI

Entered according to act of Congress by J. C. Wild in the Year 1848 in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Mo.

ST. LOUIS THEATRE.

The St. Louis Theatre is undoubtedly the finest building for Dramatic purposes in the whole Valley of the Mississippi, and is inferior to but very few in the Union. It is seventy-three feet in front, by one hundred and sixty feet depth. The general architectural style of its exterior is of the Grecian Ionic order; its interior is Grecian Corinthian. The front is taken from the temple of the Erechtheum at Athens. The portico is supported by six columns, thirty-five feet each in height, and about six feet in diameter at the base. In the rear of these columns, and fronting the saloon windows, is a verandah running the whole length of the portico. The front is surmounted by a figure of Shakespeare, in the act of being crowned by Fame, with the motto below; "He was not for an age, but for all time." The vestibule is from the octagonal tower of Andronicus Cyrrhestes and its style is Grecian Corinthian. There are two saloons; the first, or grand saloon, occupies the whole front of the Theatre and is seventy feet long, by twenty-five feet wide, it is lighted by spacious windows and sky-lights; the former opening into the verandah. The grand saloon is entered by three folding doors opening from the lobby of the second tier of boxes. The lesser or ladies' saloon is on the south side of the building, on a level with the first tier of boxes; it is spacious and richly furnished. The audience part of the house is divided into a parquette and three tiers of boxes; the first and second tiers are supported by iron Ionic columns. The whole is capable of holding fourteen hundred persons. The floor of the parquette is so constructed, as to be easily removed, so as to convert the building into an amphi-theatre, for Equestrian purposes. The dome is about fifty feet from the floor of the parquette and is richly ornamented with paintings of figures, representing Apollo and the Muses, each in a separate pannel. The proscenium, in which are the stage boxes, is highly ornamental; it is taken from the Choragic monument of Lysicrates at Athens, and its style is Grecian Corinthian. The stage is seventy-three feet in depth, by fifty-five in width. The Green room, Manager's room and Star's-room, are on a level with the stage, occupying the east end of the building. On the north side of the building is a private entrance to the first tier of boxes, and also rooms for servants, and for the deposit of cloaks, &c., and a meeting room for the directors. The whole establishment is admirably adapted for the convenience and comfort of both actors and audience. The Theatre is situated at the corner of Third and Olive streets, fronting the west. It was erected by a joint

stock company at the cost of \$70,000. The design of the building was made by M. Lewis Clark, Esq., and it was constructed under the superintendence of Mr. Alexander Crowl. It was first opened under the management of Messrs. Ludlow & Smith, on the 3d of July, 1837.

THE DRAMA IN ST. LOUIS.

To the courtesy of Charles Keenle, Esq., who is identified with the Drama in St. Louis, as one of its best friends and warmest admirers, we are indebted for the facts in the following sketch, which we deem an appropriate accompaniment to the view of the Theatre.

"The first appearance of a regular Dramatic Corps in St. Louis, was made in 1817, by a Mr. Turner, who, with his wife, (a talented woman,) two children, and some half dozen strolling actors, played at irregular periods, in an old, low frame building, situated on Third below Elm street, and used at different times as a Court House, Church, Ball Room and Theatre. In 1818 a stable was attached to the Green Tree Tavern, and its loft was rented and occupied by Mr. Turner, in connection with Mr. Voss, (an actor of considerable merit as a tragedian.) In the fall of 1818, Turner and family having left the city, a company of Thespians was formed, and, under the superintendence of Mr. Voss, erected a small frame Theatre, capable of holding about 300 persons. It was located near the centre of the block between what are now Olive and Locust streets. This Theatre was occasionally used by the Thespians and such companies of strolling actors as found their way to St. Louis.

In 1819, Mr. N. M. Ludlow arrived at St. Louis with a numerous and very respectable company, and opened in the Thespian establishment with success. A short time afterwards, Mr. Drake, of Louisville, reached St. Louis with his whole Dramatic corps, (not aware that Mr. Ludlow was in the place,) having been earnestly solicited to come here by several of our most influential and wealthy citizens. The population of the town being entirely too small to sustain both companies, and those who had been instrumental in inducing Mr. Drake's visit, feeling themselves bound to sustain him, Mr. Ludlow was compelled to close after suffering considerable loss, and with a portion of his company made an engagement with Mr. Drake, who was performing in the room now used as the *dining room* of the City Hotel. In the fall of 1819, Mr. Drake returned to Louisville, via Vincennes, stopping at the small towns on the route.

From this period until 1826, little or nothing was known of the Drama in St. Louis, except through some badly organized corps of strolling actors, until Mr. J. H. Caldwell, of New Orleans, conceived the design of establishing a regular Theatre in St. Louis, in connection with New Orleans, Nashville, &c. Accordingly with this view he leased from Messrs. Scott & Rule, for

five years, their one story brick warehouse on Second, near the corner of Olive street, which, in a short space of time, was converted into a Theatre, for the reception of an audience; an additional building, larger than the front, having been put up in the rear for the stage. This Theatre was opened in the month of May or April, 1826, by Mr. Caldwell with a company, which for numbers and talent, could not be excelled by any stock company of the present day in the Union. Mr. Caldwell's two first seasons proved unprofitable, his company however continued their annual visits to St. Louis until 1829, when, after several unsuccessful attempts to raise a subscription for building a new Theatre, he abandoned the project entirely, and withdrew his company early in the season, appointing C. Keemle, Esq., his agent until the expiration of his lease. In 1830 he renewed his attempt to make St. Louis a theatrical town, by sending a company here, under the management of Messrs. Gray & Rowe, but their success was no better than his own.

The Theatre was next rented to Mr. Brown, the manager of a respectable Equestrian corps, who died at Mobile before the expiration of his lease, which was for five years. The building being untenanted, Mr. Keemle invited Mr. Ludlow (with whom he had been early acquainted, and who, it will be recollected, was among the earliest theatrical wanderers to the "Far West,") to its occupancy, and accordingly in June, 1834, Mr. Ludlow arrived from Louisville, and continued annually to visit the place with his company, performing with profit to himself and delight to his audiences.

A subscription having previously been set afoot for the purpose, the splendid edifice now dedicated to the Drama was completed and opened in 1837 by Messrs. Ludlow & Smith, the latter gentleman having a short time previous formed a connection with Mr. Ludlow in his Southern and Western Theatres. The first and second years of their management were signally successful, but they have shared the fate of most other managers of late, and met with heavy losses, evincing the decline of the Drama in St. Louis, as well as throughout the States, generally."

NO. 2.

AUGUST.

THE
VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

ILLUSTRATED,

*In a series of views, embracing pictures of the principal cities and towns,
public buildings, and remarkable and picturesque scenery, on the*

OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS.

DRAWN AND LITHOGRAPHED BY

J. C. WILD.

EDITED BY LEWIS F. THOMAS.

Published monthly in numbers, each number containing four views,
with an average of four pages of letter press to each view, making at
the end of each year a volume of two hundred pages with fifty views.
Price, one dollar per number, payable monthly on delivery.

J. C. WILD,

Publisher, at the Republican Printing Office, Main street, St. Louis.

1841.

Chambers & Knapp, Printers.



OLD CHOUTEAU MANSION, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Engraved according to act of Congress by J.C. Wild in the Year 1846 in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Mo.

OLD CHOUTEAU MANSION.

The first building erected in St. Louis, with the exception of a few log cabins, was the Chouteau Mansion, which is situated on Main street, between Market and Walnut streets, opposite the old Market and fronting the river. It was erected in 1764 under the direction of the late COL. AUGUSTE CHOUTEAU, then a youth, in the employment of the firm of Laclede, Maxan & Co., at the instance of the first named of that firm, who was the founder of St. Louis. The building was originally but one story high, and was used as a store house for the goods of the firm, who were engaged in trading with the Indians, and who may be said to have originated "The American Fur Company." After laying out the town of St. Louis, M. De Laclede visited New Orleans and never again returned to St. Louis; he died in Arkansas in June 1778. At his death the square upon which the old mansion stands came into the possession of Col. Chouteau, who raised the building to its present height and appearance, by erecting a dwelling over the store rooms, and constructing the porches, &c. The walls of the house, and also the pillars of the lower porch, are of stone, laid in mortar and thickly plastered. Most of the flooring of the upper floors is of Walnut, in excellent preservation, although now about an hundred years old; it was originally used in the Government house at Fort Chartres, from whence it was removed, to the position it now occupies, after the French evacuated that place. At the time this old mansion was built there were but very few, if any, laborers to be had, and there were scarcely any tools for building among the early settlers. The cellar was dug, with corn hoes, in the hands of Indian squaws, who used the wooden trenches, in which they prepared their food, for carrying away the earth, and as then there were no saw mills or saw pits in the neighborhood, a large portion of the plank used in the building, was hewed out of solid timber. The house is 95 feet front by 55 feet deep. The porches are about nine feet wide, and extend along the southern and eastern sides. The rear is ornamented with a handsome portico, leading by a flight of stone steps from the second story into the garden. The front is entered by a flight of half a dozen steps to the lower porch, from the southeast corner of which, a

flight of stairs ascends to the upper or dwelling part of the building. The square on which the house stands, was, until recently, surrounded by a high stone wall, having port holes, for the defence of the premises from the attacks of the Indians. Col. Auguste Chouteau resided in this mansion, from its erection to the time of his death, which took place in February 1839—a period of nearly sixty years—during which he filled many responsible stations and was highly respected. He received the commission of Colonel, from Governor Lewis, was made judge of one of the Territorial Courts, and at the close of the last war was appointed a commissioner, on the part of the General Government, to treat with the different Indian tribes; he was also chosen President of the Territorial Bank of Missouri, which office he resigned, before the affairs of the institution began to decline. The old mansion continues in the possession of his family. A suggestion that it would speedily be pulled down, occasioned the following very appropriate effusion, from the well known and talented ‘Phazma,’ of the New Orleans Picayune; we adopt it with pleasure.

THE CHOUTEAU HOUSE.

BY M. C. FIELD.

Touch not a stone! An early pioneer
Of Christian sway founded his dwelling here,
Almost alone.

Touch not a stone! Let the Great West command
A hoary relic of the early land;
That after generations may not say,
“All went for gold in our forefathers’ day,
And of our infancy we nothing own.”
Touch not a stone!

Touch not a stone! Let the old pile decay,
A relic of the time, now pass’d away.
Ye heirs, who own
Lordly endowment of the ancient hall,
Till the last rafter crumbles from the wall,
And each old tree around the dwelling rots,
Yield not your heritage for “building lots.”
Hold the old ruin for itself alone;
Touch not a stone!

Built by a foremost Western pioneer,
 It stood upon Saint Louis bluff, to cheer
 New settlers on.

Now o'er it tow'rs majestic spire and dome,
 And lowly seems the forest trader's home;
 All out of fashion, like a time-struck man,
 Last of his age, his kindred and his clan,
 Lingering still, a stranger and alone;—
 Touch not a stone!

Spare the old house! The ancient mansion spare,
 For ages still to front the market square;—
 That may be shown,
 How those old walls of good St. Louis rock,
 In native strength, shall bear against the shock
 Of centuries! There shall the curious see,
 When like a fable shall our story be,
 How the Star City of the West has grown!
 Touch not a stone!

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY.

This institution was founded in 1829; up to that time, there was not a college in the vicinity of St. Louis, and seeing the want of one, the members of the society of Jesus, at the suggestion of their Provincial, the Very Rev. P. J. Verhaegen, concluded upon establishing an institution of the kind, and accordingly through the exertions of the Rev. Chas. Van Quickenborne, a subscription was opened and was so liberally met by the citizens of St. Louis, that, in a very short time, the sum of four thousand dollars was collected, by the expenditure of which, the centre portion of the present edifice, a building of fifty by forty feet, was commenced and erected within the year. It was opened on the third of November, 1829, for the reception of pupils, and in less than four months, it numbered upwards of an hundred and twenty day scholars, and from fifteen to twenty boarders; the number of the latter remained about the same rate for nearly two years, and in proportion as day schools increased in the city, the number of day-scholars decreased at the University, while the number of boarders was augmented, so that it was found necessary to enlarge the building; the eastern wing was therefore added to the main building, and about four years after, from the same cause, the western wing was erected. The number of boarders has since averaged one hundred and thirty-five per annum. The University now presents a handsome front, one hundred and thirty-two feet in length, by thirty-eight feet in depth and four stories high, including the basement, all substantially built of brick. In the basement are the Kitchen, two Refectories and a Recreation Room. The first story contains the Sitting Hall, the Library, the Parlor, Recreation Hall of the Professors, and four private rooms. The second story is divided into apartments for the professors and officers, and the third is entirely occupied as a dormitory for the students; the attic is used as a clothes' room. Besides the main building, there is another brick building eighty feet by thirty, and two stories high, the lower part of which is designed for public exercises, but, until the completion of the Church now building, is used as a chapel; the upper part is divided into four rooms, the Museum, the Laboratory, the Hall of the Philalethic Society and the room of the Drawing class. There are also attached to the institution, a frame building eighty feet in length, divided into recitation rooms and rooms for the study of music; (and a spacious Infirmary built of brick, besides out-houses for servants, &c. &c.)

PL. VI.



ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY,
AND CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER.

Entered according to act of Congress by J.C. Wild in the Year 1844 in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Mo.

The whole is included within a square and a half of ground, part of which, is planted with shade trees and set off as a play ground, for the juvenile pupils, and the rest is laid out as a Botanical garden.

The St. Louis University was incorporated in 1832, and fully empowered to confer all Academical and Literary degrees. Connected with the Institution are two Literary Societies and a Musical Society, whose members are chiefly chosen from among the students. The Library of the University consists of about eight thousand volumes, on the various sciences and in most of the ancient and modern languages; among them some rare old works printed but a short time after the invention of the art of printing; it is also enriched by a donation from the British Government, consisting of the ancient statutes of the Realm, including the "*Magna Charta*," "Dooms-day book," State papers, &c., which are contained in about seventy quarto and folio volumes, re-printed from the originals by order of the Government. The Museum contains a very extensive collection of shells and minerals, including specimens from all parts of the globe; also, a large variety of specimens in Entymology, Ornithology, &c. &c., besides a number of Natural and Indian curiosities. The Philosophical apparatus of the Institution, which is deposited in the Museum, is very complete, embracing an extensive variety of the most new and useful instruments.

The system of instruction is truly paternal, and the utmost harmony, with a constant reciprocation of courtesy and kindness, is kept up among both the professors and the students. "The course of education embraces two departments, the classical and mercantile, but so conducted that the Student may apply himself to either or both, as he or his parents may desire. The mercantile department embraces reading, writing, the English and French languages, poetry, rhetoric, history, geography, mythology, book-keeping, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, the use of the globes, trigonometry, mensuration and surveying. The classical department, besides the above specified subjects, comprises the Latin and Greek languages, logic, metaphysics, moral and natural philosophy, and the higher branches of the mathematics. The Spanish, German and Italian, if required, are taught in both departments without any additional charge. The English is the ordinary language of communication in all the classes, the French and Spanish excepted; but the students speak French and English indiscriminately, during the hours of recreation.

The scholastic year, consisting of but one session, commences on the first of October and ends about the middle of August, when a public exhibition and a distribution of premiums take place; and when such pupils as have finished the classical course, if found qualified, are admitted to the degree of A. B. A general examination of all the classes is made on the days imme-

diately preceding the exhibition. The degree of A. M. is given to the Alumni, who, after having completed their course, shall have devoted at least two years to some literary pursuit. Other Academical honors are granted to merit and distinction in the learned professions.

During the recess, or annual vacations, the students are allowed to visit their parents, or to enjoy the amusements of the country in the neighborhood of the city of St. Louis. On the first Wednesday of every month, the different places obtained by the pupils in their respective classes are publicly proclaimed, and medals and ribands are given as badges of distinction, to the most deserving in each class. The following day is a general recreation day, and so is every Thursday in the year; on these days the students are permitted to amuse themselves by hunting, walking, fishing, bathing, &c. The pupils are, at all times, under the superintendence of one or more of the tutors or prefects.

At the expiration of every quarter, bulletins are sent to the parents or guardians, to inform them of the conduct, health, and proficiency of the boarders. On the first Thursday of every month the students are allowed to visit their parents or guardians, if they live in the city or its vicinity, but they must return before dark. No other absences are allowed during the course of the session.

Two experienced Physicians daily visit the University, to which is attached an Infirmary, separated from the other buildings to promote quiet, and prevent the danger of contagion. The sick are attended with the greatest care and punctuality.

Violations of the established discipline of the University are repressed in a mild but effectual manner; punishment with the ferula is but seldom inflicted, and then by none but the President, or, in his absence, by the Vice President. Those who, in spite of all efforts to correct them, prove refractory, or of corrupted morals, are timely sent back to their parents or agents.

The public exercises of religion are those of the Catholic Church; but pupils of all denominations are received, provided they be willing, for the sake of uniformity, to assist at the public duties of divine service and prayer with their companions.

No student is admitted under the age of twelve years, nor above that of sixteen years, unless for special reasons; and in all cases it is required that he bear a good moral character, and know how to read and write his vernacular tongue. Should he have been at any college, he must bring testimonials of good behavior from the President or Faculty of such Institution. No pupil is received for a less term than one year, or a full session; and the course of studies entered upon must be pursued till the end of the session."



INTERIOR OF THE CHURCH OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER.

Entered according to act of Congress by J.C. Wild in the Year 1861 in Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Ma

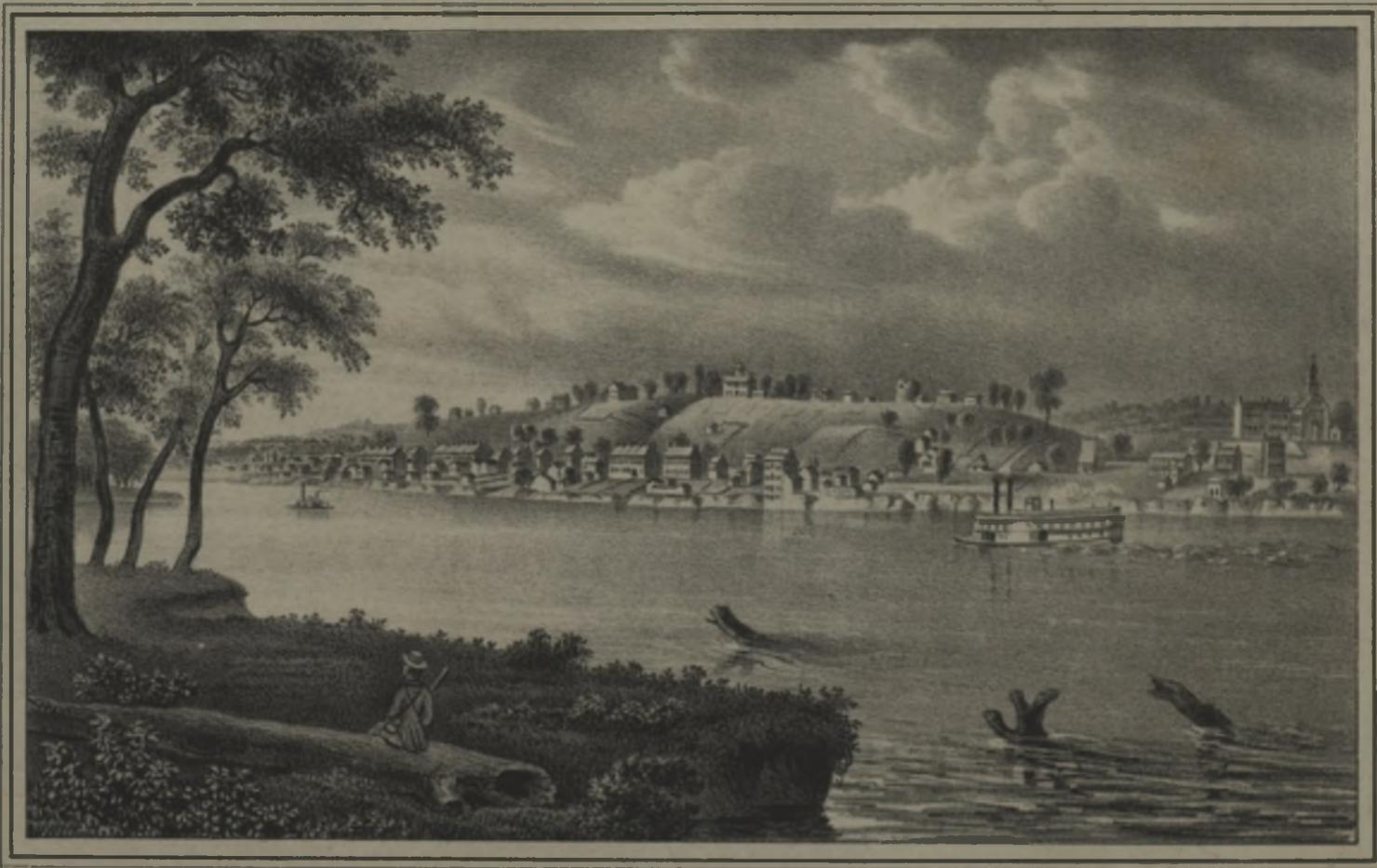
THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER.

This is one of the most beautiful buildings, for public worship, in the whole Valley of the Mississippi. It is 67 feet front by 127 feet deep, and its height to the top of the pediment is 60 feet. The front represents a triumphal arch, adorned with four Ionic pilasters, four feet wide, bearing a full entablature and pediment; its style is taken, chiefly, from the theatre of Marcellus at Rome. The bases, caps, architraves, imposts and archivolt are exquisitely wrought in fine white limestone. Its basement is constructed of massive blocks of hammered blue limestone; the rest of the front is built of the best pressed brick; an irregular octagon belfry of brick, finished in the form of a dome, and surmounted with a lantern of cast iron, imitated from Choragic monument of Lysicrates at Athens, rises eighty feet above the ridge of the roof.

The interior of the Church, is in the style of the Incantada at Thessalonica; it contains two tiers of galleries, furnished with seats in Amphitheatrical form; the first tier is supported by Corinthian columns, and the second by Antæ, sustaining figures, the whole rising to the height of thirty-two feet. The Sanctuary is composed of six columns, supporting a semi-circular dome, which is enriched with octagon Caissons and Flowers. The spaces between the columns, in the rear of the sanctuary, are ornamented with three large paintings, representing scenes of the crucifixion on mount Calvary. The platform of the altar is elevated five feet above the floor; the altar is ornamented with a tabernacle in the form of the ark of the Covenant, with a cherub on either side. The pulpit is moveable, so as to be placed in any position that may best suit the orator and audience. The ceiling is arched and rises in the centre to the height of forty feet above the floor; it is richly ornamented with Lacunaria. In the west end of the church there are six chapels; the two lower of which are visible from the interior of the church, and are dedicated to the DEITY, one under the invocation of St. Ignatius, and the other, under the invocation of St. Francis Xavier; the other four serve as private galleries, for the members of the community of the order connected with the church, from which they have a full view of the ceremonies in the sanctuary. Above these chapels, there are also two other private chapels, corresponding with the upper galleries. The music gallery with the organ is over the entrance of the church, adjoining the steeple. The basement story is divided into eight apartments, one of which is sixty-two feet square, and appropriated to the use of Sunday schools. The church was planned by the Rev. Mr. Verheyden, and stands on the corner of Green and Ninth streets, fronting the East; we have spoken of it as if it were finished, it is not however done, but is rapidly progressing to completion.

SAINT CHARLES, MISSOURI.

St. Charles is situated on the north bank of the Missouri, about twenty-five miles above its junction with the Mississippi, and about twenty miles northwest from St. Louis. Its first white inhabitants were French, by whom it was settled in 1780, and was originally called *Petite Cote*, afterwards St. Andrews, and then St. Charles. It is the capital of the county of the same name, and was the temporary seat of government of the State until the first of October, 1826, when the city of Jefferson was made the seat of government. While the town enjoyed the prerogatives of a State Capitol, it flourished and promised to be a place of very great importance, but it since declined considerably, until recently a new impetus has been given it, and it has renewed its promises of future consequence. It numbers at present upwards of fifteen hundred inhabitants, and is the third town in population in the State. Its situation is elevated, healthy and beautiful, and it presents a very imposing appearance to travellers, either ascending or descending the river. The country between the town and the mouth of the Missouri is a continued alluvial bottom, the town occupying the last firm bluff and rock-bound shore on the north bank of the river; its streets are straight and cross each other at right angles, intersecting squares or blocks of from two hundred and fifty to three hundred feet on each front. The "Main street" is about a mile and a half long, and is straight, level and MacAdamized, with well paved side walks. A large proportion of the buildings are substantially built of brick. There are, in the town, ten stores and a number of mechanics' shops, a large steam flouring mill, a saw mill, &c. The Presbyterian and Methodist congregations have each a brick Church, and the Roman Catholics a stone Church in the town, and the German Lutherans have a stone Church a short distance from the town; the Episcopalians have a congregation, but as yet, no permanent place of worship. There is a Catholic school for boys, and also a Nunnery in which the Sisters of "the Sacred Heart" have an Academy for young ladies. In St. Charles there are several benevolent and other societies, among them the Library Company, Lyceum, Tract Society, Bible Society, Total Abstinence Society, Missionary Society, Charitable Society, &c. &c. The Masons have a very respectable lodge and hall. The corporate powers of the town are by special act vested in seven trustees, who elect a chairman from their own body, and appoint all other town officers. The



VIEW OF ST. CHARLES.

MISSOURI.

Entered according to Act of Congress by J. C. Will in the Year 1841 in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of Mo.

public buildings, connected with the government of the town and county, consist of a court house, jail, county and town clerks' offices, &c.; there is also a fine brick market house.

The St. Charles College, a Methodist institution, enjoys a liberal charter and very high reputation. It was built by George Collier, Esq. now of St. Louis, who commenced his successful commercial career in St. Charles; it has, however, received liberal donations from other citizens, and is chiefly sustained by the patronage of members of the Methodist Church. It has a large brick building for recitations, lectures and collegiate exercises, and another for a boarding house and dormitories. It has also a library containing many valuable books and a philosophical apparatus, &c. The College is under the charge, in chief, of the Rev. John H. Fielding, who has been its President ever since its foundation.

Coal and wood can be procured in great abundance in the vicinity of St. Charles; also, limestone of a superior quality, and building materials of every kind. There is much good land in the neighborhood, and the location of the town, and other advantages which it possesses, hold out strong inducements to capitalists, who may wish to embark in manufacturing.

Before the settlement of the Europeans in the Valley of the Mississippi, St. Charles was the principal town of the Missourites, or Missouries, a powerful tribe of Indians, from whom the Missouri takes its name. They waged bloody and destructive wars with the Sioux, by whom their town was surprised and burned, their people massacred, and their tribe nearly exterminated. *Portage des Sioux*, (the road which cuts off the peninsula between the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi,) takes its name from a legend of these Indians. The Missouries were expecting an attack from the Sioux, and gathering the chief portion of their warriors, leaving the rest, with their old men, squaws and papposes behind them in the village, (now St. Charles,) they went to wait in ambush for their enemy at the mouth of the river; meanwhile the Sioux, apprised of their design, descended the Mississippi to the head of the "Portage," where they disembarked, and taking up their canoes crossed over land with them to the Missouri, where again launching them, they ascended to the village of the Missouries, and over-powered and massacred all whom they met, and afterwards fell upon the Missouries in their ambush, and conquering them, exterminated the tribe. The track or course of the Sioux, in crossing from one river to the other, was named by the French, "Portage des Sioux," which name it still bears.

Very shortly after St. Louis was founded, St. Charles was settled as a French village and trading post. For many years it contained but few villagers, who lived in log cabins, traded in peace with the Indians, and cultivated a common

field, which they from time to time enlarged in size as the inhabitants of the village increased in number. The first inhabitants were Creole French from Canada, a very peaceable, pleasant and honest population. Their young men were engaged during the summer in hunting, boating and trading, whilst the old men and boys were left with their families to cultivate their little farms. In the winter the young men returned to the village, and the winter season was gaily spent in balls, dancing and merriment. The Creoles still look back to those times as the happiest period of their existence. Pierre Blanchett was the first commandant of St. Charles; Charles Tayon was the second, and James Mackay was commandant about the time the country was transferred to the United States. After the treaty of cession, many Americans settled in St. Charles, and its original inhabitants still continued in the keel-boat trade. During the Indian wars and the war with Great Britain, St. Charles was a frontier post, and went through many scenes of peril and alarm. In the county, the Rangers operated, and many skirmishes occurred with the savages. The history of that period is replete with interesting events.

Soon after the restoration of peace, the introduction of steam boats broke up the keel-boat trade and threw a large portion of the French villagers out of employment, and in a great measure revolutionized their business and habits. The keel-boat and the cordelle having gone into disuse, many of them are now engaged in the Rocky Mountains, in the Santa Fe trade, and as pilots, engineers or firemen on steamboats.

Though some of the older inhabitants consider that the palmy days of St. Charles departed with the removal of the seat of government, (for, for some years after that event the town declined,) yet of late years many emigrants have settled in the town itself and its vicinity, both of which are daily becoming more populous and wealthy, and evince a steady advance in improvement, which justifies the prophecy that St. Charles may yet take rank among the proudest of her sister towns, anywhere west of the Mississippi.



VIEW OF CARANDOLET.
(Vuide Poche.)

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the Year 1834, in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court of the

CARONDELET.

Some of the inhabitants of this village claim its settlement to have taken place prior to that of St. Louis, and if appearances are a correct criterion, the villagers are in the right, for, of a surety, most of the buildings in Carondelet, might from their aspect, be adjudged to have been erected, during the first year in the chronicle of time. It is however certain, that in or about the year 1765, there dwelt on the site of this village, one Baptiste Pugol Catalan, from Catalonia in Spain, from whence he derived his surname, which he gave to the place of his residence, and denominated it, Prairie Catalan, by which name it is called in some old deeds still extant. In 1784 we find it ycleped *Vide Poche* or "empty pocket," which title, as legends inform us, it derived from the financial state of the domestic treasuries of its inhabitants. We discover also, that in 1795 it was known by the name of Louisbourg, and a year after it was called Carondelet, from the French Baron of that name; we find therefore, that our neighbor, Monsieur Le Village, has been duly christened, Catalan *Vide Poche* Louisbourg Carondelet, by which appellation, in whole or in part, he is fully entitled "to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded"—security for costs being first entered. The early settlers of Carondelet, were French and Spaniards, but chiefly the former, and the French language, or rather a kind of *patois* in which the French predominates, is the vernacular of the inhabitants. They still retain their ancient manners and customs, and live in primitive simplicity and honest-heartedness, and however much their aristocratic neighbors and relatives of St. Louis, may jest at the unpretending denizens of "*Vide Poche*;" one thing is certain: they might learn of them a wholesome lesson on the rites of hospitality, in which the humble villagers, prove the truth of the adage, that, "practice makes perfect." The village is beautifully situated in Saint Louis county, between five and six miles below the City, on the west bank of the Mississippi. Its site occupies a slope or bluff, that rises like an amphitheatre from the water, and to which an elegant landscape is presented, stretching for many miles to the south down the river, exhibiting a view of the highlands in Illinois, the settlement of Cahokia, and the shore opposite St. Louis. The village is regularly laid out, in squares of about three hundred feet, in each of which, there is generally, a house of logs or weather-boarding, surrounded with an orchard and garden; the whole presenting a very rural and picturesque appearance. There are

but few buildings of brick or stone, and those are of recent construction. The inhabitants are remarkably neat and cleanly in their habitations, and derive their support, chiefly, from their orchards and gardens, and by supplying St. Louis with fire-wood, which they cut in the neighborhood, or collect as it drifts down the river, at high water. They drive to market in carts with wicker bodies, drawn by oxen or horses; their load generally consists of vegetables or fruit, or wood, cut to a length for burning, and containing about a quarter of a cord, which they sell for "six bits" or seventy-five cents. The villagers live in the same style, and follow the same pursuits of their fathers, sixty years ago, regardless of the enterprise and improvements around them, and so wedded are they to the ways of their ancestry, that nothing can induce them to depart from them. A short time since, a gentleman purchased the fruit of the orchard of one of them, consisting of apples, which he designed shipping to New Orleans, and for that purpose, wanted them hauled to St. Louis; he applied in vain to the villagers, offering them two dollars and fifty cents per load; they refused to haul them for him, preferring to cut wood and carry it to the city, at seventy-five cents per load! their fathers having done so before them; he was obliged to go to St. Louis and hire carts to take his apples away. There is a nunnery at Carondelet, composed of sisters of the order of St. Joseph, who have a female academy and an assylum for the deaf and dumb, in which they are now educating several pupils. The nunnery is seen in the view just beyond the church. Both buildings are situated on the highest ground in the village. The church is of stone, and was built about six years ago, to replace a former one of logs, which fell down. It is surmounted by a belfry, containing the first "church going bell"

"The valleys and rocks *ever* heard,"

in the county of St. Louis; the bell having originally belonged to the first Catholic house of worship, ever built in the city of St. Louis. The church is simple in the extreme; its white washed walls are adorned with scriptural engravings in black frames, and its unpainted pews are numbered in chalk; but the very simplicity of its appearance, and the solemn murmurs of its eighty humble worshipers, all kneeling at once in prayer, filled us with a holy reference, which all the pomp and display of a most majestic cathedral, has failed to inspire. Adjoining the church is the burial-ground of the village, where, with rough wooden crosses at their heads,

"The rude fore-fathers of the hamlet sleep."

General Wilkinson arrived at Carondelet about 1804, to take possession of upper Louisiana, on the part of the United States, as civil and military commandant. The militia of the village were drawn out to receive the General and his staff, under the command of Captain Courtois, who had been for some

the drilling his men, after a new system of military tactics, preparatory to the arrival of the General and suite. Accordingly when they arrived, the Captain had his arrangements complete, and stood on the landing to receive them, with his men, arrayed in military display. As they landed he gave his orders as previously concerted. Standing on the landing with a bottle in his right hand and a tumbler in his left, as the General stepped on shore, the Captain filled the tumbler from the bottle, as a signal for his men to "make ready," which they duly obeyed; as the General advanced, the Captain raised the tumbler to his lips, and his men received the action as an order to "take aim;" the Captain next swallowed the contents of the tumbler at a draught, and prompt, as if it had been an order to "fire;" a *feu de joie*, reverberated among the hills. The General was so pleased with the Captain's new order of military exercises, that he continued him in his command, which he retained until his death. A short time prior to the late war with Great Britain, while Colonel Rene Paul was one day drilling the militia at the Courthouse square in St. Louis, he ordered Captain Courtois, as the oldest captain, to take command of the first platoon. The Captain stepped out with alacrity, but placed himself in front of the musicians, filling the post of drum-major, and an order being given to "wheel to the left," which was westward, the Captain marched off to the east, down Market street, never deigning to look behind him, until he was met by the late General Pratte, who jocularly asked him, "why he was drummed out of the regiment," and then, for the first time, to his surprise, the Captain discovered his mistake, and found himself nearly a quarter of a mile from his regiment, "alone in his glory," with the drummers behind him. Captain Courtois was nevertheless a brave man and a good citizen, and it was through his enterprize, that the caves of saltpetre, on the Merimack, were discovered, from which a large supply was drawn, for the use of the Government during the war, and for the discovery of which, the Captain received as a recompense, a league square of land.

Carondelet has its remarkable citizens, now, as well as in the olden time. Not the least remarkable of them, is Colonel John Eugene Leitensdorfer, who was Adjutant and Inspector General in the United States' service, under General Eaton, during the Tripolitan war, and of whom honorable mention is made in the life of that officer. Colonel Leitensdorfer is by birth a Tyrolese; he bore a conspicuous part in the wars of Napoleon, and often came in contact with the "Little Corporal," of whom he has many anecdotes, but of whose character and actions he does not entertain a very exalted opinion. The Colonel was actively engaged, for many years, in military life in the south of Europe, among the Turks, and in Egypt; was many times married, and, at Alexandria, had the happiness of enjoying the loves of four wives at

once. He is now upwards of seventy-two years of age, having gone through almost all the vicissitudes that could befall a man, and experienced as many and thrilling adventures, as are contained in the romance of "Anastatius." He has resided for many years at *Vide Poche*, where he has performed astonishing and herculean labors, and reared a family of enterprising sons and lovely daughters. We could fill a volume with the interesting incidents, that we have heard, of his eventful life, had we space to spare, but,

"the story's still extant,

"And writ in very choice Italian,"

by the Colonel himself, which he is now getting translated, with the intention of shortly giving it to the public.

During election times, and on "high days and hollidays," Carondelet is the scene of much gayety. Balls are frequent, and are fully attended by the dark-eyed girls of the village, in their gala dresses, prattling their *patois*, or lisping in unfinished English, and merrily tripping with their beaux to the joyous sounds of the violin. On such occasions, all is mirth and good feeling, and the stranger is only so in name, and is as welcome to partake of their amusements and cheer, as any of the born sons of the soil. A drive to *Vide Poche* is a favorite excursion with many of the inhabitants of St. Louis, and there are but few of her choice spirits, who have not greeted mine host Hoffman,

"In full round belly with fat capon lined,"

and partaken of his goodly cheer. The editor of the *Pennant* has celebrated the "time honored" village of Carondelet in the following admirable stanzas.

CARONDELET.

BY G. G. FOSTER.

Quaint spirit of this sweet old place! How bland
 And soothing to the worn and weary heart
 Steals thy soft influence from the wave-washed strand,
 Where the swift waters linger to depart
 Upon their angry journeyings, and start
 With a new beauty, as the slanting sun,
 Piercing their surface with a shining dart,
 While quiver the wounded waters as they run,
 Dies, as the wave and sun-light mingle into one.

Spirit! I stand within thy spell, and see,
 Down the dim vista of the Past, grave forms
 Of stern unbending men, glide silently.
 Proud—not with envy, which *our* race deforms—
 Free—with that glorious liberty which warms
 The blood of untamed lions—free and proud—
 A race, beloved of the winds and storms,
 'Neath which the weakest of their tribe ne'er bowed,
 Save when from out them God in anger spoke aloud.

Yon verdant mounds with eloquent silence tell
 Their history.—Mysterious, dark and grand,
 They strode o'er earth awhile, then slowly fell,
 Blotted from out the history of that land,
 They died to give the stranger—while the hand
 Of modern genius swept away all trace
 Of these old forest-braves, and with the wand
 Of wealth's enchantment built upon each place
 Once theirs, a temple to the God of a new race:

Save here in this old spot, where the free wind
 Plays o'er the swelling Mississippi's tide,
 And murmurs through the prairies—while the hind
 Watches her young the brawling branch beside,
 As erst she did: and still adown the tide
 Gleams in the morning mist the wild-bird's wing—
 And the old woods stand in primeval pride,
 Shading the Creoles' quiet roofs, which fling
 Their scarce-seen shadows round the footsteps of the Spring.

MAY, 1841.

NOTE.—In the first number of our work, several errors occurred, which however were mostly typographical, and which the good sense of the reader, would at once detect and correct. In part of the edition of the present number, in the article, "Chouteau Mansion," the word "trenches" is used instead of *trenchers*; and in mentioning the time of Col. Chouteau's death, it is stated as having occurred in 1839 instead of 1829; also in the title of the view of Carondelet, the spelling, (having been taken from an old deed,) is incorrect; it however is right in the text; in the same article "herculanean" is used instead of *herculean*.

We were not able to furnish all our subscribers with the first number, during its month of publication; but have since, printed a supply from which to serve those, who were heretofore neglected.

NO. 3.

SEPTEMBER.

THE
VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

ILLUSTRATED,

*In a series of views, embracing pictures of the principal cities and towns
public buildings, and remarkable and picturesque scenery, on the*

OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS.

DRAWN AND LITHOGRAPHED BY

J. C. WILD.

EDITED BY LEWIS F. THOMAS.

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1841.



VIEW OF ALTON, ILLINOIS.

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SKETCH OF ALTON, ILLINOIS.

This town was originally laid out, about twenty years ago, by Rufus Easton, on fractional sections thirteen and fourteen, in township five north, of range ten, west of the third principal meridian; but, with the exception of a ferry house, and perhaps one or two cabins, it remained in a state of nature until 1832. It is situated on the left bank of the Mississippi, two and a half miles above the mouth of the Missouri, and eighteen below the mouth of the Illinois river, at the point where the "*Father of Waters*" penetrates the farthest into the State of Illinois, in north latitude $38^{\circ} 44'$, and longitude $13^{\circ} 1'$ west of Washington City, from which it is distant about 900 miles. Founded on an extensive bed of limestone rock, presenting a level surface in front of the river, it offers a natural wharf, of immovable solidity, which, having been recently improved by the State, furnishes the best and most commodious landing for steamboats on the east bank of the Mississippi. Portions of the site—which extends two miles along the river, and one mile back—are rough and uneven, being broken by bluffs and ravines; but when graded in conformity with the plan adopted by the corporation, it will present a row of streets, intersected by others at right angles, rising gradually in amphitheatrical form, to the crown of the surrounding hills, affording a prospect at once striking and picturesque.

During the first five years of its settlement, the growth of Alton was almost unparalleled, even in the history of the West—the business part of the town containing, in the spring of 1837, 20 wholesale and 32 retail stores, some of which employed a very large capital, besides the usual proportion of mechanics and professional men. Since that period, however, owing to the general derangement of the currency, and other unpropitious circumstances, it has remained nearly at a stand, and the number of wholesale establishments has undergone a sensible diminution. But this reduction in the sale of foreign commodities, large as it unquestionably is, has been nearly, if not quite, made up by the great increase which has taken place during the same time in the exportation of domestic and agricultural products; and the prospect of an early revival of all kinds of business, now seems very promising.

Alton was incorporated as a City on the 21st of July, 1837; its government being vested in a Common Council, consisting of twelve Aldermen—three from each of the four Wards—who, together with the Mayor, and the other municipal officers, are elected annually, on the second Monday of Sep-

tember, by the white male inhabitants, who have resided six months within the State, and sixty days within the limits of the corporation. It contains two Banking institutions; one of which is a branch of the "State Bank of Illinois" at Springfield, and the other a branch of the "Bank of Illinois" at Shawneetown—a Marine and Fire Insurance Company, with a capital of \$100,000—a Literary Institute—a Masonic Lodge, and two or three other associations. The Illinois Mutual Fire Insurance Company, incorporated in 1839, hold their office in the City; and although only two years in operation, have done a large and successful business. In point of size, solidity, neatness, and convenience, the numerous warehouses in front of the landing are hardly excelled by any on the western waters, and are well calculated for a very extensive trade.

As Alton is not a county seat, it has but few public buildings, properly so called. The Baptist Church, however, is a large and neat structure, well finished, with a spire, and a fine-toned bell and clock. It is advantageously seen from the river; as is also the Presbyterian Church, which is likewise handsomely built of stone, with a bell and cupola. Besides these, are a small stone Church, erected on a commanding eminence, by the Methodist Protestants, but now owned and occupied by a colored Baptist Congregation; and a neat frame building, built by the Baptists, soon after the first settlement of the town, and at present used as a school house. The members of the Methodist Episcopal Church have just commenced the erection of a handsome house of worship, in a central situation, which they hope to get under roof before the winter sets in; and the same denomination have a convenient frame Meeting-house in the Fourth Ward, which they have occupied a twelve month or upwards.

The State Penitentiary is erected on the slope of the hill which forms the western boundary of the City, and adjacent to the river. It consists of the Warden's house, guard-house, work shops, 56 cells in a four story edifice, and the exterior wall which surrounds the yard. The present number of convicts amounts to 108. An attempt was made at the last session of the Legislature to enlarge its dimensions—which are evidently too limited for the safe keeping and accommodation of its inmates, whose numbers are continually increasing—but it failed, owing probably to the pecuniary embarrassments of the times. The institution is under the charge of three Inspectors, appointed by the General Assembly, who have farmed it out, on terms favorable to the State, to two enterprising citizens, by whom the convicts are employed and provided for, under certain regulations.

Although the whole territory included within the limits of the corporation, is known by the general name of ALTON; the town is nevertheless frequently

divided, in common parlance, into *Alton proper*, *Sempletown*, *Hunterstown* and *Middletown*. Alton proper embraces that part of the City immediately in front, and in the vicinity of the landing; comprising the greater part of the buildings visible from the river, and the densest part of the population. Sempletown is a village or suburb of about 60 houses, commencing on the high ground on or near the upper end of State street, and running in a northerly direction along the stage route to Springfield, via. Jerseyville and Carrollton. Very few of the buildings are seen from the river; and although the situation is high and pleasant, it now appears at a stand, if not retrograding. It is included in the First Ward. Hunterstown, although generally known by this name, is merely an extension of the principal street of Alton proper, in an easterly direction. It contains about 30 houses, distinctly visible from the river, and constitutes a part of the Third Ward. Middletown, or Middle Alton, as it is also sometimes called, is a new village or suburb, commenced about five years since, on one of the roads leading from the public landing to the town of Upper Alton, and nearly equi-distant from each. It numbers about 80 houses, the principal part of which are embraced within the City limits, and comprise the Fourth Ward. They are occupied almost exclusively as family residences, and many of them being neatly finished, with gardens tastefully laid out, present a very handsome appearance. This is almost the only part of Alton in which extensive improvements have been made since the commencement of the pressure in 1837-'38. A few only of the buildings can be seen from the river—Middletown being entirely separated from the rest of the City by a large tract of land, which has not yet been brought into market, in consequence of some dispute about the title.

Alton contains several excellent Hotels and houses of entertainment; two of which—the “Alton House,” and the “Eagle Tavern”—will compare advantageously with the best in the Western States. There is a large steam Flouring Mill, with five run of stone, at the upper part of the landing, which does a very extensive business; and it is in contemplation to erect another in the same vicinity the ensuing season. Two or three steam Saw Mills are in operation a short distance below, keeping the City well supplied with lumber of every description. The number of dwelling houses within the limits of the corporation, is estimated at 350 or 400; and the present population, so far as it can be ascertained, is believed to amount to nearly 3,000. The general stagnation of business throughout the country, especially in commercial towns, has occasioned many removals within the last four years; but the places of those who have sought another residence, have been for the most part filled up by new comers; and although the total number of inhabitants is still something less than it was in the spring of 1837, it is now steadily on the in-

crease, and will doubtless hereafter keep pace with the rapid settlement and growing prosperity of the beautiful and exceedingly fertile country by which the City is surrounded.

Although the embarrassments of the times have hitherto prevented the City authorities from erecting school houses, as they are authorized to do by the charter, the means of acquiring a thorough education are, nevertheless, within the reach of the youth of both sexes. In addition to several common schools, there are two institutions, at a very short distance from the limits, in which the higher branches of learning are taught by able and experienced instructors. We allude to Shurtleff College, in the neighboring town of Upper Alton, and the Female Seminary at Monticello, four miles in a northerly direction from the City. As it is probable that, in the progress of this work, a more particular notice will be given of these institutions, than would be proper in a description of Alton, it is necessary only to observe at this time, that they stand very high in the public estimation, and that the Female Seminary, especially, is believed fully equal to any in the United States.

The number of steam boats which arrived at the port of Alton during the year 1840, amounted to 1446. Of these, 243 proceeded no farther than this place; the others being partly engaged in the upper country trade. From the first of January to the first of September, 1841, the number of arrivals here has amounted to 1146; being a large excess over those of any former year during the same time. The principal articles of export are Pork, Bacon, Lard, Beef, Wheat, Flour, Corn, Cattle, &c. Of the quantity of each of these commodities exported within the last twelve months, it is impracticable to give a strictly accurate statement. It is estimated, however, that not less than 50,000 hogs, and 5,000 beeves, were slaughtered, packed and sent down the river from the 1st of November, 1840, to the first of March following.— From the first of July last, to the first of the present month of September—a period of sixty days—64,600 bushels of new Wheat have been purchased in this City; and large quantities continue to be brought in daily. As there is a very large annual increase in the production of these staples in the counties of Madison, Jersey, Greene, Macoupin, Bond, &c., for which Alton is the principal, if not the only outlet, it is easy to foresee that, even under the existing pressure in the money market, the exports from the City must necessarily become more considerable every succeeding year; and will receive a vast augmentation whenever a general revival of business shall take place.

To enumerate the various advantages which Alton derives from her location, would occupy more space than is consistent with the design of this work. Let it, therefore, suffice to observe, in conclusion, that inexhaustible beds of limestone, suitable for building purposes, and easily quarried, are to

be found within the City limits, and especially near the river—bituminous coal, of an excellent quality, abounds within two or three miles—a species of free-stone, susceptible of receiving a fine polish, together with that kind of lime used for water cement, may be procured in the immediate neighborhood. These natural advantages, combined with the beauty and healthiness of its site, the fine body of excellent timber by which it is surrounded, and its affording the principal, if not the only market for the immense products of a large, thickly settled, and exceedingly fertile region of country—to say nothing of its being the point of termination of the Alton and Mount Carmel Rail Road, and of the Springfield and Alton Turnpike road now in progress, and, probably, also of the great Cumberland road—surely indicate that this City must, at no distant period, become a place of great commercial importance.

MONKS MOUND, &c.

ABOUT six miles from the Mississippi river, in an eastwardly direction from St. Louis, in St. Clair county, Illinois, is situated a group of Mounds, the most prominent of which are presented in the accompanying view. They rise out of the level prairie of the American Bottom, at a distance of two or three miles from the bluffs or high lands, and range semi-circularly with the margin of the prairie. The view was taken from one of the smaller mounds and shows the principal group in perhaps the best aspect in which it could be seen. If the reader will suppose himself standing with his back to the east as he looks at it, he will be able to form a correct idea of the situation and relative position of each mound with regard to the others, and of the general appearance of the group. The greater one, or Monks Mound, is in the form of a parallelogram, and is estimated to be one hundred and twenty-five feet high. Its top is flat and presents an area of about two acres, laid out in a garden, planted with fruit and shade trees, and containing the residence of the proprietor. On the south side of this mound is a terrace, about two hundred and fifty yards long and ninety in width, perfectly level, and elevated about forty-five feet above the surface of the prairie. At the distance of a quarter of a mile to the northeast Cantine creek enters Cahokia creek, and the latter winds around within one hundred and fifty yards of the northern base of the mound. To the west some two hundred yards, on a small mound, was formerly the principal residence of a community of Monks of the order of La Trappe, from whom the place took the name of Monks Mound. Southwardly there are two mounds about sixty feet apart at the base and sixty feet high. One of them rises very steeply in a conical form and has a large tree growing near the top of it. At a distance it looks not unlike a large helmet-cap of a dragoon with a feather in the side. On the west of these mounds, and immediately at the base, is a large pond, and it requires but a little stretch of the imagination to suppose that the earth used in elevating the mounds was taken from the bed of the pond. The mounds, altogether on the American bottom, have been estimated at two hundred in number. They are of various forms and sizes, and some of them are crowned with trees, that must have been growing for centuries. They are all composed of the same kind of earth, without any stones in them,



MONK'S MOUND, ST. CLAIR CO.
ILLINOIS.

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except small broken pieces of flint. The earth of which they are formed is precisely the same sort of alluvial now hourly deposited by the Mississippi upon its banks. None of them is in any way occupied, except Monk's mound, and one other, which has been converted into a "Mount Auburn," inclosed with palings, and covered with marble memorials of the dead.

We are not aware that any of these mounds have been opened with a view of examining their structure and contents, but in digging a well to the depth of 60 feet, about half way up the west side of Monk's mound, a few decayed bones, and some flint arrow heads, and broken pieces of pottery were found. From the surface of the small mound from which the view was taken, the Artist, and the writer, in the space of a few minutes, picked up about half a peck of broken bones and pieces of pottery and flint. One of the bones, which is nearly perfect, is evidently the arm bone of a human being. The pottery is of the same material as the urns found in the mounds of Ohio, and mentioned by Atwater in his work on American Antiquities, and when entire, doubtless formed urns of a similar shape. A few years since a mound near Florissant, Missouri, resembling in appearance several of those on the American bottom, was opened by a party of gentlemen, and in the centre of it they found a human skeleton in a sitting posture. Its skull is of different conformation from the heads of the present race of Indians, indicating lower cheek bones and higher forehead, and the general features of the Caucasian race. This skull corresponds with one in the possession of the writer, which was taken from a mound on the south-western borders of Missouri, near Arkansas, and which exactly resembles one found in a mound in Peru, (South America,) and presented to Professor J. N. McDowell, of the St. Louis Medical School, by Delafield, author of some interesting treatises on the Antiquities of this continent.

The American bottom was evidently at one time, a lake, and has been overflowed since the country was settled by the whites. Marine shells abound, in vast quantities, in the sides of the bluffs, which form its eastern and southern boundaries. The mighty Mississippi must formerly have poured its tremendous torrent over the whole plain, and, whether these mounds were formed by deposits of alluvial from the reacting eddies of its current, or, whether the plain was an ancient Waterloo, where the rival armies of a by-gone race contended, and on which the conquerors raised these mounds, to perpetuate the achievement of a great victory, or to commemorate their heroic dead—are questions which can only be answered with conjectures.

Monk's mound, when viewed from the west, presents strikingly, the appearance of a strong castle or fortress, which time has just begun to mark with ruin. The muddy creek of Cahokia that winds near its base, can easily

be fancied a moat, and the rude platform of planks by which it is crossed, transformed into a draw-bridge, while the terraces, which on this side, rise with considerable regularity above each other, look as if they were intended for armed hosts to parade upon, and appear as though

————— “no jutting frieze, buttress,
Nor coigne of vantage,”

was omitted in their construction. From the top of the mound the view is of exceeding beauty. The wide prairie stretches for miles its carpeting of green, gemmed with the most beautiful flowers, and dotted, at intervals, with clusters of trees, that look in the distance, like emeralds embossed in a rich embroidery, while there, where formerly the wild Buffalo ranged and the war-yell of the savage ascended, now, herds of domestic cattle are grazing, and

“Peace is tinkling on the shepherd’s bell,
And singing with the reapers.”

To the west, at a distance of six miles, are seen the steeples and spires of St. Louis; to the north a dense forest, with Cahokia creek, like a huge silver serpent, winding in and out of it, and here and there a glimpse of the cottages in the settlement of Cantine, is caught, with the blue smoke, ascending straightly to the clear sky. Six or seven miles across the prairie, to the south, a large lake gleams in the sunshine, with the big pelicans flapping their lazy wings over it, and the white houses of “French village” studding its margin; back of these and extending semicircularly to the east, rise the bluffs, in some places perpendicularly, with their bare sides of rock and clay, and their summits crowned with majestic oaks, forming an impregnable wall, guarded by its forest sentinels, in their rich autumnal livery of green and gold.

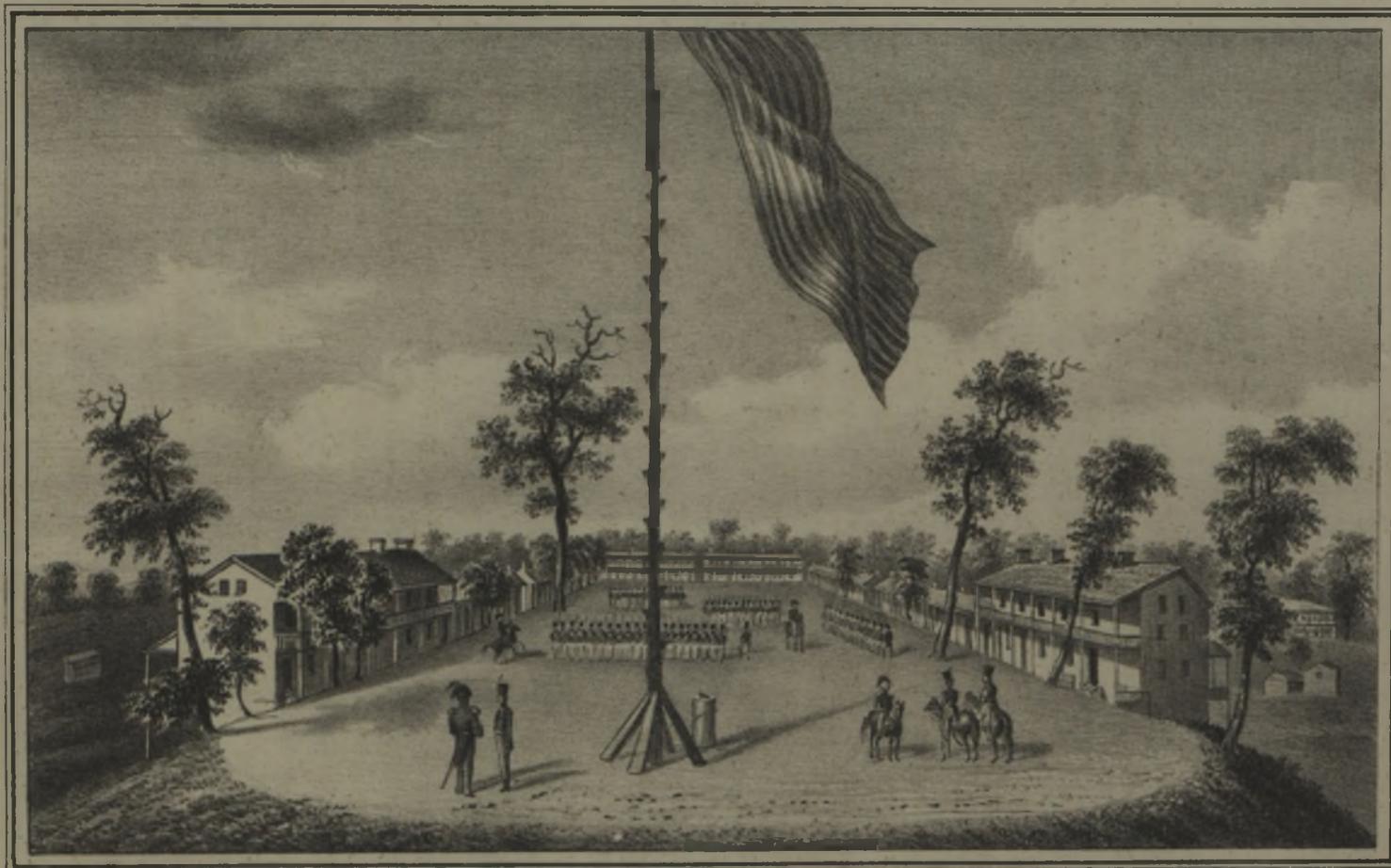
During the French Revolution a community of monks of the order of La-Trappe, emigrated from a place of the same name near Paris, into the Grugeres Alps, from whence they sent a colony to Amsterdam, who finding that the French motto of “Liberty, Equality and Fraternity,” extended even there, and threatened the Country with the doctrines of Atheism, then pervading in France, they determined on seeking an asylum in the United States. Arriving in Baltimore after a tedious voyage, much reduced by starvation, they were hospitably entertained by Archbishop Carroll and Dr. Chatard, who administered to them every thing necessary to their comfort. They sought for a while a resting place in Pennsylvania, from whence they went to Kentucky and located on a farm, and after a short residence there, and losing their stock and crops by a freshet, they removed to Florissant, near St. Louis, where they

remained about eighteen months, and finally located at the mounds, on the American bottom, in Illinois, in 1807. A large tract of land was donated to them, and they soon had nearly one hundred acres inclosed and cultivated, and well stocked, with horses and cattle. They erected a horse-mill, and several log cabins for dwellings and work shops, and also, a church of logs. Of their buildings there is now scarcely a vestige remaining. Their design was, to educate youth, in all the branches of Literature, Agriculture, and the Mechanic Arts, on gratuitous terms. A number of pupils from the neighboring towns resorted to them for instruction, some of whom, are now among the most accomplished merchants and artizans, in the western country. The first discovery of coal in the bluffs, was made by these monks in one of the mines from which St. Louis is in a great part supplied. Their blacksmiths complained of a want of proper fuel, and on their being informed that the earth, at the root of a tree, which was struck by lightning, was burning, they went to the spot, and on digging a little below the surface, discovered a vein of coal.

The number, that originally came to this country, consisted of six monks and seven lay-brothers, under the paternal guidance of the Rev. Urban Guillet, it was however increased by additions from France and from different parts of the United States to thirty-six persons in all. Every thing seemed prosperous and happy about them, when suddenly they were assailed with a malignant fever, which carried off three of their number in one night. The country around them continuing unhealthy, in 1816 those remaining broke up the establishment, re-conveyed the land to Mr. Jarrot, the donator, and returned to France. During their residence at the mounds, the monks pursued the same system of austerity instituted at LaTrappe, by John le Bouthillier de Rance, the rigid Reformer of the Cistercian order. No one was ever allowed to speak to another, or to a stranger, except in cases of absolute necessity; neither could he address the superior, without first asking his permission, by a sign, and receiving his assent. They were allowed to receive no letters or news from the world, and were compelled to obey the least sign made even by the lowest lay-brother in the community, although by doing so, they might spoil whatever they were at the time engaged in. Their dress consisted entirely of woollen; they eat no flesh, and had but two meals a-day; their dinner was of soup of turnips, carrots and other vegetables, with no seasoning but salt, and their supper, of two ounces of bread with water. They slept in their clothing upon boards, with blocks of wood for pillows, but in winter were allowed any quantity of covering they desired. When a stranger visited them, he was received with the utmost kindness by their guest-master, his wants attended to, and every thing freely shown and ex-

plained to him, and whenever he passed one of the monks, the latter bowed humbly to him, but without looking at him. They labored all day in the fields or in their work shops in the most profound silence, the injunction of which was removed, only from the one appointed to receive visitors, and those engaged in imparting instruction. When one of them was taken ill, the rigor of their discipline was entirely relaxed towards him, and every attention and comfort bestowed upon him, and if he was about to die, when in his last agonies, he was placed upon a board, on which the superior had previously made the sign of a cross, with ashes, and the rest gathered around him to console and pray for him. The dead were wrapt in their ordinary habit and buried without a coffin in the field adjoining their residence. As soon as one was buried, a new grave was opened by his side, to be ready for the next who might need it. About twenty-five years have elapsed since these austere fathers abandoned the mounds, but the older inhabitants of the neighborhood, still speak of their many acts of kindness and charity, and cherish their memories with the most filial affection.

PL XI.



JEFFERSON BARRACKS.

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JEFFERSON BARRACKS.

Jefferson Barracks are situated about ten and a half miles below St. Louis, on the west bank of the Mississippi. Their position is elevated and healthy, and surrounded by lofty forest trees. In the plate they are represented in perspective running from east to west. They were erected at the suggestion and by the order, of Major General Brown, as a depot and school of practice for troops, but more particularly for the defence of the southern and north-western frontiers; being located at the great diverging point, whence troops can, with facility, be thrown upon the lakes, up the Missouri and Mississippi, upon New Orleans and upon the Arkansas and Red river. The buildings were commenced in 1826, and so far completed the next year, as to allow of their occupancy by troops. They are constructed chiefly of stone and a considerable portion of the masonry, was done by soldiers. The parade ground is six hundred and eighty-four feet long, and two hundred and eighty feet wide. The quarters of the officers and troops are built on the north, south and west sides of the parade ground, the east side, or front, being left open to the river. There are four blocks of officers quarters, one of which is situated on each eastern extremity of the range of buildings, and the other two form the western boundary of the parade ground, with a sally post between them. They are all two stories high with garrets and basements, and porticoes in front. The two first are each one hundred and ten feet, by thirty-six, with sixteen rooms in each; the two latter are each one hundred and twenty feet, by thirty-six, with twenty rooms in each. The quarters of the soldiers extend east and west between the quarters of the officers, and are one story high with basements in the rear. The barracks were originally intended to accommodate twenty-two companies, and will accommodate, conveniently, about a thousand men. The rank and file of an infantry company, since the barracks were built, has been increased from fifty to ninety men, and consequently only eleven companies, of the present organization, can be quartered in them. About five or six hundred yards from the barracks to the north, on a ridge, parallel with the one on which the barracks are built, is situated the hospital, a fine building of brick, one hundred and twenty feet, by twenty-four, surrounded with porticoes, and with a large yard, enclosed and shaded with trees. It is divided into four large wards and two small ones, and a dispensary, store rooms, mess rooms, &c. It is capable of accommodating eighty

or ninety patients, but has never had but a few in it at a time. On the same ridge with the hospital, are two good log houses, occupied by the chaplain and sutler. The commanding officer's quarters, are on the bank of the river, north of the barracks, in a handsome house, built in cottage style. A little to the south of the barracks, on the river bank, is a substantial store house, ninety by thirty feet, and two stories high, affording ample room for the storage of subsistence and quartermaster's stores. There is also at the post stabling for six companies of dragoons. The cost of all the buildings was about seventy thousand dollars. They were planned by and erected, under the superintendence of Brigadier General Atkinson. The site of Jefferson barracks was first occupied by a batallion of the first infantry under Major Kearny, (now Colonel Kearny.) The third and sixth regiments of infantry wintered there in 1826-27; the buildings not being finished the troops were hutted in. General Atkinson, having made his head quarters at the barracks, left there in 1827, and ascended the Mississippi with five hundred men of the first and sixth infantry, to the Winnebago country, and suppressed the hostilities and depredations commenced by the Indians upon the inhabitants of Prairie du Chien, and upon keel boats on the upper Mississippi. In 1832 the General again ascended, with six companies of the sixth regiment of infantry to Rock island, to prosecute the war against Black Hawk; he was there joined by some companies of the first and second infantry, and a body of Illinois and Wisconsin militia. The Indians were subdued and their principal chiefs captured and detained as prisoners to await the orders of the Government.

When garrisoned with troops, and prevalent with the concomitants of military life, with

“the shrill trump,
The spirit stirring drum, the ear-piercing fife,
The royal banner: and all quality,
Pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war;”

the barracks present one of the most imposing and interesting scenes that can be witnessed. In no military depot in the United States, has a more general *esprit du corps* been diffused, than among the gentlemen of the army stationed, from time to time, at this post. The genius of sociality, seems to preside over the place, and no where, are the rites of hospitality more kindly and elegantly observed. Wherever the soldiers of our little army are marshalled, whether on tented field, in frowning fortress, or on embattled plain—wherever the rainbow-striped and star-jeweled flag of our country waves, over company or battalion, there, will be found brave hearts and generous spirits, that will throb and glow with grateful emotions, at the memory of “Jefferson Barracks,” their gallant commander, and his accomplished family.



ST. LOUIS MEDICAL COLLEGE,
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF KEMPER COLLEGE.
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it to other lands, and will hardly notice the establishment of schools of medicine on this side of the Alleghenian. The first was instituted at Lexington, Kentucky, under the auspices of Dr. Benjamin W. Drake. A few years after its commencement, a misunderstanding occurred among its professors, one of them, Dr. Daniel Drake, withdrew from the institution and removed to Cincinnati, where he founded the Ohio Medical College. About four years ago a division having again taken place among the professors of the Lexington school, one of them, Dr. Drake, withdrew from that institution and went to a vacant chair, vacated in

ST. LOUIS MEDICAL SCHOOL.

THE ST. LOUIS MEDICAL SCHOOL is a branch of Kemper College, which is endowed with full University powers. The literary department of the College is comprised in an elegant building, situated about four miles from St. Louis, in a south-westwardly direction, on a very healthy site, and surrounded by beautiful scenery. The institution was founded by the Right Rev. Bishop Kemper, of the Episcopal church, from whom it takes its name; it is in a very prosperous condition. The medical department of Kemper College, (which is entirely free from any sectarian influence,) was instituted through the exertions of Dr. J. N. McDowell, formerly professor of anatomy in the Cincinnati Medical school. The building, which is represented in the accompanying view, is situated on a commanding eminence in the southwest part of St. Louis, embracing an extensive view for many miles down the river, and overlooking a considerable portion of the city. Immediately in its rear is Chouteau's Lake, a sheet of limpid water, margined with thick groves, the whole greatly enhancing the beauty of the prospect. The medical department was commenced by Dr. McDowell in June, 1840, and was finished in the fall of that year, and opened with a very large class, considering it was the first session. During the present year the building has been extended to twice its former size, and is now seventy-five feet front, and sixty-five feet deep, and is divided into an Amphi-theatre, a Chemical hall, and laboratory, and a common lecturing hall, each of which can contain five hundred pupils. There are also two spacious dissecting rooms and private rooms for the professors. The gallery of the Amphi-theatre is arranged for an anatomical museum and library, and contains many fine preparations in anatomy, and numerous specimens in Craniology, Geology, Mineralogy, &c., besides various natural curiosities. The top of the building, immediately in front, is surmounted by a gallery, and from the centre of the roof rises an observatory of octangular form, which is supplied with the necessary apparatus. The design of the building was by Mr. Levis, the drawing by Mr. Drake.

Were it our province we might dilate upon the advancement of medical science in the West; a subject of deep interest to the profession, but we leave

it to other hands, and will barely notice the establishment of schools of medicine on this side of the Alleghanies. The first was instituted at Lexington, Kentucky, under the auspices of Dr. Benjamin W. Dudley. A few years after its commencement, a misunderstanding occurring among its professors, one of them, Dr. Daniel Drake, withdrew from the institution and removed to Cincinnati, where he founded the Ohio Medical college, About four years ago a division having again taken place among the professors of the Lexington school, professors Charles Caldwell, L. P. Yandell and John S. Cook, withdrew from that institution, and taking up a vacant charter, granted in 1832, by the Legislature of Kentucky, they established the Louisville Medical Institute. Dr. McDowell having visited St. Louis and being struck with its peculiar adaptation and great advantages, as a site for a seat of medical science, immediately resolved upon effecting the establishment of an institution at this place, and, within a year, by the most untiring energy and enterprise, succeeded in opening a school, which, for the talent and learning of her professors and facilities of imparting instruction, is not surpassed by any of her sisters in science, in the West. The Medical schools have been too apt to look upon each other in the light of rivals, when in fact they are far otherwise; any one who contemplates the immense rapidity of increase in the population of the Western states, must be struck with the fact, that even if each school should contain its full quota of pupils, there would not be more than enough to supply the demand for physicians, even making no allowances for those who never practice after receiving their diplomas.

The second session of the St. Louis Medical school, commences in November, and there are already a large number of matriculations. The cost of all the tickets is \$100. The following named gentlemen comprise the faculty:

John DeWolf, M. D., Professor of Chemistry; John S. Moore, M. D., Professor of the Institutes and practice of Medicine; Richard F. Barrett, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica and Medical Botany; Wm. Carr Lane, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children; Joseph N. McDowell, M. D., Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Anatomy and Surgery.

E X T R A

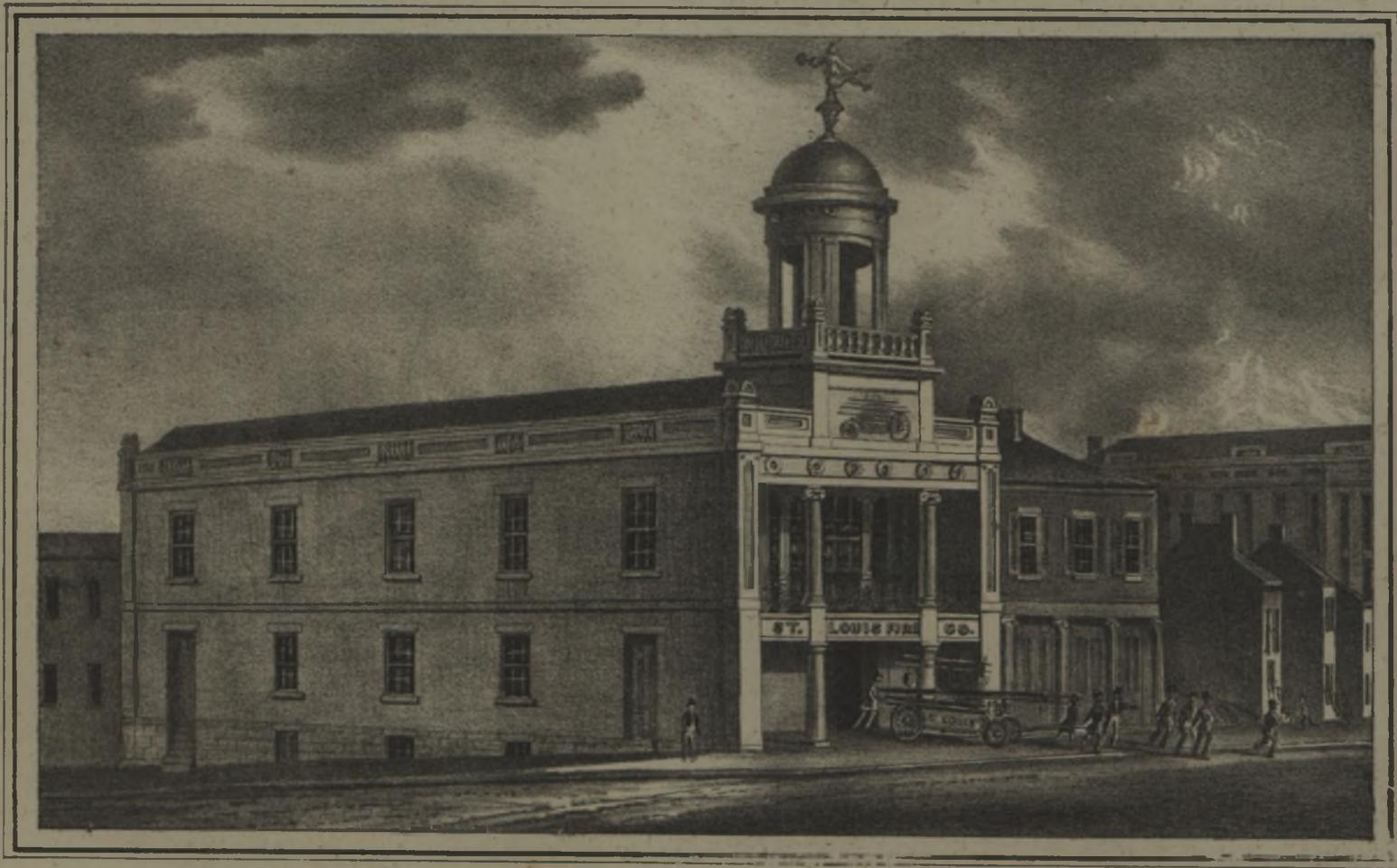
OF THE

VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

ILLUSTRATED.

SEPTEMBER NUMBER,

1941.



ST. LOUIS FIRE COMPANY.
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SAINT LOUIS FIRE COMPANY.

We have thought it not unfit to ornament our pages with a view of one of the Fire Engine Houses of St. Louis. The Fire Companies of this city are of comparatively recent organization, but our rapid growth in wealth and population, and the very great increase of buildings has led to the formation of no less than six fire companies, all of which are well conducted and number in their ranks some of our most respectable and spirited citizens. Most of these companies have been organized within the last three or four years.

The Central Fire Company is first in order of time, next the Union, then the Washington, Saint Louis, Missouri and Liberty. These companies with the exception of the two last named are furnished with houses suited to their purposes and with the exception of the last named, have an excellent set of fire apparatus. The Liberty Fire Company, (recently organized,) has an engine under contract, which will be finished some time this fall. This engine will be the first of the kind ever constructed in this City, and is intended to be an elegant and powerful machine. The builders are Messrs. Gaty, Coonce & Glasby, a firm well known for the extent and completeness of their establishment.

The engine house, of which a view is given in this number, is in course of building for the Saint Louis Fire Company. The architect and superintendent is Charles H. Pond, Esq., a gentleman highly approved among us for his skill and taste in his profession. It occupies a lot of ground at the intersection of Locust and Third streets. Its front on Third street is twenty-two feet with a depth on Locust street of fifty feet. The front presents a very handsome appearance. There are two Antæ's projecting from the front, five feet from the main wall, between which are two massive doors of oak and walnut, secured with 144 bronzed bolts; between the Antæ's are two Doric columns supporting an iron balcony, at the second story are two Ionic columns taken from the Ionic temple on the river Illissus, these columns support the entablature and tower, the entablature is ornamented with six Grecian olive wreaths, from the Choragic monument of Thrasyllus; the Cupola is supported by eight Grecian pilasters, which are surmounted by capitals, after the style of those upon the tower of the Wind near Athens, the entablature of the tower is embellished with eight Laurel wreaths. The top of the Cupola is sur-

SAINT LOUIS FIRE COMPANY.

mounted by a figure somewhat similar to the one upon the tower of the Wind at Athens. The hall in the second story is finished in good style, there is also to be a Hose tower located at the lower end of the building, and all other fixtures necessary. It is believed that this house will bear a favorable comparison with any structure of the kind in any city of the Union.

The citizens of St. Louis may well be proud of their firemen, in no city of the Union is there a body of firemen more entitled to the good opinion of the citizens than the firemen of St. Louis. The St. Louis Fire Company have been very successful since they have been organized, and have upon several occasions distinguished themselves, particularly on the occasion of the burning of the steamer Missouri. After the boat had been cut adrift and left to her fate, this Company conveyed their engine out to the burning vessel, where they succeeded in boarding her while she was enveloped in flames, and by their daring skill arrested the progress of the fire; thus saving a large amount of property which otherwise would have been totally destroyed. This company was formed in November 1839, and incorporated February, 1841, and now numbers nearly one hundred active members. The following is a list of the officers at the present time:—

JOSEPH SOUTHACK,	<i>President.</i>
BENJAMIN AMES,	<i>Vice do.</i>
JOSEPH BRIGGS,	<i>2d do. do.</i>

DAVID WOODMAN,	} <i>Capt. of Hose.</i>
JOSEPH McNEIL,	
JOHN THORNING,	

CHARLES E. ALLEN,	<i>Secretary.</i>
OLIVER HARRIS,	<i>Treasurer.</i>
C. G. CHESLEY,	<i>Collector.</i>

Standing Committee.

EDWIN HOLDEN	<i>Chairman.</i>
ISAAC T. GREEN,	
J. B. GERARD.	

NO. 4.

OCTOBER.

THE
VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

ILLUSTRATED.

*In a series of views, embracing pictures of the principal cities and towns,
public buildings, and remarkable and picturesque scenery, on the*

OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS.

DRAWN AND LITHOGRAPHED BY

J. C. WILD.

EDITED BY LEWIS F. THOMAS.

Published monthly in numbers, each number containing four views,
with an average of four pages of letter press to each view, making at
the end of each year a volume of two hundred pages with fifty views.
Price, one dollar per number, payable monthly on delivery.

J. C. WILD,
Publisher, at the Republican Printing Office, Main street, St. Louis.

Chambers & Knapp, Printers.

1841.



VIEW OF LAKE-SETA-TSIS.

KASKASKIA, ILLINOIS.

The town of Kaskaskia is beautifully situated on the right bank of the river of the same name, near the southern extremity of the "American bottom," and about three miles east of the Mississippi, sixty miles south-east of St. Louis, and eighty-five south-west of Vandalia, in latitude $37^{\circ} 57'$ north. It was formerly the capitol of the State, and is the seat of justice of Randolph county. The town was first settled in 1683 by the followers of La Salle, on their return from exploring the Mississippi to its mouth, and subsequently by immigrants from Canada and France; it is one of the oldest posts or towns west of the Alleghanies. Its location is exceedingly picturesque; the beautiful river winds round in front of it, with houses and gardens studding its western bank, and a rich landscape of undulating prairie stretching into the distance and bordered by the heavy timber that marks the water course, while to the east, rises a long line of thickly wooded bluffs, extending as far as the eye can reach; their most prominent point marked by the ruins of "Fort Gage," which was formerly an extensive military post, constructed of massive timber, and garrisoned for many years, until destroyed by fire in 1766. The accompanying view was taken from the east bank of the Kaskaskia river. The town was, at one time, of considerable commercial importance, and was the centre of trade for the entire west and north-western regions. Under the territorial government its prosperity was at the highest; it then numbered about seven thousand inhabitants, and many fine public buildings, among them, a spacious capitol, a Jesuit college and a cathedral, not a vestige of either of which is now remaining. The latter, which had been built more than a century, was removed two years since, to make room for a larger and more elegant structure, that is to be erected upon the same site. The town contains a convent of eighteen or twenty nuns of the order of "The Visitation" who conduct an extensive seminary for the education of young ladies. The building they now occupy was erected about three years since by Col. Pierre Menard, an old and highly respectable inhabitant of the place. The seminary is at present known as the "Menard Academy," and is in a very flourishing condition. A costly and substantial bridge has just been completed over the Kaskaskia river, which will add many facilities to the business of the place. The town contains twelve merchants and grocers, a printing office from which

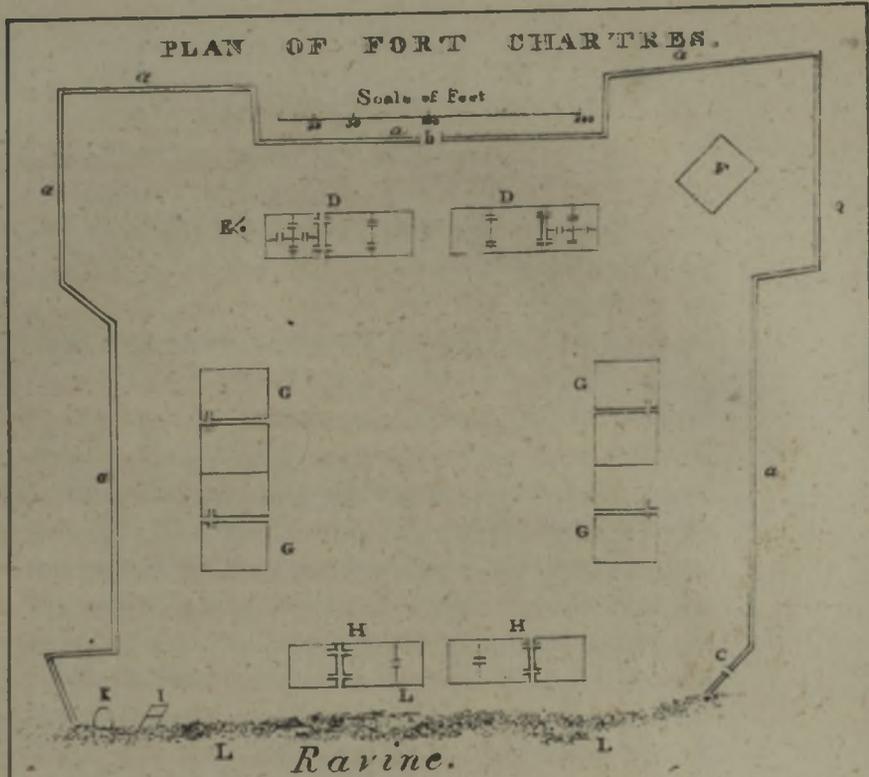
a weekly paper is issued, four boot and shoe manufacturers, four black-smiths, two bakers, besides other mechanics and artizans. A United States land office is located here, also the Cairo bank, an insurance office, a steam saw mill, and a steam flouring mill. Kaskaskia is considered one of the most healthy towns in the whole West, and has of late advanced considerably in improvement and population. A large proportion of the inhabitants are of French origin, and many of them still retain the manners and customs of their ancestry, which, however, are gradually giving away to the influence of immigrants from different parts of the Union, who are settling in the town and its vicinity in considerable numbers.

PL. XIV



RUINS OF FORT CHARTRES.
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PLAN OF FORT CHARLES.



REFERENCES.

- A. The exterior Wall - 144½ feet.
- B. The Gate or Entrance to the Fort.
- C. A small Gate.
- D. The two Houses formerly occupied by the Commandant & Commissary, each 96 feet in length & 30 feet in breadth.
- E. The Well. F. The Magazine
- G. Houses formerly occupied as Barracks, 135 feet in length, 36 in breadth.
- H. Formerly occupied as a Store House, 90 feet by 24.
- I. The remains of a small Magazine
- K. The remains of a Furnace.
- L. The Ravine.

The above is from a Survey by D^r Beck & V. Hanson
Eng^s of Illinois in 1870.

FORT CHARTRES, ILLINOIS.

The ruins of Fort Chartres are situated about a mile west of the road leading from St. Louis to Kaskaskia, six miles above the village of Prairie du Rocher, and nearly three quarters of a mile east of the Mississippi river. The plate represents only a part of the ruins, facing the south east; the whole is so thickly overgrown with trees and shrubbery, that it is impossible to catch more than a glimpse of a small portion at a time. The front of the view exhibits the remains of the exterior wall—the right shows part of one of the bastions, with two port holes complete, and on the left, is the magazine, almost entire, though covered over with a dense growth of small trees and bushes. Fort Chartres was originally occupied by the French in 1720, and was re-modelled and enlarged in 1756. It owed its origin to the celebrated "Mississippi bubble" of the famous John Law. Louis XIV of France in 1712 granted to a rich financier, named Crozat, the exclusive privilege of trading with the colony of Louisiana for twelve years; Crozat however, having lost considerably by his grant, abandoned it in 1717, and it was transferred to "the Company of the West," at the head of which was Law, who, by representing the Mississippi region as abounding in precious metals, succeeded in disposing of stock to an immense amount, and sent out numerous agents and colonists, by some of whom Fort Chartres was founded. The Fort originally stood immediately on the river, but the changes in the channel of the Mississippi left it at various periods at different distances from its bank. Father Charlevoix, a Jesuit priest, who visited it in 1721, describes it as standing "about the distance of a musket shot from the river, and commanded, for the company to whom it belongs, by M. Duque de Boisbrillard, a gentleman of Canada." In 1756 it was half a mile from the water's edge; in 1766 it was but about eighty paces. About 1772 the river inundated its banks, and formed a channel so near the Fort, that one side of it and two of its bastions were thrown down, which circumstance induced the British, (who then possessed it,) to abandon it. Now, (October, 1841,) the bar between the Fort and river is nearly three quarters of a mile in extent, and is almost impervious with large cotton wood and willows. Pittman, in his history of the European settlements on the Mississippi, published in 1770, gives the following description of the Fort, which conveys an idea of its former gran-

deur:—"Fort Chartres, when it belonged to France, was the seat of Government of the Illinois. The head quarters of the English commanding officer is now here, who in fact is the arbitrary Governor of this country. The Fort is an irregular quadrangle: the sides of the exterior polygon are 490 feet. It is built of stone and plastered over, and is only designed as a defence against the Indians. The walls are two feet two inches thick, and are pierced with loop holes at regular distances, and with two port holes for cannon in the faces, and two in the flanks of each bastion. The ditch has never been finished. The entrance to the Fort is through a very handsome rustic gate. Within the walls is a banquet, raised three feet, for the men to stand on when they fire through the loop holes. The buildings within the Fort are a Commandant's and Commissary's house, the magazine of stores, corps de garde, and two barracks; these occupy the square. Within the gorges of the bastion are a powder magazine, a bake-house, and a prison, in the lower floor of which are four dungeons, and in the upper, two rooms, and an out-house belonging to the Commandant. The Commandant's house is thirty-two yards long and ten broad, and contains a kitchen, a dining room, a bed chamber, one small room, five closets for servants, and a cellar. The Commissary's house, (now occupied by officers,) is built on the same line as this, and its proportion and the distribution of its apartments are the same. Opposite these are the store-house and guard-house; they are each thirty yards long and eight broad. The former consists of two large store-rooms, (under which is a large vaulted cellar,) a large room, a bed chamber, and a closet for the store-keeper; the latter, of a soldier's and officer's guard room, a chapel, a bed chamber, a closet for the chaplain, and an artillery store room. The lines of barracks have never been finished; they at present consist of two rooms each for officers, and three for soldiers; they are each twenty feet square, and have betwixt them a small passage. There are fine spacious lofts over each building, which reach from end to end; these are made use of to lodge regimental stores, working and entrenching tools, &c. It is generally believed that this is the most convenient and best built fort in North America."

Dr. Beck and N. Hansen, Esq., of Illinois, visited and surveyed the Fort in 1820; the annexed plan and references are drawn from their survey. In Dr. Beck's "Gazetteer of Illinois and Missouri," published in 1822, he gives the following description and history of the Fort, the appearance of which is considerably changed since his visit, and presents a more ruined aspect, gleaming through the rich foliage of twenty years' additional growth.

"At present this work exhibits only a splendid ruin. The Mississippi has, by its encroachments, torn away the front or west face, and those parts

of the wall which have escaped, have been destroyed by the neighboring inhabitants. In front all that remains, is a small stone cellar, which has no doubt been a magazine: some distance above or north of this, is an excavation in the earth, which has the appearance of having been burned; it may have been a furnace for heating shot, as one of the cannon must have been in this vicinity. Not a vestige of the wall is to be seen on this side, except a few stones which still remain in the ravine below. At the south-east angle there is a gate and the wall is perfect. It is about fifteen feet high and three feet thick, and is built of coarse lime stone, quarried in the hills about two miles distant, and is well cemented. The south side is, with few exceptions, perfect, as is also the south east bastion. The north east is generally in ruins. On the east face are two port holes for cannon, which are still perfect; they are about three feet square, formed by white rocks or clefts worked smooth and into proper shape; here also is a large gate, eighteen feet wide, the sides of which still remain in a state of tolerable preservation; the cornices and casements, however, which formerly ornamented it, have all been taken away. A considerable portion of the north side of the Fort, has also been destroyed. The houses which make up the square in the inside, are generally in ruins. Sufficient, however, remains to enable the visitor to ascertain exactly their dimensions and relative situations. The well, which is little injured by time, is about twenty-four feet north of the north-east, or Commandant's house. The banquette is entirely destroyed. The magazine is in a perfect state, and is an uncommon specimen of solidity. Its walls are four feet thick, and it is arched in the inside.

Over the whole Fort there is a considerable growth of trees, and in the hall of one of the houses there is an oak about eighteen inches in diameter.

In the vicinity of the Fort are the ruins of a small village. In 1764, it contained about forty families, and also a parish church, dedicated to St. Anne, and served by a Franciscan friar. When the English took possession of the country, they all abandoned their houses, except three or four poor families, and settled in the villages on the west side of the Mississippi, choosing to continue under the French government.

The history of this Fort is interesting, as it is intimately connected with the early history of the country.

Ever since the discovery of Louisiana by the French, it appears to have been a favorite object with them to secure a communication between the Canadas and the sea. As soon as the Spaniards became aware of their designs, and the vast importance which the country thus secured would be to them, they became jealous of their neighbors, and began to make encroachments upon them, and as early as the year 1699, they attempted to prevent

the landing of M. D'Iberville, with his colony, at the mouth of the Mississippi.

It was not, however, until after the grant made by Louis XIV. to Crozat had been retro-ceded, and the celebrated company of the West formed, that the possession of Louisiana excited such lively interest. When it was supposed that the precious metals were to be found here in abundance, then it was that the eyes of all the speculating capitalists were turned towards the new world. They seized with avidity the opportunity to enroll themselves as members of the company, and partake of the promised wealth. Under the direction and management of M. Law, whose genius, talents, and influence were of the highest order, each supposed that his coffers were already filled and his happiness complete.

It was during this paroxysm, that the establishment of Fort Chartres was first projected. It was considered an advantageous site, being in the centre of the settlements; but more particularly as being in the vicinity of the mines, which they supposed would need protection and defence. It continued under the direction of the Company until 1731, when their splendid schemes having totally failed, this, together with the whole territory, was retroceded to the crown, and continued in its possession until the year 1762, when it was ceded to the British, who, however, did not take possession of it until 1765. In 1772, Fort Chartres was abandoned by the British, and has never since been occupied. At present, its only use is to furnish building materials to the inhabitants in the vicinity”

The village that formerly stood in the neighborhood of the Fort was called St. Phillip; no traces of it are now remaining. The inhabitants in the vicinity assert that there are several brass cannons now in the well of the Fort, where they were thrown by the French when they left it. After quitting the Fort, the French attempted to destroy it, and cannonaded it from a flotilla in the river. It, however, resisted their efforts, and its destruction was left to the effective ravages of time.



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VIEW OF THE U. S. ARSENAL.
IN THE VICINITY OF ST. LOUIS.

U. S. ARSENAL, ST. LOUIS.

This is one of those arsenals, or depots of arms, which combine the purposes of storing the *materiale* of armies, consisting of cannon and their equipments and ammunition, as well as small arms, muskets, rifles, pistols, swords, &c., and ammunition and equipments of every description, as well as for the repairs of arms and equipments, and the construction of carriages, caissons, &c., for artillery, with field and garrison.

These depots differ, therefore, from mere arsenals proper, (which are for storing military munitions and arms) and they are called ordnance depots of the first class; those of the second and third classes are calculated for repairing arms and storing them, or for storing them only.

Depots of the first class are located only at such points as afford materials for construction and manufacture generally.

This depot is situated on the south-eastern boundary of the city of St. Louis, on the west bank of the Mississippi. It was commenced in the Autumn of 1827, and was continued from time to time until it was completed, and is now ready for use. It embraces the Arsenal proper, one hundred and twenty by forty feet, three stories, besides cellar and attic; an armory or workshop for repairing small arms, including smiths' forges, &c.; smiths' shop; shop for preparing the iron and wood work of cannon carriages, wherein is a large steam engine for the heavier work; a store house for Quartermaster's stores; three laboratories for preparing fixed ammunition and pyrotecnic preparations; a magazine of the same; barracks for the workmen and officers' quarters, office, &c.; a gun carriage house, timber sheds or houses, and a large powder magazine about half a mile from the arsenal.

All these buildings, except the laboratories and sheds, are of stone, and covered with slate; the workmanship is of the best quality; no pains or expense was spared in their construction, and this ordnance depot may be said to be of such a size as, with such additions as will be required hereafter for storing timber for seasoning, &c., to be fully adequate for supplying the Northern, Western, and Southern frontiers (speaking relative to St. Louis) with all the arms and *materiale* of war.

The arsenal presents a beautiful view, and is kept in the very best order. Its location is most judicious—on the largest river in the country, navigable



FALLING SPRING NEAR CAHOKIA.
ILLINOIS.

FALLING SPRING—ILLINOIS BLUFFS.

The Falling Spring is situated in the Bluffs, in St. Clair county, Illinois, about two miles east of the village of Cahokia, and seven miles from St. Louis. It pours out of a nearly perpendicular rock, which looks at the top as if it had been wrought into a cornice, and which rises at this point to an elevation of about ninety feet from the level of the "American Bottom," of which it forms a boundary. The aperture from which the water issues is about forty feet below the cornice, or top, and is about five feet wide by three in height, and grown round with moss and wild flowers, through which the water, spreading about three feet, falls drippingly to a rock covered with grass and moss about eight feet below, and shaped like a mound; down the sides of this it glides in a small stream for four or five feet to a rock, nearly flat, where it diverges to one side and ripples over a large bank of rich green moss about twenty feet in length, and inclining at a slight angle from the rock; down this moss it flows in a stream on one side, while over the other it descends in a continual succession of drops, that sparkle like so many diamonds falling over a mass of emerald; from the moss it falls upon fragments of rock at the base of the bluff and supplies a small rivulet which empties into Cahokia Creek. All the water of the spring, during dry seasons, might, if forced into one channel, be made to pass through a pipe of three or four inches diameter. On each side of the spring, at the base of the bluff, are masses of broken rock overgrown with shrubbery and trees; the top of the bluff above the spring is crowned with oaks, evergreens, and wild flowers. Directly under the mouth of the spring there is a cavity in the rock which is easy of access; it is in the shape of a half-dome, under which several persons can stand at a time, with the water falling before them like a silvery veil.

The mass of moss over which the water flows is about two feet thick; the under part of it is completely petrefied, but the surface is growing, and is of a rich, lively green. Many petrefactions of different kinds are found in the immediate vicinity.

To the north of this spring, about fifty yards, is another aperture of the same appearance, and at the same elevation as that of the spring, and from whence, in very wet seasons, water issues and falls perpendicularly for about seventy feet. It is apparent that this latter spring was once more copiously supplied than the other; the rock is more worn, and the channel of the stream

is wider and deeper. They were both, no doubt, formerly fed from the same hidden fountains, and probably for centuries flowed together in a concert of harmonious murmurings. Half a mile further north, in the side of the bluff, is a round hole seemingly worn or cut in the solid rock; it is about two and a half feet in diameter at the mouth, gradually growing less as it recedes, and visible internally for about ten feet; out of this flows a small stream, which has a fall of a few feet, and ripples over moss-grown rock until it reaches the bed of a rivulet which it forms.

Fifty yards south of the Falling Spring, the mouth of a cave about eight feet wide and four in height can be seen in the side of the bluff, about forty feet from its base. Immediately in front of it are very large fragments of rock that have fallen from the bluff; their projections corresponding with the interstices of the cliff. In the same direction, two hundred yards further, is a larger cave, into which a man may ride on horseback; its mouth is about twenty yards wide: we entered it for a considerable distance, until we could see nothing but "darkness visible," and, having no lights, were compelled to return. We observed nothing curious about it, except some petrefied pieces of wood.

The Illinois Bluffs commence nearly opposite the mouth of the Missouri and extend to a point below Kaskaskia, a length of nearly ninety miles. They form the eastern line of the "American Bottom," and range with the Mississippi river at distances varying from three to ten miles. In some places they are three hundred feet high, but their general height is about sixty feet. They are composed of limestone, in which are vast quantities of marine shells. In many places the bluffs rise perpendicularly and extend unbrokenly for miles, forming a solid wall of rock, which, here and there, has the appearance of human masonry, being formed in layers of stone resting in regular courses, one over another. Coal is found in great abundance at various points in the bluffs. On the top and back of them (in the rear of the Falling Spring) the country is rolling and broken into "sink holes," wooded sparsely with oak, and grown with long prairie grass. In front of them the level of the "American Bottom" extends, watered with creeks and lakes, and divided into forests and prairies, with a soil composed of the richest alluvial ever cut by a plough.

NO. 5.

NOVEMBER.

THE
VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

ILLUSTRATED.

*In a series of views, embracing pictures of the principal cities and towns,
public buildings, and remarkable and picturesque scenery, on the*

OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS.

DRAWN AND LITHOGRAPHED BY

J. C. WILD.

EDITED BY LEWIS F. THOMAS.

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PIASAY ROCK, ALTON.

ILLINOIS.

PIASAU ROCK.

The Piasau, or Pi-as-sau Rock, so called from a remarkable legend connected with it, is situated on the northern confines of the city of Alton, immediately on the Mississippi, from the surface of which it rises to a height of nearly an hundred feet, including a receding base of broken and shelving rock, extending about thirty feet from the water's edge, and about the same distance in height. Its summit is sparsely studded with dwarf cedars, and it presents a craggy and jagged front, with the exception of a space of about fifty feet by forty, which is smooth and even. On this space is emblazoned the figure of a hybridous animal, having a head resembling that of a fox, from which protrude large horns or antlers; its back is supplied with wings, and it has a long curling tail, and four feet, or rather, four huge claws. The sketch of the figure is very rough, and evidently executed by no master hand. It seems to have been first drawn with a species of red paint, and afterwards rubbed over and polished with lime, or some other white substance. Immediately in the rear is another figure, but so obliterated by time, and by being marked over with the names of ambitious visitors, (who have taken this only available method of making themselves known to fame,) that it is impossible to trace its outline; it is probable, however, from the few marks visible, that it was intended to represent an animal similar to the former, but in a different position. The figure, which remains entire, is about eight feet long and five in height, to the tip of the wing, which is thrown upward over the back. The Piasau Rock is the lower extremity of the bluffs, which, commencing at Alton, extend northward up the Mississippi. It has been marked, as we have described, "from time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary;" and what is most remarkable, the tradition connected with it, is not confined to a few tribes of Indians only, but seems to exist among all the aboriginal inhabitants of the Great West, none of whom, even to this day, pass the rock without discharging their arrows or rifles, at the figures, upon and around which, are innumerable marks of balls and other missiles.

The legend, as we have heard it, is as follows: The numerous and powerful nation, called the Illinois, formerly inhabited the state which now bears their name, over the greater portion of which their hunting grounds extended. For very many years they continued to increase in numbers and prosperity,

and were deemed the bravest and most warlike of all the tribes of the Great Valley. At length, in the most populous district of their country, near the residence of their greatest chief, there appeared an enormous animal, part beast, part bird, which took up its abode on the rock, and banquetted daily upon numbers of the people, whom it bore off in its immense talons. It was covered with scales of every possible color, and had a huge tail, with a blow of which it could shake the earth; from its head, which was like the head of a fox with the beak of an eagle, projected immense horns, and its four feet were armed with powerful claws, in each of which it could carry a buffaloe. The flapping of its enormous wings was like the roar of thunder, and when it dived into the river, it threw the waves far up on the land. To this animal they gave the name of the "Bird of the Pi-as-au," or bird of the evil spirit. In vain did the "medicine men" use all their powers to drive away this fearful visitor. Day by day the number of their tribe diminished, to feed his insatiate appetite. At last the young chief of the nation, Wassatogo, who was beloved by his people, and esteemed their bravest and best warrior, called a council of the priests, in a secret cave, where, after fasting for many days, they slept, and the Great Spirit came to the young chief in his sleep, and told him the only way to rid his people of their destroyer, was to offer himself as a sacrifice. Wassatogo started up with joy, and arousing the slumbering priests, informed them of what had occurred to him, and of his determination to make the sacrifice required. He then assembled the tribe, and made a speech, recounting his deeds of valor, acquainting them of his dream, and exhorting them, like him, to be ever ready to die for their people. Wassatogo then dressed himself in his chieftain's garb, put on his war paint, as if going to battle, and taking his bow, arrows and tomahawk, he placed himself on a prominent point of the rock, to await the coming of the monster-bird. Meanwhile, as he had been directed in his vision, a band of his best braves had been concealed in the interstices of the rock, each with his arrow drawn to the head, waiting the moment when their chief should be attacked, to wreak their last vengeance on their enemy. High and erect the bold Wassatogo stood, chanting his death dirge, with a calm and placid countenance, when suddenly there came a roar as of awful thunder, and in an instant the Bird of the Pias-sau, uttering a wild scream that shook the hills, darted upon and seized the chieftain in his talons, at that moment, Wassatogo dealt it a blow in the head with his tomahawk, and his braves let fly their arrows from the ambush, and the unwieldy carcass of the bird rolled down the cliff, while the chieftain remained unhurt. The tribe now gave way to the wildest joy, and held a great feast in honor of the event, and to commemorate it, painted the figure of the bird, on the side of the rock on whose summit Wassatogo had

stood, and there it has endured for ages, a mark for the arrow or bullet of every red man, who has since passed it, in ascending or descending the great father of waters.

Every people have had their traditions of monsters and strangely formed destructive animals. The ancient Greeks and Romans had their stories of Centaurs and Hydras; the Moors and Egyptians, their tales of Anthropophagi and various other hideous creatures; and even the English have transmitted the legend of the winged dragon vanquished by St. George. Historians have traced to probable causes, and reconciled to nature, the fables of the monsters of antiquity, by allowing largely for the workings of the imagination, among a semi-barbarous people. It may be, that the tradition of the Piassau Bird is not without a foundation in truth. When we reflect on it, in connection with the enormous fossil remains found in various places in the West, and allow for the imperfect skill of the limners who sketched its portrait, and for the natural love of the marvellous in man, as well as for the additions made by the fancy of the rude savages who have perpetuated it in oral lore, and, taking these considerations, together with the resemblance of many parts of the animal of tradition to the skeletons of the mammoth, the mastodon and the Missouriium, it would be no uneasy or unreasonable task, to believe that some one of those animals formed the basis, on which the imagination of the savage has erected his legend of the Bird of the Piassau. In connection with this subject, and with a view of throwing out a hint that may be interesting to others, we make a few extracts concerning bones that have been found at different periods and places. Dr. William Goforth, of Cincinnati, in a letter to Thomas Jefferson, dated in December, 1806, in describing some bones taken by him from Big-bone Lick, Kentucky, says:—"The bones of one paw nearly filled a flour barrel; it had four claws; and when the bones were regularly placed together, measured from the os calcis to the end of either middle claw five feet two inches. The bones of this paw were similar to those of a bear's foot. Where I found these bones, I found large quantities of bear's bones at the same time, and had an opportunity of arranging and comparing the bones together, and the similarity was striking in every particular, except the size. The vertebræ of the back and neck, when arranged in order with the os sacrum and coccygis, measured nearly sixty feet, allowing for cartiliges; though I am not confident the bones all belonged to one animal, and the number of vertebræ I cannot recollect. I had some thigh bones of incognita of a monstrous size, when compared with any other animal, &c., &c."

In "Thomas's Reminiscences and Sketches of his Life and Times" is an account of some bones brought to Cincinnati in 1830, which were found in the same place from whence Dr. Goforth's collection was taken. The author

says:—"To reflect for a moment upon the appearance of a living animal, which, from the skeleton, is proved to have been at least *sixty* feet in length and *twelve* across the hips, the upper bone of whose head weighs *six hundred* and grinders *eleven* pouds each, and this after having undergone the decay of many centuries, must fill the mind with astonishment and reverence for that Being, who said '*let there be light, and there was light.*' This animal as much surpassed the mammoth in size as the elephant does the ox, and was of the carnivorous species. With the bones of this *nondescript*, were found the bones of several other animals, some of which were of the herbaceous species, as is proved by their teeth, of which there are a number, &c. I shall conclude my remarks upon this subject by stating, the bones were found embedded in black mud, upwards of twenty feet below the surface. The first eighteen inches is alluvial, then yellow clay to the depth of twelve or fifteen feet, and then the black mud in which the bones were contained. The proprietor has brought a large quantity of them to this city, [Cincinnati] among which are the head and tusks of the nondescript—the latter measuring *twelve* feet in length!"

In 1839, Mr. Albert Koch, proprietor of the St. Louis Museum, procured a very large quantity of bones, from the vicinity of the Sulphur Springs, on Little Rock Creek, in Jefferson County, Missouri, about 22 miles south of St. Louis. To a skeleton formed of some of these bones, he gave the name of *Koch's Missouriium*. This animal had a trunk, and enormous tusks and claws, and was much larger than the mastodon. Among the bones found by Mr. Koch, was "the head of an undescribed animal, from which it appears that it exceeded the elephant in size from four to six times."

The tradition of the Indians certainly bears strong affinity to the existence of those immense animals, which have left us no trace of their being, save their bones. What an extensive theme for conjecture and research do they afford to the antiquarian, the naturalist and the philosopher!



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**MOUTH OF THE MISSOURI RIVER.
FROM ILLINOIS.**

MISSOURI RIVER.

ABOUT eighteen miles above St. Louis, and four miles below Alton, the Missouri and Mississippi join, and for several miles down the stream of the latter, can be seen on one side, the dark and angry waves of the Missouri, and on the other, the pure and chrysal waters of the Upper Mississippi. They flow side by side for a considerable distance, without entirely mingling with each other, until at last the earth-laden torrent from the Far West gains the mastery, and thence, the united currents roll on to the Gulf, in one dark, surly, and perpetual torrent. From the Illinois shore, opposite the Missouri, the view of scenery, up the rivers, is beautiful. The City of Alton, throned on its rock-based hills on the east bank of the Mississippi, gleams in the distance, backed by the oak-crowned summits of the bluffs; on the right, of the beholder, lies a heavily wooded shore, and in the middle of the river, four small islands exhibit their rich verdure, looking like bright bouquets upon the swelling bosom of the soft water. To the left is seen the peninsula, formed by the union of the rivers, clothed with heavy timber, and laved on the west by the black Missouri, as he rushes impetuously, to meet the fair bride that seems to shrink from his embrace. A sand bar (the spur of an island) stretches partly in front of the "mouth," covered with drift wood, indicating the ravages of the river upon its own densely forested banks. The Missouri may be termed the Nile of the New World, for it more nearly resembles that famous stream, than any other river in the Western Hemisphere, and, like the Nile, it rises periodically and suddenly, and inundates a large tract of country. Its principal sources are supplied from the snows of those stupendous "hills that look eternal," known by the general name of "Rocky Mountains." In the Gazetteer of Dr. Beck, published in 1822, we find the following description of the Missouri, collated from Darby, Stoddard, Brackenridge and other writers:

"The Missouri river rises in the Chippewa mountains, in lat. 44° 20' N. long. 35° W. from Washington City. Its general course to the Mandan Villages is northeast and east, and in this distance it receives several large tributaries. At the Mandan Villages, it turns to the south, and continues that course for three or four hundred miles, receiving a few unimportant tributaries from the left, and from the right, the large streams of Cannon-Ball, We-

tarhoo, Sarwarcarna, Chayenne, Teton and White rivers. Below the mouth of the latter, the Missouri turns to the southeast, east and south, three hundred miles to its junction with the La Platte, an immense body of water flowing from the west and heading with the Arkansas, Lewis and Yellow Stone rivers. In the latter course, the Missouri has also received from the left the Jacques and Great and Little Sioux rivers. Below its junction with the La Platte, the Missouri flows two hundred miles southeast to the mouth of the Kansas, a large tributary from the west. The Missouri has now gained nearly the thirty-ninth degree of north latitude, and turning a little south of east two hundred and fifty miles, joins its vast volume to the Mississippi, after an entire comparative course of one thousand eight hundred and seventy miles, and particular course of about three thousand miles.

“One of the most peculiar features of the Valley of the Missouri, is the great difference of the length and volume of the confluent streams from the right, when compared with those from the left bank of the main recipient. Whilst from the right the Missouri receives such vast branches as the Yellow Stone, Chayenne, Quicourre, Platte, Kansas, Osage and Gasconade, from the left all the branches are of minor importance.

“The most peculiar appearance of the Missouri, is the muddy, ash-color of its water, occasioned by the sand with which it is impregnated. This character is derived from the mountains in which it rises, and the vast plains through which it passes. To this cause also, may be ascribed the formation of the numerous sand banks and islands and the alluvious nature of the lands on the Missouri. The water is lively and soft, and the specific gravity of it, about the same as that of rain or snow water. A vessel filled with the Missouri water, will after remaining for some time undisturbed, be about one-third full of sediment. The quantity of the sediment varies with the rise and fall of the river, it being much greater in the spring than in the summer or autumn. This arises from the increased volume of water; by which means the vast plains which bound the Missouri and its tributaries are inundated, and the current of the streams rendered more impetuous and the washings consequently greater. The muddiness of the Missouri water appears, however, to be no objection to its use; on the contrary, those inhabitants who reside on the banks of this stream, consider the water preferable to any other. Some of them put it into large earthen jars, and let it stand until the sediment has subsided; others filtrate it through stone or sand, and others again render it clear and transparent, by putting into it a small quantity of alum, or a little corn meal, or the kernels of peach stones, either of which precipitate the impurities to the bottom. The greatest number, however, use the water in its impure state, and experience no bad effects from it. The Missouri water

is impregnated with sulphur and nitre, and many who drink of it pretend that it is a remedy for cutaneous diseases. It generally has a slightly cathartic effect, on persons unaccustomed to its use.

The current of the Missouri is considerably greater than that of the Mississippi, or any of the Western rivers, being generally about four miles an hour. It is on this account that the bed of the river is continually changing, and shoal islands and sand bars are constantly forming. Hence, it is not always safe to settle on the alluvious banks of this stream; for it sometimes happens, that thousands of acres, containing houses and plantations are swept away by the impetuosity of its current.

The floods of the Missouri usually begin early in March, and continue until the latter end of July; during which time it rises and subsides as its different tributaries bring down their increased volume of water. It so happens that seldom more than two great rivers are high at the same period. Many of these floods are never felt in the Mississippi. The great rise of the Missouri itself, from the melting of the snows, takes place about the middle of June, and begins to subside about the latter end of July.

From several circumstances, it is probable that the rapidity of the current of the Missouri was occasioned by some comparatively recent convulsion; for such enormous quantities of earth as is every year brought down, would have broken and mutilated the country in an astonishing degree. "What immense quantities of earth," says Brackenridge, "must have been carried off to form the great alluvions of the Mississippi, by means of the Arkansas, Red River, and chiefly the Missouri! not to mention the vast quantities lost in the Gulf of Mexico. The result of a calculation would be curious. The marks of this loss are very evident in the neighborhood of nearly all the rivers which discharge themselves into the Missouri above the Platte. Some of the appearances may rank among the greatest natural curiosities in the World. The traveller, on entering a plain, is deceived at the first glance by what appears to be the ruins of some great city—rows of houses for several miles in length and regular streets. At the first view there appears to be all the precision of design, with the usual deviations in single buildings, representing palaces, temples, &c., which appearances are caused by the washing away of hills as before described. There remains being composed of more durable substance, continue undecayed, while the rest is carried off. The strata have the appearance of different stones; the isolated and detached hills constitute the remainder."

Pumice, and other volcanic productions are continually floating down the Missouri, and are deposited on the sand bars and islands. By some, these are said to be caused by burning coal banks on the Upper Missouri; but the proof

in favor of existing volcanoes in the north-west is so strong, that there is little doubt but they are referable to them. Immense beds of coal are found in every part of the Valleys of the Ohio and Illinois, and yet they are entirely destitute of these volcanic productions; a convincing proof that they must be produced by some other cause. The principal tributaries of the Missouri in the State of the same name, are Kansas, Fishing, Grand, Osage and Gasconade rivers.

Flint, in his Geography, writing of the character of the country, and of the Missouri, at its head waters, says:—"What are called 'The Gates of the Rocky Mountains, through which the Missouri seems to have torn itself a passage, are commonly described as among the sublimest spectacles of this range of Mountains. For nearly six miles these Mountains rise in black and perpendicular masses, one thousand two hundred feet above the surface of the river. The chasm is little more than one hundred and fifty yards wide; and the deep and foaming waters of the Missouri rush through the passage as if it were a cataract. The heart of the beholder is chilled as he contemplates, in these wild and uninhabitable regions, this conflict between the River and the Mountains. The smooth and black walls of the cleft rise more than twice as high as the Mountains on North river, below West Point. Every passenger up North river has been impressed with the grandeur of the scene in the midst of amenity and life. What then must be the sensations of the passengers through the 'Gates of the Rocky Mountains,' who witness the proofs of this conflict of nature, in a region three hundred leagues from civilization and habitancy? Vast columns of the rock torn from the Mountains and lying along the river, attest the fact of this forced passage of the river through the Mountains."

The Missouri is navigable for nearly two thousand miles above its mouth and several of its tributaries are also navigable to some extent. The country upon its banks is populating with great rapidity, and not many years will elapse before the "metes and bounds" of a new State will be marked out in its almost unlimited territory.



ST. CHARLES COLLEGE.
MISSOURI.

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ST. CHARLES COLLEGE.

THIS rising Seminary owes its existence to the liberal benevolence of an individual—GEORGE COLLIER, Esq., of St. Louis. The project originated, however, with Mr. Collier's mother, the late Mrs. Catharine Collier of St. Charles; whose fond design for years had been to place the advantages of a liberal education within the reach of the people of this village and vicinity. The principal edifice, called the College, of which the view is given in this number, was nearly completed when this excellent woman died, in the summer of 1835. The design was nobly prosecuted by her son. A school was opened with three instructors in August, 1835; which he sustained at his own expense for two terms. Judiciously conceiving that the endowment and usefulness of the institution would be promoted by being connected with some respectable and liberal denomination of Christians, he proposed to transfer the property and management, to the Missouri Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In pursuance of this, a Board of Curators was formed, and invested by charter with full collegiate powers and privileges, and to this Board Mr. Collier assigned the property; while he still continues to the College the munificent endowment of \$1000 per year.

The Board shortly after purchased a building which had been erected by the enterprising Dr. Leo Twyman, for a Students' Lodge; a building well adapted to this purpose.

The Methodist Church commenced with spirit and success the work of creating an endowment for the College; but its progress was soon checked by the sudden pecuniary distress of the country. It is hoped, however, that this check will be but temporary. The work of instruction has been vigorously sustained, and the Students preserved in a state of excellent discipline.

The College is a spacious building of brick, surmounted by a cupola and surrounded by a large enclosure, adorned with shade trees. Its site is a commanding eminence in the town of St. Charles, Mo. With its appurtenances, it is capable of accommodating upwards of an hundred pupils, and now numbers about eighty. In the departments of Classics, Mathematics and English Literature, it is not excelled, if equalled, by any similar institution in the West. The professorships, in the various branches of learning, are filled by able and experienced teachers, under the Presidential supervision of the Rev. J. H. FIELDING, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a gentleman highly esteemed for exemplary piety and learning.

THE PRAIRIES.

NOT the least remarkable features in the Great Western Valley, are the Prairies, which are found in every direction over the face of its vast territory. They are of two kinds, the swelling or rolling, and the level or flat. The former consist of undulating fields, broken into swells or reaches of various lengths and breadths, extending sometimes to an altitude of sixty or seventy feet. Between these swells are sloughs, or "sloos," which are generally marshy and in many instances contain small lakes or pools, and some, that are dry, exhibit the appearance of funnels, and answer a similar purpose in carrying off water into the caverns beneath, the existence of which is indicated by the soil above. The flat prairies are plains of rich alluvion, grown with long lank grass, and occasionally presenting a lake, and often studded here and there with groves of the wild crab apple, and clusters of forest trees, that look like emerald isles in a sea of waving green.

The Prairies are of various extent, from one mile to hundreds of miles.—The largest are in the Far-off West—the home of the Buffalo and the red hunter. Wherever they are partly cultivated, as most of them are, in the "States," and where the annual fires are discontinued, they soon grow up with timber. Their soil is, with very few exceptions, entirely alluvial, and yields immense crops of Indian Corn and other coarse grain. When they exist in the neighborhood of settlements, they afford excellent pasturage for horses and cattle, and fine ranges for swine, and are traversed by herds of deer, the number of which increases near the plantations, when not in too close proximity, as their greatest enemies, the black and prairie wolves, decrease as cultivation advances. Wild turkies, ducks, prairie fowls or grouse, and quails, and rabbits also abound on the prairies, and afford great amusement to sportsmen. Numerous other animals, as the gopher, the opossum, the racoon, &c., &c., are found in them or on their borders.

The wayfarer over these wide savannahs, will sometimes be startled by a sound, as of hounds on the hunt, and anon, a noble "buck of ten times" will leap past him, followed by a pack of hungry wolves, yelping as they run in hot pursuit; but he will look in vain for the sportsmen of the field, he can but fancy that invisible hunters,

"Horsed on the viewless couriers of the air,"
are tracking their game, and urging the wild chase.

PL. IX.



PRAIRIE ON FIRE.

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Some theorists, believe the Prairies to have been, very anciently, the beds of lakes or of the sea; this opinion finds arguments in the alluvious character of their soil, and in the marine shells, that are invariably found, imbedded in the limestone of adjacent bluffs.

When the grass is thoroughly ripe, in the fall, towards the close of November, most of the Prairies are burned. The fires sometimes originate by accident, but more often from the design of the hunters, to facilitate them in the destruction of game. The dry grass, which then is often as high as the head of a man on horseback, burns with a fierce and terrible rapidity, and extends the flames for miles in a few minutes, impressing the beholder with the idea of a general conflagration. If the wind chances to be high, tufts of the burning material dart like flaming meteors through the air, and, far as the eye can reach, a pall of black smoke stretches to the horizon and overhangs the scene, while all below is lighted up, and blazing with furious intensity, and ever and anon, flaming whisps of grass flash up, revolving and circling in the glowing atmosphere, and lending to the imagination, a semblance of convict-spirits tossing in a lake of fire. The birds startled and bewildered scream wildly, and tumble and roll about above the flames, the affrighted deer leaps from its covert and courses madly away, and the terrified wolf, forgetful of the chase, runs howling in an adverse direction.

When an experienced hunter finds himself upon a prairie, to which fire has been applied, he immediately kindles a fire near him (as did the old trapper in Cooper's novel of the "Prairie,") and the wind bears the flames onward, burning a path before him, which he follows to a place of safety, and thus, escapes a horrid fate, that, but for his sagacity, would have been inevitable. A prairie on fire can sometimes be seen at a distance of fifty miles. The fire continues until the grass is all consumed, and, not unfrequently, it is carried by the wind into the adjacent forest, which it blasts and devastates, until checked by a water course. Early in the spring, the prairies renew their verdant clothing, and long before their next autumnal burning, all vestiges of the preceding conflagrations are gone, unless, perhaps, some worm-eaten and sapless tree, in one of the island-like clusters, may show, by its blackened trunk and leafless branches, that the flames have been there.

In no possible condition can the prairies be seen, without exciting feelings of a peculiar and most lively interest. They are gloriously beautiful or awfully terrible, according to the times and seasons in which they are beheld. When viewed in the broad glare of day, they seem like large lakes, gently undulating in the breeze, and their variegated flowers flash in the sun, like phosphorescent sparkles on the surface of the water. Seen by moonlight, they appear calm and placid as the lagunes of Venice, and the beholder almost

wonders, why they do not reflect back the starry glories of the sky above them. In storms, the clouds that hang over them seem,

“To come more near the earth than is their wont”

in other places, and the lightning sweeps closely to their surface, as if to mow them with a fiery scythe, while, as the blast blows through them, the tall grass bends and surges before it, and gives forth a shrill whistling sound, as if every fibre were a harp-string of Æolus. In the spring, they put forth their rich verdure, embossed with the early wild flowers of many hues, spreading a gorgeous carpeting, which no Turkish fabric can equal. At this season, in the early dawn, while the mists hang upon their borders—curling in folds like curtains, through which the morning sheds a softened light, “half revealed, half concealed,” by the vapoury shadows that float fitfully over the scene—they appear now light, now shaded, and present a panorama ever varying, brightening and darkening, until the mists roll up, and the uncurtained sun reveals himself in his full rising. In the summer, the long grass stoops and swells with every breath of the breeze, like the waves of the heaving ocean, and the bright blossoms seem to dance and laugh in the sunshine, as they toss their gaudy heads to the rustling music of the passing wind. The prairies are, however, most beautiful, when the first tints of autumn are upon them; when their lovely flowers, in ten thousand varieties, are decked in their gorgeous foliage; when the gold and purple blossoms are contrasted with the emerald-green surface and silver linings of their rich leaves, and all the hues of the iris, in every modification, show themselves on all sides, to dazzle, bewilder and amaze. Bleak, desolate and lonely, as a Siberian waste, the prairie exhibits itself in winter; pathless and trackless; one vast expanse of snow, seemingly spread out to infinity, like the winding sheet of a world.

The traveller to the “Rocky Mountains” may rise with the early morning, from the centre of one of the great prairies, and pursue his solitary journey until the setting of the sun, and yet not reach its confines, which recede into the dim, distant horizon, that seems its only boundary. He, however, will hear the busy hum of the bee, and mark the myriads of parti-colored butterflies, and other insects, that flit around him; he will behold tens of thousands of buffaloes grazing in the distance, and the savage, but now peaceful, Indian intent upon the hunt; and he will see troops of wild horses spreading over the plain, shaking the earth with their unshod hoofs, tossing their free manes, like streamers, to the wind, and snorting fiercely with unbridled nostrils; the fleet deer will, now and then, dart by him; the wolf will rouse from his lair, and look askance and growl at him; and the little prairie dog will run to the top of its tiny mound and bark at him, before it retreats to its den within it. No human being may be the companion of the traveller in the immense solitude,

yet will he feel that he is not alone—the wide expanse is populous with myriads of creatures, and, in the emphatic language of the red man, “The Great Spirit is upon the Prairie.”

“And then the prairies! Lovely, when the spring
Hangs o’er their wastes of green her hazy veil;
Sublime, when heaving with an ocean swing,
Rolls the tall grass before the autumn gale,
Tossing, like foam, the withered flowrets pale.
Behold a grander scene! Some hand hath thrown
A firebrand ’mid the herbage! Words would fail
To paint the kindled desert, red and lone,
When the flame reaps by night the harvest God hath sown!

“Onward, still onward, sweeps the scorching tide;
A forest bars its desolating way;
Swift through the fallen leaves the flashes glide,
Lick the huge trunks, and dart from spray to spray!
Streams through the green arcade the lurid ray,
Startling from bush and bough a feathered swarm;
Through the tree tops the flames like lightnings play,
And ere hath reeled one proud oak’s glowing form,
Over the forest’s roof hath passed the blazing storm.

“Again it bursts across the treeless waste,
Upon the strong wings of the hurricane;
Affrighted herds, from grassy covert chased,
Before its angry rush their sinews strain;
But hark! the dash of waters o’er the plain
Comes blended with the conflagration’s roar.
Through yon tall bluffs that wear a ruddy stain,
Missouri’s chafing waves impetuous pour;
The blaze half leaps the tide, then fades, to flash no more!”

[From the “FAR WEST,” a poem in the *Knickerbocker*, March, 1838.]

NO. 6.

DECEMBER.

THE
VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

ILLUSTRATED.

*In a series of views, embracing pictures of the principal cities and towns,
public buildings, and remarkable and picturesque scenery, on the*

OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS.

DRAWN AND LITHOGRAPHED BY

J. C. WILD.

EDITED BY LEWIS F. THOMAS.

Published monthly in numbers, each number containing four views,
with an average of four pages of letter press to each view, making at
the end of each year a volume of two hundred pages with fifty views.
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J. C. WILD,

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1841.



CAIRO.
ILLINOIS.

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C A I R O .

On the peninsula formed by the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, at the south west corner of the state of Illinois, is located the site of the "City of Cairo." The plan of building a city at this point originated in 1818, in which year the Territorial government of Illinois, granted to a number of persons, proprietors of the land, a charter, incorporating them, their heirs, successors and assigns as the "The City and Bank of Cairo." Under the provisions of this charter, the plan of the city was laid off on a most extensive scale, and the company designated a gentleman of their number, who was the originator of the scheme, to proceed to Europe and procure means and immigrants to carry the enterprise into effect. This gentleman died just about the time fixed for his embarkation, and in consequence of his death, and the deaths of some other members of the company, and of the pecuniary embarrassments of others, the project fell through, until about the year 1836, when it was renewed and improved under the auspices of the present share-holders.

The only objection to the site of the city, arises, from the fact, that it is subject, at times, to partial inundation. This objection once fully obviated, there is perhaps no situation on the map of the United States, that offers more advantages for a great inland city, than are offered by the location of Cairo. Situated in the centre of the Mississippi valley, at the junction of two of the greatest rivers of the west, the middle point commanding twenty-five thousand miles of inland steam navigation in different directions, and surrounded on all sides by a rich and rapidly populating country, it would appear to be, the natural site, for a great commercial emporium. In the report of Messrs. Strickland and Taylor, engineers, (1838,) the site of Cairo and the means of making it habitable are set forth as follows:—

"Upon an examination of the peninsula at the junction of the Ohio with the Mississippi river, at the lowest stage of the water, the elevation of the land is found to be from 30 to 35 feet in height, on both rivers. The banks are made up in horizontal layers of alluvial depositions of various thicknesses, composed of loam, sand and clay. The top surface is formed of a rich soil, slightly undulating, in a direction across the point of land from river to river; this unevenness has evidently been formed at some remote period by the overflow of the superior current of the Mississippi, the banks of which river being

somewhat higher than those of the Ohio, the drainage, when the freshets subside, is directed towards the latter stream; this surface, however, may be considered nearly a level plain, with slight indentations, formed of parallel ridges and banks for a distance of several miles, in a northerly direction, from the extreme southern point of land.

The whole peninsula is covered with a thick growth of forest trees, many of which are exceedingly heavy, measuring from three to five feet in diameter. The cotton wood, sycamore, mulberry, maple and boxwood abound over the surface.

At the extreme southern point for the distance of five or six hundred feet from the water, the land is evidently of recent formation, being not more than from fifteen to twenty feet in height, and sustaining a great quantity of young saplings of cotton wood.

On the Mississippi, at the distance of two and a half miles above the junction of the Ohio, the river in its lowest stage flows rapidly through a very deep channel, and makes slight encroachments on its banks by underwashing the earth, which in many places, for the extent of a mile, is in an overhanging and perpendicular position; but, this, abrasion of the banks, may be easily prevented by removing the overhanging masses of earth, and the heavy forest trees growing near the margin of the river, and by the construction of a wing dam projected at the turn of the stream above. We do not, however, perceive that the Mississippi side of this peninsula can well be made eligible as a landing place for this front of the contemplated city, particularly so, when it is known that the Ohio shore is always much more free from any encroachments of the water on its banks. The current of this river is not one-fourth part as great as that of the Mississippi, being not more than one mile per hour, with a depth of water gradually increasing from its shores to the channel, forming an excellent approach to the town for vessels, and altogether a better harbor and landing for steam boats and other craft in case of heavy winds and freshets.

From the marks on the trees it is very evident that the highest overflow of the waters above the top surface of the peninsula averages from four to five feet, and that some of the highest points of the ridges of land are above the highest flood. With regard to the inundation of the land, which seldom takes place to the height mentioned above, it becomes immediately necessary to consider—*First*, what plan should be pursued to embank a given space, in order to secure habitations from this occasional overflow;

Secondly—where is the best position on this neck of land to be first selected for the commencement of buildings to form the nucleus of the city. A previous question, however, to either of the foregoing, necessarily relates

to the firmness of the banks and their capability to sustain the foundation of dwellings, together with the facilities at hand of procuring suitable materials for embankments to protect habitations from the inroads of the waters.

To all these questions the undersigned pronounce an unequivocal opinion that the firmness of the banks is unquestionable, and that the practicability of procuring abundant materials necessary for the foundation and construction of a city is also beyond a doubt, and for the commencement of this project we propose the following plan of operation:

First. That the position or location of this city should be near the junction of the two rivers, and that the limits to be first laid out, embanked and defended, should not exceed a quarter section or half a mile square.

That, in securing the most southern position as the site or commencement of the town, a great body of earth, some of which is now washing away by the current of the Mississippi, may be procured from the extreme south point of the peninsula, and easily removed to assist in forming the embankment or levee round the half square mile.

Second. That the principal front of the town be parallel to the Ohio river, and that the present banks on this front be reduced to a slope or ascent from low water mark upwards, in the proportion of one foot in height to five feet horizontal, and that the banks of earth thus reduced, should be carried up and filled in throughout the principal streets to the height of eight feet above the level of the present surface of the ground, so that each street be made up by an embankment.

That the foundation of the stores, warehouses and dwellings, be carried up to the height of nine feet above the present surface, forming with reference to the streets when filled up, *underground or cellar stories*, and that all the buildings contain four stories above the basements.

Third. That the bank or levee fronting the river be at least one hundred and twenty-five feet in width, filled up to the height of eight feet above the present surface, and that the surrounding banks of the half mile square, be at right angles with the levee on the front of the river, eighty feet in width and eight feet in height.

Fourth. By the adoption of the slope of one to five, or even a little less if required, a great body of earth now, in nearly a vertical position will be cut off from the brow of the banks of the river, and the disposition to slip or slide will be entirely removed. The great body of water will then lie on this slope or inclined bank, and in times of freshets the tendency of the waters will be to consolidate instead of abrading the shores as they now do throughout the whole course of the river. The height of the present banks being from thirty to thirty-five feet above low water, and that of the levee eight

in addition, it follows that the top of the slope will commence at two hundred and fifteen feet from the river, and the amount of excavation along the shore will thereby produce a sufficient quantity of earth to make up and embank an ample levee along the whole front of the town. The slope of the levee from low water mark, and even below that point, immediately in front of the town, should be paved with stone *set on edge*, after the manner pursued at Louisville and Cincinnati, but not with so much steepness as at either of those cities: abundant material may be had for this purpose at a moderate distance above the site of the city."

According to the suggestions of the engineers, the Cairo Company immediately proceeded to make the improvements necessary, to render the site of their city permanently habitable. These improvements are now very nearly completed. They consist of embankments or levees, completely encircling the town, and considerably above the mark of the highest water ever known. The levee on the Ohio front is five feet above the highest known floods, and fifty feet above low water mark. It extends two and a half miles along the Ohio, and is graded at an easy ascent, of three hundred feet in width from low water mark to the line of the warehouses. The back or Mississippi levee extends three and a half miles, and is united to the front, or Ohio levee, by a cross levee, one and a half miles long. The whole amount of the embankments is seven and a half miles, inclosing three thousand acres. For half a mile back from the Ohio, the timber has been entirely cleared, and a number of buildings erected. Immediately on the point, at the junction of the rivers, is the Cairo Hotel, 200 feet long and three stories high, with piazzas. Fronting the Ohio levee is a line of substantial brick warehouses, and, in the rear of these, are a number of dwellings, three stories high, and about 100 small frame houses for workmen, are scattered about in convenient locations. There are, at Cairo, several saw mills, and extensive iron foundries and machine shops; also a large dry dock for the repair of steam boats, 250 feet in length by 60 wide, from which the water is pumped by steam. A steamboat of the largest class has just been launched at Cairo, and the "Steamboat Building Company" has contracted for the construction of several others.

The accompanying view is taken from the lower point, at the mouth of the Ohio, and exhibits the Ohio front of Cairo and a portion of the Mississippi front, with the hotel, warehouses, and other buildings, (the tops only of some which are visible above the levee,) and the foundries, dry dock, &c.

The Cairo Company, in their prospectus, published in 1839, say:—

"Besides the natural difficulties to be surmounted and overcome in building a city at this point, the company are aware, that they will have to contend against the opinions and influence of those who are interested in towns and

cities already established or proposed to be, on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. This is to be expected as the natural consequence of rivalry, competition and interest. The company, therefore, have adopted a new, but most certain plan, to accomplish the great objects they have in view, which they are confident will insure success to the enterprise, in the shortest period of time which the power of money and labor can accomplish, and which will, *by force of interest alone*, bring a population every way desirable to this place, *while*, at the same time, all the conveniences and comforts of life, with the advantages of moral and religious improvement, will be secured to the inhabitants, which can be found at any other place in the West. In one important consideration, this city will stand unrivalled, (that is) "*education*," there being a fund adequate for the instruction of the inhabitants for a century to come, (of a population equal to that of New York,) secured to this township by land in the city, especially appropriated for this purpose.

The company, under its charter, will proceed to make levees, embankments, canals, dry docks, and erect warehouses, stores and shops, for the convenience of every branch of commercial business; also buildings adapted for every useful mechanical and manufacturing purpose; likewise dwelling houses, of such description and cost, as will suit the taste and convenience of every citizen. The buildings will be principally of stone and brick, and the plan, system, style and location such, as will best accommodate the business of the place. The company are encouraged to take this course, from the fact, that most persons, on removing to a new country, have not the means to purchase lots and build thereon, and consequently it is almost impossible to obtain suitable dwelling houses, or places of business, excepting at very high rents.

The company will offer every reasonable encouragement to the enterprising and skilful artizan, manufacturer, merchant and professional man, to identify his interests with the growth and prosperity of the 'City of Cairo.' And without doing injustice to any town already located in the West, the company may with truth affirm, that all the advantages for trade and business of every description, which are, or can be possessed by any city of importance on the Ohio or Mississippi rivers, will be found at Cairo; and the local situation of this place must, in many things, give it a decided superiority over all others. The city is surrounded for many miles with the largest forests of timber in the State, particularly the cypress in great abundance, from which the finest lumber can be obtained. Bituminous coal is found in the vicinity, and can be delivered at \$1 50 per ton; also building stone of different kinds, at the expense of quarrying and delivery.

The rich and extensive mineral mines of Missouri and Tennessee are within a day or two distance, and iron can be furnished at this city in its natural or

manufactured state, at far less price than it is now obtained at Cincinnati or even at Pittsburg.

By reference to the map of Illinois, exhibiting the internal improvements authorized to be made by that State, it will be seen that the city of Cairo is made the point of commencement of the 'Central Rail Road,' which runs through the centre of the State to Galena, a distance of four hundred and fifty miles, and is intersected by rail roads, terminating or passing through the principal towns on the Mississippi, Illinois, Wabash, Kaskaskia, Ohio and Rock rivers, and connected with Chicago by the Michigan and Illinois canal, making upwards of twelve hundred miles of inland transportation, for which Cairo must necessarily become the most important *entrepot* of produce and merchandise passing to and from the North, East, South and West: as at this place, these two great natural highways, the Mississippi and Ohio rivers unite, which, with their tributary streams, embrace at least five thousand miles of navigable waters.* From this point to New Orleans, the river is never obstructed by ice, and is accessible at the lowest stage of water, for the largest class of boats, and the harbor or landing cannot be surpassed in the West for convenience and safety, and extends upwards of five miles on both rivers."

The Company, so far, have fulfilled their promises, and having lately received a large amount of funds from Europe, it is presumed that a new impetus will be given to the enterprise, and the city of Cairo, at no very distant day, will fulfil the expectations of its founders.

*The Ohio and Mississippi above are navigable about four thousand miles. The Missouri has been ascended, by steam, for a distance of three thousand miles. The whole amount of steam navigation in the Mississippi valley, is but little, if any, short of twenty-five thousand miles. [Ed.]

PL XXII.



GRAND TOWER & DEVIL'S BAKE OVEN,
ON THE MISS. RIVER.

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GRAND TOWER, &c.

NEARLY equally distant from St. Louis and the mouth of the Ohio, on the west side of the Mississippi, is Grand Tower. It is a column of solid rock about fifty feet in diameter, and rising fifty feet in height above the ordinary surface of the water, and is crowned with a luxurious growth of stunted trees and shrubbery. Higher up on the Illinois shore of the river, is a mass of rock nearly sixty feet high, which from its peculiar shape, and from an aperture in the southern side, has obtained the appellation of "The Devil's Bake Oven." This latter, appears to have been, by some violent means, separated from the adjacent cliff which overhangs it. In descending the Mississippi, on approaching Grand Tower, there will be noticed in its neighborhood, several other masses of rock, resembling columns or towers; these, however, are not isolated, but are connected with the shore, whereas the tower stands alone in the river, in the centre of a deep channel, breasting a current that is here stronger than any where else on the river, below "the Rapids." In the vicinage, on both shores, are several other curiously formed rocks, which have obtained fanciful appellations, as the "Devil's Pulpit," "Devil's Grave," &c. A few miles further up, on the Missouri shore, are the "Cornice Rocks," so called from the appearance of their tops, which look as if regularly wrought into a cornice. These rocks extend to the height of 150 feet perpendicularly above the surface of the river. They form a solid wall, which rises right out of the water and stretches along its margin for a considerable distance, marked the whole way by the *Cornice*, which seems to have been produced by the abrasion of a mighty current, that formerly swept near the top of the rocks. The Cornice Rocks, Grand Tower, &c., on the Missouri side of the Mississippi, form what may be termed the spur of the Merrimack hills, a line of highlands that extend north-westwardly to the Gasconade river. The Devil's Bake Oven, diagonally opposite the Grand Tower, is the abrupt termination of the "Illinois bluffs," those stupendous cliffs, averaging 150 feet in height, which enclose the American bottom and extend semi-circularly from above the mouth of the Missouri, to this point, having all the way the same cornice, or water marks, which characterize the Cornice Rocks. These facts have led many to adopt the theory, that the Mississippi was once dammed or blocked up at the Grand Tower, and that here was a water fall more mighty than that of

Niagara, that the American bottom and much of the Missouri shore, formed the bed of a large lake, fed by the river, whose upper current wore the cornices in the rocks, until by some violent convulsion, a channel was forced through at the tower, and the lake was in a great part drained, leaving its bed to form the rich alluvion of the American bottom. The fact that pine and other trees have been found, in digging for water, in the neighborhood of St. Louis, fifty feet below the surface of the earth, is also an argument in favor of this theory.

The proprietor of the land at Grand Tower, Col. William B. Cowan, has proposed it as the site for a city, and for a bridge over the Mississippi; the Grand Tower to be one of the supports of the bridge, a company for building which, was chartered some years ago by the Legislature of Illinois. Mr. John Woods, of Pittsburgh, one of the most experienced navigators of the rivers of the west, in a letter to Col. Cowan on the subject of his project, says:

"During the year 1809, I stopped at Grand Tower for the purpose of recruiting my health, and remained in that vicinity some two or three weeks, during which time I traversed the country in the vicinity of Grand Tower, both on the Missouri and Illinois side; and at that time I made up my mind of the advantageous location of Grand Tower, for some important object, it being an important point.

Your location on the Illinois side, is a good one,—the land itself is good on which the plot stands, safe from all stages of water, perfectly high and dry, and the landing good at all stages of the water, and all seasons of the year.

The landing is also equally good on the Missouri side of the river.

There is no better harbour on the whole of the Mississippi river than there is at Grand Tower, and more particularly from the ice, at the breaking up of the rivers in the spring of the year.

The Mississippi, at Grand Tower, is much narrower than it is at any other point on the river—Rock Island not excepted, although it has received the waters of the Illinois, Missouri, Merimac and Kaskaskia.

Nature has done much towards building a bridge across the Mississippi river at Grand Tower. The narrowness of the stream, each locality of the rocky pillars, and the firm rocky banks on either side, together with a rocky foundation for all the pillars, which by the bye may be built in eddy water, all combine to convince man that this is a natural place for a permanent bridge across this river.

Viewing this point as a central one of the Mississippi valley, and I know of none more so, it being directly in the mineral region, and equally commanding extraordinary rich land in Illinois and Missouri. The climate is good, the water is good, and the scenery of Grand Tower, and its vicinity, is grand and sublime.

Apart from all the numerous scites of water power in Perry county, Missouri, and that of Muddy river in Jackson county, Illinois, I do believe there is a full amount of fall of water of the Mississippi, from Grand Tower inclusive, Bake Oven, Cape Garlic, and Fountain Bluff, inclusive, that could be taken direct from the Mississippi river, and applied to the use of machinery of any kind, and when your engineers will have made a report, showing the altitude of the waters at each of these points, it will I think corroborate the facts which I here have stated, and also show with what ease and cheapness a bridge may be built, &c."

About ten miles from Grand Tower, in Illinois, are salt springs, from which large quantities of salt, of a superior quality, are produced. Sixty miles west, in Missouri, is the celebrated Iron Mountain. The following description of Grand Tower and its vicinity from a work entitled the "Far West," is graphic and correct, except as to the height of the tower:

"Near the northern extremity of this bottom [Tyowapity] the waters of the Muddy River enter the Mississippi from Illinois. This stream was discovered by the early French voyageurs, and from them received the name of *Riviere au Vase* or *Vasseaux*. It is distinguished for the salines upon its banks, for its exhaustless beds of bituminous coal, for the fertility of the soil, and for a singularly formed eminence among the bluffs of the Mississippi, a few miles from its mouth. Its name is "*Fountain Bluff*," derived from the circumstance that from its base gush out a number of limpid springs. It is said to measure eight (12) miles in circumference, and to have an altitude of several hundred feet. Its western declivity looks down upon the river, and its northern side is a precipitous crag, while that upon the south slopes away to a fertile plain, sprinkled with farms.

"A few miles above the Big Muddy, stands out from the Missouri shore a huge perpendicular column of limestone, of cylindrical formation, about one hundred feet in circumference at the base and in height one hundred and fifty feet, called the "Grand Tower." Upon its summit rests a thin stratum of vegetable mould, supporting a shaggy crown of rifted cedars, rocking in every blast that sweeps the stream, whose turbid current boils, and chafes, and rages at the obstruction below. This is the first of that celebrated range of heights upon the Mississippi, usually pointed out to the tourist, springing in isolated masses from the river's brink on either side, and presenting to the eye a succession of objects singularly grotesque. There are said to exist at this point upon the Mississippi, indications of a large parapet of limestone having once extended across the stream, which must have formed a tremendous cataract, and effectually inundated all the alluvion above. At low stages of the water, ragged shelves, which render the navigation dangerous, are still to be seen.

Among the other cliffs along this precipitous range, which have received names from the boatmen, are the "Devil's Oven," "Tea-table," "Backbone," &c., which with the "Devil's Anvil," "Devil's Island," &c. indicate pretty plainly the divinity most religiously propitiated in these dangerous passes. The 'Oven' consists of an enormous promontory of rock, about one hundred feet from the surface of the river, with a hemispherical orifice scooped out of its face, probably by the action, in ages past, of the whirling waters now hurrying on below. It is situated upon the left bank of the stream, about one mile above the 'Tower,' and is visible from the river. In front rests a huge fragment of the same rock, and in the interval stands a dwelling and a garden spot. The 'Tea-table' is situated at some distance below, and the other spots named are yet lower upon the stream. The whole region bears palpable evidence of having been subjected, ages since, to powerful volcanic and deluvial action; and neither the Neptunian or Vulcanian theory can advance a superior claim."

Before steam navigation was introduced, Grand Tower was one of the most dangerous places, to the navigator, on the whole Mississippi. The current being remarkably swift, the voyagers in keels and barges, had to ascend the river bank, in advance of their vessels, which were then drawn by ropes through the swift current, that would not admit of the ordinary means of "poling" against the stream. The boats were not only in great danger of being wrecked against the rocks, but they also ran great risk from pirates or robbers, consisting of renegade whites and Indians, who had their haunts in the neighborhood of the tower, and committed frequent depredations upon traders on the river. The narrowness of the Mississippi at this point, and the peculiar character of the shore on either side, gave to the freebooters great advantages, and they became the scourge and terror of the early navigators, and rendered their favorite haunt, the scene of many a legend of rapine and bloodshed.

A highly poetical suggestion, in reference to the tower, has been made, which every American would feel proud to see carried into effect. It is, that a monument to Fulton, be erected on its top,—the expense could easily be defrayed by collections from passengers on the boats which pass it. A statue of Fulton, executed by Clevenger, the native sculptor of the Valley, and erected on the top of the Grand Tower, midway in the length of the great Mississippi and in its strongest current, would indeed be a noble memorial, at once honorable to the mighty genius who taught how to stem the tide of the great Father of Waters, to the Art of sculpture in the great west, and to the gratitude of a great nation.



VIEW OF SELMA.
MISSOURI.

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SELMA.

THE name of Selma has been given to a small settlement, on the west bank of the Mississippi river, about 45 miles below St. Louis. The place is chiefly remarkable for its picturesque scenery, and as having been originally settled by the notorious John Smith T., "The hero of an hundred fights," and a thousand "hair breadth 'scapes" and perilous adventures, and celebrated throughout the West for his personal prowess and daring. He settled here in 1823, and established a shot factory and warehouses, for the reception of lead and sale of goods. The mining districts of Jefferson and Washington counties are principally supplied with goods at this point: the Vallee mines are in its rear, distant about 17 miles, and the mines of Potosi are within 35 miles. About three millions of pounds of lead are annually received at Selma, one-third of which is manufactured into shot. The shot tower is merely a small shed, jutting over a precipice, and supplied with a furnace, and the other necessary apparatus for making the shot, which is received from a fall of about 175 feet, into a receptacle on a ledge of rock, a little more than half way down the cliff. "The cliffs of Selma" are huge masses of rock, rising to a height of three hundred feet above the level of the river, having the appearance of an immense castle, whose walls have been battered and broken in a siege. The crags and cavities present various fantastic shapes, which the imagination can, with facility, construct into buttresses, towers, loop-holes, donjon-keeps, and all the appurtenances of an old feudal fortress.

The cliff is broken, at Selma, by a deep ravine, through which flows a small creek, along whose banks is a road leading to the interior country.

In many places, along the whole length of the Mississippi, above the mouth of the Ohio, the cliffs present appearances, similar to those of Selma. Water marks can distinctly be traced, in an even line, a little below their tops, and marine shells are found, in abundance, petrefied in the limestone rocks, of which they are composed. A shell, of the nautilus species, perfectly formed and entire, was taken out of a fragment of rock, broken off from the cliffs of Selma.

The view exhibits the most picturesque part of the cliffs, with the mansion and warehouses of Capt. James M. White, the proprietor, also a tavern, the shot tower, &c.

BARBEAU'S CREEK, &c.

A remarkably beautiful scene is exhibited about three miles back of the Mississippi, and two miles below the village of Prairie du Rocher, in Illinois, at a place where a small creek, after descending through a ravine in the Illinois bluffs, pursues its winding way to the river. The rock, which is a portion of the bluffs, comes here to a point, almost abrupt, and rises about an hundred and fifty feet high, with a projection overhanging its base, some ten or twelve feet, and wearing the appearance of having been wrought into a cornice. The top of the rock is overgrown with cedar trees and shrubbery, and rising backward from it, with a steep ascent, to an elevation of two hundred feet from the crown of the rock, is a thickly wooded hill. At the Northern base of the rock, is the residence of Mr. Barbeau, from whom the creek is named, and it is here crossed by a rural bridge, connecting the Kaskaskia road, which passes directly under the frowning crags.

Connected with this picturesque place, is a little legend, which some of the inhabitants in the vicinity take great delight in relating. In the early settlement of the village of Prairie du Rocher, a certain Canadian voyageur, named Pierre Morceau, took up his abode among the settlers, and took to himself a wife. Pierre, like most of the inhabitants, made his subsistence by hunting. He was a good fiddler and a good dancer, sung a good song and loved a good glass, and was altogether a very jolly little fellow, and very popular. Contemporary with Pierre, there lived in the neighborhood, a Kaskaskian Indian, who had received the name of Motty. In his rambles through the forest, Pierre made the acquaintance of Motty, and they soon became great friends, and formed a partnership in hunting, and were boon companions at the *cantines* or grog shops. Pierre had resided about a year at the village, and the intimacy between him and his friend Motty continued unabated.

He prided himself greatly on his skill in driving a bargain, and upon him devolved the business of disposing of the skins and furs taken by himself and partner, to the traders who occasionally visited the village. The common currency of the country, at that day, as now, in many places, was "'coon skins," and other peltries, and with these, the few dry goods and groceries needed by the inhabitants were purchased, and the jugs at the *cantines* and



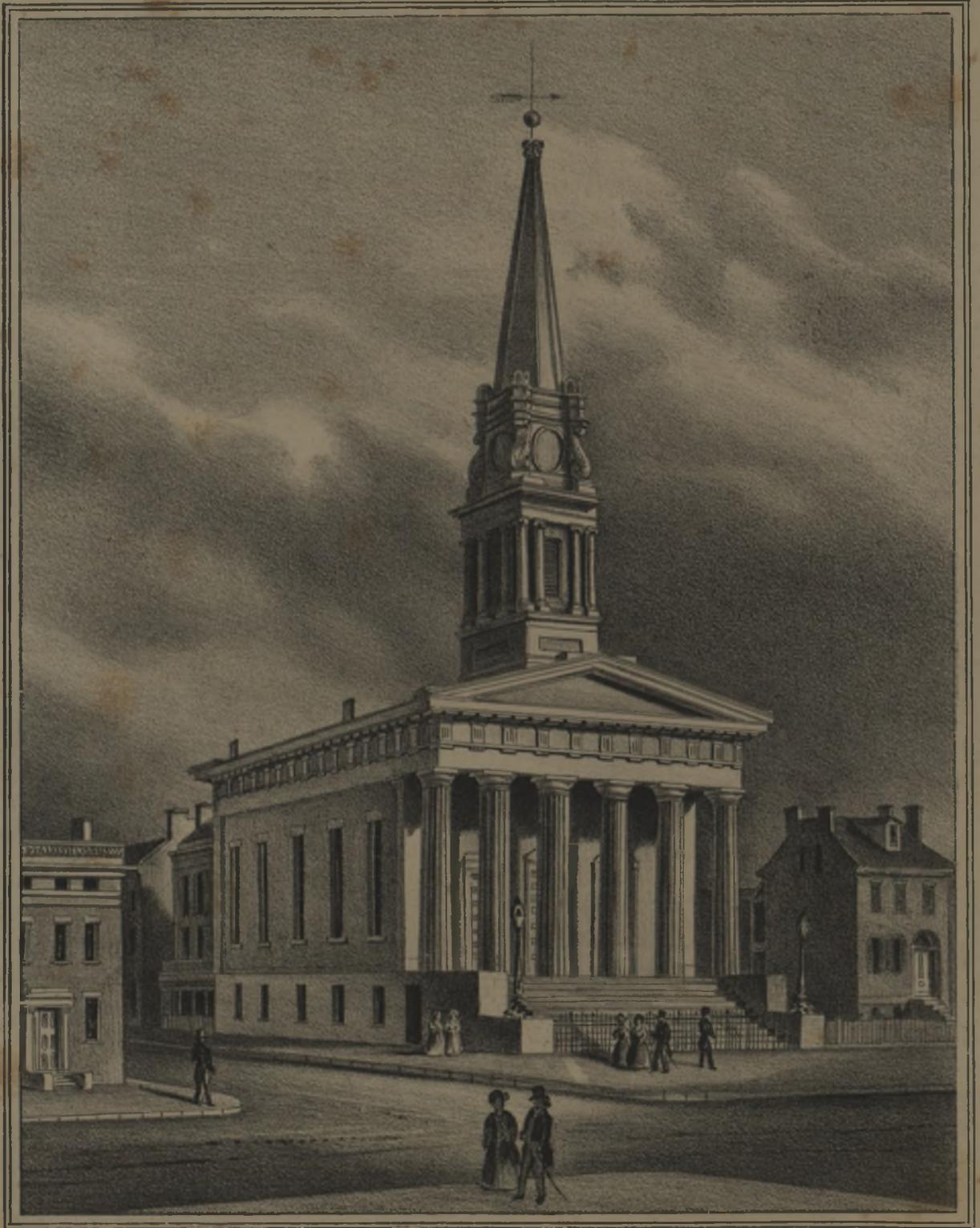
SARBEAU'S CREEK,
PRAIRIE DU ROCHER.
ILLINOIS.

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the flasks of the hunters were replenished. It so happened, one season, that Motty and Pierre had been very successful in their hunting, and Pierre, as usual, went to dispose of their stock. Now, the identical buckskin jacket and breeches, elaborately fringed, and embroidered with porcupine quills, that had adorned the compact little body of Pierre Morceau, when he danced at his own wedding, a year before, continued, up to this time, to perform for him the same kindly office, though somewhat tarnished and faded from their former glory. Pierre having purchased the necessary supplies for himself and partner, from a trader, was about turning away, when his eyes fell upon a new pair of buckskin breeches, which the trader had for sale: he glanced from them to his old ones, and fetched a deep sigh at the contrast. Suddenly he determined, that cost what they might, he would have the new breeches. Accordingly, he commenced trafficking anew with the trader, to whom he returned the greater portion of the supplies purchased for Motty and himself, and departed, bearing off the breeches, and delighted with his bargain. On his rejoining Motty, the latter expressed great astonishment at the small amount of provisions that fell to his share, and Pierre, in his turn, lamented the low price of furs, and cursed the rapacity of the traders. Motty hinted that he had received foul play, and the two friends were near quarrelling, but the asseverations of Pierre soon produced peace, and they sat down and enjoyed their flasks together.

A few days afterwards, they met as usual for a hunt, each armed with his rifle and his flask. Pierre had donned his new breeches, and so soon as they met the eyes of Motty, he at once became convinced of the manner of their acquisition. He, however, kept silence on the subject, and they pursued their way to the top of the hill at Barbeau's creek. Here they started a fine buck, and, in an instant, Pierre, who was about an hundred and fifty yards distant from the Indian, discharged his rifle at the buck. The moment he heard its report, Motty, unmindful of the game, shouted out: "Aha! you dam dog! you Pierre Morceau, you big little tief! you cheatee me—you buy breeches—dam! me shootee you!" Accordingly he levelled his rifle, and the unfortunate Pierre dropped his in consternation, and took to his heels. Away he went, through the woods, and down the hill, as fast as he could go, the Indian shouting after him in hot pursuit. He soon reached the edge of the overhanging precipice, an hundred and fifty feet from the ground below, and here he paused an instant, and turning his head, beheld Motty taking aim at him, he turned again, gave a wild yell, and took the fearful leap! A large oak grew below, from which a branch had been riven by a storm, leaving a sharp splinter; in his rapid descent through the foliage, the splinter caught in the posterior part of Pierre's new breeches, and there he hung, dangling

in the air, forty feet from the earth. Motty arrived at the edge of the rock, and gave a loud shout, and Pierre, looking upward, exclaimed: "O Motty! Motty! don't shoot! don't shoot! I'll give you the breeches!" "Breeches be dam!" retorted Motty, "me no shootee—if me shootee, dey hang me—you hang self; you dam tief dog, aha!" and he commenced stoning poor Pierre, who yelled and kicked, until the better part of his breeches gave way, and he fell to the earth unhurt, except by a few bruises and scratches, and the loss of the nether portion of his garment, which remained on the limb, flaunting in the wind, like a tattered banner. Pierre made the best of his way home, and his wife, with the old, repaired his new habiliments; but the contrast between the patch and the rest, was ever reminding his acquaintances of his adventure, and exciting a laugh at his expense, besides obtaining for him the soubriquet of "Broken Breeches," and so poor Pierre became dispirited, and at last resolved to emigrate. Accordingly, he removed to *Vuide Poche*, where his descendants are now respectable inhabitants of that ancient village.



SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

S^t. LOUIS, MO.

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THE SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OF ST. LOUIS.

WE are not sure that our present architects who are strictly scientific, and infinitely superior as they are to the race which preceded them, before the beautiful and sublime models of Greece were introduced and had formed the taste of the intelligent and reading class in such matters, we are not sure if they are right in pursuing simple abstract beauty in constructing Churches. Veneration must be taken into the account, or there may lack a deficiency of something which the spectator and inspector *feels*, although he cannot always *express*.

It is on this account that the mighty Genius of Michael Angelo was so highly tasked when he saw that *elevation* was necessary to produce a great effect and to excite an emotion in the beholder's mind, homogeneous with the natural sublimity of the subject—a Temple of the Deity! And when he saw the *Dome of the Pantheon*, an ancient Roman edifice, then in a state of perfect preservation, and which had for many ages excited the wonder and admiration of mankind, (but the Dome rested on columns, and attained no striking elevation,) the great Roman Architect exclaimed with the confidence of genius: "A similar *Cupola* will I raise in *air*." And how was this to be done? By constructing walls sufficiently strong to sustain the enormous weight.

The Temples of the ancients had all of them this principle in view; and either massiveness or elevation were the means to carry it out. The Temple of Diana of Ephesus was said to have such massiveness and elevation both, as to produce a strong emotion in the mind of every beholder. The Cathedral of Amiens and the Cathedral Church of Beauvais, both glories of the Gothic Architecture, have massiveness without elevation. St. Peter's of Rome, St. Paul's of London, and St. Stephen's of Vienna, are instances of the attainment of great elevation; the latter is 460 feet high!

A writer after mentioning the many beautiful edifices that adorn the ancient capitol of the World, exclaims: "But these lesser stars are eclipsed by the Sun of the Vatican, by the Dome of St. Peters—the most glorious structure that has ever been applied to the purposes of Religion!"

"This Temple," says another writer, "is the largest and most magnificent on earth! the Square before it is worthy of the Temple; the Temple

of the Square—each in its kind, is the most magnificent in the World—no work of man ever seized upon and filled my mind like this.”

— The vast and wondrous Dome,
To which Diana's Temple was a cell.

But even this magnificent edifice has been subjected to the rigid test of criticism, and faults have been discovered, as has been the case with every human performance. One very eminent critic says: “the Temple itself loses from the heavy awkward structure of the front, which more than half hides the cupola, while it is out of harmony with the general form of the Church, yet the scene from its accessories is one of imposing sublimity.”

All excellence and all human performances are imperfect: since then, Michael Angelo, the great Michael Angelo, *expede Herculem*, was guilty of imperfection, how can inferior artists escape?

It must be readily acknowledged that all effects of this kind are comparative. A person coming from the Rocky Mountains or who had never seen any building dedicated to the Deity, beyond a frame meeting house in the woods, would be struck with the grandeur and magnificence both exterior and interior of the Second Presbyterian Church, and probably nearly in the same degree as one going from St. Louis to Italy, would be for the first time, seeing St. Peters—the glory of Architecture, the boast of Italy and the admiration of the World. We have witnessed the admirable, auditorial effects, if it may be so called, of the interior architecture of the building which is the subject of this article; and the vast superiority of its plan as it respects both the congregation and the minister. To expect St. Louis should, all at once, bring herself up to the level of European, or even cis-Atlantic excellence on the sea-board, would be preposterous. A great stride has, however, been made towards this by the architecture of the Second Presbyterian Church.

THIS Church had its origin in the wants of the denomination whose name it bears. The First Presbyterian Church which was organized in 1817, erected a commodious house for worship at the corner of St. Charles and Fourth streets, which they first occupied in the spring of 1825. This house continued to afford sufficient accommodations for the denomination until the fall of 1838, when it was deemed necessary that a second place of worship should be provided. Application was accordingly made to the Presbytery of St. Louis, and a second church was organized on the 10th day of October, 1838. It was composed of 60 members from the first church, and two from other Presbyterian Churches.

The congregation worshipped at its first organization in a temporary building erected at the corner of Pine street and Fifth; but immediately took measures for the erection of an edifice that should be an ornament to the city.

Having procured an eligible lot of ground from Pierre Chouteau, Esq., at the corner of Walnut and Fifth streets, for the sum of ten thousand eight hundred dollars, in March, 1839, they commenced the erection of the present edifice, under the superintendence of Lucas Bradley, Esq., Architect.

From the organization of the Church, the pulpit had been supplied by the Rev. A. T. Norton, who had been preaching as a city missionary in St. Louis. In February, 1839, they made out a call for the Rev. William S. Potts, then President of Marion College, and for several years Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of this city. Mr. Potts having accepted the invitation of the Church, entered upon the duties in July following, and was regularly installed Pastor of the Church on the 5th October, 1839.

The congregation having increased so as to render their temporary place of worship entirely too small, and the new edifice being sufficiently advanced to admit of a hasty fitting up of the Lecture Room in the basement, they removed in January, 1840, to their present building. The body of the house was first occupied for public worship on the 11th of October, 1840. On that day it was dedicated to the service of Almighty God, in the presence of the Synod of Missouri, the sermon by the Rev. President Goodrich, Moderator of the Synod.

The style of this beautiful building is Grecian Doric, as copied from the Parthenon at Athens. It consists of a basement of hammered stone, from which rises the main building of brick, with a hexartyle portico and steeple. The entire length of the building, including the portico and buttresses is 106 feet; the cellar or naos is 81 feet deep, by 63 feet 10 inches wide; the height of the basement is 10 feet from the pavement to the top of the water table; the columns of the portico are 30 feet high, and the entire height of the steeple from the pavement is 175 feet. The basement contains a large Lecture Room 59 feet long by 40 feet wide, conveniently arranged with benches, so as to seat about 400 persons; next is a convenient room 16 feet by 23, in which the Church Session meet for the transaction of all business connected with the government of the Church; adjoining this room is the Pastor's Study and Library, which is 16 feet by 19. There are also, three rooms appropriated as a residence for the Sexton of the Church, and an entrance nine feet wide, which leads to the Lecture Room, Pastor's Study, and Session Room. In front of the Lecture Room is the Furnace Room, 59 feet by 9, in which are placed the furnaces for warming the building, and from which two flights of stairs ascend to the vestibule.

The main building is entered from Fifth street. The level of the portico is gained by an ascent of steps of solid masonry, extending the whole length of the front between the buttresses. Three large doors lead from the portico

into the vestibule, which is of irregular width, being 10 feet at each end and 7 1-2 feet in the centre, occasioned by the curved form of the partition separating it from the interior of the house. At either end of the vestibule is a flight of geometrical stairs ascending to the galleries. The floor of the Church is inclined two feet, descending to the pulpit. On this floor there are 128 pews thrown into six ranges, separated by three aisles, the pews in the different ranges being placed at such an angle to the Pulpit that all the congregation face the minister or speaker. There is a low, light gallery thrown around three sides of the Church, supported by eight slender, graceful columns copied from the "Tower of the Winds." The gallery has three seats all round; and in front of the Pulpit, or over, the vestibule is arranged to accommodate a large choir, or orchestra.

The ceiling is the segment of a large circle, rising five feet in the centre and having an elongated circle the entire size of the interior of the building for its base, at which point is a rich stucco cornice five feet deep. The ceiling is enriched with 36 radiating stucco moulded pannels, and three rich centre flowers; it is 35 feet high from the centre of the middle aisle.

The building, which is one of the most beautiful in the city, was erected at a cost of \$42,000. It is admirably constructed as to sound, the ordinary conversational tones of the speaker being sufficient to fill the house, whilst its whole internal arrangement strikes the stranger as peculiarly happy. The Rev. William S. Potts, D. D., continues to be the Pastor of the Church. It has rapidly increased in members, having now one of the largest congregations in the city, and numbering more than 250 communicants.

The Pastor, Mr. Potts, deservedly maintains a high rank among the ministers of his denomination. His clear and powerful mind, enriched with a vast store of learning, renders every subject he discusses interesting and instructive to his hearers while his graceful and impressive elocution retains their unwearied attention. Another source of his great influence is the kindness of his disposition which makes his congregation his personal friends. Under his ministrations this Church must steadily and rapidly advance in numbers and in intelligent piety. The Church is connected with the Old School General Assembly.

PL. XXVI.



CATOKIA.

ILLINOIS.

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and extract the sweets of their position. Gayly, cheerfulness, and animal spirits impart strength to the mind, and a carefully selected diet gives strength to the body; these appear to be the distinguishing characteristics of the French in every land, and they center upon these another—their delight in amusement, which unites the soul and keeps the circulation of the blood unimpeded.

CAHOKIA, ILLINOIS.

Of the several classes which compose the inhabitants of the American Bottom, viz: the French, the Germans, the Irish and the Americans, the first named stand out in the boldest relief; they are by far the largest class, and they constitute nine-tenths of the population of Cahokia, a post town in the county of St. Clair, Illinois, three quarters of a mile east of the Mississippi river, five miles south of St. Louis, five miles south of Wiggins' Ferry and the town of Illinois, and ten miles north of west from Belleville. This is asserted to be the earliest settlement in the State, but no record is adduced for the fact. The year 1683 has been named as the probable period when it was formed, soon after the descent of La Salle down the Mississippi; this is, however, purely conjectural. Nearly forty years afterwards, in 1721, Charlevoix visited it, but says nothing which can aid us in fixing the exact period of its founding.

The lapse of nearly two centuries has not entirely destroyed the original impress upon this people of the manners, customs and the language of old France; albeit this was obtained second hand, viz: chiefly from Canada, in regard to a portion of the settlers. If there be any considerable deviation worthy of remark, it will be found in the additional gravity which frequent perils, great hardships, and their insulated situation might conspire to produce; which their assimilation with the Indians and the succeeding neighboring population might also contribute to confirm. In the early periods of their settlement, exposure to wild beasts, *pain court*, and the close vicinage to hostile or any tribes of Indians in superior numbers could not fail to try even the habitual *legerte* of the early French colonists.

With all these qualifications and abatements which truth exacts, there is left a sufficiently close resemblance to the French character. Gay, *debonnaire*, disposed to make the most of existence, the French in every clime have been found to assimilate not only to the *human* nature around them, converting in a very short time, savages into free and easy companions, but such is the happy organization of their minds, that they sympathize with nature in her other exterior revelations, partake freely of the sweet libations she pours out in flowers, plants and trees, and contrive even in the midst of pestiferous and life destroying *miasma*, whether within the tropics, under the equator, or exposed to the *malaria* of the North American alluvial tracts, to disarm the

sting and extract the sweets of their position. Gaiety, cheerfulness, and animal spirits impart strength to the mind, and a carefully selected diet gives strength to the body; these appear to be the distinguishing characteristics of the French in every land, and they engraft upon these another—they delight much in amusements, which unbrace the mind and keep the circulation of the blood unimpeded. How otherwise is it to be accounted for, that before cultivation had, in the American Bottom, reduced the redundancy of the vegetable principle to any extent, this class of people should withstand, unscathed, the Upas air of lagoons, dismal swamps, ponds and lakes, while their contemporaries of other races fell around them like rotten sheep? Such manners and habits must then, we are compelled to the conclusion, have a tendency in such situations, to divert and arrest disease where planted, and to avert and turn it off where it threatens. While speaking of the French character, another of its attributes may be observed upon. It is a forced, rather than a ready concurrence, which is found among the French to the modern “march of improvement.” They appear to delight not in sweeping away from the surface of the earth every vestige of the ancient land marks. Even should stately houses and marble palaces arise upon the site where their lowly cottages stood, they still do not delight. Consecrated to their affections is the ancestral domicil, and even silver and gold cannot wholly compensate for the relinquishment.

The contiguity of Cahokia to the Mississippi at its early settlement, is said to have been close; at present, as before observed, the distance from the river is considerable. Although in no part of the United States have the French settlers set up the right of *seigneurie* as in Canada, their sagacity appears to have directed their attention strongly to the prodigality of acres, which characterizes the country, blesses all first settlers, and which recedes from their grasp in proportion to the advancement of population around; hence their allotments of “common fields” and right of “common.”

The village of Cahokia, by virtue of several acts of the legislature of Illinois, passed respectively for the purposes of education, and the establishment of common schools, is endowed with a handsome annual income, which cannot be estimated at much less than \$1400; several hundred dollars of which, however, it receives from the old Ferry Company. It enjoys besides from this Company the right of *ferriage* for each individual gratis.

Explanatory of the above is the following section (4) and abbreviations of the other sections of an act entitled “An act to authorize the Supervisor of the Village of Cahokia, to lease part of the Commons appertaining to said Village.”

Abbreviations of section first. First—Supervisor authorized to survey and

lease part of commons. Second—Notice of sale. Third—Lots how sold, viz: on lease.

Section fourth.—The proceeds of the commons so leased as above shall, after defraying the expenses of sale, be appropriated to the education of the children of the inhabitants of the village of Cahokia, and for no other purpose whatever; to effect said object the inhabitants of said village shall elect three trustees annually, whose duty it shall be to provide a school house or houses, and employ a teacher or teachers suitable and competent for the instruction of the pupils. Said trustees shall have power to receive from the supervisors or lessees, the amount of money due annually from the rents of said commons and transmit the same to their successors in office, should there be any in their hands, and shall moreover be required at the end of every year to render an account to the inhabitants of said village of all the monies which come to their hands, of the amount paid for tuition and school houses and the number of children taught. Nothing in this act contained shall prevent the said supervisor from leasing any portion of said commons at private sale, when in his opinion the interest of the inhabitants of Cahokia will be advanced by it. And by the fifth section the supervisor is required to give bond. Passed, February 17, 1841.

This village is seen to very great advantage at the spring of the year where a stranger fond of rural enjoyments might pass his time very agreeably, the Mississippi river, always a noble object, being distant a very short drive. On the opposite bank at this place is an elevated ridge extending to the Missouri. Each lot (which is a narrow strip of land extending lengthwise to a considerable distance, possessed by virtue of the "common fields" allotment) is well cultivated, and in some instances highly so. The lots admit of door-yard, garden, stable and orcharding. Many valuable bearing trees are observable as you pass through the town, some of them of great age. The place evidently must have been formerly dull, and like all other interior towns not enjoying much commerce, wore to the casual visitor a melancholy aspect; but it has recently evidently received an *impetus*; new houses have been reared, others are going up, and in common with the whole American Bottom, is on the advance.

The Caoquias was the tribe of Indians which formerly occupied this spot; from whose name the town evidently derives its own.

Both the Spanish and French Governments, in forming their settlements on the Mississippi, had evidently in view the original advantages of the country, extent, &c., and adroitly seized them for the conveniences of social life, investing each individual, both in his individual and social capacity, with large grants, by which, by the very advance of time only, the posterity of

the colony might be provided for. In pursuance of this principle, to each village were granted two tracts of land at convenient distances, for "common fields," and "commons." A "common field" is a tract of land of several hundred acres, enclosed in common by the villagers, each person furnishing his proportion of labor, and each family possessing individual interest in a portion of the field marked off, and bounded from the rest.

Ordinances were made to regulate the repairs of fences, the time of excluding cattle in the spring and the time of gathering the crop and opening the field for the range of cattle in the fall. Each plat of ground in the common field was owned in *fee simple* by the person to whom granted, subject to sale and conveyance, the same as any landed property.

A "common" is a tract of land granted to the town for wood and pasturage, in which each owner of a village lot has a *common* but not an individual right. In some cases this tract embraced several thousand acres. The common attached to Cahokia, extends up the Prairie opposite St. Louis.

In 1837, by two authorities, "Peck's Gazetteer," and "Illinois in 1837," the town of Cahokia is set down as containing "fifty families."

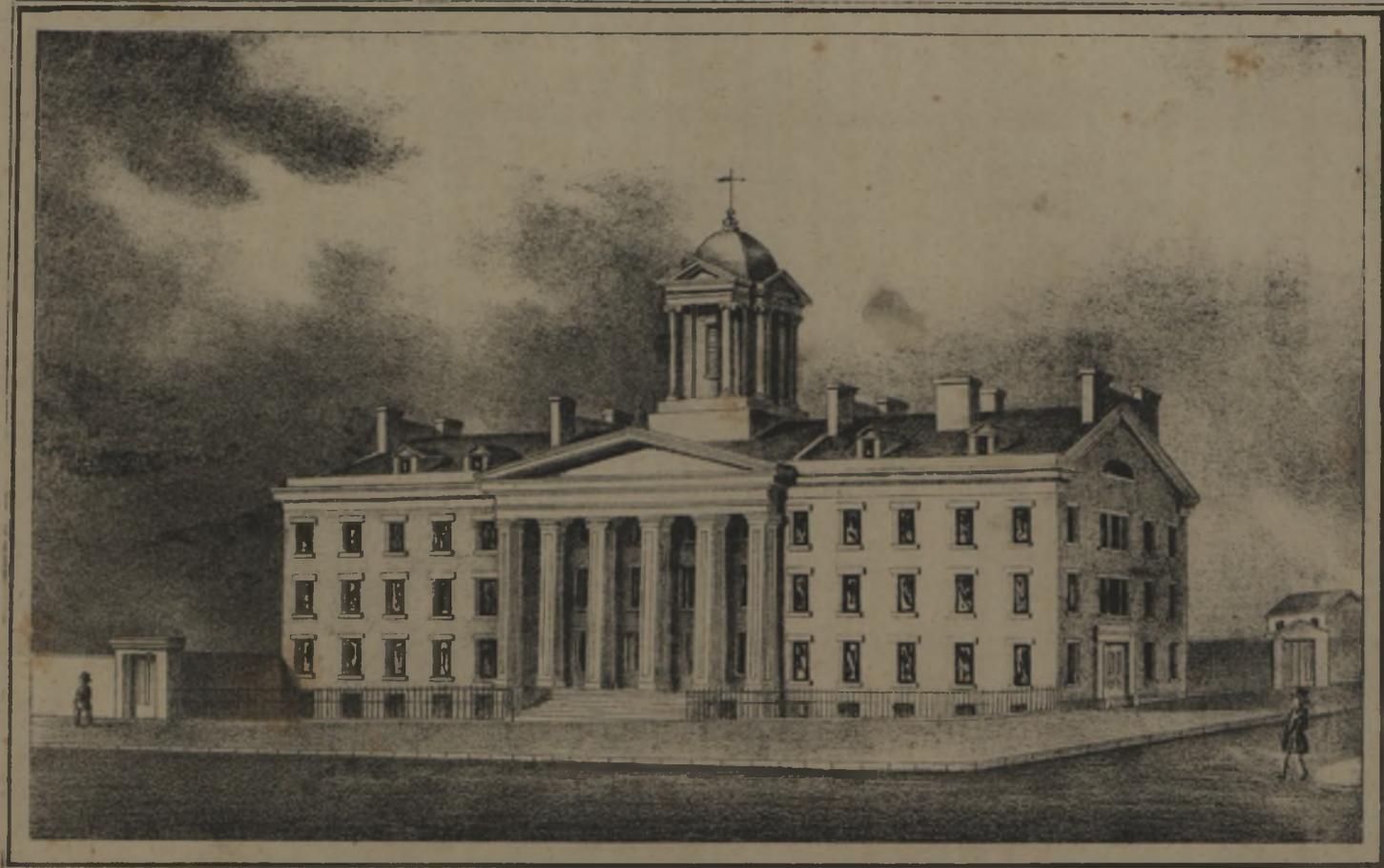
The following is about the present state of the village: A convent, court house, post office, catholic chapel, three taverns, five or six groceries, one general store and between sixty and seventy houses. Since the year before mentioned, the population has advanced about twenty-five or thirty per cent. The houses of the town are straggling, hence its actual extent is not obvious.

There are several neat private dwellings in Cahokia, among which is that owned by Madame Jarrot; the public buildings are of wood.

Coal is found in the vicinity of the place; accidentally discovered some years since by a tree taking fire, the roots of which being consumed, developed a bed of that mineral.

The bed of a part of Cahokia Creek, now nearly dry, fronts the town; the diversion of the water was occasioned by a channel having been many years ago, cut from the Creek to the River. Scattering along its course are sixty or seventy *tumuli*, or mounds, of various appearance and size.

PL. XXVI.



ST. LOUIS CATHEDRAL,
MISSOURI.

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The north side of the hall is divided into four
 one for culinary purposes, and the other for a sleeping apartment. The
 second or principal floor is divided by a hall running east and west, intersected
 at the east end by another hall which connects with the gallery in which a stair
 case commences and ascends to the upper gallery.

SAINT LOUIS HOSPITAL.

THE commencement of this establishment takes its date in 1828. In that year the Rt. Rev. Dr. Rosati petitioned the maternal house of the Sisters of Charity in Maryland, for some of its members, to take charge of a Hospital. This request was granted, and four Sisters were immediately despatched. After a tedious and perilous journey by land, they reached the place of destination on the 5th of November in the same year; and after a short respite, entered on the duties of their mission. Their first residence was in a small frame house fronting Third street, on the lot where now stands a beautiful brick building. Here they could receive no more than fourteen or fifteen patients. In the beginning of 1831 the Rt. Rev. Bishop made an agreement with Mr. Hugh O'Neil for the erection of the central part of the present building; and in December 15th of the same year the Sisters and patients removed into it. In the same month, four more sisters joined in the labor. In 1837 the western wing was added under the direction of Mr. Mathews, but was not completed until 1838. In 1839 the eastern wing was commenced and finished in the following year. The building at present will admit two hundred patients. There are in it twelve Sisters.

The Saint Louis Hospital is situate on Fourth and Spruce streets, on the north-west corner of block eighty, and fronts on the north. It is one hundred and fifty feet on Spruce street, by fifty feet west on Fourth street. Its height is four stories, including the basement; the building is of brick, except the basement, which is of stone. The front on Spruce street is divided into three parts, of fifty feet each; the centre part projects three feet from the line of the main building, which forms the Portico, and is supported by six angular columns or piers of brick; each face of the shaft being three feet two inches at the base, and thirty feet high, with a pannel or recess in each face, three resting upon stone pedestals, and surmounted by stone capitals, on which the frieze cornice and pediment rest; the details of which are of the Grecian-Ionic order. The rear or south front of the building discloses three galleries, each one hundred and thirty feet long by seven feet wide, supported by twelve columns each; in the west end of which there is a stair case leading to the upper gallery and communicates with each. The interior of the building is divided into three distinct apartments by two brick walls running at right

angles with the front on Spruce street. The basement of the western division is divided into a hall and three rooms, which are used one for dining purposes, one for culinary processes, and the other for a sleeping apartment. The second or principal floor is divided by a hall running east and west, intersected at the east end by another hall which connects with the gallery, in which a staircase commences and leads to the upper story, communicating with each gallery. The north side of the base is divided into five, and the south side into four rooms, with suitable accommodations for private patients. The entrance from Fourth street communicates with this story. The third floor is divided into three rooms one of which is appropriated to city patients, the others are adapted to medical uses. The fourth floor is appropriated to the accommodation of Marine patients, and is undivided, with the exception of one small apartment occupied by the superintending Sister. The garret is plastered and occupied as a sleeping apartment. The basement of the eastern division is divided in the centre by a hall at right angles with Spruce street, at the south end of which a stairway commences and leads to the fourth floor, communicating with each floor as does each gallery. The east side of the hall is used as a kitchen, and the west side is divided into two rooms, one of which is employed as a dining apartment, and the other as a pantry. The second floor is divided by a hall range, similar to the hall below, at the north end of which there is a vestibule and which forms the main entrance to the building from Spruce street. The east side of the hall is used as a sitting or work room. The west side is divided into two rooms, one of which is used as a parlor and the other as a sitting room. The third floor is divided by a hall similar to the second, and each side is occupied as a dormitory. The fourth floor is converted into a ward for the accommodation of patients and has no division. The basement of the eastern division is divided by a hall ranging east and west, the floor of which is level with the yard. This hall is intersected near the centre by another at right angles, which communicate with a staircase on the south side of the building; this staircase is situated in a projection of the main building and leads from the ground floor to the garret, communicating with each floor and gallery and is abundantly spacious. The north side of the main hall is divided into five, and the south side into four rooms, two of which are occupied by furnaces for heating the rooms. The other seven are ceiled with boards and furnished with strong doors and iron grates, appropriated to the safe keeping and control of insane persons. The second and main floor is divided into the same number of rooms and appropriated in the same manner as the main floor of the western division, the main entrance being at the east end of the hall which communicates with Spruce street by a stairway. The third floor is occupied as a chapel, and has a neat altar and altar piece, which

are supported by four columns of the Roman-Ionic order, with capitals, frieze and cornice corresponding, neatly painted in imitation of marble; the medallions and small mouldings are gilt, which gives to the *tout ensemble* a superb appearance; the sanctuary is enclosed by a heavy communion Rail.

The fourth floor is undivided, and is occupied by the female patients.

The grounds occupy the entire square or block, with the excepting of about thirty-five feet on the south, ranging from Fourth street to Third; and are enclosed by a strong brick fence ten feet high and are bounded north by Spruce, west by Fourth, east by Third, and south by Almond streets.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ST. LOUIS HOSPITAL.

All persons desirous, either for themselves or others, of admittance into the St. Louis Hospital, must obtain a permit from the Registrar, who alone has the privilege of admitting any person on account of the city into the establishment; for each of which persons proof must be given: 1. Of residence during six months within the state. 2. That the party has no means of support, and that neither the said party, friends nor relatives are able or willing to pay the Hospital "dues." For such persons the Hospital receives two dollars eighteen and three-fourth cents per week or 31 1-4 cents per day.

Cases of extreme sickness or suffering are, however, excepted from the foregoing rule; then, the Registrar may admit persons who have not been residents of this State or city for the term of six months.

The city provides a physician whose duty it is to attend to all persons sent to the Hospital by the Registrar, and to discharge them when well. The number of patients in the Hospital on account of the city varies, say from 30 to 60 for the last two or three years.

All persons admitted into the Hospital as marine patients are required to have from the United States Marine Agent a permit, which entitles the Hospital to receive from each patient of this description two and a half dollars per week, or 35 5-7 cents per day, including medicine; but the U. S. Agent for such patients provides a physician.

The number of patients in the Hospital on account of the U. S. Agent, varies from 12 to 60 for the last few years. The Hospital has maintained at its own cost from 8 to 15 patients for the last two or three years. These patients have been unable in any way to provide for themselves.

To the public at large is this Hospital also always open; and such voluntary patients, of course pay for such admissions; they are furnished with private apartments, attendance and such medical assistance as they themselves may think proper to employ.

PL. XXVII.



VIEW AT
ILLINOIS TOWN.

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ILLINOIS TOWN.

ILLINOIS TOWN or WIGGINS' FERRY, the latter being the Post Office rendering of the location, including the landing opposite St. Louis and the town built upon the eastern side of Cahokia creek, has the following notice in anterior publications:

1. "Illinois Town.—A small village of a dozen families, in St. Clair county, on Cahokia creek opposite St. Louis. 2. Wiggins' Ferry, on the Mississippi, opposite St. Louis, and the property adjoining are owned by a company. Here are two good steamboats, a public house, livery stable, store, and post office."

Illinois Town, situate five miles from Cahokia, fourteen from Belleville, twenty miles from Lebanon, twenty-four from Waterloo and fourteen from Columbia, is now (in 1842) a lively commercial river town on the Illinois side of the Mississippi. Its own immediate neighborhood contains one hundred and twenty-five houses; the trading establishments are, one iron store, wholesale; one distillery; two stores of general merchandize and commission; five groceries; two bakeries; one saddlery; one shoemakery; two blacksmiths' shops; one cooper's shop; one tailory, and two taverns or hotels, besides a variety of other subsidiary occupations, and recently there has been established in the place, a printing office and press, from which a weekly newspaper is issued called the American Bottom Reporter. Illinois Town, in relation to the picturesque, is not unfavorably situated. Entrenched immediately behind the Cahokia creek, communicating with the landing by two bridges, and St. Louis crowning the beautiful slope on the opposite bank of the Mississippi, an object always in sight and softened by the distance, affords to the spectator a pleasing view.

Illinois Town has, like many an individual in human life, been nearly strangled in its birth, by the operation of insulated adverse circumstances, magnified by exaggeration and perpetuated by malice and ignorance. In the year 1784 an accident occurred to this place which may occur once in a century and possibly not so often, viz: an inundation forcing itself over the banks of the Mississippi, and flooding all the adjacent country. Soon after this, a most malignant malady prevailed in the infant colony, and the remaining living inhabitants fled never to return. The reputation of this calamity it has never

outgrown; even to this day, when the whole bottom, in whose district it is, has been opened and purified by the influence of the sun; when the rank vegetation has been in a great measure subdued, still the recollection of this ancient depopulation hangs like a millstone about the neck of the town and whole neighborhood. It is only very recently that hopes the most rational, being based upon actual data as well as analogical reasoning, have been entertained that its topographical situation will gradually be made apparent and the resources of the surrounding and back country be duly appreciated by the population opposite. The Illinois bills of mortality for the three consecutive past years are as follows:

1839.—Adults, billious fever, 2; purporeal fever, 1; cholera, 1; children, disease unknown, 2; adult, disease unknown, 1; infant, disease unknown, 1—8. 1840.—Adults, of intemperance, 4; of disorders unknown, 2; children, disorders unknown, 2—8. 1841.—Adults, of intemperance, 1; children, disorders unknown, 3; adults, disorders unknown, 2—6. 1842.—Three first months, dropsy, adult, 1.

The exterior present appearance of Illinois Town, produces no very favorable impressions upon the stranger's mind, yet its neighborhood is not totally destitute of objects of interest, in reference both to nature and art, for if not referred to the latter class, how else shall we dispose of those extremely curious productions, the Mounds or *Tumuli*, of which there are, in this immediate neighborhood, not less than 20 to 22.

Illinois Town, whatever may have been its rank formerly, is now dignified by two distinct appendages or clusters of houses, called respectively, St. Clairsville and Paps Town, the latter on the high road to Belleville; and the seat of the Pens whence the Butchers of St. Louis draw their stock for that market—this is a growing spot.

If the stranger will turn out of his road to the left, and pursue the course of these mounds, along the plain, he will arrive first, at the Round Pond, a perpetual reservoir, and apparently of very ancient origin; doubtless the watering place, formerly, of herds of Buffaloes, Elks and wild animals.

This pond is apparently excavated about 8 or 10 feet from the surface, and has several fine trees upon its brink—it is about 1 1-2 miles from Illinois Town—and is oblong in shape, and about 200 yards in circumference.

TUMULI OR MOUNDS.

As you proceed from the Round Pond, in a north-westerly direction, these Mounds tend to the north of east, straggling from 100 to 300 yards apart, and they are of an elevation of from 12 to 40 feet. The circumference of the largest is about 1000 feet. The theories respecting the origin of these

extraordinary objects, whether to be referred to nature or art, have been so numerous and conflicting, that the limits of this publication would not justify the entering of this arena; they are generally supposed to be either monuments of the dead, or erected in honor of victories obtained by the earlier inhabitants over their foes. Respecting the dimensions of these mounds, they are evidently in a state of rapid declension. The annual rains wash down the soil, and wear away their butts or exposed edges—and the ploughing over their sides, which is now the constant practice, has a tendency of scattering, lessening, and levelling the accumulated masses. The soil of some of them discloses a large kind of gravel, different from that of the surrounding country. Another cause of decrease in size, is found in these spots being visited in the fall of the year by herds of cattle, which tramp and tear up the surface.

There are four of these mounds which are more conspicuous than the rest in point of size, and of these two only are very remarkable, viz: the Illinois Town burying ground and McClintick's; the former is of an oblong shape, and about 300 feet in length, by twenty in breadth; the former is spheroid or nearly circular. McClintick, who died some few years since, was the proprietor of this spot—lived nearly altogether in the open air, and in communion with his cattle, to whom his affinities bound him closer than to his own species. At his own request, this singular being was buried on the top of the mound by his name, uttering it with his last breath, in order, as he said, that he might from his sepulchral abode, overlook the rascals whom he employed as laborers in life, and who might be still depredating upon the spot held so sacred in his reminiscences.

It is high time that we begin to speak of the MINERAL, MERCANTILE and AGRICULTURAL relations of Illinois Town, and the American Bottom, its neighborhood. The victims of prejudice, as they have been, and of jeering and half witted solidity, as they may be, their statistics will mathematically (viz: by figures, which cannot misrepresent) prove, in these respects, their importance. The quantity of coal produced in the neighborhood, and carried to St. Louis, is very great. The amount hauled there in wagons in 1836, was 300,000 bushels. In the same year a Rail Road for transporting coal, was commenced, beginning about three quarters of a mile on the Belleville road and striking for the bluffs. Active negotiations are now pending for the purchase and final completion of this rail road, when the commissioners for the new Ferry will, it is supposed, also let it to the same company. Illinois Town was also the seat of the ground marked out by the commissioners of the Cumberland road. It is supposed that two-thirds of all the cattle and agricultural and horticultural products with which the St. Louis markets are supplied, are the growth of the bottom for which Illinois town is the thorough-

fare. The quantity of wagons, movers, horses and cattle which pass through this place is very great. The competition which will now probably take place between the old and new ferries will very materially conduce to the improvement of the bottom and Illinois town. The seat of manufactories in progress of time this town will probably become—the raw material of iron, wood, leather, bricks, glass, and of many other manufactories can be had here and the remaining constituents of fuel, water, the necessaries of life in the greatest abundance are not wanting; and as we have already shewn, an increasingly salubrious climate will probably gradually attract a denser population. It is now in a greater state of activity than it has been years before, and time will do the rest. Finally—A more interesting spot for the enterprising and active capitalist, laborer and mechanic, does not probably exist in the neighborhood of Saint Louis.

There are four of these islands which are more or less of a point of view, and of these two only are very remarkable; the Illinois Town's ferry ground and McChick's the former is of an oblong shape and about 300 feet in length by twenty in breadth; the latter is a nearly circular McChick's which some few years since, was the property of the spot—lived nearly altogether in the open air, and in connection with his cattle, to whom his affections were more than to his own species. At his own request, the slaughter being was located on the top of the island by his name, uttering it with his hand raised, in order to let him be his night from his sepulchral abode, overlook the rocks when he employed as laborers in his, and who might be still depending upon the spot held so sacred to his remembrance.

It is high time that we begin to speak of the blunders, blunders and blunders of the relations of Illinois Town and the American Bottom, its neighborhood. The victims of prejudice, as they have been, and of feeling and half-witted equality, as they may be, their statistics will mathematically (viz. by figures, which cannot misrepresent) point to their expense, their importance. The quantity of coal produced in the neighborhood, and carried to St. Louis is very great. The amount loaded there in wagons in 1850 was 300,000 bushels. In the same year a Railroad for transporting coal was commenced, paying about three quarters of a mile on the Belle ville road and ending for the time. Active negotiations are now pending for the purchase and coal competition of the rail road, when the commissioners for the new ferry will, it is supposed, also let it to the same company. Illinois Town was the seat of the great market of the commissioners of the Louisiana territory. It is supposed that two-thirds of all the cattle and agricultural and domestic products which the St. Louis market are supplied, are the growth of the bottom for which Illinois town is the thorough-

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INTRODUCTION.

PANORAMA is a picture exhibiting a succession of objects, such as may be by the rays of light intercepted by the surface of a hollow sphere or cylinder from all points of external objects to the eye in the centre of the sphere, or at a fixed point in the axis of the cylinder. Panoramic projection is the method of forming a panorama from the geometrical consideration of the properties of vision. Sometimes the surface on which objects are supposed to be represented is that of a cylinder, though a sphere may be considered still more perfect, as its surface is every where equally distant from the eye. But a cylindric surface is more convenient for the purpose of delineation; and if the objects are not very distant from the intersection of a plane passing through the eye perpendicularly to the axis, the distortion will not be perceptible. In every kind of projection from a given point, the projection of a straight line upon any surface, is the intersection of a plane of rays from all points of the straight line to the given point. Therefore the panoramic projection of a straight line is the intersection of this cylindric surface and a plane. This artistical description of the panoramic modification of the art of painting is, we are very well aware, so small a *morceau* as to be of scarcely any use to the artist; but the general reader is ordinarily little interested in articles of this kind, and we are compelled to study the public taste as to numbers, against the few—nevertheless, a reader who is at all conversant with optics and geometry will perceive in it enough to aid him in his general conception of this branch of the art of painting.

THE CITY OF SAINT LOUIS,

As seen from the Planter's House.

THE panoramic view, the first part of which illustrates and embellishes this article, was taken from the observatory of the Planters' House. No person possessing any sense of the beautiful or relish for the picturesque, can behold the original scene open at once upon his sight with all its attractions and force, without at once feeling himself moved to admiration. When Eneas in his exile is shown by the Sibyl the future "Mistress of the World," which to solace him for the melancholy fate of Troy is made to rise before his gratified sight with her proud palaces and her solemn temples:

"But thou secure of soul, unbent with woes,
The more thy fortune frowns, the more oppose.
The dawnings of thy safety shall be shown
From—whence thou least shalt hope—a Grecian town."

Eneis, Book 6—145.

Or Aladdin sees with trembling astonishment the palace which his magic lamp has called up in one night; amazement might be greater, but admiration no less is felt by the spectator of this scene. Could one next turn enchanter, arm one's self with Asmodean invisibility, unroof the houses, see what is passing within them, uncover the thick veil spread over domestic seclusions, learn the earlier history of the wealthy, penetrate into the successes of ambition and intrigue, and have spread before one the means which have led to such results—in addition to these, the power conferred of penetrating the dark recesses of crime in its concoction and inception, when all is "a hideous phantasmagoria," then, to have the faculty of looking into futurity and see the same city extended, beautified and embellished as it will be in half a century only, what an increase would thence be made to the pain or pleasure, one knows not which, of the beholder.

Turn your eyes to the E. N. E. by E. line and mark that house with low chimnies and of a dingy yellow color on one of its ends. Some twelve or fifteen years ago, an outbreak took place in the city. A mulatto, of rather notorious occupation, kept a *house of rendezvous* of this sort. One of the ordinary inmates was an Indian woman of violent passions, who, notwithstanding her temper and character and mode of life, possessing personal charms, became popular and even a favorite. After what is related, it is not surprising to learn that she had a quarrel with the man who cohabited with her, and stabbed him. Popular vengeance was averted from her person by intercession,

SOUTH.



1, Hospital

2, U.S. Powder Magazine.

4, Court-house.

3, Second Presbyterian Church.

6, Medical College.

5, Chouteau's Lake.

8, Christ Church.

7, Jail.

but more than any thing, by her beauty. The keeper of the house, however, a very stout, olive complexioned mulatto, did not come off so well. He was treated by the mob with a coat of tar and feathers, and his house was utterly demolished. Seeing his property destroyed, he became alarmed for his life; and having other houses and real estate, a design was entertained by one person, of exaggerating his fears and alarming him beyond what the reality warranted. This person, the inhabitant of the house with low chimnies, was afterwards confederated with another, between whom the spoils, which it will be presently seen, fell into their hands, was divided. The mulatto was aided in being concealed during the day; and in the dead hour of night was assisted by his *friends* in crossing over to the other side of the river. It was represented to him that even here he was not safe, but that it was necessary to go far north; and for this purpose a carriage and horses were *kindly* provided, and pistols furnished. The real consideration for this kindness was, as will appear in the sequel, to be in the possession of two city lots and houses, then of considerable value, but now risen to between twenty and thirty thousand dollars. The reader must know that the keeper, of the infamous house could neither read nor write, and he was very plausibly presented with a power of attorney to sign, to enable his friends to collect his rents to send on to him. The power was presented on Sunday, and it is now supposed that the legal gentleman employed was not at all let into the after acts of the drama; but in good faith presented a bona fide power to sign, to which the mulatto sinner affixed his mark, of course witnessed, &c. After this gentleman had performed his part and been paid his fee, came on the fifth act of the play. The dupe was persuaded that a power of attorney, signed on the Sabbath, was of none effect, and another, viz: a *deed of conveyance* was substituted therefor, while the preamble of a power was read over; this was signed and the other torn up. The dispossessed with his *wife*, (?) now started on their journey; but this woman, having her sex's shrewdness, thought she saw *into the thing*, and after traveling thirteen or fourteen miles northernly, her mind became disturbed, and she was incessantly importunate with her *cher amie* to return, until he complied. They have since then been both stationary in the American Bottom for a considerable number of years. Effort after effort has been made by this dispossessed one to regain his property by agency. Years and years have rolled on, and he could get no one to stir in it, notwithstanding the great value it has arisen to, and the offer of one half, in some cases, if recovered. It has finally been undertaken by two legal gentlemen of the St. Louis bar, who have carried it into chancery, and term after term it is expected to come on and be decided. When the suit shall be carried through the court, no doubt the above circumstances will be elicited in open day.

Look now to the northwest. There is the burying ground for all denominations, and there "rests her head upon a lap of earth," as pure a "terrestrial" as ever came out of the hands of its maker. The sod presses lightly upon her coffined remains, or it would be cruelly in league with him whose infidelity placed them there. They were both reared together in a small town in New England, not a great distance from the city of Boston. The patrimony of neither was very ample, but his was the largest; his father was also the cashier of a bank: They had grown up together from childhood, and had heard their names associated till it became habitual, and the commotion of feelings on the part of one had grown without suspicion. During the late monetary troubles this bank had its stormy times, and the revenue of the cashier from that source was cut off; a retrenchment was indispensable in his family expenditure; the sons had been accustomed to rely upon the paternal purse for pecuniary supplies, two of them in professional incipient practice, had drawn heavily upon it. Henry R., the imputed lover of Harriet E. G., who had remained at home after leaving college, found that he was now compelled to make an effort for himself, and most persons in such circumstances prefer to remove the scene, if any uncertainty attend the issue, to a distance. However, fortune in this case did not frown. He arrived in St. Louis at that moment when the *impetus* of the commercial system was still in an unsubdued state. The father's credit and character had been sufficient to provide his son with a considerable stock of general merchandize, and his name in both Main and Front streets stood high. At first he had written punctually every week as they both had promised, and his feelings were refreshed in a far country by constant news of the neighborhood from this most welcome source. In an evil hour, however, he had accepted an invitation to a party; here he met with a lustrous pair of black eyes which followed him to every part of the room and which in every dance were partners with his, and incessantly twined their battery upon him. The next morning, as soon as his coffee was swallowed, a card was found upon his table, "the company of _____ is requested, &c., filled up in the lady's hand. "Shall I go?" said Henry to himself, as his mind at the instant recognized as if by intuition the danger of the outside circle of the whirlpool. "For the first time," said his vanity, supported by self confidence; "for the first time, certainly, and I may choose whether I repeat the visit. The card was placed conspicuously on the mantel piece, and the evening found him at the soiree. After this, letters had arrived time after time. They were at first taken out, but afterwards treated with great indifference and suffered to lie in the box; at length no letters came; conscience would sometimes upbraid, but excuses, such as every one is in the habit of framing to suit, were applied to the irritated part.

Time rolled on, and Henry and the lady with the lustrous eyes were married in the Catholic Cathedral. The bright days and the joyous nights of the wedded pair passed away; when one evening at the Theatre, the sight of Henry R. was encountered by the once beautiful figure of Harriet E. G., in the *vis-a-vis* box,—at first he became ghastly pale and turned away; but his terror struck eyes would turn back to the same spot. *She* looked, “Patience on a monument smiling at Grief.” “She had never told her love,” but her visibly declining health had furnished a most plausible reason for traveling to benefit by the journey, and was it any wonder she had chosen St. Louis? An acquaintance of her connections had been an early settler; his business had prospered; and he was with her that evening in the box. Hitherto Harriet had not learnt the worst, but the answer to the first question resolved her.—Alas, the work of death was too surely done by it. Her strength was barely sufficient to enable her to behave with composure and “pass off” what was taking place within. Every one upon a change of climate, and from the fatigues of a long journey suffers more or less—but in her case her mind was corroding her fragile body and loading it with an additional burden—the sword was consuming the already broken scabbard—a violent fever from that fatal visit to the Theatre ensued, and a fortnight sufficed to release her gentle spirit from its clay tenement. She lies in the southeast corner of the Catholic Burying Ground, in that spot towards which my finger is now directed.—Flowers adorn the turf which covers her; birds sing requiems to her departed spirit—the south winds mourn and lull when they sweep over the spot, and a weeping willow protects her blighted remains from the violence of the stormy blasts of the rugged north.

Observe that brick building to the northwest of our position; within a few doors in a small wooden building was concocted one of the most daring crimes ever committed in any country, for it embraced Murder, Burglary and Arson. If you direct your sight nearly in a line with this house towards the river, you may discern the spot where this infernal plot was executed. The following is the recital, taken from the Missouri Republican:—

On the night of Saturday, 17th of April, 1841, and about one o’clock, the alarm of fire was given by the flames bursting out of the windows and various parts of the large stone store on the corner of Pine and Water streets; the front on Water street occupied by Messrs. Simonds & Morrison, and the rear by Mr. Pettus as a banking house, formerly Collier & Pettus. At the time of the discovery, it was evident that the building had been fired in several parts, and the flames had made such progress that it was impossible to save either the house or any of its contents.

That it was the work of an incendiary was soon apparent. Several gen-

tlemen who arrived early, after some difficulty forced open the door of the banking house, and through the smoke discovered a body lying on the floor near the stove. The body was taken out before the flames reached it, and found to be that of Mr. JACOB WEAVER, a young man, a clerk in the store of Messrs. Von Phul & McGill, who usually slept in the room immediately in the rear of Mr. Pettus' banking room, with Mr. JESSE BAKER, the clerk of Messrs. Simonds & Morrison. Mr. Weaver was found in the dress he had worn during the day, but his head dreadfully mangled and his little finger nearly cut off.

Near him, in the same room, was found the hat and handkerchief of Mr. Baker, but no trace of his body could be at first discovered. In the banking house there was a large fire proof vault, in which there is at all times a large sum of money. The murder was committed with a view of entering that vault. Mr. Baker left his boarding house about nine o'clock for the store, and has not been seen since. Mr. Weaver was in company with a number of young gentlemen at a ten-pin-alley, until about 11 o'clock, when he went to the store, and about the time he arrived, the report of two pistols or guns were heard in that direction by the people in the vicinity, but from the reprehensible frequency of such reports, excited no attention. Some suppose the murderers had concealed themselves in the store, and had previously despatched Baker, and killed Weaver when he entered. Our own belief, from all the circumstances, is, that they entered with Weaver, and that the struggle and death of both followed immediately. After the murder, they doubtless fired the house in several places with the hopes of consuming the bodies, and in the expectation that their crime would not be discovered.

So far as there has been any means of judging, it is believed that the murderers failed in their principal purpose, that of entering the vault. Owing to the heat, up to a late hour yesterday, the door could not be approached, but when it was, it found to be locked, and could not be unlocked. The safe of Messrs. Simonds & Morrison, in which there was some money, was undisturbed, and it was therefore probable that little booty was obtained.

The loss by the fire has been very great. Mr. Pettus lost all his books and the books of Collier & Pettus. He, however, after three attempts, at great personal risk, succeeded in getting out a drawer under the counter, in which were all his bills receivable, amounting to near \$200,000, the papers being very little injured. Most of the books and papers of the late firm of Hempstead & Beebe were destroyed, and Mr. Hempstead's desk. Messrs. Simonds & Morrison lost their journal and ledger, but saved several other books. Their safe was dragged out, and the papers in it preserved with lit-

the damage. Their entire stock of goods, however, was consumed. Their loss, including their own stock and the goods on storage and commission, is estimated at about \$30,000, which is probably below the amount. They were covered by insurance to the extent of their own stock. The whole loss, including the goods and the building, may be set down at from 40 to \$50,000.

From the house of Simonds & Morrison the fire extended south to the adjoining building, occupied by Messrs. Kennett, White & Co., the roof of which was partially consumed, and for a long time we thought it was impossible to save the building or the row; but the firemen of St. Louis are indomitable, and by an exertion, demanding of all the highest praise, the house of Messrs. Kennett, White & Co., was saved with loss of the roof only.—The goods in the store, however, were greatly damaged by the water, and the stock was very large. The amount of damage is variously estimated at from 10 to \$15,000—fully covered by insurance.—[*Abstract of an account which appeared in the Missouri Republican of 19th.*]

The foregoing article has been purposely, materially, shortened, to make room for the charge of Judge Bowlin; which it will be perceived embraces all that is essential in the narrative, the law and the evidence; it is only on the conclusion of the forensic discussions, the cross questionings, the attack and defence displays of the bar, that any comprehensive opinion can be arrived at respecting the whole mass of what transpires in open Court before that period. The purest, and the most succinct source for information and correct judgment, is confessedly in all affairs of this nature, *the charge of the Judge*—hence we give that document *in extenso*; and by adding what could not appear in the printed narrative of this trial already in circulation, viz: the particulars of *the execution*, we give the public besides the *multum in parvo* advantages already enumerated, strictly speaking, the fullest, most accurate and the cheapest account of this most horrid catastrophe which has yet appeared.—[EDITOR.]

THE CHARGE OF JUDGE BOWLIN

In passing sentence on the four negroes lately tried and convicted of the murders of the 17th April last.

MADISON *alias* BLANCHARD, CHARLES BROWN, JAMES SEWARD *alias* SEWELL, and ALFRED *alias* ALPHEUS WARRICK, you stand convicted of wilful, deliberate and premeditated murder. Have you now, or either of you, any thing to say why the sentence of death should not be pronounced against you?

The prisoners, with the exception of Madison, who merely said, "nothing from me, sir," remaining mute, His Honor proceeded—

You have all been severally indicted by a Grand Jury of the County, as follows:—You, Madison, for the murder of JESSE BAKER, and the rest as confederates, aiding and abetting in said murder; and you, Charles Brown, for the murder of JACOB WEAVER, and the rest as confederates, aiding and abetting in said murder. Upon which charges, so preferred by the Grand Jury, you have been put separately upon your trials, before traverse Juries of the county. Juries selected in each case, with great caution, that they might be above all suspicion of bias or prejudice against you—and where you have been heard by your counsel—counsel amongst the ablest of the bar, in your defence. So that it is not a matter of form to tell you, that you have each had a fair and impartial trial before a Jury of your country, who have in their several verdicts, pronounced each of you guilty of murder in the first degree. You, Madison and Brown, as the persons who inflicted the fatal blows; and you, Seward and Warrick, as being present aiding and abetting in the several murders.

Upon these respective verdicts, it becomes the principal duty of the court to pronounce the sentence of the law. But before doing so as you were separately tried, and neither having heard the particular evidence given in the case of the other, it is but proper that there should be laid before you, a history of the case as derived from the testimony.

In doing this, it is not the object to awaken feelings by a recital of the horrid deed, or to bring unnecessarily to your minds painful recollections of the past; but it is solely with a view to place the nature of your crimes in such characters before you as to banish all hope of mercy from your fellow men, whose laws you have so daringly violated; and the more strongly to rivet your attention, to that source, alone, for consolation, where it is never too late to find mercy and forgiveness. The Court would not be discharging its duty to you with fidelity, in this last solemn act between you and it, if it could conceal from your knowledge, anything of your true situation. To leave you buoyed up with a false hope, would be to deceive you. Hence it is deemed proper, that your crime should be placed before you, as it has made its impress upon the minds of men; that every false beacon of earthly hope may be destroyed, and you the more solemnly urged, to seek for consolation at the throne of Divine Mercy.

It, then, appears from the testimony in the case, that some three days before the ever-memorable night of the 17th of April, you had planned your scheme of robbing the store house of Messrs. Collier and Pettus. At which time, it appears, some compunctious visitings of nature operated upon you, and a difference arose about adding the crime of blood to the other contemplated offence. That the evil demon prevailed, and it was finally settled that

even blood should not arrest you in the accomplishment of your crime. The next place you are traced to is at a meeting, by appointment, in the dusk of the evening of Saturday, the 17th of April, on board the steamer Missouri, under pretence of examining her machinery. This was the meeting preparatory to the accomplishment of the crime. You left the boat, and stood on Front street opposite the house of Collier and Pettus—awaiting the arrival of the proper hour. That at, or about 9 o'clock, in the evening, when the streets were lined with men, when every body nearly was up, when a person might well have felt the most perfect security in his counting room with open doors, on one of the most populous streets in the city, you entered the counting room, that is, you Madison, first entered, and asked of the young gentleman in charge, Jesse Baker, the validity of a bank note; and while, in the honesty of his heart, and with that kindness of feeling for which he was conspicuous among his fellow men, he was performing an act of kindness for you, by examining the note, and he was thus placed off his guard, you struck the fatal blow that deprived him of life.

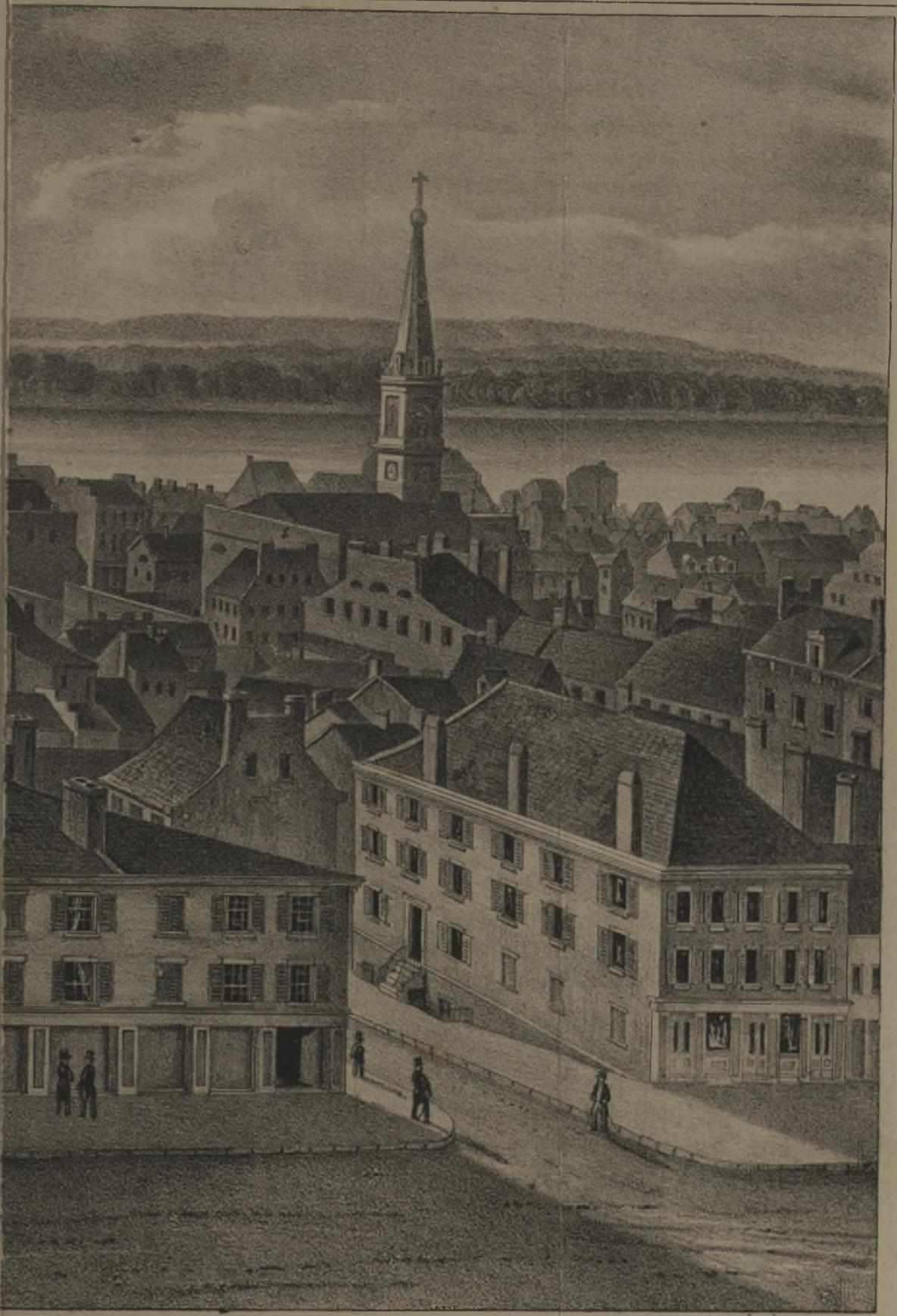
At this particular point of time, there is some contrariety in the evidence; but the better opinion is, upon the whole, that the rest of you immediately entered, at the signal of the blow. You searched your victim for the keys; not finding them, you wrapped him in bed clothes and deposited him in bed; and then went to work upon the vault, after perhaps setting one or two sentinels. That you continued to work upon the vault until Jacob Weaver, the bed companion of Baker, arrived, which was about the hour of 11 o'clock.—That he knocked at the door, to awaken his friend, little dreaming that he was sleeping the sleep of death; when it appears, a difficulty arose about who should be his murderer. That horrid duty fell upon you, Charles Brown, and the manner of its execution was awfully delineated in the appearance of the object. You took your station behind the door, the rest concealing themselves, and opened it for him—and as he entered felled him to the floor, repeating the blows until he was dead. Depriving of life in one moment a young man who never harmed you, who was at once the pride and hope of his friends, and an ornament to society.

It appears, then, that despairing of success in your attempts upon the vault you fired the building in five places, and left for your respective homes. You Brown, being the last to leave, after closing the house and throwing away the key—hoping, doubtless, by this last act, to bury in eternal oblivion all traces of the awful tragedy, and leave the world to hopeless conjecture, as to the fate of its unhappy inmates. In the burning, you succeeded but too well: you destroyed the whole property, but not in time to conceal the traces of your dreadful crime.

During the heart-rending scenes just recounted the testimony places you, Seward and Warrick, in a variety of positions—sometimes in the house in the midst of the tragic scene, and then again on the look out, as sentinels to avoid surprise. In either situation, the law makes your offence just the same, in depravity and punishment, as though you had stricken the fatal blow. And justly so, for had you refused your co-operation, or had you made a timely retreat from it, the world might have been saved the recital of this awful tragedy and you the consequences resulting from it.

Shortly after, you all must have left the building—at about midnight, when the city was wrapped in profound repose, and men were dreaming in their fancied security—they were started from their beds, with the terrible cry of fire. The citizens, with their usual alacrity, and with nerves braced for a contest with the devouring element, repaired to the scene—burst open the doors, and almost at the peril of their own lives, rushed in, and dragged forth the yet warm body of young Weaver, bearing upon it undeniable testimonials of the awful crime, that had been committed—a crime which, for daringness of design and boldness of execution, is almost without a parallel in this country. At the awful contemplation of the reality before them, men instinctively shrunk with terror from each other. They thought of the daring boldness of the crime, and of its perpetrators abroad in the land, and an instinctive shudder seized them at the thought of their unprotected homes. Suspicion was abroad—and yet, ordinary perpetrators of crime, passed unscathed by its breath. The daring boldness of its execution, was a shield against suspicion to common offenders. Man knew not how to trust his fellow man. The bonds of society were well nigh sundered when, at a fortunate moment for the peace and security of persons and property and the supremacy of the laws, a conscience overburdened with a catalogue of crime, had to find vent, from the awful goading of nature, by an open betrayal of the secret. A secret which has since received a mournful, but most undeniable confirmation.

Thus, in a moment of ambition for unhallowed gain, you have stricken from existence two young men, just entering as it were, upon the threshold of usefulness—in the spring day of life, in the fullness of hope and future expectation—in that period just budding into manhood, when the heart beats responsive to the calls of sympathy and humanity; and that, without even the plea of passion for an excuse. Their only fault was, that in discharge of their duty they stood between you, and your unholy covetings. By this stroke, you have done a deed, which no power on earth can repair, no time obliterate.— You have in an unhallowed moment, stricken the bright cup of expectation, from the lips of adoring friends, and rendered cheerless, many an aching heart. No penitence you could offer, would repair the wrong; but your fate may be



T Y .

Engine house

St. Louis Cathedral

EAST.



ST. LOUIS AND VICINITY.

1, Illinois Town.

2, Baptist Church.

3, Central Engine house.

a negative example to others, to avoid the path that leads to danger and destruction.

The details have been thus minutely recounted, from a solemn conviction, that the Court owes it to you, to point out your true condition in language not to be mistaken—To obliterate every false hope that might flatter and deceive you. To give you a true idea of the character of your offence, and the stern demands of public Justice. And to urge upon you most solemnly, to anchor your hopes before the Tribunal, which is superior to all earthly tribunals, and seek alone for mercy at the Fountain of Mercy.

You have time left you for penitence and prayer—for preparation for the end that awaits you. Not so with the victims of your great crime. They were hurried into the presence of their Maker, unwarned of their impending fate. Crimes like yours cannot go unpunished. "Lay not the flattering unction to your souls," that any hope awaits you, this side the grave—your days are numbered—your sands of life are almost run. Let me then urge you, to seek for consolation and forgiveness, in the few days you have yet to live, before the throne of Him who holds all our destinies in his hands. Let your first acts of penitence, be a full and frank confession of your crimes Lay bare your hearts—strip them of all falsehoods and guile—keep no black memorial harbored there, if you wish to render them acceptable before the God of Truth, Justice and Mercy.

One word and this Court is done. But that one word is the awful sentence of the Law. It is, that you Madison *alias* Blanchard, Charles Brown, Alfred *alias* Alpheus Warrick, James Seward *alias* Sewell, you and each of you, will be returned to the Jail whence you came, there to be confined until FRIDAY THE NINTH DAY OF JULY, and on that day you will be taken hence to the place of execution; there between the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon of that day and four o'clock in the afternoon, to be hung by the neck until your are dead.

May God grant you that mercy, which by your crime, you have forfeited from your fellow men."

During the delivery of this sentence, which was done in an audible, yet feeling manner, Madison seemed a little restless, but his countenance showed no outward sign of contrition for his offences. Brown could not conceal his feelings, and shed tears. Warrick was unmoved, and Seward retained the composed manner which he had assumed immediately after the sentence was commenced. They were remanded to jail.

THE EXECUTION.

On the ninth of July, agreeably to the sentence pronounced upon these

blood stained men, they were executed. The following account of the *finale* of the four criminals is condensed from one given in one of the diurnal journals:

At an early hour yesterday morning, the streets presented a throng of strangers, such as has never before been witnessed. Every hill and vale contiguous seemed to have poured forth its inhabitants, in addition to those of the city proper. We have heard the crowd variously estimated at from twenty to thirty thousand.

The Preparations.—At an early hour in the morning, the prisoners, Madison, Seward and Warrick, were visited by fathers Donnelly, Conway and Verhaegen; and Brown by the Rev. Messrs. Browning and Bernard. At nine o'clock their irons were knocked off; at eleven they were removed from the jail. The Grays and St. Louis Guards formed in hollow square, and constituted the guard from the jail to the place of execution. Upon arriving at the ground, and after a prayer by the clergymen present attending them respectively, after being placed in their positions, the guilty men addressed the vast, and at this time, almost breathlessly silent multitude.

Their last words and behaviour.—Seward first spoke, and at some length; what fell from his lips was strongly tinged with the views of a hereafter, suggested by his spiritual tutor in the jail. Warrick, after he had concluded, took up the strain, and exhorted after the same way; then Brown, each of whom displayed in their addresses the same kind of influence, evincing a lively interest for their future fate, and concluded with a very fervent prayer. Madison was unmoved, equally by the fear of death and the hope of a hereafter. After the praying, he took off his hat, and asking one standing by for a piece of paper and a pencil, he placed the paper under the band, made the mark of a cross upon it, and gave it back to the same person, to be delivered to a friend. When the others finished speaking, he remarked that he knew the people had assembled there to hear him speak, but he had not time to speak to them now; he had had his speech written down and they could read that, (alluding to his confession.) He had nothing more to say than what was there, and he desired all to take warning by that.

The Finale.—After the sheriff had read the warrants for the execution, at the hour of ONE, exactly, the fatal cord was severed; and the four wretched men simultaneously departed this stage of existence. The gallows was built to go up like the sweep of a country well. Madison was killed instantly. Seward struggled for the space of about two minutes. The knot of the rope on Brown was awkwardly adjusted, so that it came under the chin, and he was a long while dying. In fact, it was thought extremely doubtful if he would die, unless it was changed. Warrick appeared to have occupied no longer time in dying than a minute and three quarters. After hanging above

thirty minutes, their bodies were taken down, and a surgeon examined them in order to ascertain that they were actually dead. On this occasion, one death casually occurred, but there was no other material accident.

The first article was purposely materially shortened, to make room for the address of Judge Bowlin, which, it will be perceived, embraces all that is essential in the narrative, the law and the evidence. It is only on the conclusion of the forensic discussions, the cross-questionings, the attack and defence displays of the bar, that any comprehensive opinion can be arrived at respecting the whole mass of what transpires in open court before that period. The purest and the most succinct source for information and correct judgment, is, confessedly, in all affairs of this nature, the *charge* of the Judge—hence the address has been given *in extenso*, and by adding what could not appear in the printed narrative of this trial already in circulation, viz: the particulars of the execution, we give to the public besides the *multum in parvo* advantages already enumerated, strictly speaking, the fullest, most accurate and the cheapest account of this most horrid catastrophe which has yet appeared.—EDITOR.

Keeping your face in the same direction, in the north-west corner of the Burying ground, adjoining and underneath a plain stone, which has been placed there by an affectionate and true friend, lies one whose history is not imposing in regard to the importance of the events which transpired in a life full of crosses and adverse circumstances; yet instructive in respect to the lessons it reads and the peculiarity of character disclosed. M**** S****, was in early life committed to the care of, and surrounded by human beings of austere manners, though not of secluded life; yet ascetic in opinions, in creeds and in discipline. His was a noble mind, sacrificed for a time to the overwhelming severity of the then prevalent opinions respecting the enforcement of knowledge by corporeal punishment, agreeably to Dr. Johnson's dogma of "driving it in at both ends"—and he said with a melancholy air that he never thoroughly recovered its force. His sensitive temperament sank under the disgrace of blows; and he could never be brought to rally the powers of intellect while within the influence of those beings who had marred a gentle spirit in its moulding. What a contemptible spice of ideocy is the metaphysical idol of the multitudes; that the greatest measure of physical strength, the highest degree of activity and suppleness of the limbs and the enduring power of the constitution, are the perfection of human nature. There are minds enclosed within bodies which are as tender as the geranium, as ductile as a sea of waving corn, as revolting from violence as the early buds of summer from frost; which when roused, excited, sublimated by passion are in revenge as formidable as the tigress deprived of her whelps, as effective in

planning and executing schemes either of beneficence or destructiveness, and though confined within such frail tenements, as was the "mad Swede"* whose iron temperament enabled him to fast forty days: at the expiration of which time he ordered a sumptuous entertainment for all his general officers, and because they kept him too long from his intensely desired banquet, he sat down and devoured the whole. Is this the time of day, and after all the wonders that civilization, intellect and literature have done, to level down the civilized being to the stupid Esquimaux, the inane Australian, or the *mediocre* Congo man? But to return to our biographical portrait of one who now has no ear for either eulogy or condemnation. His early propensity was for books. Here he found teachers who exacted no severe tasks for imaginary offences—superiors who, while they made him conscious, it is true, of his own inferiority, imparted the remedy in giving *him* what constituted *them* such; can the wealthy say as much? Companions, who, without exhausting his pocket, by forcing him into expenses beyond his means, or making themselves hateful by selfishness, pride, indifference or contempt, as his fortunes rose or fell, always gave him welcome. He came into their presence without consulting his toilette; was not kept waiting in the ante-chamber, or when admitted, asked to sit: and the conversation the while, carried on with any but him. His clothes were not glanced at, and the eyes averted if found below the fashion; nor was he grinned at by a jackanapes of a servant, who, like dogs, have a particular faculty in discovering the want of the tailor's powerful aid in making up the ingredients of some of the gentlemen of the counter, the counting room and the steamboat clerk's office. He introduced himself to Cæsar, Cyrus, Xenophon and a thousand other more modern great men, without feeing their freedmen, or their door or tent-keepers, and they never complained of the intrusion, never yawned in his presence, nor was their anger excited though he should detain them in his company for a night together. They travelled with him in journeys either on foot or in coaches or steamboats; but in all this he was sinning against conventional laws; he had no other companions; living so much with the dead, he was deprived of the sympathy of the living, and finding that he had "strange kinds of ways with him," as they expressed themselves, unless he had unexpectedly met with any piece of good fortune, on which occasion they would condescend to conversation although then he might shew great signs of aversion to *them*, they took very little notice of *him*. He felt particularly inimical to social impulsive movements unaccompanied by the *rationale* or without adequate instruction being given to render these impulses permanent. He would say that some of them were very good, some very indifferent and some very bad. That all had their

*Charles XII, of Sweden.

(Concluded in No. 10.)

NO. 9.

MARCH.

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1842.

SAINT LOUIS, &c.

The works of art may always be very properly contrasted with those of nature, either on a smaller or larger scale. By this contrast the imagination becomes agreeably occupied and filled. How pleasing to compare the pyramid with the mountain—the canal and broad river—the garden with the forest—the artificial flower odorless and destitute of vegetable life with the rose just plucked from the tree. No wonder that a Chateaubriand should, after travelling over the beaten tracks of Asia and Europe, feel so delighted in finding himself in communion with primeval nature in the forests and upon the waters of the west. Nearly the same views and feelings would be imparted by visiting Paris and London, and then taking steam ship for the United States, and departing immediately for Saint Louis and the Valley of the Mississippi. In the Old World, art is momentarily like the serpent of the Laocoon, strangling nature. Here nature is every where in the ascendant—man is but a pigmy and nature the giant—himself and his work accessories and principal—the relation is uniformly preserved.

On arriving in Saint Louis, the mind of such a traveller as has been before described would be carried back to the dense masses of London and Paris, quartered upon and around two rivulets comparatively, the Seine and the Thames—loads of granite, &c., thrown over these two small streams.—From ten to twenty and even fifty miles square covered with marts, temples, of the deity, palaces, hovels, buildings of every description, beautiful villas, seats, chateaux, shrubberies, gardens, every production of art, either for the purposes of utility, luxury, ornament, or the gratification of the senses.—Here, in the ninetieth degree of west longitude, and in the heart of the commercial metropolis of the extreme Western States, let such a traveller ascend an eminence and the first glance will lead him into the train of thought in which we have been just indulging. Here it is true, he would look in vain for the presence of the venerable remains of antiquity as found in the Ivied Tower, the Castle of a hundred assaults frowning from its ruined battlements upon the unwelcome intruder, upon its wonted solitude.

—————"The moping owl doth to the moon complain,
O such as wandering near her secret bower,
Molest her ancient solitary reign."

Still the existence of a real, though a rude and unlettered antiquity is *here* discernible in the mounds; (the closest imitation existing of the immortality

aspired to by the architects of the pyramids ;) in the rude carvings upon rocks; in the remains of battle grounds; the specimens of warlike instruments employed by the aborigines, in some instances found mixed with the bones of a race unknown to the collections of European osteologists: and all these imperfectly made known by Indian traditions, or which are, oblivious altogether of any explanation; the imagination of such a traveller, would be probably employed primarily, in realizing the clearing of the ground for the erection of houses and the rude defences formerly afforded by *stations*,—then the handful of whites would be traced combating with the incensed savages: with fearful odds in point of numbers, famine staring them in the face; threatened in case of failure with indiscriminate massacre; the horrid yells of the assailants would be even heard, and the torches seen, which are always by such foes employed for the purpose of conflagration, when the common modes of assault fail. Nor would this imaginative effort be unsanctioned by truth as all accounts of the early settlement of St. Louis abundantly prove. But the city seen from such an eminence would even command admiration as a work of art; regard being had to the recent periods when it began to shew rapid advancement—the principle governing in these erections is, it is true utility; and very few instances of the grandeur and majesty in effect, arising from great massiveness, elevation, or elaborate ornament are discernable; but *the whole*, is still an extraordinary object under the existing circumstances, viz: a people struggling with difficulties, creating for themselves the very means employed and capital always drawing a higher rate of interest here than at almost any other place in the Union. In such cases, the supply of the first and most pressing wants always dictates the course pursued. Opulence gradually, and gradually only, affords the means for beautifying, adorning and embellishing. Taste and executive talent arrive in the train of wealth: and when time shall have completed adequate preparations and resources, for such works, what may not be anticipated for this spot, so highly favored by a munificence amounting to nearly prodigality on the part of nature in the dispensation of good, which is found scarcely elsewhere on the face of the Globe?

The foregoing sentences comprise a few fugitive and desultory thoughts thrown together by way of introduction to as desultory an article. To be the history of Saint Louis, or even a complete description of Saint Louis, it does not make pretensions. From more than a month's preliminary efforts it is clearly perceived that a performance answering truly to either of the foregoing titles, would require many months, or even a year to do the subject justice—application to men in public offices—ransacking the records and newspapers for documentary information and authorities; failures in appoint-

NORTH.



P A N O R A M A O F S T. L

1. Unitarian Church.

2. Methodist.

3. Liberty Engine House.

4. Brooklyn.

5. City Hotel.

6. S. Louis Engine House.

ments for interview. The continual advance of *time*, and the running a race against it—have destroyed the hope of success; as to preparing any accurate and satisfactory article *in a short time*. In this state of things comprehensiveness and system are things beyond reach, and lest any blame should be hereafter charged upon the editor for the want of these, he here openly lays bare the “nakedness of the land,” and warns the reader against expecting anything beyond a *rude compilation*, having the merit at best of only supplying some few deficiencies in former “*sketches*,” perhaps giving some new facts, or bringing up to the present date, prior statements, or correcting some inadvertant errors into which they have fallen—but literally being any thing but a performance satisfactory even to the *compiler*, who however ventures to express a hope that a second attempt if he should have the opportunity of making it and more sea room to move in, might be more perfect.

In regard to authorities, a word or two is not only proper but necessary; wherever the marks of quotation are found the passage is chiefly derived; whenever the matter has been made in a manner, the property of the editor by the labor of abridgement and remodelling as to style this acknowledgement is not made; but to defend himself sufficiently on this score, the principal sources of contribution, besides the editor’s own pen shall be named at the end of the number.

An article having appeared in the first number of this work, in which the early settlement of Saint Louis has been attributed to Mons. De Laclède, and as this honor has been claimed for Col. Auguste Chouteau, by a writer in one of the Journals of Saint Louis; the whole matter is placed in the hands of the public, by copying that publication, as follows:

SKETCH OF SAINT LOUIS.

To the Editor of the Missouri Republican.

“Last evening I read with much pleasure your ‘Sketch of St. Louis,’ in yesterday’s Republican, (and we are much indebted to you, as we have often been before, for the interest which you take in making our growing city better known to those at a distance, who may not have had an opportunity of visiting it,) but I perceive that you have been led to make a mis-statement of facts in extracting a paragraph from the ‘History of St. Louis,’ prepared for the Lyceum.

“It is therein stated that Mr. De Laclède, ‘having fixed upon a site, returned to Fort Chartres, from whence he started again in the beginning of the month of February, 1764, with men whom he had brought with him from New Orleans, a few from Ste Genevieve, and from the Fort,’ &c. And a little

further it states 'on the 15th Feb., 1764, they (Mr. De Laclède and his men) reached the place of destination, proceeded to cut down trees and draw the line of the town,' &c.

"Now I am well informed that those are not the facts, but that the following is the correct history :

"After Mr. De Laclède had, in company with the late Col. Auguste Chouteau, selected the spot for the new establishment, he returned to Fort Chartres, from whence he despatched a keel boat, under the direction of Col. Auguste Chouteau, (who was then, though young, his assistant,) for the purpose of commencing the new establishment, and at the same time returned to New Orleans himself, where he remained for some years. He never revisited St. Louis after having selected the site. He died in 1778, in Arkansas, on his way up from New Orleans to St. Louis.

"Agreeably to his instructions, Col. Auguste Chouteau started from Fort Chartres with his keel boat, and arrived at the the place of destination on the 13th of February, 1763, and 'proceeded to cut down the trees' and built the first house in the place, which the old market square now occupies ; and it was he who drew the line of the Town—a plat whereof is now on record.

"I would be the last person to attempt to rob Mr. De Laclède of the honor of having selected the site of St. Louis, but at the same time I would like that facts should appear as they happened."

The following is deemed of sufficient importance to be inserted in this number as presenting, the whole evidence bearing upon the point and is abridged from a well known work, (Atwater's Antiquities.)

"After Mr. Laclède had sent his merchandize for the Indian trade up the Missouri, as well as up the Mississippi, he resolved to look for a proper situation on the west side of the Mississippi River, where he would make a proper settlement for the purpose of his commerce, which could be more convenient than Ste. Genevieve—whereupon after travelling over the country, the site where the city of Saint Louis now stands was chosen, (which was then covered with splendid forest trees free of undergrowth,) as well on account of its beautiful situation, as its proximity to the Missouri and the excellence of the soil. Having returned to Fort Chartres, he employed all proper means in his power to procure the necessary things for the commencement of his new settlement; and having hired workmen of different trades, on the 10th of February, 1763, he sent an armament under the command of the late Col. Auguste Chouteau, who had accompanied him in all his travels, and who was then very young, to build a house at the place they had chosen. Mr. De Laclède being obliged to remain at Fort Chartres, to finish his busi-

ness before the arrival of the English, Col. Auguste Chouteau commenced the settlement on the 15th day of February, 1764, and built the first house where the market now stands; and soon thereafter several inhabitants of Fort Chartres and Cahokia came hither and settled. These first settlers were favored and encouraged by Mr. De Laclède, who gratuitously gave them provisions and tools of all kinds, conveyances to transport their effects and families to this new settlement, and even ordered them to be helped by his men in the building of their houses—Col. Chouteau and these new inhabitants full of gratitude for the liberality of Mr. De Laclède, *desired to give his name to the settlement, but he would not consent to it, saying that he desired it to bear the name of St. Louis, which was that of the King of whom they were all subjects.*"

Saint Louis is seated on the west bank of the Mississippi, in north latitude 38°. 37'. 28", (Saint Louis Cathedral,) longitude 90°. 15'. 39" west of Greenwich, in time 6h. 1m. 2½ sec., determined by Joseph N. Nichollet, Esq., in 1837; it is situate eighteen miles below the junction of the Missouri; is the county seat of a county of the same name and is the capital of the State of Missouri. "It commands the trade of both rivers. The Mississippi is navigable from 8 to 900 miles; passing in that distance between the territories of Wisconsin and Iowa, and in part of the State of Illinois and Missouri. The river Missouri has been navigated more than 2000 miles by steamboats of 250 tons. At and below Saint Louis the river Mississippi is found little interrupted by ice; and steam navigation affords it a communication with the States of Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Western Virginia and Pennsylvania. The State of Illinois is now constructing a canal, which when completed will give Saint Louis access to the State of Michigan and the whole Lake country. It is found upon examination that this immense region affords every product, found without the tropics, from the sugar and orange of the south to the furs of the north; and for its extent there is not a more healthy region found upon the earth's surface.

The City of Saint Louis is nearly the centre of this vast portion of the North American continent, and of the State of Missouri which is the largest (including the Platte Country,) in the Union.

Mines near Saint Louis, exclusive of coal. Within a circle having for its *diameter* forty miles, the town of Potosi, Washington county, in this State, embraces forty lead mines, nine or ten iron ore banks, including the mountains; two copper mines; besides stone quarries producing a remarkable species of white clay perfectly free from foreign matter. Iron ore is found in the State of Missouri, in eight counties, and the famed iron mountains are situate in Saint Francois and Madison counties.

COAL BANKS.

The bituminous coal of St. Louis is of excellent quality and literally inexhaustible even within the area of the city proper. The number of acres actually explored and now wrought upon is set down at twelve hundred; situated from one to one and half miles from the United States Arsenal, and one and a half miles below the central part of St. Louis.

The average thickness of the strata of merchantable coal is four feet; and these twelve hundred acres situate at our own doors will afford one hundred and thirty-seven millions of bushels of coals, of eighty pounds each.

The coal field of St. Louis county commences below Carondelet, runs northward to the Missouri river and embraces a superficies of sixty square miles, or thirty-eight thousand acres. The same strata are found north of the Missouri river in St. Charles county.

Across the Mississippi river in the State of Illinois, we pass a level prairie, (the American Bottom, so called,) from five to seven miles when we find the bluffs, or hills from sixty to one hundred and twenty feet high; along the face of these hills about forty feet above the level of the prairie is found a stratum of coal, from five to seven feet thick, of a superior quality.

The coal banks are already open on a line of nine miles, and Mr. Russel, adds the greater part of the State of Illinois is a bituminous coal field of prodigious extent, for coal is found in the tributaries of the Wabash, of the Ohio, of the (river) Illinois, and of the Mississippi, *wherever the water courses have worn into the surface and cut sufficiently low.* As respects the coal banks in Illinois, immediately opposite St. Louis, there is one recently opened six and a half feet thick with a carboniferous limestone roof nine feet thick.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Here are vast forests, fifty mill seats of durable water power—besides abundance of limestone rock—the whole face of the country affords materials for good roads; and in the article of timber it is also abundantly supplied.

Staples and Exports.

Provisions.—Beef, Pork and Wheat are the chief staples. Hams in pickle are sent to Cincinnati and there cured, and sent east of the Mountains and sold as Ohio hams. The pork dealers come annually from the Ohio to the Mississippi, Illinois and Missouri rivers, and pack large quantities of pork. This complete revolution in the provision trade is the consequence of settling a prairie country interspersed with timber sufficient for several generations.

There are a vast many other articles of export of minor importance to the foregoing enumerated; they are as follows: flaxseed, tobacco, whisky, shot, hides, hemp, castor oil, corn meal, buffalo robes, beeswax, rope, butter, bagging,

beans, furs and peltries, green fruits, dried fruits, tallow, corn, flour, lead in pigs and bars, oats, potatoes, onions. The imports consist of all articles and commodities found within the range of civilization.

THE SAINT LOUIS FUR TRADE.

“The fur trade induced many French settlers from Canada, and at an early day, several English adventurers in the same traffic, took up their residence in St. Louis. About three years after the transfer of Louisiana to the United States, the tide of English settlers greatly increased, and the town began to assume a more commercial character.”

Indeed the establishment of a Fur Company having been so intimately connected with the rise and early prosperity of St. Louis, it is highly proper it should receive a proportionate degree of attention. We accordingly waited upon one or two of the gentlemen early connected with the Fur Trade here, and who politely tendered the following particulars orally: The American Fur Company was incorporated in the state of York, in 1808, for a term of forty years with a capital of \$2,000,000; about or soon after this period, Mr. John Jacob Astor took measures for extending this institution, by a settlement on the Columbia River—and this branch of it was called the Pacific Fur Company. The war breaking out, this attempt proved abortive. The American Fur Company still remained under the management of Mr. Astor, until 1834. He then sold out the western department to Messrs. Pratte, Chouteau & Co. The northern department was nearly simultaneously sold out in New York, to Messrs. Ramsay, Crooks and others. Mr. John Jacob Astor then retired from this branch of commerce. Since then, viz., in 1838, the firm of Pratte, Chouteau & Co. was dissolved, and the firm of Pierre Chouteau, Jun. & Co. formed, under which style it is now carried on.

The Fur Trade in St. Louis, 1820:—“The American Fur Company have here a large establishment, and the furs, skins and peltries cannot amount to less than one million of dollars annually, which are brought down the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. The Company trade over a vast region, occupying all the country north and west of this place, quite to the Rocky Mountains, and to as low a latitude as the Arkansas River.”

In the early stage of this trade with the Indians, it was seated at Michillimackinac, on Lake Michigan, that having been the exclusive depot both for imported goods and the furs received for them, and that place continues to be the depot for the northern trade. After the last war, goods of all kinds having been imported direct at St. Louis, it has become the depot for the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and territories.

The tribes of Indians with which the Company have conducted their trade are as follows:—Sacs and Foxes, Shawnees and Delawares, Potawattamies,

Monominies, Winnebagoes, Iowas, Kansas, Ottoes, Omahaws, Pawnees, Sioux, Chyeins, (probably from Chiens) Arrapahoes, Arrickaraws, Mandans, Menetawries, Kinistaneoux, Assiniboins, Crows, Snakes, Blackfeet, and numerous other tribes.

The course pursued, is to take the route of the Missouri River, leaving a trader with the different tribes at their principal depots; these are, for the Teton River, Fort Pierre; at the mouth of the Yellowstone, Fort Union; below the falls of the Missouri, Fort McKenzie. The merchandize employed in this trade consists chiefly of the following descriptions:—Woollen cloths, nearly all kinds, broad cloths, blankets, guns and rifles, powder and lead, tobacco, knives, axes, general cutlery, miscellaneous glass and silver ware, beads and ornaments. The furs and peltries received in return are:—Beaver, otter, martin, fisher, lynx, bear, (grizly, black and brown) foxes, (red, cross, silver and black) wolves, muskrat, raccoon, deerskins, buffaloes, &c.

PROGRESSIVE ADVANCE OF THE POPULATION OF SAINT LOUIS.

“In 1808 there was a number of families; number of inhabitants not exactly known. In 1810, 700; in 1820, 2,000; in 1830, 5,852; in 1833, 6,397; in 1837, 12,040, and including the suburbs, now embraced in the city limits, 14,253; in 1841, within the old limits only, there were 19,063. The census of the suburbs was not taken that year, but from what is known by the voters, and taxable inhabitants residing in that part, the whole population of the city may safely be set down as now above 30,000.”

Account of St. Louis, appearing in a newspaper in 1811, published first in the city, 1808, viz: The Louisiana Gazette, now the Republican:

“St. Louis contains according to the last census 1,400 inhabitants. One fifth Americans, and about 400 people of color. There are a few Indians, and metiffs, in the capacity of servants, or wives of boatmen. St. Louis was at no time so agricultural as the other villiges; being a place of some trade, the chief town of the province, and the residence of greater numbers of mechanics. It remained stationary for two or three years after the cession, it is now beginning to take a start, and its reputation, is growing abroad. Every house is crowded, rents are high and it is exceedingly difficult to procure a tenement on any terms. Six or seven houses were built in the course of last season, and it is probable, twice the number, will be the next.— There is a printing office, and twelve mercantile stores. The value of the merchandize, and imports to this place, in the course of the year may be estimated at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The outfits, for the different trading or military establishments, on the Mississippi, or Missouri are made here. The lead of the Sac mines, is brought to this place; the trade of furs and peltry from various causes is not as good as it was a few years

ago, but there is every reason to believe that it will soon take a start. The troops of Belle Fountain, cause upwards of sixty thousand dollars to have circulation in the country annually. The settlements in the vicinity, on both sides of the Mississippi, resort to this place as the best market for their produce, and to supply themselves with such articles as they may need."

The site as described in the same year, 1811. "This occupies perhaps, the best site for a town, that the Mississippi affords. The mouth of the Ohio, has certainly much greater natural advantages, but the ground is subject to inundation, and St. Louis has taken a start, which it will most probably keep. It bids fair to be second to New Orleans in importance.

"The bank on which St. Louis stands, is not much higher than in ordinary places, but the floods of the river are kept at a distance by a bold shore of limestone rock.

"The town is built between the river and the second bank, on three streets running parallel to the river, and a number of cross ones, east and west.—No space has been left between the town and the river; which is much to be lamented; for the sake of health, business and the pleasure of promenade, there should have been no encroachment on the margin of the noble stream. The principle scene of business ought to be on the bank of the river, which gives consequence to the place. From the opposite bank, nothing is visible of the busy bustle of a populous town; it appears closed up. The site of St. Louis is not unlike that of Cincinnati. How different would have been its appearance, if built in the same elegant manner. Its bosom, as it were opened to the breezes of the river, the stream gladdened by the enlivening scene of business and pleasure, and houses built in elegant and compact rows."

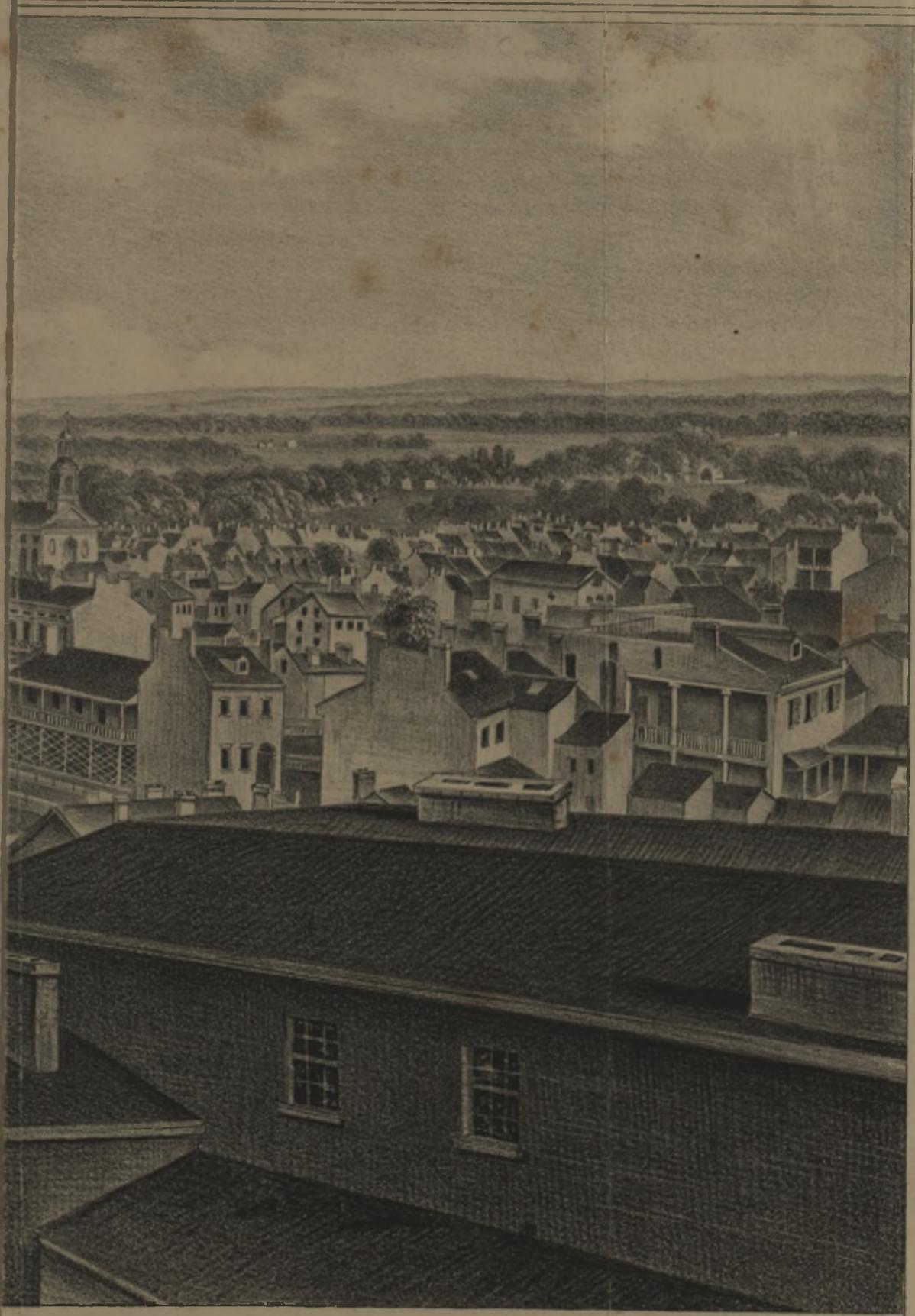
The first plat, or plan of the city under the name of St. Louis des Illinois.
 "The first plan of St. Louis, under the name of *St. Louis des Illinois*, was made according to an order of government, by Auguste Chouteau, in 1764—the town was fortified by Lieutenant Governor Francois de Crusat, in 1780, and a plat thereof, certified by said Chouteau in 1825, shows all the ancient denominations of streets, public squares and fortifications. It calls for instance: Main street, *Grande Rue*; Second street, *Rue de l'Eglise*; Third street, *Rue des Granges*;—it shows the northern half of that block on Walnut street, east of Main, where Messrs. Ulrici & Co's store is kept, "*the place of residence of the Spanish Governor*;"—it calls Walnut street, *Rue de la Tour*; Market street, *Rue de la Place*; Chesnut street, *Rue Missouri, A*; Pine street, *Rue Quicapou, B*; Olive street, *C*; Locust street, is called *D*; and so forth, lettering the streets up to *Oak*, which is designated with the letter *H*, showing a Bastion, half moon, and a tower, along the place of the present Cherry street."

Ancient boundaries of St. Louis.—“Its boundaries are fixed by the Court of Common Pleas, in November term of 1800, as bounded north by an east and west line, passing a point in the northern peripherie of Roy’s tower, situate near Biddle street, on the bank of the Mississippi river—extending west to the western line of the Common field of St. Louis, and thence southward and east to the Sugar Loaf.”

Present Limits.—The city by the act of incorporation of the 18th February, 1841, extends about five miles along the river, and back about one mile and a half at the deepest part. The limits are thus defined: all that district of country contained within the following limits, to-wit: beginning at a point in the channel of the Mississippi river, due east to the south-east corner of St. George; thence due west to the west line of the second Carondelet avenue; thence north, with the said west line of said avenue, to the north line of Chouteau avenue; thence northwardly in a direct line to the mouth of Stony creek, above the present north line of the city of St. Louis; thence due east to the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence northwardly with the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence southwardly with the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river to the place of beginning.

The *Court House* has undergone material alterations, which have been executed in the best style, and constitute that building an ornament to the city. A spacious tobacco warehouse has been recently constructed, located on the corner of Second and Prune streets. A work house for the punishment of vagrants and other offenders against the city ordinances, has been erected at the intersection of Park avenue, with the west line of the city.

Prospective Improvements.—Streets under contract, to be graded and paved: 1st. 7th st. from Market to the southern limits, to terminate at the Arsenal walls. 2nd. Broadway from the present pavement, north Market to the northern limits of the city near Stony creek. 3rd. Market street from Seventh to the western limits. 4th. Washington avenue, from Sixth street to the western limits, making in all seven and a half miles McAdamized road, to be finished before the 15th September next.



WEST.



1, Reformed Presbyterian Church. 2, Centenary Church.

3, St. Louis University.

4, Primary School House. ©SIUE | siue.edu/digitalcollections

POSTSCRIPT.—In regard to topographical works—after the artist shall have exhausted his skill in perspective and drawing, and even succeeded in placing before the eye the very *fac simile*, nay the objects themselves, bricks and mortar “to the life,” and the *beau ideal* of every object which allows of it, there still remains something to be done by the pen, which it is very difficult to explain, and more difficult still to do. The topographical descriptions of every thing of still life may be perfect, yet there is something remains behind. What sort of “living humans,”—as some have quaintly rendered it—which are found walking these streets, living within these houses, and talking and doing, and how they pass their twenty-four hours each day, is, after all, the nice point which interests their fellow-humans, some 3 or 4000 miles off: What are these talkings; what these doings; what their amusements, their “goings on,” in this *A-merry-key*, about which they hear and about which they read so much? Not the inert life, the *vis inertia*, but the living life is what is wanted; what modes of it prevail; what sort of manners; what sort of opinions; what are the predominant tastes, the every day acts, the common places, as well as the graver qualities of this people, amongst whom so many have serious designs of residing? and it must be acknowledged that about all these affairs it is very highly desirable that such enquirers should be answered. But there are many very great difficulties in the way of gratifying such laudable desires, such a reasonable *penchant*: are not such persons aware that to speak of the *living* and *before the living*, is a work upon which many an author, or to make use of a term, less grandiloquent many a writer has shipwrecked his fair hopes—was that not a beacon set up by the case of the *Telegraphe*—the talented editor of which found himself deserted by his countrymen and the public, and was left to hoist his signals without getting any body to answer them? the every day’s experience of editors of newspapers makes them acquainted very feelingly with this *difficulty*. To praise highly, or to blame strongly, are almost equally dangerous; and tame mediocrity seems to be the only alternative—*Piquant* dissertations on manners must in order to be so, have sometimes a strong spice of the satirical, and, it may be censorial. Entire and wholesale eulogy answers extremely well, in regard to those who are its objects, but it is a very flat beverage for the palate of others. What can be more fulsome than dedicatory prefaces: the sauce even of a *Dryden* could not make the dish go down. Well, the non-committal line has not been passed yet. Suppose we should begin to speak of some of the pretty, inviting, well provisioned, well furnished, *Auberges* and watering places in the purlieus of St. Louis, and in terms which they might well deserve, the instant rebound from the reader would be puff’!! puff’!!! puff’!!!! And we should also expose ourselves to the dehortations of the Washingtonians.

Besides the *Sulphur Springs* and the *Prairie House*, there are half a dozen pretty places where one might justly recommend one's friends, and go one's self, but to mention them might be attributed to a *bribe*, of which this work of course cannot be even *suspected*. If one were to say of the *Planters' House*, that the State might be challenged to produce an establishment where there are better *domestics*, a better larder, better attendance, a greater variety of luxuries for the gratification of the *gourmand*, or even of a *Queensberry*, all this might be true—but might we not be accused of interested motives? After this, suppose we should speak of the National, as having lost not an inch of the reputation conferred upon it by Messrs. Stickney & Knight, and commendatorily of some of the other inns and taverns, might we not be taunted with leaning somewhat invidiously towards the hosts, and slighting other similar establishments? Suppose we were to eulogize the soirees of the fashionables of St. Louis to laud the untiring industry of the merchants, the skill of its mechanics and artizans, the ability of the professors and teachers attached to the respective schools and colleges, literary and scientific, we might be speaking no more than the truth, and still our good friends abroad might cry out that we still puffed.

But how to dispose of the vast variety of "Establishments," "Institutions," professional and otherwise heaped upon our table, which swell the importance of the city, and are each of them interesting to new comers? To give each of them a separate article were literally impossible—and to omit any unpardonable. There is the Dispensary—the "dispenser" of medical benefits to the poor, one of the *best* in the West—to print the long article we are favored with is impossible and yet it "should be done." How can we pass over *Kemper College*, respecting which we took the pains to copy out of the *Gazette*—that utilitarian vehicle—a lengthy description, and were also supplied with a list of the professors' names. It cannot be done! Suppose we undertook to correct an error in a recent statistical statement touching the Queen City, and to say there are three foundries, instead of two, viz., the *Eagle*, situated near the Old Market, the *Mississippi*, in Main, and the *Upper*, in Broadway—shall we be forgiven? The best may err; and some after-comer upon our trail may inflict upon us, possibly, manifold errors, the very mention of which we hope will procure our pardon in advance, done as it is under the genuine feelings of urbanity, and with the apothegm staring us in the face, "*Errare est humano.*"

But not the least of our difficulties is to state without ostentation or the appearance of it, the matter actually prepared and omitted. If the reader will pardon us, the following is about the entirety:—A magnificent meteorological table; a compendium of the bills of mortality, for seven consecutive

years; an article on the local climate; an article on the Mississippi River; annexed thereto, statistics of the steam boat trade and steam boats; copious notice of the American Bottom; an account of the projected Water Works; suburbs of St. Louis; city expenditures; the Lyceum and Library; commercial statistics of the city; specimens of the literature of St. Louis; nearest tribes of Indians; prominent curiosities in the city and vicinage, calculated to attract the attention of strangers. Possibly this omitted matter, or spare cartridges, may, in some shape or other, appear at some future day.

Authorities quoted from:—The Republican newspaper, to the files of which access was politely granted; The Gazette—the same; the People's Organ has contributed one passage; Martin Thomas, Esq.—Report on the Western Armory; Street Commissioner; Sketch of St. Louis, by A. B. Chambers, Esq.; The gentlemen of the American Fur Company; Kenneth McKenzie, Esq.; Hall's Statistics of the West; Attwater's Antiquities of the Western Country.

