

## Old Settlers' Meetings

### **Mt. Pulaski Local Items**

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
October 09, 1873  
Contributed by Bill Donath

Mt. Pulaski, ILL Oct. 8, 1873 - The "old settlers' reunion" held here Wednesday last was a very pleasant affair, in fact a decided success. The attendance was large and although some may have been disappointed by the non-appearance of prominent public speakers from abroad, I am not so certain but what the impromptu speeches by our fellow citizens were just as acceptable with the further advantage that for once politics were not a part of the programme. The meeting was mostly of a social character, with addresses from Rev. John England, Col. Wm Allen, J. W. Randolph, Mr. McGraw, of Clinton, Strother Jones of Sangamon county, and Judge Ewing and Mr. McElheny, of our county. Among the older native citizens present were Roland Birks, Mrs. Miller Copeland and John Buckles, and of the oldest citizens Mrs. Carter Scroggin, Mrs. Robt. Buckles, Mrs. Robt. Burns and Mrs. Turley. Before the exercises closed it was unanimously resolved to continue the present organization, and to publish in due time when and where the next annual re-union should be held

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### **Mt. Pulaski**

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
October 08, 1874 p 3

Oct. 7, 1874 – The Old Settlers reunion on Thursday last, at Capp's Park, was well attended. With the exception of a Fall breeze that kept up a pretty stiff blow, the day was pleasant. Old friends and acquaintances met who were among those of the pioneers and early settlers; Addresses in commemoration of the olden times were made, after prayer by Rev. E. L. Craig, by Ezra Boren of your city, Strother Jones of Dawson, Rev. John England, J. W. Randolph, Col. Allen, L. P. Mathews, A. W. Clark and Dr. A. Shields, of Sangamon Co. All together the reunion was a happy one, and the rising generation ought to profit by the recital and recollections of the trials of those who laid the foundation for the many blessings we now enjoy.

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### **Old Settlers' Meeting**

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
September 30, 1875

#### Reminiscences of the Deep Snow and Log Cabin Times

The third annual reunion of the Old Settlers of Logan County took place on Thursday last at the Salt Creek bridge on the Lincoln and Mt. Pulaski road. The attendance was not as large as might have been anticipated, and still a very fair assemblage gathered in the grove just south of the bridge. The day, in marked contrast to what lately had preceded it, was delightful.

## Old Settlers' Meetings

By eleven o'clock the grove was crowded with buggies and family carriages, and the meeting had assumed its intended character – that of a pleasant open-air sociable in which the staple topics of conversation were the Deep Snow and the events of the subsequent ante-railroad years. A basket dinner followed and was discussed with old-fashioned sociability and freedom from restraint. Strangers were looked up and made to feel that hospitality was not yet an extinct virtue.

David W. Clark, Esq., president of the association, called the scattered groups together and Rev. John Everly invoked the Divine blessing. Mr. S. Linn Beidler was elected secretary *pro tem*.

Rev. John England said we were not president to hear fine speeches, but to talk of old times. He wanted one and all to speak. It was desirable that the rising generation should know in what privations and poverty their fathers had laid the foundation of our present prosperity.

The President said it was a social rather than a religious love feast in which it was desirable that all should take part.

Col. R. B. Latham was called for. The Colonel said he had never attended an old settlers' meeting before, but supposed that reminiscences would be in order. He was a child of one of the first settlers', and came to the county when he was a little over a year old. Fifty-seven years ago not a white person lived in what is now Logan county. Those who were present at this meeting were the children of the pioneers. His father settled at Elkhart Grove in 1819. In February of that year he built a cabin and his family came on in September. He thought his father's family the first that came to the county, though there were several who came in 1820 and probably James Musick settled on Sugar Creek in the fall of 1819. Mr. Turley and others came soon after. His first recollection of a plow was of one made entirely of wood, a barshire. Next was the Cary plow, the share of which was partly of iron. The principal Indian tribes then in the county were the Pottawattomies and the Delawares, but they soon gave way to the settlers. When his father came they went a mile below Edwardsville (a distance of 100 miles) to mill. In a few years a little mill was put up on the Sangamon. His father erected a horse mill about the year 1822 and it was looked upon as a very important enterprise. Men would come great distances and camp out for a day or two while their grinding was being done. All were neighbors and friends then and much sociability existed. He thought this was always the case in the settlement of a country. People enjoyed themselves as well as they do now. The early settlers were vigorous, enterprising men. It did him good to meet the friends of his boyhood, especially upon such an occasion as this; hence he was in favor of the gatherings.

Joshua Day responded to a call by saying that he was not a pioneer, though an old settler. He came forty years ago, lacking a month, and he thanked God for it. He landed at Commerce, near Nauvoo, forty-eight years ago, having left Massachusetts when not quite twenty-one. Near Nauvoo he saw Blackhawk and over five hundred Indians. He took dinner with the chief several times. The year after he came he helped bury two or three of his neighbors. They had no physician. He had only "six bits" when he came and shook with ague nine months. Would have gone back but couldn't. Like many others the impossibility of returning gave him the pluck to endure. Afterwards he came to Lake Fork which they said was healthier country. He came after the arrival of the Bucleses, the Lucases, the Scrogginses and the Latham's. John Buckles and others in the assembly before him knew how times were then. When scouring plows came in, one old man stuck to his wooden plow for three years because he thought the new plow would kill the ground, "it turned it over so sleek." (Mr. Day here described an old fashioned wedding with its fiddling, dancing and racing for the bottle; the old-fashioned cabin with its wide fireplace, etc.)

## Old Settlers' Meetings

L. K. Scroggin was called out. He said the previous speakers had left nothing for him to say. His father and mother came to Illinois in 1811 and he was born in the southern part of the state in 1819. He came to Logan county in 1827 and had remained ever since. He thought the young should go on improving the country as their fathers had done for those who, in time, should follow them. We should not destroy but build up. The country should go on to its career of development. Fifty years hence this would be one of the greatest countries in the world. He thought the young people of the present time, while they might not enjoy sports of early days, were quite as happy in their different ways.

John Musick, John Buckles and Sam'l McGarvey were called for but did not respond. J. T. Hackney answered to calls by saying that he could not make a speech. He was not a pioneer, but came to the county forty-one years ago. In 1840 he knew almost all the men in Logan county, when it polled less than five hundred votes. In December 1836 he and one or two others went up Salt Creek and stopped at the farm where he now lives. The earth was wet from recent rains. Suddenly a cold wind came which almost seemed to whiten the earth in its progress. As they went the ice became thicker and thicker and the cold more intense, and they were obliged to stop for the night at the house of Alfred Sams. All old settlers would remember that sudden and wonderful change of temperature. He father began teaching in 1836 in a log cabin within a hundred yards of where he (the speaker) was now talking. The schoolhouse was called "brush college."

James Randolph was called out. He said was not one of the first settlers but came forty-five years ago, before the winter of the deep snow. He came, a small boy in a colony of fifty who settled together. There was but one house then from the Widow Cruser's to the county line. They came from a warm country and their men spent the fall weather in hunting, instead of finishing up their cabins. Only two houses in the colony had chimneys. The snow came about Christmas. It was very hard to travel with horses and there was no corn nearer than ten miles. They had plenty of meat. By spring forty-nine of the fifty were in the two cabins that had chimneys. Nearly all were sick, but there was only one death during the winter. They had no doctor. A good many of the colony became discouraged and went back. In 1832 his father built a hewed log house, the same one in which Wm. Donnan now lived.

James F. Hyde, of Lincoln, read a poem entitled "The Pioneers."

The President said he came to the county in 1841. In 1842 or 1843 he attended an "infare" at which were present Seth Post, Jerome Goren, Anson Packard and Dick Oglesby, all of Decatur. The family lived in a small house and the guests expected to go to Yankeetown for lodgings, but a rain came up and they were forced to sleep on the floor. He remembered that Oglesby made a pillow of a skillet which he had turned upside down for the purpose.

At the stand were a few relics representative of early times. One was a piece of old fashioned strap rail, such as was used on the first railroads. Mr. D. W. Clark had a silver spoon made by a brother of his wife's grandmother, and a primitive looking, but substantial two-tined, hay fork, once the property of his great, great grandfather. Mr. Fletcher had a rifle brought from Virginia and a pair of antlers taken from a buck slain by the gun thirty years ago. Some preserved ground cherries were shown as a sample of what pioneer housewives need to do in sweetmeats.

Mrs. Geo. Turley, aged fifty-two, was thought to be the oldest living person born in the county.

The President said it was desirable to have a re-organization of the association. D. W. Clark was re-elected President: R. B. Latham was made Vice President, L. K. Scroggin, Treasurer, and S. Linn Beidler, Secretary. It was voted to hold the next meeting at Latham Park, Lincoln. The

## Old Settlers' Meetings

following were appointed a committee to settle the time and further details; F. Fisk, Jas. Coddington, Sylvester Strong, J. D. Gillett and John Buckles. In our Mt. Pulaski letter will be found the names and ages of the early settlers present. The meeting, while not as large as it should have been, was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

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### **Mt. Pulaski**

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
September 30, 1875

Old settlers attending the meeting were: Robert Downing, 79; Joseph Vaughn, 78; James Downing, 69; Ruth Downing, 68; Wm. Donnon, 75; John Musick, 67; D. W. Clark; Hannah Clark, 65; Dorrell Wright, 62; John Scroggin, 64; Isaac Tomlinson, 60; Wm. Lemly, 63; Rev. John, England, 65; Dan'l Clark, 63. Among the younger were Col. R. B. Latham, James Coddington, Geo. Musick, Chas. Couch, Alex Mills, Rev. – West, James Sturgeon, Wm. Buckles, R. Buckles, John Laughery, John Buckles, L. K. Scroggin, Joshua Day, Sam'l McGarvey, Capt. Frank Fisk, Prof. Hyde, Capt. Dawson, C. C. Mason, Rev. John Everly, Dan'l Hamilton, J. T. Hocking and Tom Birks.

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### **Old Settlers' Meeting**

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
October 12, 1876

The old settlers' meeting of Tuesday last was called to order at 11 o'clock at the court house by the President, D. W. Clark. There being a general impression on the street that the time of meeting was 1 o'clock, it was thought best to adjourn until that time.

A little after 1 o'clock, the court house was crowded - Henry Johnson was first called as being perhaps the oldest man in the house. He came from Northern Indiana to Logan county on Oct. 28, 1826. The men had to gather their own crops and the women do their own spinning. He related a little incident in his early life when his sister took him to be an Indian, and the sport they had out of it. During the winter of 1826 and 1827 the prairies were burned off by the Indians in order to drive the deer to the woods; the fences were also burned. In the summer of 1827, when harvesting his oats, he stopped to rest about noon and on looking around saw a "six-footer" standing close behind him. He took the Indians, there being several near, to his cabin and gave them their dinner. They were a hunting party from the head of Salt Creek. They had been out two days and killed 200 deer. Their nearest neighbors lived 12 to 14 miles distant and here they used to go to corn shuckings, etc. The young folks acted like all young folks except they did not "master or Miss" any one. He gave us the history of his taking "Betsy" home from the "shucking"; she lived up the creek. He saw her safely home; she asked him in, and he attempted to take the 'rickety' chair; was told by the fair damsel to take the new one by her side; he taking this for a good hint kissed her. John Musick was engaged to one of his sisters and when the "time" drew near, it was necessary to have license; so John and Henry started for Springfield to get it. The old Judge asked of John if the girl was of age; he replied that she was not, but here is her father, pointing to Henry. The old Judge saw the joke and said, "boys I will tell you a little story. A fellow came here one day to get license and I asked him what the girl's name was; he

## Old Settlers' Meetings

said he did not like to tell me for fear I would plague him. I told him that I would not; so he said her name was Peg and this was all I could get out of him." John got his license. Holding up a vest, which we took to be buckskin, Mr. Johnson said "this vest is 102 years old. My father wore it at his wedding two years before the Revolutionary war; my mother gave it to me and I expect to hand it down to my children. The pants were cut up by my mother. At first we did our milling at Elkhart; then there was a mill built on Kickapoo. They had the section of a hollow sycamore tree for the rim of the burr."

The President asked for some other old pioneer to come forward and tell us of "the long ago". Mr. Jacob Judy responded in a very brief speech in which he said that the first license in Tazwell count was bought with coon skins. Uncle Joshua Houser asked what they paid the preacher, to which he replied that they did not pay him at all.

The President asked, "who next?" To this Mr. H. I. Warner replied that he had a Dutch Bible 131 years old; a Dutch hymn book between 80 and 90 years old; a guitar of his father's 114 years old; an old staff which he used when Gen. Jackson was inaugurated president; a bull's eye watch 59 years old; a pair of boots he has worn for 30 years, but one of them had a hole in it owing to a defective piece of leather the shoemaker used. Spoke of the fashions of his day, giving us a slight idea of the costume worn when he was a boy.

Col. R. R. Latham was next called and responded by saying that he had been here longer than any one now living, perhaps, as his father had moved here in 1819. That there was scarcely a 40 acre lot in Elkhart woods but what he had chased a wolf over. The old settlers now are the children and grand children of the early pioneers. Then if a man built a house two or three miles out from the woods he was considered foolish and would freeze to death the first winter; consequently many of the early settlers cleared farms in the heavy woods. He had seen great changes. Said that his father's family had to go 100 miles to mill. That if a man was going on a journey of 300 or 400 miles, he would prepare for it long before hand by getting his team in trim and every thing ready for the long ride. Now he can travel 2000 miles, visiting the great eastern cities, the Centennial Exposition, the grandest exhibition the world has ever seen and be back here in one week. Spoke of the telegraph, railroads, school houses and churches in glowing terms. What have we done for the improvement of this great country? Have we done our duty, or have we been in the way? We must instill into the minds of our children the principles of improvement so that in 50 years when they hold old settlers' meetings they can look back upon the receding past with grateful emotions to those who have gone before.

The President stated that since their last meeting three of the old pioneers had gone, Messrs, Cantrell and Clark and Mrs. Scroggin.

Col. Knapp was next called but his health was too poor to permit him to respond.

Mrs. Judy stated that her father came to Logan county the 22d of October, 1818.

Mr. John England was next called and said that he was like the minister who had his sermon written and stuck it into a hole in the wall behind him and could not get it again; turning to the audience he said: "There was as fine a sermon in that wall as ever was preached." He stated that this father left Madison county, Ohio in October, 1817, coming to St. Louis where he met Gen. Whiteside who fought the Indians, and the General told Mr. England that there was some of the finest country up here that he had ever seen. His father and his two brother-in-laws started the next spring for Logan county. The family moved up in July; their table was split from a big tree with wooden pins put in for legs; their churn was made from a hollow buckeye tree. Went to Edwardsville to mill and had to pay \$1 per bushel for corn, and haul it 100 miles at night, on account of the flies being so bad, for at daylight they had to build a fire near their horses and

## Old Settlers' Meetings

keep the flies off until night. He spoke of the customs of the girls, the "gals" going barefooted until within sight of the church and then putting on their shoes and stockings. They made their calculations to have the ague, as they did to have winter. This was caused by hunting their horses in the late wet grass and drinking surface water. They thought that drinking liquor would keep the ague off, so every one attended to that. The piano that "gals" used then was the washing board and the spinning wheel. He said that he had seen three brothers in home-made pants, colored red, go to see three sisters, and that if the like was done now the girls would "sack" them immediately.

The President then asked all who were in the State the winter of the deep snow to rise, and 31 responded.

Judge Jas. Matheny, of Springfield, was next called. He was an old settler but he wanted it distinctly understood that he was not an old man nor never expected to be. He had grey hair to keep Col. Latham company. He had no recollection beyond old Sangamon county. We complain of hard times, how boys and girls, like Adam and Eve, went out into a strange land with the Bible in one hand and an ax in the other. They have hewn out for you the grandest country the sun shines on. You old pioneers do not need lofty piles of granite; the blossoming fields, the many school houses and churches are the grand monuments of your achievements. He had clear recollections of John B. Watson, his early teacher; he made impressions on him, but they were on his back. The Yankee teachers would teach two months for \$3. They did not care about whether the children learned any thing or not, they were after the \$3; they did not tramp it through like they do now. He used to play sick, get hurt in order to stay home. There is a great difference now, as his children like to go to school; there was a great difference between teachers then and now. He spoke of the ancient wedding, when John and Susan had made it up and knew the circuit rider would be around; had the calico dress and the blue jeans suit ready; the affair was very quiet; after the ceremony, they walked hand in hand out of the gate, through the woods, across the old bridge, up the hill to the little log cabin John had built. He spoke in deserving terms of the ancient pair who had gone arm in arm for 50 years up the steps of life; the bonds which united these two lives was stronger by far than when first given. They have laid the foundation of the temple of human happiness in which you reside. His father had been a Methodist minister and he thought he had blacked 1000 pairs of boots, and he thought the one who gave a picayune was the best preacher. He related a short incident in which a little girl said, on being asked if she lived in such a gloomy place, "I make my own sunshine." If we would all make our own sunshine and scatter its bright rays, we would be much happier people. Just so long as you are true to yourselves, true to your country, and true to your God, this country will be safe and the dear old flag will be to the old world what the pillar of fire was to the Israelites.

The President gave some incidents in his early history and stated that it was perhaps time to close.

On motion the old settlers' meeting will be held in Lincoln next year in one of the parks or groves. On motion a committee consisting of Messrs. Clark, Fisk, Jas. Larison and Jas. Tuttle, to set the time, locality and give notice of the next meeting.

On motion the President, D. W. Clark, and Vice President, Col. R. B. Latham, were reelected. On motion Frank Fisk was selected secretary, Mr. Fisk then displayed some relics exhibited by R. H. Spader, consisting of a petrified wood from Macoupin county; three hoes dug up on Kickapoo in 1874 at the depth of 14 feet below the surface in an old Indian burying ground; three tomahawks one found on Sugar creek, one on Salt creek, and the third in McLean county. They reminded one of former days when the dusky hunter pursued the deer and wolf.

## Old Settlers' Meetings

The exercises were extremely interesting to all; we will try to be on hand to enjoy these rich treats in after years. We took a peep into the early times, and the impressions made on our memory will still be bright amid the flight of time. H.

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### **The Old Settlers' Meeting**

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 06, 1877

The Old Settlers' picnic of yesterday was only hindered by threatening weather from being a grand success. The idea of going to Latham's Grove was abandoned, but some of those who came ate their dinners under the trees in Court square. For fear of rain the meeting was held at Gillett's Hall.

The meeting was called to order at half past one o'clock by Mr. D. W. Clark of Mt. Pulaski, chairman of the meeting. Mr. Clark said that since last meeting many of old settlers have passed from this world; - among them Mr. Randolph, Thomas Lushbaugh, Mrs. Capps, and many others; that they missed Mr. Randolph more on account of his readiness to speak on these occasions; that he now wished the old settlers to come forward and all speak.

Mr. J. M. Edwards, of this city, was the next to speak, He moved to Springfield in the year 1829, when that town consisted of about one hundred log houses. He came to Lake Fork in 1829 and bought land of Buckles. He lived there a number of years. Mr. Edwards spoke of the struggles of the pioneers, of grating corn for meal and of traveling long distances to mill.

Wm. M. Allen said he had been in the county 38 years. He told some laughable stories of pioneer life. The first mill on Salt Creek had no roof over it; they bolted the flour by hand, and when the miller turned on the water he ran for fear the mill would fall. The Colonel then traced the successive stages of improvement through which the state has passed to her present greatness.

Joshua Howser said he came to the state in 1835. It was very thinly settled. He entered forty acres of land five miles south of Wolf Grove. He narrated stories of wolf hunting in early times. He also told of sicknesses and other privations attending life as an early settler. He was no great hunter, as some of the others were, but could fish successfully then and now.

Wm. B. Cook came to the county in 1839 and entered land a mile from timber. The neighbors laughed at him, thinking the country would never be settled so far from timber.

The president said he came to Sangamon county September 30, 1839; walked all the way from Miami county, Ohio to Sangamon county, making the distance in twelve and a half days; came to Logan county in 1841. In the winter of the deep snow the house tops were covered with prairie chickens. The snow was eighteen inches deep and its long continuance killed prairie chickens by the thousands. When it passed off in the spring Hill's mill on Sugar creek was eight feet under water. He was at Mt. Pulaski hill when there was no house there.

John Critz came to Rocky Ford in 1827 where Mr. Smith now lives. His father went away and he built a pottery. Mr. Critz told about the deep snow. At that time the prairies could not have been given to him. He had worked in this state for seven dollars a month and never got more.

Mrs. Roll was an early settler of Indiana. When she first saw this State the prairies were burned black. All had log cabins then with mud chimneys. She settled fifteen or twenty miles

## Old Settlers' Meetings

from any store. They went to Chicago for salt. She picked brush and did general work on the farm. Mr. Roll's remarks drew out much applause.

Col. R. B. Latham was called for from all parts of the house. He was happy to be present and took great interest in the meeting. He had just been in Colorado for a few days where he lived the life of an old settler by sleeping out of doors for two weeks. His father came to Elkhart in 1819; he came with his father. Had lived in Logan county since September 1819. He built the house occupied by Thompson, since leaving which he had lived in Mt. Pulaski and Lincoln. Twenty years after he came there was not a lady in the county who would have known how to bake bread in a stove. He was glad to see the desire for education spreading among the people. He wished to see these meetings continue. He thought Capt. Fisk deserved a vote of thanks for his services.

Rev. J. R. Lowrance had not been before the people as an old settler. He came to the State in 1930, had lived here nearly all the time since. No railroads when he came. He camped at the foot of the hill below Postville when there were no houses in the town. Described the old-fashioned process of pounding corn in a hopper. Told of a young man who saw a young lady taking a gist of corn to mill and was so pleased with her conduct that he married her. The lady was the mother of one of our merchants. He enumerated what were considered accomplishments of the two sexes in those early times.

Capt. Fisk wanted to see the proposed county history of Donnelly, Lloyd & Co. made perfect. Wanted sketches of old settlers sent him for that purpose. He had been 25 years in the county.

Wm. M. Allen moved that thanks be returned to Capt. Fisk, a motion which was carried unanimously. The Captain replied in a few appropriate remarks. The Captain moved that E. D. Carr be elected President and all other officer re-elected. Carried.

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### The Old Settlers' Meeting

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 11, 1879

The old settlers of Logan county held their annual meeting at the court house yesterday with a light attendance. Jacob Judy, of Atlanta, President of the association, called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. Mr. R. C. Maxwell was made secretary. A few minutes were spent in examining some relics, a newspaper printed in the year 1800, some buttons eighty years old, a snuff box about 300 years old and an antique tea pot in a good state of preservation and said to have been made about the year 1350. All the articles, except the newspaper, were shown by Mrs. Wm. Rankin and were her heirlooms. Some interesting speeches were then made.

Rev. John England thought it a pity that the temperance convention and old settler's meeting should have come on the same day, thus conflicting with each other. The purpose of this meeting was to revive old memories and to show the rising generation how the foundations of our civilization were laid. His father with 2 brothers-in-law had come to near St. Louis from Ohio in 1817, and the next year came to a point nine miles from Springfield when they opened up farms. Mr. England then eulogized the sterling good traits of the early settlers.

Rev. A. H. Goodpasture loved the old people. He was a pioneer preacher. He crossed the Illinois in 1836 and the only evidence of civilization in this vicinity then was at Postville. In his early preaching experience in the Military Tract he saw some hard times, but never missed getting something to eat but once. He told some humorous experiences of the hard times

## Old Settlers' Meetings

attending circuit riding in early days. He thought it an honor to be an old man. He hoped to meet them all in the world to come.

D. W. Clark said he missed many who were with them when these meetings first began. Some had doubtless been hindered from coming, while many had gone to the unseen land. Mr. Clark revived the memories of early days, telling, among other things, of walking out from Ohio, a young lady being the attraction and the result being a marriage. Had been keeping house for nearly forty eight years and there had never been a death in this house.

Norman Sumner said he was hardly an old settler, as he came here in 1849. The first house he ever lived in had not a piece of iron about it and no glass. It was common to attend log rollings and house raisings for twenty or twenty-five days of each season. He then described the mode of building log cabins and reviewed at some length his early experience in Ohio.

Col. R. B. Latham said he had attended most of the meetings and nearly all had heard him relate his experience. He then gave the date of his coming to what is now Logan county, his father having been one of the very earliest settlers. In 1824 his father went to Peoria where he was Indian agent. He thought the change from those times to the present a beneficial one and spoke pointedly of the educational advantages now enjoyed. We should teach our children to so live that they could benefit the generation following them.

Clark was elected president for the ensuing year, Col. Latham vice-president and R. C. Maxwell secretary. On motion it was resolved that the officers of the association be appointed a committee to decide up on the time and place of holding the next meeting.

Among those present were: Wm. Buckles, Wm Burt, Stephen Clarno, D. W. Clark, Alex Fawcett, J. T. Hackney, Samuel McGarvey, W. B. Miller, George Mitchell, Jonathan Musick, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ranki

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## OLD SETTLERS AT ATLANTA

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 9, 1880

At the old settlers meeting at the Atlanta fair on Tuesday last Col. R. B. Latham was called to the chair and made a short speech, thanking his audience for the honor conferred. After prayer by Elder John Lindsey, Rev. E. J. Thomas, of Atlanta, delivered the address of welcome.

Col. J. Merriam was called upon for a response and made a very good speech upon pioneer topics. He hoped that for some future reunion a log cabin might be erected composed of wood from the various groves in the four counties of Logan, Tazwell, McLean and DeWitt and containing relics of early times.

Jonathan Cusey was called upon to respond on behalf of McLean county. He had lived in McLean county 44 years. If their time of residence was to be measured by progress, some of them had lived here a thousand years. He thought the early settlers of these four counties had chosen wisely in selecting this garden spot of the State. This reunion was a grand was a good idea, successfully carried out. His first school book was a little paddle painted blue on one side and red on the other with a-b abs upon it.

John J. McGraw, of Clinton, responded in behalf of DeWitt. He and his wife came 50 years ago to the vicinity of Waynesville. Mackinawtown was then the county seat. McLean county was formed in 1831. In '38 and '39 the county of DeWitt was formed; he had thus lived in three counties, though not changing his residence. A great many people suffered during the winter of

## Old Settlers' Meetings

the deep snow. The next year the corn was frost bitten and there was suffering for food. During the winter of the deep snow their post office was at Blooming Grove, 20 miles away. They were almost shut out from the world.

By request, Col. Latham responded for Logan county. He had been here 61 years, his father having built a cabin at Elkhart Grove in 1819. Logan county was settled a little before either of the other counties. For several years his father had to go to near Edwardsville, about 100 miles, to mill. About 1822 or '23 his father put up a mill which required four horses to run it. (A voice "I've been there many a time.") The same year Bobby Musick settled on Sugar Creek and two or three others came very shortly afterwards. Three or four tribes of Indians occupied the country. His father was Indian agent at Peoria from 1824 to 1826, the date of his death, after which the family returned to Elkhart grove. He had known the wolves to fight the dogs across the yard fence. He closed by expressing a wish that the old settlers would tell their experience freely in the afternoon meeting.

In the afternoon short speeches were made by a number of pioneers. This initial meeting was a success and will doubtless be followed by others.

Following is a list of the names, date of arrival and former residence of the old settlers present. With those marked "native," the date of arrival means the date of birth.

Adams, Betsy, '35, Kentucky	Booker, T. J., '36, native
Adams, E. G., '28, Tennessee	Bozarth, Lavina, '37, Kentucky
Adams, Elizabeth, '35, Kentucky	Bozarth, Milton, '39, Connecticut
Adams, James R., '28, Tennessee	Bozarth, Rachel, '39 native
Albright, J. F., '29, Tennessee	Bright, Harvey, '34, native
Albright, Louisa Mrs., '30, native	Brighton, Eliza, '38, native
Allen, John S., '40, Indiana	Brining, Mary, '36, Kentucky
Allen, Permelia, '30, Kentucky	Britt, Jefferson, '34, Kentucky
Atchison, David, '39, native	Britt, Mary, '34, Kentucky
Atchison, G. W., '34, Kentucky	Britt, W. S., '35, Kentucky
Atteberry, D., '28, Kentucky	Britt, W. S. Mrs., '30, native
Ayers, J. B., '31, native	Brock, F. M., '29, Indiana
Ayers, S. C. Mrs., '34, Virginia	Brock, Mary A., '39, Ohio
Baker, Mary, '37, Ohio	Brock, W. N., '29, Ohio
Baker, R. H., '34, Ohio	Brooks, Eliza, '30, native
Baldwin, Mary A., '29, Ohio	Brooks, James M., '32, native
Baldwin, W. F., '33, Kentucky	Brooks, Mary A., '30, Virginia
Ball, J. H., '37, New York City	Brooks, P. T., '29, ---
Barnett, A. L., '31, Kentucky	Bryan, D. P., '27, Kentucky
Barnett, E. H., '31, Kentucky	Bruner, Mary J., '40, Ohio
Barnett, Sarah, '38, Kentucky	Bruner, Peter, '36, Kentucky
Barnett, W. B., '35, native	Bruner, Wm. D., '36, Kentucky
Barr, Lewis, '36, Indiana	Burr, L. C., '34, Ohio
Barr, P., '28, native	Burt, John, '33, Kentucky
Barr, Thos., '32, native	Burt, Wm., '27, Kentucky
Berry, Matilda M., '28, Canada	Butler, G. W., '29, native
Bevan, Eliza, '35, Ohio	Butler, Ruth H., '36, native
Bevan, Ellen, '39, native	Cantrall, E. G., '29, Tennessee
Bevan, Samuel, '36, Ohio	Cantrall, J. C., '35, Ohio
Beverly, Pardon, '40, native	Cantrall, Levi, '35, Ohio
Biggs, Levi, '29, Ohio	Cantrall, Mary, '34, Ohio
Bishop, Geo., '30, Ohio	Cantrall, Wm., '35, Ohio
Bishop, Jacob, '30, Ohio	Cantrall, Z. D., '33, native
Booker, M. V., '38, native	Carlan, Tabitha, '29, Ohio

## Old Settlers' Meetings

Carlock, J. G., '28, Tennessee  
 Carlock, Lucinda, '30, native  
 Carlock, M. P., '29, native  
 Carlock, Nancy E., '39, native  
 Chapin, S. J., '39, Massachusetts  
 Cheek, Wm., '40, Virginia  
 Clabaugh, John, '28, Ohio  
 Coffman, Isaac, '40, Indiana  
 Cook, James, '38, Ohio  
 Copenbarger, J., '30, native  
 Copenbarger, S. P., '40, native  
 Crihfield, Sarah A., '38, Rhode Island  
 Cusey, John, '36, Ohio  
 Dammerer, T. M., '34, native  
 Darnall, Wm., '36, native  
 Darnell, J. M., '34, native  
 Davenport, A. M. Mrs., '38, Ohio  
 Davenport, Eber, '30, native  
 Davenport, Lucinda, '32, native  
 Davis, S., '28, Ohio  
 Decker, David Mrs., '36, Kentucky  
 Dennis, J. C., '32, native  
 Dick, Amos, '29, Kentucky  
 Dicks, Harriett N., '32, native  
 Dills, Lizzie Mrs., '30, ---  
 Druley, John, '39, Ohio  
 Druley, R. F., '32, Ohio  
 Dunham, W. S., '30, Ohio  
 Dyer, Eli, '35, native  
 Eddy, Nancy, '37, native  
 Edgar, G. W., '35, Kentucky  
 Edgar, M. M. Mrs., '35, Kentucky  
 Edwards, David, '40, Ohio  
 Emaska, R. M., '36, New York  
 Enslow, E. V., '32, Ohio  
 Enslow, M., '36, New York  
 Ewing, C. C., '19, native  
 Ewing, E. S., '27, Kentucky  
 Ewing, J. W. sr., '29, Kentucky  
 Farnsworth, Sarah A., '36, Ohio  
 Farran, Thos., '33, Indiana  
 Fell, H. C., '38, native  
 Fergason, Lottie, '37, native  
 Fergason, Noah, '40, Arkansas  
 Fisher, Asa S., '29, Ohio  
 Fisher, H. G., '29, Ohio  
 Fletcher, T. J., '21, Kentucky  
 Floyd, J. H., '34, Ohio  
 Foley, James L., '33, Ohio  
 Foley, Lewis, '34, Ohio  
 Fults, Mary A., '30, Indiana  
 Funk, Absalom, '28, native  
 Funk, B. F., '40, native  
 Funk, Elizabeth, '24, Ohio  
 Funk, George W., '27, native  
 Funk, Jacob, '24, Ohio  
 Funk, Jacob, '30, native  
 Funk, John W., '32, native  
 Funk, Merritt C., '35, native  
 Gaines, Coleman, '25, Kentucky  
 Gaines, P. Mrs., '28, Kentucky  
 Gale, C. L., '36, Rhode Island  
 Gale, J. R., '36, Rhode Island  
 Gambrel, Rebecca, '24, Indiana  
 Gardner, Rachel, '35, Ohio  
 Gill, Martha J. Mrs., '32, Indiana  
 Gill, R. T., '29, Kentucky  
 Gilletly, John, '35, Scotland  
 Goudy, Naomi, '20, Kentucky  
 Goudy, S. A., '19, Tennessee  
 Groves, E., '40, Missouri  
 Groves, E. Mrs., '25, ---  
 Hainline, Caleb, '27, Kentucky  
 Hainline, C. Mrs., '28, Kentucky  
 Hainline, Green, '28, Kentucky  
 Hainline, G. Mrs., '30, Ohio  
 Hainline, H. H., '34, native  
 Hainline, L., '37, Kentucky  
 Hainline, L. Mrs., '30, ---  
 Hainline, S., sr., '27, Kentucky  
 Haise, Sophia Mrs., '31, Kentucky  
 Hale, J. D., '34, Tennessee  
 Hall, C. F., '30, Kentucky  
 Hall, Henry, '30, Kentucky  
 Hall, Henry Mrs., '30, Kentucky  
 Hammitt, J. W., '33, ---  
 Hammitt, Matthew, '33, Ohio  
 Hammitt, Sarah, '35, Ohio  
 Hanger, David, '29, Ohio  
 Harmon, John, '26, Tennessee  
 Harris, Amos, '36, Ohio  
 Harrold, Isam, '33, Indiana  
 Harrold, Polly A., '29, Kentucky  
 Harry, G. I., '37, Ohio  
 Hawes, J. P., '35, Kentucky  
 Hawes, J. W., '34, Kentucky  
 Hawes, Mary A., '36, Kentucky  
 Hawley, B. A. Mrs., '36, Kentucky  
 Hedge, Ezekiel, '33, Kentucky  
 Hieronymus, Enoch, '28, Kentucky  
 Hieronymus, E. Mrs., '29, Tennessee  
 Hicks, Asa, '37, Ohio  
 Hicks, Asa Mrs., '37, Kentucky  
 Hicks, Eliza, '34, native  
 Higgins, M. L., '32, native  
 Hittle, Michael, '25, Indiana  
 Hiver, Mary, '30, native  
 Hoblit, Abigail, '30, Ohio  
 Hoblit, C. C., '39, native  
 Hoblit, J. E., '29, Ohio  
 Hoblit, J. L., '29, Ohio  
 Hoblit, J. L. Mrs., '40, ---

## Old Settlers' Meetings

Hoblit, John A., '33, native  
 Hough, Jane, '36, Ohio  
 Hough, Samuel, '35, Ohio  
 Houser, E. Mrs., '36, Kentucky  
 Howard, F. M., '40, native  
 Howard, Madison, '40, Ohio  
 Howser, Elizabeth, '37, Kentucky  
 Howser, Jefferson, '34, Kentucky  
 Howser, P. W., '38 native  
 Howser, P. W. Mrs., '38, native  
 Hyde, J. F., '37 Massachusetts  
 Jeffrey, A., '36, Indiana  
 Johnson, C. F., '40, native  
 Johnson, Henry, '28, Indiana  
 Jones, Abigail, '38, native  
 Jones, Elsie, '33, Ohio  
 Jones, Freeman, '23, Kentucky  
 Jones, John M., '30, Indiana  
 Jones, Lorena, '32, Virginia  
 Jones, Wm., '34, native  
 Judy, David, '31, Ohio  
 Judy, D. H., '29, Ohio  
 Judy, J. H., '25, native  
 Judy, J. I., '32, native  
 Judy, Jacob, '24, Ohio  
 Judy, Mary A., '19, Kentucky  
 Judy, Mary E., '40, Kentucky  
 Judy, Michael, '37, native  
 Kegwin, S. S., '37, Massachusetts  
 Kenyon, Dennis, '40, Connecticut  
 Kenyon, E. W., '40, Connecticut  
 Kenyon, Susan C., '40, Connecticut  
 King, G. W., '35, native  
 King, Mary A., '35, native  
 Kinsey, Elizabeth, '33, native  
 Kinsey, Mellicent, '29, Ohio  
 Lambert, Abigail, '40, Ohio  
 Lambert, John, '40, Ohio  
 Large, Zillah, '21, native  
 Larison, Abel, '30, Ohio  
 Larison, G. B., '31, Ohio  
 Larison, Julian, '29, Ohio  
 Larison, J. M., '30, Ohio  
 Larison, M. Mrs., '33, Ohio  
 Larison, T. J., '30, Ohio  
 Latham, R. B., '19, Kentucky  
 Latham, R. B. Mrs., '34, native  
 Lawrence, E. G., '36, Ohio  
 Lee, Wm., '38, Ohio  
 Lindsey, Jane S., '34, Kentucky  
 Lindsey, John, '34, Kentucky  
 Lindsey, Maria C., '34, Kentucky  
 Lindsey, S. T., '39, native  
 Long, Josiah D., '38, Pennsylvania  
 Longworth, John, '36, Ohio  
 Longworth, Mary, '34, Ohio  
 Longworth, Wm., '36, Ohio  
 Marvel, Prettyman, '32, native  
 Marvel, Wiley, '39, native  
 Mason, G. H., '37, Kentucky  
 Mason, Isabel, '29, Tennessee  
 Mason, Oliver, '20, Ohio  
 Maxwell, J. A., '33, native  
 McCarrill, '28, native  
 McClure, Thos., '28, native  
 McCormick, Belinda, '36, Ohio  
 McCrary, Susan, '30, Indiana  
 McElhiney, M., '33, Ohio  
 McElhiney, Cath., '40, Europe  
 McFarland, Daniel, '38, Rhode Island  
 McFarland, R., '38, Rhode Island  
 McGinnis, John W., '39, native  
 McGraw, J. J., '30, South Carolina  
 McKenny, S. H. Mrs., '34, native  
 Melrose, James, '26, native  
 Melrose, Mary, '34, native  
 Merriam, J., '36, ---  
 Metcalf, J. S., '30, native  
 Metcalf, M. Mrs., '35, Kentucky  
 Metzger, R. T. Mrs., '38, native  
 Miles, Delia Mrs., '24, ---  
 Miller, Louis, '37, Ohio  
 Miller, Sarah, '35, Kentucky  
 Mills, Mary A., '29, Kentucky  
 Mitchell, Geo., '38, Ohio  
 Mitchell, Geo. Mrs., '38, Ohio  
 Moorhead, Mary A., '38, native  
 Morgan, W. W., '28, Kentucky  
 Mountjoy, A. Mrs., '37, Kentucky  
 Mountjoy, Geo., '35, Kentucky  
 Murphy, Francis, '27, native  
 Murphy, W. J., '30, native  
 Musick, Berry, '19, Indiana  
 Musick, John, '25, Indiana  
 Musick, Levi, '37, native  
 Musick, Lucinda, '36, ---  
 Musick, Mary, '28, Indiana  
 Ormsby, C. H., '35, New York  
 Patterson, Geo., '31, Missouri  
 Pendleton, E., '37, native  
 Perkins, C. R., '41, Massachusetts  
 Pierce, C. H., '34, native  
 Pierce, Charles R., '25, Tennessee  
 Probasco, Samuel, '40, native  
 Puterbaugh, Sol., '39, Ohio  
 Quisenberry, A., '35, Kentucky  
 Quisenberry, Allen, '35, Kentucky  
 Quisenberry, E., '19, Kentucky  
 Quisenberry, Elizabeth, '27, Kentucky  
 Quisenberry, R., '37, Ohio  
 Quisenberry, R. Mrs., '37 Ohio  
 Quisenberry, W., '36, Kentucky

## Old Settlers' Meetings

<p>Railsback, D. G. A., '30, Kentucky            Railsback, J. E., '35, native            Railsback, P. G. H., '30, Tennessee            Randolph, Lerica, '28, Indiana            Randolph, W. H., '30, Virginia            Ransdall, J. B., '29, native            Reece, Louis, '39, Ohio            Reece, Sarah, '39, Ohio            Reed, Joseph, '27, Kentucky            Reed, Mary J., '34, Kentucky            Reese, John, '27, native            Reid, Minerva Mrs., '40, native            Reilly, Eleanor, '40, Connecticut            Reynolds, M. A., Mrs., '35, Ohio            Reynolds, Susan, '31, Tennessee            Riley, J. C., '36, Tennessee            Roach, J. E., '28, Tennessee            Roach, Wm., '35, native            Roach, Wm. Mrs., '38, ---            Robb, Clarisa, '27, native            Robb, E. H., '27, native            Robb, E. H., '29, Tennessee            Robb, Geo., '32, native            Robb, Harriet, '32, native            Robb, John, '34, native            Roberts, E. W., '37, Pennsylvania            Rolofson, J. B., '29, native            Ross, W. H. H., '40, native            Rutledge, C. Mrs., '30, Ohio            Rutledge, G. T., '34, native            Rutledge, R. H., '13, Kentucky            Ryan, Elizabeth, '40, Ohio            Samples, W. W., '30, native            Samples, W. W. Mrs., '40, native            Sargent, A. L., '28, Indiana            Sargent, A. L. Mrs., '32, Kentucky            Scott, J. C., '35, native            Scott, S. B. Mrs., '36, Kentucky            Shewmaker, Elmer, '23, Ohio            Shores, Jas., '24, native            Shores, Louisa, '33, native            Shores, Tincy, '15, Tennessee            Short, T. B., '38, native            Slinker, C. W., '35, Kentucky            Smallwood, G. D., '25, Ohio            Smith, H. D., '38 Massachusetts            Smith, H. M., '37, native            Smith, Margaret, '37, Virginia            Smith, Mary E., '40, native            Smith, N. F., '36, Kentucky            Smith, Sarah V., '40, native            Stephens, J. A., '36, native</p>	<p>Stephens, J. A. Mrs., native            Stevens, Adam, '29, Ohio            Stillwell, W. G., '30, Tennessee            Stout, E., '27, Ohio            Stout, Isaac, '27, Ohio            Stout, Rebecca T., '34, Kentucky            Strong, Sylvester, '36, Ohio            Strood, W. P., '37, native            Stroud, Elvin, '29, Tennessee            Stroud, L. M., '30, Tennessee            Stroud, Priscilla B., '38, Tennessee            Stubblefield, A., '24, Ohio            Stubblefield, Ed., '34, native            Stubblefield, G. W., '24, Ohio            Stubblefield, G. W. Mrs., '32, native            Stubblefield, Jesse, '25, native            Stubblefield, John, '24, Ohio            Stubblefield, Wm., '39, native            Sullivan, F. G., '40, native            Sullivan, J. M., '36, native            Sullivan, Thos. M., '38, native            Summers, P. C., '40, Indiana            Summers, P. C. Mrs., '30, ---            Swearingen, J. H., '30, Kentucky            Teal, Nancy, '28, native            Tenney, Martha C., '34, Kentucky            Thompson, Jesse, '40, native            Thompson, Jesse Mrs., '40, native            Thompson, W. R., '30, Tennessee            Tompkins, S. Mrs., '38, native            Toomey, W. Mrs., '40, native            Turner, Alfred, '39, native            Turner, Andrew, '40, Indiana            Turner, C. M., '39, native            Turner, Elizabeth, '29, Ohio            Turner, Ella W., '40, Indiana            Turner, Nancy, '29, Ohio            Turner, Spencer, '28, Ohio            Tuttle, Jas., '39, Ohio            Tuttle, Martha A., '39, native            Wakefield, Campbell, '35, Ohio            Wakefield, Margaret, '35, Ohio            Waldron, H. L., '32, native            Warlon, R. A., '34, New York            Warlow, Cath. B., '35, Kentucky            Warlow, J. B., '34, Ohio            Williamson, Thos., '35, native            Wilson, Elizabeth, '40, native            Wright, Andrew, '26, native            Wright, Joseph, '30, native            Wright, M. A. Mrs., '33, Kentucky</p>
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## Old Settlers' Meetings

### When You and I Were Young

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, August 19, 1880

Last Thursday was as good a day for an out door meeting as if it had been made to order. The citizens of Mt. Pulaski had been making elaborate preparations for some time to accommodate all who might attend and had also taken care that there should be a good attendance and, on the day appointed, they had their reward in a magnificent crowd and the most pleasant meeting by far that the old settlers of this part of the state have ever had. All who settled in Illinois prior to 1840 were considered "old settlers." Two hundred or more of these old settlers were enrolled by the secretary and assistants, part of whom were pioneers or "deep snow" men and women, having settled in Illinois prior to the famous winter of the deep snow – 1831. All who were old settlers simply were supplied with a ribbon badge bearing the words: "Pioneers of Illinois State. State organized in 1818. Reunion and barbecue at Mt. Pulaski, Illinois, August 12, 1880." Those who, having been here since '31, were considered pioneers, were in addition to the badge, presented with a handsome cane. There were doubtless several persons who were entitled to be enrolled upon the list who were accidentally omitted, as the crowd was large and the work of enrolling somewhat slow. Besides these whose names thus appear, there were a great many who have lived in this county for from ten to thirty-nine years, some of them old people, who were not counted "old settlers," it being necessary to draw a line somewhere.

D. Ward Clark, Esq., president of the Association, presided over the meeting. In the absence of the secretary, R. C. Maxwell, who was sick, Chas. S. Capps, of Mt. Pulaski, acted in that capacity and attended to taking names and distributing badges and canes. A committee which attended to making all arrangements consisted of S. Linn Beidler, M. Wemple and W. P. Sawyer. The meeting was held in the park which surrounds the old court house, opposite the post office, where a large platform and an ample number of seats had been provided.

The exercises of the day began with music by the Mt. Pulaski band. This was followed by prayer by Rev. John Wilson, of Macon county, near Illiopolis. A chorus of young men and ladies of the Mount and the band then sang and played "America." More band music followed, the choir sang "When you and I were Young, Maggie" and Maj. M. Wemple was called upon to deliver the "Address of Welcome," which he did in a brief, pointed and appropriate speech which pleased all.

After singing "Annie Laurie" by the choir, Rev. D. P. Bunn of Decatur, an old resident of Logan county, was introduced and delivered the oration of the day, and though he said he had never attended an old settler's meeting before nor heard an old settler's speech, and for this reason claimed that he did not know what to say, his address was both very appropriate and entertaining, was listened to throughout with the best attention and with evident pleasure. He was born, he said in Ohio and came west in 1836, locating first at Bloomington, going afterward to Iowa City, Iowa, but returning to Illinois soon after. He spoke of the old wooden mold-board plows and how bad they were about "kicking," detailed from personal experience many of the hardships of the pioneer life, and spoke in affectionate terms of the old settlers who have passed away naming several who had been especially well known. He dwelt at some length upon his first impressions of the country and the hearty hospitality of the people of the early times, spoke of the idea of the earliest settlers that the prairies would never be settled but would remain permanently as public pasture lands, of going sixty miles to mill, taking a week to make the trip, of old Brush College, a name given to the school house on Salt Creek in which he used to teach,

## Old Settlers' Meetings

it being built of round logs, of its greased paper window and slab, writing desks, and named some of his pupils of the olden time. He spoke of some of the old settlers who are still living, praising their honesty, hospitality and industry and closed with an especially fervent and impressive peroration.

The band then played a selection and it still lacking a little while of dinner time, Rev. Isaac Kretsinger, of Latham was introduced and spoke for about half an hour. He too plead ignorance of what an old settler's speech should be, but, like his predecessor, made an excellent one. It was largely reminiscent, very humor at times, exhortative at the close and the whole pervaded by the eloquence of earnestness and experience. The band then played a medley composed of "Shall we Gather at the River," "Sweet By and By," etc., and at its close dinner was announced and the old people were invited to a long table where was spread a variety of good eatables including several roast pigs and sheep. The ox, which was to have been roasted whole, was cooked by steam, and made so tender that it would not hold together for roasting, hence it went in as boiled. The table is said to have been an excellent one for quantity, quality and variety. The general public brought their own dinners in baskets and spread them in the shade.

At the close of the dinner hour, music by the band called the people again about the stand and a great many interesting relics were exhibited of which, we are sorry to say, we obtained only a partial list. There were a pitch fork over one hundred years old, a sickle thirty-nine years old, a pair of pot hooks one hundred years old, a piece of carpet forty-five years old, still in use, a hoe over one hundred years old, a queer little tea pot, dated 1350, being, therefore, 530 years old; it is property of Mrs. William Rankin, who showed a great variety of interesting relics, most of which we missed. A couple of bunches of help were shown which were grown in 1836; 44 years ago, by John Reed, now residing in Lincoln; also a vest forty years old, a little pink thing which was worn by John A. Critchfield of Broadwell, when he was much smaller than he is now; another vest sixty-five years old, still having the original set of buttons made of thread and covered with homespun; a pair of old wool cards, the property of Mrs. Juliet Keys, aged 83, and with then a pair of woolen stockings which were carded, spun and knit by Mrs. Keys at 80 years of age, and also a quilt pieced by her at the age of five and quilted at fifteen; it was much worn and was of the pattern known as "nine patch." There was part of another quilt shown which was wadded with tow instead of cotton and contained a piece of a shirt which was worn in the Black Hawk War. A whole buckskin, dressed before the war, was shown; a meat fork eighty years old; a glass tumbler sixty years old; a thumb lancet in use over forty years ago; a baby's dress 71 years old; a rocking chair made in North Carolina over seventy-five years ago, in which four generations of one family have been rocked; and a deed written in a queer hand on parchment, dated May 3d, 1585 (295 years ago) from Lord Baltimore Ruler of the province of Maryland to Edward Day and conveying 1000 acres; a picture was also shown, just for the oddness of the circumstance, of a girl who, by the time she was six years old, had been caressed and fondled by ten grand parents. How this was made possible was not explained. The poor girl died at an early age, which was probably not remarkable, under the circumstances. The relics having been examined, letters were read from James Daugherty of Peoria county, and from John Buckles and Mrs. Mary Buckles of the vicinity of Mt. Pulaski. The reading of John Buckles' letter elicited three cheers from the audience. Afterward there was read also a communication concerning Jabez Capps, by his son, Chas. S. Capps.

The next thing in order was addresses by old settlers and Rev. John Wilson of Macon county, who came to this state in 1816 made an amusing address of a few minutes. Maj. John F. Miles, who was born near Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, and came to Illinois in 1820, was next called

## Old Settlers' Meetings

upon and gave some very interesting reminiscences. Judge John J. McGraw, of Clinton, followed with an account of his early experiences in this state. He was born in South Carolina, moved to Alabama, then to Louisiana, afterward to Kentucky and finally to Illinois, coming to the state in 1830. His reminiscences were quite interesting. Among other things he mentioned living with his family in a sible belonging to Martin Scott, near Waynesville the first summer after coming to the state and picking up an old sickle, which was among the relics, he made a strong point by comparing the work of that instrument of less than fifty years ago with the self binder of today.

Mr. E. H. Robb of Waynesville, also made a good speech of a few minutes, giving many interesting reminiscences of people, place and incidents of early times. Rev. D. P. Bunn then read from an old copy of the Herald a part of a sketch which was read at the meeting in 1878 and published at that time. D. W. Clark, president of the meeting made a brief speech as did also Samuel McGarvey.

It then being late, the election of officers was proceeded with, resulting as follows: D. W. Clark of Mt. Pulaski, president; Col. R. B. Latham, of Lincoln, vice president, and Capt. F. Fisk, also of this city, secretary. To these was left the matter of selecting a place for the next annual meeting. After a vote of thanks to the citizens of Mt. Pulaski, music by the band, singing "Auld Lang Syne" by the audience and handshaking, the meeting adjourned. The crowd in the village during the day, is estimated at about five thousand, and among them were many old settlers from Macon, Sangamon, Menard, Mason, DeWitt, Peoria and other counties.

The following list of the pioneers present (whose names could be obtained) who settled in Illinois in 1831 and prior to that date:

Name: Age: Date of Coming: From what state:

Benson, Chas., 60, '31, England	Copeland, Miller, 60, '29, Ohio
Birks, Isom, 60, '22, Ken.	Copeland, M. Mrs., 56, native of Illinois
Birks, Isom Mrs., 56, '25, Ohio	Crackle, Mrs., 51, native of Illinois
Birks, Roland, 65, native of Illinois	Deaven, Jas. Mrs., 52, native of Illinois
Birks, Wm., 62, '27, Tenn.	Downing, J. E., 54, native of Illinois
Blue, D. H., 64, '30, Ohio	Downing, Jas., 75, '28, Ohio
Bowles, David, 55, '30, Ken.	Downing, L. D., 50, native of Illinois
Bowles, D. Mrs., 56, '36, Ken.	Downing, R., 86, '22, Penn.
Britton, E., 50, native of Illinois	Drury, G. W., 69, '31, Ken.
Buckles, Andy, 53, native of Illinois	England, John, 70, '18, Ohio
Buckles, A. Mrs., 53, '23, Ken.	Erlimbush, Jacob, 69, '27, Maryland
Buckles, Jerry, 59, native of Illinois	Foster, Squire, 65, '28, Tenn.
Buckles, John, 58, native of Illinois	Glover, Owen, 50, native of Illinois
Buckles, Mary, 78, '22, Tenn.	Hackney, Mary, 66, native of Illinois
Buckles, Mary, 60, native of Illinois	Hibbs, Jas., 56, '31, ---
Buckles, M. Mrs., 77, '15, Georgia	Hill, F. G., 80, '27, Virginia
Buckles, Wm. R., 61, native of Illinois	Hoblit, J. L., 67, '29, Ohio
Capps, C. S., 50, native of Illinois	Hoblit, J. E., 62, '29, Ohio
Capps, Charles, 66, '30, England	Houston, Chas, 57, native of Illinois
Capps, Jabez, 83, '19, England	Huston, E. J. Mrs., 52, '27, Ohio
Cass, Elizabeth Mrs., 56, '27, Ohio	Huston, H. Mrs., 61, '27, Ohio
Cass, G. W., 50, native of Illinois	Jones, J. L., 66, '30, Tenn.
Clark, D. W., 71, '30, Ohio	Jones, J. L. Mrs., 66, '17, Tenn.
Clark, D. W. Mrs., 70, '31, Ohio	Judy, Jacob, 77, '24, Ohio
Constant, J. T., 50, native of Illinois	Kestler, J. K., 72, '18, Ohio
Copeland, Ham, 66, '29, Ohio	King, S. D., 75, '31, New Jersey
Copeland, John, 57, '29, Ohio	Lanterman, Dolly, 61, '30, Ken.

## Old Settlers' Meetings

<p>Linn, John W., 56, '25, Ken.          Lloyd, Hiram, 67, '27, Ohio          Lloyd, R. Mrs., 54, native of Illinois          Lorence, T. Mrs., 64, '16, Tenn.          Lucas, Abram., 61, '26, Ohio          Lucas, J. H. Mrs., 50, '30, native          Lucas, R. B., 51, '29, native          Mason, John, 60, native of Illinois          Matthews, L. P., 68, '30, Ken.          McCoy, J. T., 59, native of Illinois          McGarvey, Sam'l, 60, '29, Ohio          McGraw, J. J., 73, '30, S. Carolina          Melrose, Jas., 55, native of Illinois          Metcalf, J. S., 50, native of Illinois          Miller, John, 62, '20, Ken.          Mills, Elizabeth, 57, native of Illinois          Morrow, John, 50, native of Illinois          Piatt, H. W., 64, '29, Ind.          Ralston, J. D., 72, '29, Ken.          Randolph, J. H., ---, '31, ---          Randolph, W. H., ---, '30, ---          Reed, Henry, 52, native of Illinois          Reed, Joseph, 56, '27, Ken.          Reed, M. J. Mrs., 49, native of Illinois          Riddle, Martha, 58, native of Illinois          Ridgeway, Antony, 71, '22, Ken.          Ridgeway, M. Mrs., 56, '24, Ind.</p>	<p>Robb, E. H., 55, '29, Tenn.          Robb, E. H. Mrs., 53, native of Illinois          Robinson, Geo., ---, '29, ---          Rony, Mrs., 53, native of Illinois          Rudolph, J. T., 52, native of Illinois          Sams, Margaret, 62, '28, Tenn.          Scroggin, John, 70, '11, Ken.          Scroggin, John, ---, '28, ---          Scroggin, L. K., 64, native of Illinois          Scroggin, Mary, 60, '30, Virginia          Scroggin, Russell, 57, native of Illinois          Scroggin, R. Mrs., 53, native of Illinois          Shores, Kensey, 74, '14, Tenn.          Simpson, Andrew, 56, native of Illinois          Simpson, A. Mrs., 49, native of Illinois          Simpson, Mary, 50, native of Illinois          Stafford, Kitty, 57, '30, Ken.          Starkey, J. U., 57, native of Illinois          Thorp, C. H., ---, '25, ---          Turley, D. K., 55, native of Illinois          Turley, Martha, 59, native of Illinois          Turley, R. E., 53, native of Illinois          Walker, M. J. Mrs., 52, '30, Ohio          Wilson, J. L., 64, '16, Tenn.          Woodside, A. J., 49, native of Illinois          Wyatt, W. D. Col., 59, native of Illinois</p>
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The following is a list of those who settled in Illinois between 1831 and 1840 and also of those whose names are given, but, on account of lack of age or date of settlement, can not certainly be put in the foregoing list. Some names have doubtless been omitted, but it was not for want of trying to get them:

Name: Age: Date of coming: State:

<p>Alexander, Henry, 57, '43, Germany          Allen, E. R., 51, '39, Ohio          Allison, Noah, 41, native          Allison, Sylvester, 41, native          Anderson, John, 42, '38, Ohio          Ayers, Mrs., 70, ---, ---          Baker, Mary, 48, '36, Ken.          Baughn, Z., 43, native          Beaver, Sarah A., 47, native          Bell, Benj., 62, '34, Ken.          Billings, Thos., 50, '37, Ken.          Birks, Jas. T., 41, native          Blue, E. J. Mrs., 65, '40, Ken.          Blue, John, 40, native          Blue, Robt., 69, '32, Ohio          Bowles, W. T., 45, native          Bowser, Mary Mrs., 45, native          Branson, R. Mrs., 60, '35, Ohio          Bridgeman, F. Rev., 54, '38, Tenn.          Brooker, Mrs.,</p>	<p>Brooker, Kate Ms., 76, '39, Germany          Brown, J. R., 60, '38, Kan.          Buckles, Wiley, 42, native          Bush, Mary Mrs., 49, '38, Indiana          Candy, Mary F., 58, '37, Ohio          Cantrall, Wm L., 57, '33, Ohio          Capps, C. R., 40, native          Capps, C. S. Mrs., 45, native          Capps, E. S., 46, native          Capps, J. H., 41, native          Carlyle, Jas. Mrs., 60, '40, Ken.          Cass, Martin, 46, native          Cass, Martin V., 40, native          Chambers, B. P., 52, '32, Ken.          Childs, Joseph, 55, '37, New York          Clark, Mrs. Dr., 76, '32, New York          Clark, Chas., 42, native          Clark, Dan'l, 68, '32, Ohio          Clark, Ezra, 50, '38, New York          Clark, Mary C. Mrs., 40, native</p>
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## Old Settlers' Meetings

Clark, Sarah A., 47, native  
 Conner, Mary, ---, Native  
 Crackel, Jos., 52, '32, England  
 Danner, C., 70, '40, Germany  
 Danner, Jacob Mrs., 45, '35, Germany  
 Day, Joshua, 62, '35, Massachusetts  
 Defenbaugh, A. J., 52, '37, Ohio  
 Dement, Phoebe, 66, '35, Ohio  
 Downey, Alex, 48, native  
 Dunnon, Alex, 53, '40, Ohio  
 Dunnon, Ben, sr., 63, '35, Ohio  
 Dunnon, John, 46, native  
 Dunnon, Priscilla, 73, '36, Ohio  
 Emmett, Mrs., 60, '35, Ohio  
 England, A. T., 44, native  
 Enslow, E. V. Mrs., 54, '38, New York  
 Fleming, H. Mrs., 47, '38, Ind.  
 Fletcher, Eli, 43, native  
 Fletcher, Thos., 57, '34, Ken.  
 Foster, J. M., 45, native  
 French, Dan'l, 49, '37, Ohio  
 Gabbert, J., 57, ---, Ken.  
 Gillett, J. Davis, 45, '38, Connecticut  
 Gillett, J. D. Mrs.,  
 Girtman, Hugh, '40, native  
 Gordy, John Mrs., 56, '36, England  
 Groves, Isaac, 50, '37, Pennsylvania  
 Hall, T., 62, '39, Massachusetts  
 Harry, G. I., 51, '37, Ohio  
 Hoblit, C. C., 41, native  
 Hoblit, F. M., 43, native  
 Hornback, Isaac, 43, native  
 Howes, Geo. Mrs., 48, native  
 Hutchings, C. E., 57, '39, Ohio  
 Hutchings, C. M., 45, native  
 Johnson, O. D., 61, ---, New York  
 Jones, E. A., 62, '37, Ohio  
 Jones, Strother, 68, '36, Ken.  
 Jones, S. Mrs., 45, native  
 Judy, R. M., 46, native  
 Kagle, John, 74, '35, Ohio  
 Key, Chas., 47, native  
 Laughery, Thos., 45, native  
 Laughlin, R. H., 45, native  
 Lemon, J., 40, native  
 Lord, P. A., 51, '39, Ohio  
 Lucas, C. K., 47, native  
 Martin, Sam'l, ---, '33, ---  
 Martin, Sam Mrs., 63, '37, Virginia  
 Mason, C. C., 47, native  
 Masten, John, 87, '37, Ohio  
 Mathews, A., 43, native  
 McAfee, Jacob, 44, '41, Ind.  
 McDonald, H., 45, '35, Ken.  
 McEndree, G. C., 63, '37, Virginia  
 McGarry, J. Mrs., 56, '37, Ohio  
 Melrose, Mary, 46, native  
 Moore, H. P., 47, native  
 Morrow, Alex, 48, native  
 Myer, George, 69, '37, Germany  
 Myer, Rebecca Mrs., 55, '36, Ohio  
 Nesbit, Samuel, 46, '36, Pennsylvania  
 Nicholson, John, 58, '32, South Carolina  
 Norton, Sarah W., 60, '37, Ohio  
 Parish, Matilda, 62, '37, Ohio  
 Parker, Ananias, 60, '40, Ken.  
 Parrish, J. L., 62, '37, Ken.  
 Pegram, W. A., 57, '35, Virginia  
 Pierson, D. M., 52, '34, Ohio  
 Poff, E., 42, native  
 Randolph, Laviey, 54, '36, Ind.  
 Rankin, A. T., 62, '34, Ken.  
 Riddle, Sarah, 57, '37, New Jersey  
 Rigdon, Eliza Mrs., 69, '32, Ken.  
 Rigdon, Marion, 44, native  
 Roberts, Geo., ---  
 Roberts, John, 50, '33, Virginia  
 Roberts, R. W., 42, native  
 Robinson, Geo., ---, '29, ---  
 Root, M., 53, '33, New York  
 Rowe, H. B., 62, '39, Connecticut  
 Schick, F., 67, ---, Germany  
 Scroggin, C. T., 45, native  
 Scroggin, John, ---, '28, ---  
 Scroggin, T. J., 41, native  
 Shawl, Fred, 42, '39, Germany  
 Sherry, David, 60, '38, Connecticut  
 Shoup, Monroe, 40, native  
 Shinn, John, 58, '37, Ohio  
 Sims, D. H., 43, native  
 Sims, Jas. Mrs., 45, native  
 Snyder, W. C., 59, '35, Pennsylvania  
 Stinnett, Eliz., 48, native  
 Taylor, Sarah, 59, '39, Virginia  
 Thompson, Henry, 58, '36, Virginia  
 Thompson, J. W., 46, '36, Virginia  
 Tomlinson, Emma, 42, native  
 Turley, G. W., 61, '35, Ken.  
 Turley, Sam'l, 41, native  
 Tuttle, Eliz., 48, native  
 Tuttle, Jas., 74, '38, Ohio  
 Vandeventer, W., 40, native  
 Vaughn, E. J., 44, native  
 West, J. M. Rev., 44, native  
 Whitaker, N. M., 57, '35, Ind.  
 Whitaker, N. M. Mrs., 76, '38, Ken.  
 Whitaker, Thos., 42, native  
 Whitaker, W. S., 49, '35, Ind.  
 Whitesides, Geo, 56, '32, Ken.  
 Whitesides, J. H., 64, ---, Ken.  
 Wiley, Thos., 47, '35, Ohio  
 Wilson, Robt., 62, '40, Ohio

## Old Settlers' Meetings

Wilson, Mrs., 59, ---  
Wolf, Sarah, 47, native

Woody, Mrs., 45, native  
Wright, J. T., 40, native

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### A PIONEER

The Lincoln Herald  
Thursday, August 26, 1880

The following interesting paper concerning a worthy citizen of our county, was read at the old settlers' meeting at Mt. Pulaski on the 12<sup>th</sup>. It will well repay a careful reading. Mr. Capps was the next to the oldest man present, Robert Downing, aged 86, being the oldest. The paper was prepared by C. S. Capps of Mt. Pulaski.

Jabez Capps the first settler of this village, was born in London, England, on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 1796. His father was a free thinker and strongly in favor of a republican form of government.

Jabez Capps came to Boston, Mass., in October 1817, after a three months voyage across the Atlantic. He spent a short time in New York and Philadelphia, then, with some companions went on foot over the mountains to Pittsburg, thence by skiff down the Ohio river to Cincinnati, where he remained a year or so. Next he went to Louisville, from which place he and his brother, Ebenezer, walked to St. Louis, which at that time was a small French village. The arrival of a steamboat was then an event that called out the whole population, with salutes from cannon, etc. After a six months stay in St. Louis, he came to Round Prairie in Sangamon county, or, as it was then called, the St. Gamy country; where he and his brother purchased a claim; this was in the spring of 1819. They farmed and carried on the shoe making business until Springfield was started and they were among the first to locate in that place, which was at that time called Calhoun. This was about the year 1822. The county of Sangamon was organized about that time. Up to about the year 1821, Madison county extended up to Chicago, and Edwardsville was the county seat. Jabez Capps taught the first school ever taught in Sangamon county, about the year 1820, near Clark's mill on the south fork of the Sangamon river. He afterwards taught school in the old log court house in Springfield. Erastus Wright was one of his pupils. Ebenezer Capps took a flat boat of produce down the Sangamon river about the time Springfield was started, and brought back a stock of groceries.

The brothers then went into the general mercantile business, starting a branch store at Vandalia, then the state capitol. In these days buckskin was one of the principal materials for men's wear.

As an instance of the primitive manners of these times, Mr. Capps says that he once called at a cabin where the children were eating bread and gravy from a frying pan. The mother, in the kindness of her heart, told the children to "stand back and let Mr. Capps sop a while." It is hardly necessary to say that Mr. Capps declined the proffered hospitality.

Bread was made from corn pounded in a mortar, or ground at horse mills, which were few and far between. Game was plenty and cheap, a kind neighborly feeling prevailed and the rights of property were more sacredly observed than in the present day.

During the summer of 1836, Mr. Capps built the first house erected in this village. He and his family were the sole inhabitants of the place for several months. Finally, by giving away several lots as an inducement, he prevailed on others to settle here.

Although Mr. Capps is an Englishman by birth, he is in sentiment thoroughly American and Republican. He likes the country and its institutions so well that he can say with the Scotchman

## Old Settlers' Meetings

who had a like experience, that had he "known what a good country this is a little sooner he would have been born here." Mr. Capps has ever been a friend to those who are struggling to get a start in the world, and in his kind efforts to help others has neglected to look after his own financial interests, and consequently has not fared so well in this respect as some of his neighbors. Mr. Capps has been engaged in mercantile pursuits for 50 years. He has also been distinguished as a pioneer horticulturist. He was the first county recorder or clerk of Logan County, and has also acted in the capacity of post master for 15 years. He will be 84 years old the 9<sup>th</sup> day of next month, has lived in central Illinois 61 years, and in his humble way has probably been as useful a citizen as we have among us.

These old pioneers are passing away. We have but few of them with us. They are men who should be respected and revered while they are with us, and their memory cherished when they are gone.

Let us that such kindly men as Jabez Capps may be long spared to attend the annual meetings of the Old Settlers of Illinois.

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## Old Settlers' Letters

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 16, 1880

John Buckles  
Mt. Pulaski, ILL., Aug. 12, 1880

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: The old settlers of this county, and perhaps some from adjoining counties, have met here to-day for the purpose of renewing and perpetuating their early formed acquaintances by recalling the pleasant associations of olden times, and to relate their hard experiences in the first settlement of this country, that the young who are here may learn this profitable lesson: That prosperity is the fruit of industry.

Where you now see nice houses, abundant fields of corn and other grain, green pastures where various kinds of domestic animals are quietly grazing, was once a trackless prairie. Standing at this point you might have seen the smoke curling from the mud chimneys of two or three little log cabins scattered along the margin of the Lake timber. I was reared in one of those cabins, which was constructed without a nail or board, and the chinks between the logs were the only windows. Of the present luxuries we had none. I never saw a cook stove until I was nearly grown. The cooking was done at the fire place, which was about half the width of the cabin, and which took huge logs for fuel that we were obliged to roll in at the door. Our cooking utensils were mainly the pot and gridiron, and the kettle oven in which to bake bread. We had no machinery of any kind, except the loom and spinning wheel. With these we manufactured the cloth from which our clothes were made. Work was performed by main strength and bare hands; thus our bread was truly earned by the sweat of our brow. It was a rare thing to see a man with a pair of boots, and boys didn't wear pants until they were about grown; they wore instead long home spun aprons! Young men, we didn't have kid gloves, as you do, put on our hands, buggies to ride in, nor fine horses to drive. Our kids were those that nature gave us, tanned by the sun and hardened by toil. Our legs were our buggies, with the springs in the heels. Horses we had none, but sometimes we rode and ox with our fair lady on behind us. The young ladies of that day didn't wear silks and ruffles, for friz and bang their hair; they were content with a linsey wolsey dress made by their own hands. The loom was their piano and the spinning wheel their organ, and the music was just as sweet, if not sweeter that we hear to-day on a \$500 piano or a costly

## Old Settlers' Meetings

organ, and I am quite sure the playing was much more profitable. They didn't punch holes in card board and sew them up again with silken threads, but "worked" honest buttonholes in their brother's Sunday coats, made of jeans, and knit comfortable socks instead of crocheting useless knickknacks. They sought the washtub and broom handle for exercise. Girls of the present day would almost faint at the sight of such things.

Illinois is a great and good country, no other state in the Union, perhaps, better; the soil is rich and very productive, but prosperity will not come to us standing idle, even here. We must be industrious and economical. When I was a young man I anticipated the adage: "No excellence without labor," and commenced work earnestly at \$10 per month.

Our forefathers accomplished a great deal for this prosperous and beautiful country; we are indebted to them, and we owe to the rising generation our best efforts to extend their enjoyment not only to that which we now enjoy, but improved and better.

One thing in particular which blights the happiness of many in this fair country is intemperance. Of the liquor traffic I wish to say just a word. There is certainly no detriment to prosperity more effective, no incentive to vice and crime more portent, no evil greater, and, therefore, no one thing which demands more our earnest effort to prohibit than the sale of intoxicating liquors. Temperance men are doing what they can, and will continue "by all honorable means," to discourage intemperance, but their efforts alone are not sufficient. The remedy is in the ballot-box, and the men who desire the greatest possible happiness to their fellow man, who love their country to do it good, and who wish to prevent the many horrible crimes committed every day, &c., seem to be in the minority, wherefore I am strongly in favor of allowing woman suffrage on this great question. It is most certain they will vote to prohibit liquor traffic since they are the greater sufferers. "With malice toward none and charity for all," I am respectfully yours.

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## Old Settlers' Letters

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 16, 1880

### Mary Buckles

I will give you a little sketch of the old settler's times when I first came here. When I first started out to find a home I rode about eight hundred miles on horseback and carried a child. We moved out here in 1822, and lived that winter by the mouth of the lake. The house we lived in was made of logs split and notched at the end and laid together. The way we got our bread in those days, we had to beat the corn into meal and then make our bread and boil our hominy.

We came to Illinois in October and I never saw the face of a white woman till in March, except my stepmother. We moved in the spring upon the lake, where Jerry Buckles lives now. We lived in the Frontier House; we lived there till my husband died. I have seen as many as one hundred Indians camped together down where William Buckles lives. The Indians used to stop at our house when they were out hunting and want something to eat. Sometimes my husband would be away from home and just me and the little children there. It would make my very heart ache, but I always gave them something to eat to get shut of them.

We came through Springfield there was but one store, and that was Major Iles'. We got our first grindings at Buffalo Hart and Elkhart. It was ground by horse mill. My husband volunteered and went to the war to fight the Indians in 1826, and I was left alone with five little children – not a man on the place. I was left from one week to five, lots of times. Elizabeth Ann Copeland

## Old Settlers' Meetings

was the first child I had born in this country. She was born May 3d, 1824. I had an aunt who died in March , 1824. The way they made her coffin, they cut a walnut tree down on the place where we lived and dug it out and buried her in it. She was buried at William Buckles's graveyard. We raised a large family of children and never had a doctor in the house for fourteen years. I had fifteen children and raised fourteen till they were grown and married. There are twelve now living, and I have seventy-three grand children and sixty-seven great grand children living. In those days we clothed our children by spinning and weaving. We wove coverlets, blankets, jeans, flannel, and everything that we wore. Instead of pianos, organs, and sewing machines we had looms and spinning wheels. We did all our own coloring. Children had no chance to get an education in those days, as we only had three months school in the year. We had no preaching for a long time after we came here, and the first preaching I ever heard was at old Grandfather Turley's, then the next we opened our doors for meeting. We were not particular what denomination preached. We opened our doors for all. Bob Foster was the first who held a three-days meeting at our house: then A. J. Cane of Springfield, had a three days meeting out under the shade trees. Folks were not particular then like they are now, for the would come from Buffalo and Sangamon and from all around. We couldn't set fine tables then like they do now, but we always had plenty to eat. I have had from eighteen to twenty persons to stay all night with us when they came up to meeting. Now, if I were young again and had a family to raise, and knew there was such a country at this, I would be willing to go through it all attain, although I had a very hard time, but I never regret it on account of my children. Before I took this last spell of sickness I was able to walk from a half mile to a mile. When I pass away from this world of trouble, I hope I will be in a world of rest. These are a few items of the way we lived and had to do in the early days. I was born in Georgia in 1803, and am now going on 78.

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## Old Settlers' Reunion

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 08, 1881

The old settlers' meeting at the Atlanta fair ground on last Tuesday brought out a larger attendance than that of last year. It is thought that from 3,000 to 4,000 persons were present, nearly all of whom were present, nearly all of whom were brought out by the reunion. People were invited from McLean, Tazwell, Logan and DeWitt counties, and the four counties were well represented by old settlers; many of whom had seen the winter of the deep snow.

Judge Davis was unavoidably hindered from being present but Judge Scott, of the Supreme Court, an old settler well and favorably known in Central Illinois presided. The writer of this arrived on the ground too late to hear Judge Scott's speech, but was told that it was an able effort and dealt largely with pioneer life as exemplified in the settlement of Illinois.

Hon. Geo. W. Minier followed with a lively address full of anecdotes of his experience in early times. He spoke of the "corn dodger" as a staple article of food in those days, and said he was told that "dodgers" were so called because they were scraps of bread which had dodged the cat and dog and everything else and had finally got on the table. However, he did not seem to indorse this slander upon a good, though old fashioned article of food. Mr. Minier spoke of Governor Moore as the originator of our first system of public instruction, a system which he remembered reading with care in 1838. He then spoke of the introduction of the natural sciences into the schools and the part he had himself taken in securing that result. The common schools he

## Old Settlers' Meetings

said were so good that our colleges needed to amply endowed or our boys and girls would finish their education in the public schools. He thought school-teaching the most important of the professions. Referring to the log cabin and its relics, Mr. Minier said he had a cane cut from near the tomb of Washington and the portrait of one of the earliest settlers of the country (Peter Logan) which he wished to place in that repository.

The services in the forenoon were enlivened by music by Mr. J. H. Danley's choir, A colored organization from Lincoln, led by – Greenwood, attracted some attention by singing "Carve dat Possum."

After dinner, Gov. Cullom arrived from Springfield on the train and proceeded to give the old settlers a talk, regardless of the fact that he had had no dinner.

He spoke of the train and proceeded to give the old settlers a talk, regardless of the fact that he had had no dinner.

He spoke of the traits of character of the early settlers of Illinois and contrasted their sociable ways with the hurrying, unsociable life of our modern cities. He spoke of the changes which had come over the State and said the log cabin, to which he pointed, represented the life of the pioneers, though it was better than most of them had. His father's first house was a double cabin built of unhewn logs in 1830, the year before the deep snow. Tazwell county, in which his father lived, had been organized only three years then. Sangamon county was established in 1821 and included much of the central part of the State, reaching up nearly to LaSalle. He was "raised" on a farm and had he known that in a few years he could have rode and plowed, rode and planted, rode and sown and roade and reaped, he would have remained on the farm. He quit farming because he did not like so much walking. (Laughter and a voice, "You see where you missed it now.") he could mow, but cradling was harder work than he could stand. (Laughter) He told of feeding 125 head of cattle for his father one bitter winter, the last he spent on the farm, referring to John Buckles, of Mt. Pulaski, for proof of his assertion that chopping corn shocks out of the ice and hauling them to cattle was hard work. He told his father he couldn't stand such work and went to Springfield to study law. Without any intention of giving the "taffy," he thought the farmers of Illinois were to be envied for their grand opportunities and the independent position they occupied.

He spoke of the fortunate situation of Central Illinois and of the drouth in the southern part of the State and hoped that if an appeal should be made for the unfortunate people living there the four counties he was addressing would respond freely. Illinois had never been niggardly in answering to the call of distress.

He spoke of the President and his own call for prayers for his recovery today and hope it would be remembered. He looked upon the President as a great and good man who had already done much to remove sectional bitterness.

He spoke of the absence of Judge Davis and General Oglesby and said he had recently seen the latter in a cabin in Colorado. He asked the General what he was doing out there and Dick said, "Trying to make a little money for myself. I couldn't do anything in Illinois. You know, Cullom, that neither you nor I know much law." The Governor added good humoredly that this was undeniably true of himself, as he had neglected law for politics.

The Governor spoke of the population of the State which he had hoped would exceed that of Ohio. He believed it would have done so, but for the fact that so many of our people went to Kansas and Nebraska just before the census was taken. He thought there was no place in the world more desirable for the farmer than Illinois, and confidently predicted that before the expiration of then years every acre of land in Central Illinois would readily salable at \$100 an

## Old Settlers' Meetings

acre. The State was out of debt and now if we could only pay off our local and individual debts, we would be the happiest people under the sun. He closed his speech by wishing all a happy time and hoping that the President might recover.

J. W. Richmond recited Carleton's ballad, "From the House to the New," and Danley's choir sang, "The Little Old Cabin by the Lane." Mr. Minier introduced a venerable looking little woman as "Mrs. Evans, the first teacher who ever taught in Tazwell county." Rober McNish was called out and responded briefly. A Waynesville choir sang the ancient hymn "Roll round with the year," followed by Greenville's choir in a song celebrating the freeing of the slaves, and then an Atlanta choir gave, in costume, "We cannot Mortgage the Farm," whereupon many of the old settlers said, "There's lots of good, sound sense in that song."

Frank Hoblit, of the fair association, said that the yearly meeting would be kept up. He also said that there was talk of building a cabin of round logs next year. The reunion closed with the singing of "Shall be Gather at the River?"

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### Reunion of Former Residents

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 07, 1882

The first reunion of former residents of Logan county was held at the fair ground on Thursday last. No formal attempt at speech making or organization was made, but each one mingled with the crowd and sought out old acquaintances. The white badges distributed bore this inscription:

First Reunion of Former Residents of Logan County, Fair Grounds, Lincoln, Ill., August 31,  
1882.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot?

Many who had sent word that they were coming, or would come if possible, failed to get in and there were, no doubt, some others who did not report at headquarters, but those who were seen seemed to enjoy themselves, and certainly had a fine opportunity to see their old friends. The great crowd present would have made the work of assembling them at a given point a difficult one, even if it had been thought desirable. It is hoped that this modest beginning may lead to something much larger in the course of two or three years. In this, as in many other affairs, the more the merrier. Following are the names registered as present:

Ayers, Alfred, DeWitt Co., Ill.  
Barger, S. J., Gatesville, Piatt Co., Ill.  
Bates, Wm. P., Chicago, Ill.  
Boyden, Fred, Chicago, Ill.  
Clarno, S. E., Weedman, McLean Co., Ill.  
Crang, Henry, Clinton, Ill.  
Crang, Richard Mrs. Clinton, Ill.  
Dalby, S. S., Osceola, Iowa.  
Davidson, W. S., Newtwn Harvey Co., Kan.  
Ellis, Mary J., Vermillion Co., Ill.  
Fisher, S. D., Springfield, Ill.  
Fisher, S. D. Mrs., Springfield, Ill.  
Haas, J. J., Farmer City, Ill.

Hass, J. J. Mrs., Farmer City, Ill.  
Horney, Anderson, Hallsville, DeWitt Co., Ill.  
Hummell, C. F., Decatur, Ill.  
Kiplinger, J. B., Williamsville, Ill.  
Jackson, Chas. D., Brandshaw, York, Co., Neb.  
Littler, D. T., Springfield, Ill.  
Logan, Sam'l P., Marion, Kansas.  
Logan, Sam'l P. Mrs., Marion, Kansas.  
Lucas, Joseph P., Anchor, McLean Co., Ill.  
McClure, M. H., Jacksonville, Ill.  
McCollister, Albert, San Jose, Mason Co. Ill.  
McMasters, E. D. Monticello, Piatt Co., Ill.  
Morris, Calvin, Allen, Miami Co., Ohio.

## Old Settlers' Meetings

Orendorff, Alfred, Springfield, Ill.  
Poak, Frank, Appleton City, Mo.  
Reece, John, Oxford, Kan.  
Reece, John Mrs., Oxford, Kan.  
Reed, Joseph, Minier, Ill.  
Regan, Matilda Mrs., Kenney, Ill.  
Robinson, W. M., Towanda, Butler Co., Kan.

Smallwood, John, Boynton, Ill.  
Smallwood, Peter, Boynton, Ill.  
Spencer, R. T., Kenney, Ill.  
Strode, J. E. Mrs., Aurora, Hamilton Co., Neb.  
Switzer, G. M., Waterloo, Iowa.  
Townsend, T. W., Beulah, Crawford Co., Kan.

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### The Old Settlers' Meeting

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 14, 1882

#### An Immense Crowd in Attendance – The Barbecue a Success – Plenty to Eat and an Orderly Assemblage

The Old Settlers' Meeting and Barbecue held at Mt. Pulaski yesterday is deserving of a much more extended account that we shall be able to give so close upon the hour of going to press.

The exercises were held in the public square, where a space had been fenced in for the old settlers with ropes. The stand was erected at the west front of the old court house, where the interlacing catalpas made a grateful shade. Upon a table were displayed a few relics of old times, mainly in the form of homemade linen and coverlids, one of the latter 120 years old. A primitive stove, said to be 50-years old and the first ever used in this county, was also shown. Of course there were many old people present, men and women who were here before "the winter of the deep snow," but the palm was cheerfully awarded to a Mrs. Hilliard of the vicinity of Lake Fork Station, whose age is reckoned at 101 years.

Col. R. B. Latham, who is a pioneer, spoke for a few minutes and then gave way to James H. Matheny, of Springfield, who delivered an address which was highly enjoyed by that small segment of the crowd that could get within earshot. R. W. Diller, of Springfield, was the next speaker, and occupied the time with a humorous address until 11:30, when the old settlers and invited guests were summoned to lead the way to the tables.

All the south side of the square was filled with tables, making a total length of 3,000 feet or more. Contrary to the usual practice at barbecues, these were carefully set, and were fitted with dishes and everything necessary for a good dinner. When it is considered that the enormous steam chest had done duty in cooking 61 beeves, 12 hogs and 13 sheep, it will be seen that there was no lack of meat. Other supplies were on the same Brobdiguagian scale. Coffee was made by wholesale, in a barrel, with steam conveyed from a manufactory across the street. The result of all this generous preparation and careful attention to details was that the tables were quietly filled, time after time, and all who came were amply provided for.

In the afternoon, speaking was resumed by Judge Lacey, Gen. Oglesby, Col. Hough, Major John T. Stuart, of Springfield, Rev. J. C. White and others. Gov. Cullom was not present. Gen. Oglesby's address was well suited to the occasion, being full of comparisons of the old and the new ways of doing and the old and new modes of thought. His experiences of pioneer life in Central Illinois were introduced with good effect. The speeches were sandwiched with music by Danley's choir and the Mt. Pulaski band.

The day was warm, but there was a good breeze blowing and the only drawback was dust, of which, there was a little more than was desirable.

## Old Settlers' Meetings

As to numbers, it was hard to estimate the number present, some sanguine souls placing it at 20,000 and others went to the opposite extreme at 10,000. It is reported that nearly, if not quite 3,000 badges were issued to the pioneers and the old settlers, there being about five of the latter to one of the former. This would probably indicate a total of 15,000. The square was densely crowded, as were also the sidewalks facing the square. There were crowds on the side streets and quite an assemblage at Capps' park. For some blocks about the square the streets were densely lined on both sides with buggies and wagons; in fact there seemed few localities in any part of the town without their cluster of vehicles.

The trains brought in about 2,000 people. At Lincoln the P. D. & E. folks had been furnished with only 500 tickets and ran out. A few from the assembled crowd went home, while others worked their way into the five coaches until it was impossible to find even standing room inside and the platforms were filled. Even then a few could not get on. Some of those who were unable to get excursion tickets paid full fare, others paid 25 cents and others nothing. It was hoped that the company would put on more cars coming back, but they did not and the discomfort of the morning was repeated in an intensified form. The company seemed to have amply deserved all the criticism the received for their failure to provide decent accommodations.

The managers of the barbecue seemed to be fully satisfied, as they certainly had a right to be. They started out to have a big crowd and to entertain them well, and succeeded admirably in both respects.

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### Old Settlers' Meeting

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, September 13, 1883

The meeting of the old settlers in Mt. Pulaski yesterday was largely attended, though the crowd was not so dense as last year. There were present many old residents, and all had a jolly, old fashioned, good time.

At an early hour the people began pouring into the town in carriages, wagons, and on horseback, while the early trains swelled the throng to an immense size. Mrs. Hilliard, residing near the mount, we are told, was the oldest person on the ground, she being 102 years of age.

Senator Cullom, and Governor Hamilton were not present, and the speeches were made by old settlers. Great interest was manifested. No better day could have been selected.

There was enough to eat for all, and the meats and coffee, were prepared by steam. The meeting has been pronounced a success.

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Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, April 16, 1885

### Mt. Pulaski's Early Settlers

(O. C. Stafford in Mt. Pulaski Times)

Among the earliest settlers of Mt. Pulaski were Jabez Capps, Squire Turley, Dr. Robinson, Dr. Newman, Dr. Clark, Dr. Dickinson, and Dr. Dement. Jabez Capps and Dr. Robinson are still living, but the others have crossed the dark river. They both raised families here. Robinson now lives in Kansas and his boys have turned out well. His second boy Jim was a wild one and I heard him tell his father one day, after he had given him a whipping, "that he thought he had

## Old Settlers' Meetings

played hades because he had licked the boy." Old Mr. Mason, John and Chris, Mason's father lived here. John Mason of this place was born in 1837 and was the first child born on the hill. Mr. Mason later removed to the farm now owned by George Rowe, on Salt creek where he died. He had three boys and two girls. Chris and John served in the late war, and Chris in the Mexican War. I remember how fine Chris looked when he paraded the streets on a dapple grey mare, marching to the music of the fife and drum, beating for volunteers.

I remember hauling John E. Downing and Squire Randolph from Pekin on their return from Mexico in 1847 and the poor fellows looked like skeletons.

Pekin was Mt. Pulaski's trading point. We used to haul up corn, wheat, oats and bacon, and bring back groceries and dry goods. I never will forget my first trip to Pekin. Tom Mason went with me. We were unacquainted with the road and the people. There was not a bridge between here and Pekin, except across Kickapoo. We mired down in Salt spring branch, and had to get two yoke of oxen to pull us out, and mired down on the Delevan prairie and had to get help. We stayed the first night at Randolph's on Sugar creek, and the second at a Norwegian widow lady's, and right there I could have written "The Chambermaid's own or the bedbugs' Revenge," for I thought the bedbugs would carry us off before morning. It was in a log cabin, and the old lady was sleeping in the same room. She heard us fighting the bugs and said we had better get in her bed and she would get up. Tom got up and put on his clothes, harnessed his horses, and drove down to a little hollow about two hundred yards from the house, and I went to the stable loft. The next morning I found Tom asleep in his wagon, and when I woke him up he said, "Where did you stay? I thought you were eat up." We went back to the house and got our breakfast, and then drove on to Pekin. We bought some herrings and some cheese for dinner, and eat very hearty, and I think that afternoon and night we were two of the sickest mortals you ever saw. I never could eat a herring since.

I afterwards learned the road better, and the people, and as business looked up there was a greater demand for teamsters and they were more numerous. Among them were Robert Paranteau, Robert Franks, George Snyder, old Mr. Dyer, Robert Dement, Isaac Tomlinson and William Snyder. We used to pay 50 cents a night for lodging, supper and breakfast, for ourselves and horses. I never will forget old Mr. Dyer's first trip to Pekin.

We had a regular stopping place at Uncle Billy Byers' on Sugar creek. He was a Christian preacher, and always had family prayers. Mr. Dyer was a great man to swear, but he said he would go into the room and hear Uncle Billy pray, as there was nothing like being religious on the road. He said it lightened the bill of fare, and so he went into the room and when Uncle Billy read his chapter and knelt down to pray. Dyer was sitting beside the fireplace. There was a saucer filled with hot grease and a rag in it for light. Toward the end of the prayer the grease took fire and as it blazed up Dyer sprang forward to put it out. Unfortunately he overturned the saucer and the hot grease ran all over his hand. "Confound the lamp," shouted Dyer, and "amen," said Uncle Billy. Mr. Dyer rushed out into the room where we were sitting and said he wouldn't have sworn in there for fifty dollars. Mr. and Mrs. Byers were excellent people and doctored the old man's hand the rest of the night but he was obliged to carry it in a sling for several days.

## Old Settlers' Meetings

Toby Benson, now Dr. Benson, of Latham, was along that trip, I think. I remember one time when we crossed the first bridge at Deer creek, after a rain, and Toby drove on the bridge too far to one side when a plank tipped up and let his horses through into the creek. Toby caught hold of one of the bents as he went down, and holding on by his hands, called to the boys to help him out first, as he might fall down on the horses and get drowned. While on an excursion to Peoria, six or seven years ago, I met Toby on the steamer Grey Eagle, on the Peoria lake. He pointed out to me a place on the Illinois river where he once drove into water three yoke of oxen with which he was hauling logs. After drinking, the oxen started and before he could stop them they swam directly across the river. Toby was sitting straddle of the near ox at the tongue of the wagon, and said he had hard work to keep his seat. He had to drive five miles down the river to a ferry to get back on the other side. Toby used to live in Peoria before he came here, and Mt. Pulaski was not a very large place when Dr. Benson came here.

It is the laboring class that gives life to a town. I remember when in good weather you never saw anyone idle except on Saturday afternoon. There were manufacturing interests here in early days. Jabez Capps carded wool into rolls, Squire Turley making brick, and Godfrey Frederick made brick down on Theodore Lawrence's farm and hauled them here. Uncle George Meister has for years been furnishing brick for the town. You can see the fruits of his labor in the large brick buildings about the village.

I remember seeing, years ago, a little boy and girl driving a small mule team with which they were hauling wood from Lake Fork for Uncle George Meister's brickyard. It was his son John and daughter, Mrs. Krieg. Chris and his brother Andy were the blacksmiths of this place; Leonard Albert, the wagon maker; and old man Snyder and his sons James, Ben and Charles, the cabinet makers. Col. Whittaker was the tailor, and old Grandma Whittaker was the milliner. There was no dress-maker, as the women all made their own dresses. Uncle Frank Schick was the shoe maker for the town. and country, too. H. B. Rowe and his brother, Miles, until Miles lost his life while raising a building, were carpenters, as were also Chris Mason and his father. Alexander Morgan was the tobacconist, and manufactured tobacco and cigars in the room now used as a dining room at Hamilton Turley's Hotel. Ashburry Harry used to tan leather on the Lincoln road where Jake Seyfer now lives. Mr. Girtman used to dress deer skins at Lake Fork. He was Hugh Girtman's and Mrs. L. K. Scroggins father.

Old Uncle Wat Turley, brother of "Ham" Turley, Mrs. Rowe, and Mrs. Fisher, used to make reeds for weaving. I remember going to his house at Lake Fork with my mother, to get a reed, forty-five years ago, when the road was lined with prairie grass all the way. The reeds were made of cane he brought from Kentucky. They were only used in this day to weave carpets.

This town was eight or nine years old then. We came on up here and stayed two or three days, and that is the first time I remember seeing Chris Danner. He had been somewhere and got some geese, and the wolves caught them. He said he thought they were dogs and shot at them but never killed any of them. In the summer they used to be about the big spring. The big spring as it was called, was the only water, except wells, south of this place until you got to the Sangamon river, and it was discovered by the oldest settlers. My first recollection of it there was a gum in it, and it was fenced in with rails, the water running off down through the prairie. There were but few wells here. The people hauled their water from the spring in barrels as they used it. Some

## Old Settlers' Meetings

went there to wash. It has long been considered the best water in the country, and of late years it has been discovered that it has medicinal virtues.

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### The Old Settlers' Meeting

The Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois  
Thursday, August 27, 1886

#### A Good Attendance of the Pioneers – The Day Devoted to Sociability and Short Speeches

The thirteenth annual meeting of the Old Settlers' Association of Logan county was held in this city yesterday. The attendance was not, of course, up to that of the monster gathering held at Mt. Pulaski year before last, but was, nevertheless, very large. The pioneers, distinguished by their white badges, were out in strong force and their familiar faces carried the thoughts of all back to the times when there were no railroads and no telegraphs in the State. The weather was simply perfect, being just at the right temperature for comfort, though too cool to suit the lemonade venders.

The program opened with music by Hoover's band, followed by the reading of the program for the entire day by the president. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. A. Chase. Music by Rankin's band and then followed an address of welcome by J. T. Hoblit. The response was by President D. W. Clark, who expressed gratitude on behalf of the old settlers to the citizens of Lincoln for their preparations and cordial reception, etc. He spoke of the death of Elder John England and Wm. M. Allen, both pioneers. He said the society was organized in 1873. The meetings had always been very enjoyable. He hoped for the maintenance of the society. President Clark came to Illinois in 1830.

The president then announced that the speeches in the afternoon would be five-minute talks – "no high-falutin, lawyer speeches." He explained, however, that he was not reflecting upon Mr. Hoblit.

After music by Hoover's band, Joshua Day made a 10-minute speech. He came to what is now Nauvoo 48 years ago, met old Blackhawk and other Indians; was residing with his brothers on an island opposite Nauvoo in the fall before the winter of the sudden change, when the water rose very high; then came the sudden change and froze the floods, and the had several inches of ice for the floor. He told the rising generations of the hardships of the pioneer, how they often awoke in the morning and found four or five inches of snow on the bed clothing. He related a story of the capture of the proverbial "biggest-coon-you-ever-saw" during the cold spell, which saved him from sudden starvation!!! He also told a big snake story. Time was called.

The election of officers resulted in the election of the following vice presidents for the several townships of this county:

Aetna, Wm. Donnan  
Atlanta, Jacob Judy  
Broadwell, George W. Reed  
Chester, John O'Connor  
Corwin, Jeremiah McMullen  
East Lincoln, Col. R. B. Latham  
Elkhart, Joshua Day  
Eminence, Peter Bruner  
Hurlbut, Mr. Van Meter

Lake Fork, Henry Hall  
Laenna, Albert Tomlinson  
Mt. Pulaski, John Buckles  
Oran, W. S. Curry  
Orvil, David Bowles  
Prairie Creek, T. J. Chesnut  
Sheridan, Wm H. McMurphy  
West Lincoln, John Reed

## Old Settlers' Meetings

The president then called for music and announced that the old settlers would take their stand on the courthouse steps and have their pictures taken "all in a bunch." Core photographed them.

After this there was a dispersion for dinner, and every tree in the square sheltered its family groups, giving that enclosure an exceedingly animated appearance. The speakers stand and many of the business houses displayed the National red, white and blue, lending additional color and variety to the scene.

David Bowles, of Orvil township, came to this country early enough to encounter the deep snow. He took a cheerful view of pioneer life and showed that it had its pleasures and enjoyments, in refreshing contrast to the terrible tales of hardship which constitute the reverse side of the picture.

J. A. Kestler of Mt. Pulaski, had been in this country ever since 1818. He thought times were better then than now. He said the greatest hardship in those times was courting the girls. There was only one room in the house and the old folks would sit and watch the proceedings. It was exceedingly hard on the bashful young man like himself.

Capt. Frank Fisk, the secretary of the association, introduced Jabez Capps, of Mt. Pulaski and made his speech for him. Mr. Capps came to Illinois in 1819; to Logan county in 1836 and is 89 years old.

Jacob Judy, of Atlanta, came in 1824. He wedded Mary Musick. Has "only 74 grandchildren."

Peter Bruner, of Eminence township, differed from Mr. Bowles in regard to the early hardships; thought the times were very hard; he recounted the sufferings from fever and ague and privations by cold weather.

Jacob Judy came back and told a brief anecdote which called out considerable laughter.

John Hepperly, of Lincoln, related a courting incident. He told of the sudden change. Was working in a saw mill when it came, it was sudden as clap of thunder.

Stephen Clarno, now of McLean county, formerly of Elkhart, contrasted the difficulty of getting the children out of bed these times with the early rising of pioneer days. He proved to be quite an impersonator in his anecdotes.

Col. W. D. Wyatt came upon the platform merely to exhibit some relics for Father Adam Simonton, who was not able to attend. Showed an old gourd raised in North Carolina in 1797, used as a powder flask at the battle of Fort Meiggs. Show also a knife used on same occasion to strike the flint. Related a story of an Indian massacre on Kickapoo at the present site of the iron bridge.

Daddy Rankin was then called upon but excused himself and the Rankin band played a substitute for Daddy's speech.

John Reed, of this city, was introduced as the oldest man upon the ground – a "leetle" older than Jabez Capps, being 89 years old.

Col. R. B. Latham had been in Logan county continuously since September, 1819. Col. Latham read a list of the oldest settlers and the date of their settlement as follows:

James Latham, Elkhart, 1819  
Richard Latham, Elkhart, 1819  
Robert B. Latham, Elkhart, 1819  
Ebenezer Briggs, Elkhart, 1819  
Robert Musick, Sugar Creek, December, 1819  
John Stephenson, Lake Fork, fall of 1820  
Charles Turley, Lake Fork, '21 or '22

James Turley, Lake Fork, 1820  
Aquila Davis, Lake Fork, 1820  
John Hamlin, Elkhart, fall of 1819  
John Porter, fall of '19 or '20  
James Chaplain, Lake Fork, '21  
Robert Buckles, '22  
Mr. Birks, in '22

## Old Settlers' Meetings

Mr. McClare, Salt Creek, '23  
Samuel Musick, '23 or '24

Mr. Long, '22

John Reed, '27. One of the oldest settlers and probably the oldest man in the county.

Rev. Keown made a brief speech, especially eulogizing Illinois and rejoicing in his citizenship of this State. He wished that all the old settlers might claim the proud title of thoroughbred "suckers."

Reed, Marquart, of Atlanta, invited all the old settlers to come up to Atlanta fair on Tuesday and promised to give them "an old settlers what am an old settler." He had not lived as long as Col. Latham and some others, but had lived faster and was about as old.

Daddy (Edmund) Rankin came to this country in 1836. Said he had swum every stream between Philadelphia and the Mississippi river. He said this was his first speech and that he was 71 years old.

An old settler whose name was not announced, made a speech after Mr. Rankin.

Exhibition of Relics

A cane cut in Ohio in 1832, property of Adam Simonton.

Officers commission to Mr. Simonton's father, dated in 1802.

A bandanna over 60 years old, belongs to Mr. E. G. Lawrence.

A pitchfork and a spade, both owned by Hamilton Patterson.

A Russian chopping ax.

A pocket book of 1770. Used in Kentucky in the days of Daniel Boone.

An Indian ax, made of stone.

A teapot that has been handed down for five generations, owned by Mrs. Rankin.

A book which belonged to Mr. Rankin's great-great-great-grandmother.

Capt. Fisk then addressed his thanks to the old settlers for their attendance.

The meeting closed with a benediction by David Rudolph.

The attendance in the afternoon was much larger than in the morning and all present seemed in a happy mood. The meeting was an undoubted success. From the number of badges given out, there must have been considerably over 600 old settlers present.