

# Maries County Events of 1898

Keeping with established tradition, the Old Settlers' Gazette presents a collage of clippings from a hundred years ago for those with an interest in Maries County history and people.

They are as follows:

T. B. Anderson died Tuesday morning at 11 o' clock at the age of 40 years, after a week's illness. He was first afflicted with flux, then with heart trouble, then with pneumonia in both lungs. Dr. Gremp did all that was possible to do to alleviate his suffering, but the disease had suddenly fastened itself upon the victim so firmly that human skill could do but little.

Mr. Anderson had been county treasurer two terms and was justice of the peace at the time of his death. He leaves a widow and five children, most of whom are small: his mother and younger brother, William D., at Pay Down, and two older brothers, Richard, who lives at Fayetteville, Ark., and Monroe Anderson of St. Louis. All have the sympathy of a bereaved community.

-Maries County Times article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald Jan. 6th.

Our Vichy Springs correspondent sends us the following: "Some two or three weeks ago some one suggested to J. R. Moreland to bathe his feet in ice cold water for a tingling feeling. He did so, and the result was that the blood became clogged in the veins of his foot, and he has since that time been confined to his bed. The right foot became so sore that he had to have it lanced several times to let the pus escape. The sore kept getting worse and, in order to

save the limb, he was compelled, on Sunday morning last, to have the foot amputated. The operation was performed by Drs. Johnson, Dunnigan, Nieweg and Fritts. At the present time Mr. Moreland is doing fairly well."

-Maries County Times article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald Jan. 13th.

Vichy Cor. of Vienna Times: J. Moreland, four miles southeast of Vichy Springs, died last Thursday. Mr. Moreland suffered his part of man's ills in this life and was ready to go when the summons came. A complication of diseases with which he had been afflicted many years led to the amputation of his foot some weeks ago. He did not recover from the operation. Mr.

Moreland was well known throughout the county. He raised a large family and was a progressive and enterprising farmer. The remains were interred at the Rock Spring cemetery.

-Rolla Herald, Mar. 3rd.

A new post office has been established at Marcus John's store, half way between Vichy and St. James. Broadway is the name given to the office, and Mr. E. L. John is in charge as postmaster.

-Maries County Gazette article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald, Mar. 10th

Died--At his home in North Dillon township, near the Maries county line, on March 8, Jack Cox. The deceased had been a sufferer for a long time with stomach trouble, but after spending some time in Colorado last year, returned home greatly improved, and during the fall erected a new house and made a number of improvements on a new farm acquired by him and seemed to be getting along

remarkably well, but the disease had taken such a strong hold upon him that it sapped his life away. He was a respected citizen and well liked by all. He was a member of the Woodmen lodge of St. James and carried a \$1000 policy.

-Maries County Times article, reprinted in the Mar. 24th Rolla Herald.

"We, the jury, find the issues for the plaintiff and assess her damages at \$4000, cost included."

This was the verdict handed in Friday evening at 9 o' clock in favor of Martha Wheeler in her damage suit against Dr. William H. Bowles of Lanes Prairie.

About two years ago, as stated heretofore in the Times, the plaintiff, then living at Pay Down, called in Dr. Bowles to "set" her right arm which had become dislocated at the shoulder. Whether or not proper skill was used the Times cannot say. However, Mrs. Wheeler has since suffered from the effects of an extreme dislocation. She is disfigured in this particular for life, hence her suit for \$25,000 damages. At the last term of court there was a hung jury. Public sentiment is divided, but the law and the jury this time seemed to favor Mrs. Wheeler. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court.

-Maries County Times article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald Apr. 21st.

Dragged from his pulpit to a cell in the dismal Four Courts holdover, with an unexpired penitentiary sentence confronting him, is the latest chapter in the eventful life story of Rev. William Weatherford of Maries County, this State, a minister of the Christian Church.

Rev. Weatherford is said to be a fugitive from the Kentucky Penitentiary. He admits having been in the prison to which he is being returned, but by a strange combination of circumstances he doesn't consider himself a fugitive.

The story of the reverend prisoner, as related by himself in the holdover last night, forms a page more interesting than fiction.

Interwoven in the thrilling recital is an example of the far-reaching power of political jobbery.

Like most men who talk from behind holdover bars, Rev. Weatherford proclaims himself innocent.

Interest in this dramatic case is heightened by the fact that ten years have elapsed since the commission of the crime that was fastened upon the

preacher.

He was convicted of larceny, the stealing of \$1000 in cash from the pockets of a drunken man.

"Ten years ago," said Rev. Weatherford, "I was a prosperous and happy citizen of Salem, Ky., the pastor of a well organized church, and I also owned a grocery store.

"It was on election day ten years ago that a man by the name of John Tyner walked into my grocery store and prompted by a drunken fancy asked me to weigh his overcoat. He said it was the best coat in Salem and he wanted to know how much it weighed. I did as he requested.

"Shortly afterward he discovered that he had lost \$1000 which he carried in his overcoat pocket.

"I was accused of the theft and after three trials I was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. I was trusted by the prison officials and practically given my liberty.

"I had been in the penitentiary about six months when I was informed by the authorities that if I quietly went away there would be no attempt to capture me. I did not take kindly to the idea at first,

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preferring to have a pardon. 'Better not suffer such delay,' I was told. Of course I chafed under the restraint such as it was, and but little persuasion was needed to cause me to leave.

"I located in Missouri and resumed my calling as a preacher. Everybody at my old home in Kentucky, as well as the prison authorities, were aware of my whereabouts, still not a hand was raised against me then, and I was permitted to establish a home in my new location. I even corresponded with Tyner, the prosecuting witness, and he gave me assurance that he had ceased to believe me guilty.

"But there came a turn in the tide of my happiness. My eldest son, who lives at Mayfield, Ky., was elected a member of the Legislature from his county. I was proud of the boy, and gloried in his achievements, little dreaming how it would rebound to my sorrow.

"My son was making a good record in the Legislature when certain political tricksters sought his influence for the enactment of a measure which his conscience did not permit him to support. Failing in attempts to bribe him with money these unscrupulous tricksters threatened to have me returned to the penitentiary to serve out my unexpired term unless he joined their forces.

"Still my son would not yield, and then for revenge upon him the weaving of the plot against me was begun. There is a formal standing reward in Kentucky of \$50 for the capture of fugitives from the penitentiary, and this fact was communicated to Sheriff Wyrick of Pulaski county, this State, to whom I was well known. After several weeks of parleying I was taken into custody, and here I am now.

"I think I will be pardoned as soon as I get back to old Kentucky. There are too many people who know I am

innocent, and there will certainly be an uprising in my favor."

Sheriff Wyrick arrived in St. Louis with his prisoner Saturday morning and is waiting here for the arrival of officers from Kentucky.

"I have had so much expense already," said the Sheriff, "that there'll be nothing left of my \$50 reward if I take the prisoner on to Kentucky, so I am holding him here and if the Kentucky authorities want him, let them come after him."

-St. Louis Post Dispatch article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald May 5th.

Some miscreant set fire to Cain Bailey's barn, near Cadmus, Tuesday night last, consuming it together with two valuable horses, 250 bushels of corn and a new wagon bed, while another horse was badly injured by the fire. The family were all asleep and were aroused only in time to save two other horses.

-Maries County Gazette article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald Jun. 2nd.

Sheriff Doyel of Maries county went to Shannon county last week after Wm. Robertson, the man who is charged with stealing J. C. Welch's horse at vichy a week or two since. Sheriff Doyel located his man there last week and had the authorities of that county arrest him.

-Maries County Gazette article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald Jun. 9th.

Capt. G. W. Breece, of the West Side, last week had the misfortune to lose three or four cows by being struck by lightning. We did not learn particulars, but it is presumed they were standing under a tree which drew the deadly stroke. Dr. W. B. Kinsey, of High Gate, also lost a fine mare in the same manner not long since, we understand.

-Maries County Gazette article, reprinted in the Rolla

Herald Jun. 30th

On Thursday evening last, after the heavy storm, a little sister of Mrs. Gary Beckham, who had been visiting with her, started for her home a short distance away, near Grovedale, Maries county, and in attempting to cross a branch running into Pea Vine creek, lost her balance, and fell in the water and was carried down stream. Mrs. Beckham fearing for her sister's safety started out after her, and just reached the branch in time to see her sister go down. She immediately ran down the bank thinking that she could head her off and save her. As the raging waters came rushing on, carrying the little one with it, Mrs. Beckham made a plunge into the stream, but the current was so swift that she could do nothing and they both found a watery grave. The bodies were found Friday morning among a pile of drift and sand. The funeral of the sisters was held Saturday, and the remains were interred in the graveyard at Grovedale. Mr. Beckham and the relatives of the unfortunate ones have the sympathy of the entire community in their sad bereavement.

-St. James Journal article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald July 21st.

John W. Holloway, an old Maries county citizen, but now a resident of Riverside, Ark., arrived in Rolla yesterday in company with J. F. Keller, an expert zinc miner of Joplin, Mo. They were on their way to Vichy to examine the lead and zinc prospects of that place.

-Rolla Herald, Sept. 29th.

At the October term of Circuit Court injunction proceedings were filed by the Masonic Lodge at this place to restrain the Assessor from listing and assessing the Masonic building. The matter was taken up and considered. The writ was refused for the reason that the petition did not

state a cause of action. The judge took occasion, however, to say that the property was not exempt from taxation; that inasmuch as part of the building was used for a store room, rented out to other parties, used for other than lodge purposes, it could not be placed on the exemption list even admitting that the proceeds arising from rents etc., should be used for charitable purposes. The matter will likely go to the Supreme court before it is ended.

-Maries County Times article, reprinted in the Nov. 24th Rolla Herald.

Gus A. Lewis, a young architect of St. Louis, with his brother, were out near Lake Springs last week hunting. On Friday afternoon he was shot by his brother, one of the shots penetrating his right eye near the pupil. The wound was painful but the doctors do not think it will prove serious. Mr. Lewis returned to St. Louis Saturday. He is a nephew of Dr. E. B. Bowles of Vienna, Mo.

-Rolla Herald, Nov. 24th.

A young man named John Robinson, of Maries county, was arrested last Friday by deputy sheriff Jeff. Ellis and placed in jail in this city, charged with having forged a note. To-day he will be given a hearing before Squire Christie.

-Rolla Herald, Dec. 8th.

The many friends of A. J. Branson, of the Gasconade valley, learned with deep regret of the death of his wife, which occurred last Sunday. His son William, we understand, is also very ill of pneumonia. Mrs. Branson was a most estimable lady, and her demise caused universal sorrow throughout the community in which she has resided.

-Maries County Gazette article, reprinted in the Rolla Herald Dec. 22nd.

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