



Roots & Branches

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Web Pages: <http://www.logancoil-genhist.org> & <http://www.rootsweb.com/~illcghs>

E-mail address logancoil1839@gmail.com Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LoganCountyIllinois>

Summer 2022: July, August, September

Meeting Schedule: All program meetings are at 6:30 pm on the third Monday of each month. The speakers are first on the agenda. We look forward to seeing you. Please call, Vice-President and Program Chairperson, with suggestions for programs at 217-732-3200.

July 18: Tour & Program at **The Mill** – A Route 66 attraction in Lincoln.

Aug. 15: **Al Hassebrock** - Apollo 11 Exhibit & Presentation

Sep. 19: Road Trip to **Tazwell County Genealogical & Historical Society** at Pekin.

Call for Article Submissions

Members and readers who have a genealogical or historical story related to Logan County to tell can do so through the Roots & Branches. Stories can be submitted in writing or by email. These stories will provide a variety. **Bill Donath**, Editor

Officers for 2022-2023

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Holiday Closings

The Logan County Genealogical & Historical Society research center will be closed for the following holidays: **New Year's Day**, **Good Friday**, **Memorial Day**, **4th of July**, **Labor Day**, **Veteran's Day**, **Thanksgiving** and the day after, **Christmas Eve Day**, and **Christmas Day**.

In the event any of the holidays falls on a Friday, the center will also be closed the following Saturday.

LCGHS GARAGE SALE

Get your items ready for the LCGHS Garage Sale coming Friday, Sept. 23, and Saturday, Sept. 24. We will be receiving donations for the sale during regular hours beginning Monday, Sept. 12. Call **Diane Osborn** 217-737-3710 for special arrangements for drop-offs. All household items and only nice clothing will be accepted. Make arrangements for large items. All support will be appreciated.

Website: Research on-Line - <http://www.logancoil-genhist.org>

The Logan County Genealogical and Historical Society is launching a new and ambitious service for **Society Members**. We have posted on the website several research collections that have been developed by Society volunteers over many years. These collections include: indexes with jpg images of paper collections; indexes of microfilm collections; indexes of Logan County Records; indexes with jpg images of collections more focused on an informative source. Below are descriptions of the collections we are endeavoring to post on the website. We would love to think we are doing this perfectly on the first attempt. Foolish thought maybe, but I am sure we will be receiving constructive suggestions for improving the website to make it more and more useful to the researchers.

Lincoln Courier Obits 1956-2017

This collection was built and indexed by **Bill Minch**, originally from the Emden area. Bill now lives in Texas. He worked on the project by getting microfilm from the Lincoln Presidential Library at Springfield, IL, through interlibrary loan. He had to stop when the ALPL stopped participating in the Library loan service. In the index you will find that Bill has columns for Date of Issue, Name of Deceased, Date of Death, and Parents & Spouse, if the information is available in the obituary.

Lincoln Herald Indexes 1859-1869; 1870-1873

This collection was compiled by **Bill Donath**. These indexes were completed over several years from the microfilm copies of the Lincoln Herald. Not all the years are represented but this is an every-name index for the existing issues. The newspapers referenced in this index are not digitized. The researcher will need to contact LCGHS to have a volunteer access the microfilm. The index has been constructed to include the name of the person, issue date, page number, column number, and article title. This, I hope, will speed up the process to find the name for which you are looking

Logan County Records Logan County Births: 1878-1915 Logan County Deaths: 1878-1915

This collection is a transcription of records from the office of the Logan County Clerk. The Illinois State Legislature, in 1877, passed legislation that made many vital records a requirement. Birth and Death records were part of that legislation. In spite of the requirement, application of the policy was not consistent, especially in rural areas. Many Birth and Death records were not made out. It was not until 1916 that the legislature tightened up the requirement and much better response from physicians and midwives was required and a financial penalty added for not doing so. These records are not on the Illinois State-Wide Death Index at the Secretary of State's website. Copies of the records can be obtained from the Logan County Clerks office. Genealogy Only copies are generally \$5.00.

Regan Collection digitized with Index:

The Regan Collection is a set of 36 binders of newspaper clippings covering the years 1859 to about 1912. It was compiled by **John Regan**, a retired attorney from Decatur, IL. This portion of his collection covers many of the Logan County Newspapers. It contains a wealth of information. Mr. Regan passed away in 2020 at the age of 109. This collection was digitized and indexed by **Bill Donath**, volunteer for the Logan County Genealogical & Historical Society. This collection has two levels of index. There is an index showing which volumes in which a given name is referenced. Once that is determined, opening the proper volume leads to an index that gives the page numbers on which a given name occurs. Some of the volumes have as many as 500 pages.

Coming Next

The Shew Collection:

In 2017, nearly eight hundred issues of the Lincoln Herald from 1873-1882, 1884, 1889, 1894, 1895, were found in the attic of a building that was a jewelry store. The family was gracious enough to donate the papers to LCGHS. That started a five-year journey to humidify, sanitize, flatten, clean, digitize and index the papers. This project will be complete by the fifth anniversary of the donation in November 2022. Many of the stories found in the Society's quarterly, **Roots & Branches**, are coming from this collection. The most recent being the series of articles telling the story of the history and development of the Union Cemetery at Lincoln, IL, in the Spring Issue of 2022.

How to efficiently use these collections for research:

When conducting research at LCGHS bring a flash drive to record your findings.

When I search these collections for visitors to LCGHS I **open a blank word document**. Into this I **copy and paste the lines from the indexes** so that I do not have to jump back and forth from the indexes to the digital images. Be sure to **add the title of the collection** so you do not get confused about which collection the information comes from. Once I have that list, I move to each digitized collection, find the pages referenced in the index and read each article. If the researcher thinks the article contains significant information to add to their research, I copy and paste the article to the flash drive. If there is not enough time for the researcher to get through all of the hard copy collections, and these digital collections, I print a copy of the Indexes for them to take home. I tell them to email the Society if they want to know more about any the items in the indexes.

You will find that the newspaper images saved to the flash drive already have a name that identifies the source. **1884 1027 p5 LH** identifies the image as being from the **Lincoln Herald, October 27, 1884, p5**. This document name format, I find, keeps the articles in chronological order.

Remember to Request Your Access Code for the Website

Send us an email message requesting an access code. We will forward your request to our web master. He will generate your code and add it to the list of members eligible to access these collections.

Partnership Business

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Dec. 26, 1878, p5

“The first marriage license issued after the burning of the court-house and nearly all the records on the night of the fourteenth of April, 1857, was made out at the instance of **Henry S. Bennett** and **Harriet E.**

Starkey. Since that happy pair started hand in hand down life's sunny slope, 'The People of the State of Illinois' have granted permission to four thousand three hundred and seventy-seven couples to enter into articles of agreement to live, move and have their being together as long as they could stand.

"During the remainder of the year, 1857, only 88 licenses were issued. Parties who desired contracting were probably afraid that fire might occur again and destroy the important records of the transaction. During '58, confidence seems to have been restored in a slight degree and the clerk was called upon 136 times. The population had increased but little in 1859 and there was an increase in the demand for public documents to the number of only seventeen over the previous year, making 153. In 1860, there were rumors of war which had a depressing effect upon the matrimonial market, but 133 licenses were called for. In '61 the war had begun in earnest and all were filled with martial spirit which led unmarried people who could not or would not go to war to desire and opportunity of carrying on war at home; besides, it is probable that the bright blue uniforms caught the admiration of the fair damsels. At any rate the number of permits this year advanced to 160. Then in '62 the number fell again to 140. Probably the number, of eligible young men, was considerably reduced to fill the ranks of the army. The next year, 1863, the number issued was exactly as in '62 – 179. In '65, the war being over, there was a large number of men thrown out of employment and as they were used to fighting, they naturally preferred that business to some extent, and 254 pairs entered into bonds to make pieces of themselves, whereas they had formerly been units. In '66 – 268. Logan County was steadily advancing in

the number of persons of marriageable age, and marrying intentions, and in '67 there was an increase of the preceding year, making the number 275. Next year, 1868 - 265. 1869 - 244. '70 – 207. '71 – 214. '72 – 226. '73 – 234. '74 – 226. '75 – 223. The centennial year '76 awakened a little enthusiasm again and 231 made application. '77 – 207. '78 – 209. But it is the experience of those whose business it is to issue the papers to diffident grooms, that there is a holiday press of business of this kind a week or two after holidays; a greater number of licenses being issued just after than for some time preceding the week of rejoicing, the object probably being to divide out what little of good this world contains and not enjoy it all at once.

"The last license issued, up to last Tuesday evening, was given to **William L. Anderson** and Miss **Mary Storey**, to whom be long life and peace!

"By reference to the above, it will be seen that of the 22 dates mentioned, 1867 was considered the best year for match-making (not the stick and brimstone kind – in a literal sense) and 1857 the poorest, which may easily be accounted for in each instance. It is also interesting to notice that there are three ties, (in the number of 'ties'): '62 and '63, 140 each; '70 and '77, 207 each and '72 and '74, 226 each. In fact, it seems eminently a tying business. The average number of licenses issued per year is about two hundred. For the year's preceding '65 it was a small fraction above 141 per annum and for the years since and including that date, a small fraction above 231; there being a sudden increase in the number during that year, which has been pretty-well sustained. The number issued this year, judging by the part of the year gone, will reach about 214. A great variety of interesting points may be evolved but want of space forbids further speculation."

An Early Herald

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Jun. 13, 1878, p1

"We are under obligations to **Sylvester Strong**, Esq., of Atlanta, for a copy of number twenty of the first volume of the Herald. As the first ten volumes are missing from the Herald files, this yellow, old sheet has a peculiar interest. It is dated Thursday, April 10, 1856, is just half the size of the present sheet and is called the **Illinois Citizen**, a name which was subsequently changed to the one it now bears. In the advertising columns are some fonts of type which were retained in the office as late as 1873. Mr. **Joseph Reed** was editor in 1856, but seems to have had time to attend, also, to his duties as police magistrate 'in

and for the county of Logan.' The attorneys whose cards appear on the first page are **Samel C. Parks**, **E. L. Austin**, **Young and Jones** and **Lacey & Cummings**. The Doctors represented were **L. L. Leeds** and **T. Leeds**. The leading advertisers were, **B. F. Fox** and **A. C. Wood**, hardware dealers; **Stilman & Judy**, grocers; **Becker & Kiel**, cabinet makers; **D. W. & J. S. Small**, restaurateurs; **Logan, Dasher & Reed**, 'drapers and tailors,' and **J. B. Sharp**, tailor. **M. Henrichsen** was closing up the accounts of the late firm of **Henrichsen & Rothschild** and was not afraid to tell the public that their bills must be paid *instantly*.

“From the half dozen items of local news, one could learn that a Baptist council was to meet on the 19th of April, and that the ladies of Middletown were about to hold a ‘fancy fair’ for the purchase of a church bell. The market report showed the following prices: flour \$8.00 per barrel; corn meal 40 cents per bushel; wheat 80 cents do.; shelled corn 23 cents do.; ear corn 18 cents do.; potatoes 75 cents do.; beans \$2.00 do.; butter 20 cents per pound; chickens \$1.50 per dozen.

“Judge Davis, now the heaviest member of the United States Senate, was then circuit judge. A table is given showing the weight of the judge and of a remarkable grand jury who seem to have been selected in a commendable desire to get some amusement out of a dry subject. The list is: **Judge Davis**, of

Bloomington, weight 275 pounds; **D. P. Lee**, Lincoln, 245; **Theo. Lorange**, Mt. Pulaski, 292; **Richard Botkin**, Atlanta, 223; **James Hawes**, Eminence, 253; **John E. Hoblit**, Atlanta, 267; **C. F. Ewing**, Atlanta, 205; **James Barr**, Atlanta, 205; **Samuel Hoblit**, Atlanta, 279; **David Evans**, Middletown, 223; **H. B. Stephens**, Prairie Creek, 224; **R. J. Cunningham**, Mt. Pulaski, 203; **R. S. Fleming**, Mt. Pulaski, 188; **John Bigger**, Mt. Pulaski, 212; **S. M. Copeland**, Mt. Pulaski, 245; **J. D. Dement**, Mt. Pulaski, 236; **J. R. Braucher**, Mt. Pulaski, 227; **Peter J. Hawes**, Eminence, 216. It is noted at the bottom of the list that all are farmers. Several of the list are still living, though it is doubtful whether their weight had increased much during the past twenty-two years.”

Leeds Horse

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Dec. 26, 1878, p5

“**Dr. L. L. Leeds** has a gray horse which he drives almost daily and which has attained the comfortable equine age of twenty-four years. The doctor has owned him for seventeen years. For a number of years he kept an account of the miles traveled by the gray, but some

time ago he stopped when the score had reached one hundred thousand miles.”

Most residents of the city of Lincoln have often wondered why the streets on the West side of State Street do not align with the streets on the East side of State Street. Why is there a Short-Seventh Street or a Short-Eighth Street, etc. This article should help us understand how that came to be.

Littler Property

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Nov. 28, 1878, p5

“At the council meeting on Monday night of last week, as will be seen by the proceedings published in another column, **D. T. Littler** asked that a large number of lots in the northwestern part of the city be vacated, his object being to replat them in blocks of three and one-half acres with wider streets, etc., so that the lots will be more salable. The ordinance for that purpose, referred to the proper committee grants the vacation asked for in the petition, with the provision that the replating shall take place and the streets and alleys in the new plat be deeded to the city within six months; otherwise, the ordinance to be null and void.”

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Nov. 28, 1878, p5

“**D. T. Littler** presented a petition asking that the streets and alleys in that part of Knapp, Bird & Tinsley’s addition north of Eleventh and west of Adams streets be vacated in order that he may replat it in a better form, with wider streets and alleys and larger lots, so that they will sell better; as he owns all that portion of the city, except two lots. The petition was referred to the committee on ordinances together, with a plat of the lots and an ordinance vacating the streets and alleys mentioned in the petition.”

Mad-Stone

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, May 30, 1878, p4

“Mr. **W. G. Cochrane**, who was bitten on Mondy by a dog, at the corner of Main and North streets, returned yesterday from Lincoln, where he went to have the mad-stone applied to his wounds. After his leg was bitten, Mr. Cochrane had the wounds cauterized by applying caustic. And when he visited Lincoln he found that the mad-stone would not operate until a surgeon had cut away the cauterization and left the wound fresh. Then the stone took hold vigorously and extracted a quantity of virus. The dog is not believed to have been mad, but Mr. Cochrane was

advised to take every precaution. A description of the vicious dog and of the man who brought him to town has been obtained, and a search is being made for them. If they are found, it will mean death to one and damages to the other. Mr. Cochrane is quite lame, and says that he is suffering severely - *Pantagraph*.”

Editor's Note: There are many articles about the Mad-Stone to be found in previous issues of the R&B. Find them on-line with your membership access code.

Marriages

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Dec. 26, 1878, p1

“A pair of lovers appeared recently before his honor, **Justice Wemple** to be spliced. Throwing down an envelope containing the license, the Major proceeded with the ceremony in his most happy vein, which being over the ‘two hearts that beat as one’ thanked him and took their departure. That aquiline ‘phiz’ so full of mirth, suddenly became, to the lookers on, wonderfully elongated while the merry twinkle of the eye was lost in the overhanging and closely knit brow, producing in the frown a metamorphosis positively alarming. All is vanity said the preacher as

he realized his position and his labor lost, with nary cent for the job. Expressing in ‘cuss-words his little faith in the human family,’ it was suggested by one of the bystanders that in his happiness the groom had forgotten to leave the needful, while another thought it may have been placed in the aforesaid envelope. Sure enough! There it was, and a big jolly laugh went up from the crowd at the courts expense. A double resumption, in face and pocket followed.”

Mt. Pulaski Citizen

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, May 30, 1878, p4

“**P. J. Conklin**, of the Mt. Pulaski *Citizen*, writes as follows from Kansas, where he is looking at the country: We used to have an idea that we would like to move out west, take up government lands, become a merry farmer, and grow up with the country, but we have had all this knocked out of us. It requires almost superhuman endurance, it seems to us, to come out here without money, settle down on a raw piece of land and attempt to live. From what we have seen it must be terrible and we would not advise any of our Illinois friends to do anything of the kind. You can do better than that. If you wish to come west, you can buy many good farms for less than the improvements cost, because many of the farmers here are being driven out, after a long six years’ struggle to get a foot hold in the

world. Farmers here failed to profit by their experience in Illinois and other older states and have gone deeply in debt to make improvements on their property, and as money can only be obtained here at the very moderate rate of thirty-six per cent, of course their products can never pay such interest and they are selling out to avoid the catastrophe that is sure to follow from such recklessness. Therefore, we say, if you have money, you had better buy an improved farm, where you have all the benefits of a settled country, rather than endure the hardships and privations of frontier life.”

Natural History

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Dec. 26, 1878, p1

“A discovery in natural History, the connecting link found, Darwin triumphant with another proof added, that in itself, is a clincher of the great theory! Oysters with tails! Yes gentle reader, startling as it is, it’s nevertheless a starting tail! The facts themselves being proof, unless otherwise to the contrary, notwithstanding. Of course, it can be vouched for, as in all such cases made and provided, and in case it was particularly provided, for the tail in all its length refused to be masticated or be disengaged from its father, and in the whirl of chewing protruded so far

from the facial orifice as to attract the attention of the chewer, who innocently supposed himself at work on the ordinary, luscious bivalve. Withdrawing the aforesaid, the great discovery followed, and although the stewing process had somewhat destroyed the harmony of it anatomy, never the less, when fully brought to light, the gentleman suddenly lost his appetite, declaring himself nary rat-eating heathen Chinese. How that long tailed mouse got into the oyster stew is a mystery he is not anxious to solve.”

Constitution of the National Christian Temperance Union of Lincoln

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Oct. 17, 1878, p5

“Article 1. – This society shall be called the Lincoln Society of the National Christian Temperance Union.

“Article 2. – The officers shall consist of a President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary and Treasurer, chosen semi-annually.

“Article 3. – When organized, the President shall appoint an executive committee of three who shall be approved by the Society.

“Article 4. – This Society shall be governed by parliamentary rules.

“Article 5. – Anyone can be a member who will sign the following pledge, viz{

“I, the undersigned, do pledge my word and honor, God helping me, to abstain from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and that I will, by all honorable means, encourage others to abstain.

“Article 6. – This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members, at any semi-annual meeting of the Society.”

New Holland

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Jul 18, 1878, p8

“The Mason City *Independent* says: The pretty little town of New Holland, in Logan County, is one of the bright spots of our country – pleasantly situated on the I., B. & W., near the crossing of Prairie Creek, and in a beautiful valley. There it nestles among the broad fields of waving corn and shocks of harvested grains. The denizens of New Holland are social, good-

natured, intelligent and hospitable to strangers. Everything about the town bears evidence of enterprise, thrift and good order. A rough plank building has been erected for purposes of worship and Sunday school, and its platform is free for all proper uses.”

New Money

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Jul 18, 1878, p8

“Plates are preparing for the new five-thousand and ten-thousand-dollar greenbacks. Hitherto one thousand has been the largest denomination printed. If any of our subscribers contemplate coming in and throwing down a five-thousand-dollar bill in paying

two dollars on subscription, we hereby notify them that it won’t do. The only exception we can make is for those who want to pay 2,500 years in advance.”

Playing Funeral

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Dec. 26, 1878, p2

“Finding her little son **Carl** unusually quiet at his play, a few days since, **Mrs. W. P. Sawyer** was somewhat surprised to find a chair lying upon the floor, peculiarly arranged and decorated with all manner of available etcetera, and still more surprised on approaching, on being told in a childish whisper, to

keep quiet, to make no noise, that he was playing funeral. He explained very solemnly to his ma all the arrangement in regard to the hearse with its plumes and the funeral.”

Recession 1837

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Dec. 26, 1878, p2

“**Eugene Lawrence** gives the following interesting sketch of the panic of 1837 and the resumption that followed:

“The connection between specie payments and periods of prosperity has always been plain. In every moment of depression the return to honest money has been the signal for the revival of trade. The first step out of a panic has always been the influx of gold and silver. Of the striking revolutions in trade that have marked the last half century the most important was that of 1837. It had been preceded by an immense issue of paper money, a swift rise in values; the country was covered with the plans of new villages and cities to be born before their time; the cities were surrounded by wide circles of vacant lots that were held to be worth sums never calculated. It was a fool’s paradise. The farmer, instead of cultivating his land, laid it out in civic plots, parks, gardens. He fancied himself the master of boundless income; the lord of a band of tenants; he threw aside the plow. On New York Island the wants of future millions were provided for, and sometimes paid for. The farms at Bloomingdale, Harlem, Yorkville assumed a magical fantastic air. They were bought, sold, mortgaged, taxed, improved, assessed, incumbered, as if they were already covered with a busy population, and splendid with avenue and Houses. The taxes often exceeded their real value; the income never equaled the assessment. Yet the delusion spread, the dream of affluence was heightened. Men spent money raised

upon their expectations, and even surpassed them. Luxuries were imported from Europe in vast quantities; they were paid for in bonds, notes, bill; rent, food, dress, rose to unknown prices; there were bread riots in New York, and a short harvest. The great fire swept away large sources of profit. Yet still the delusion rose to a higher pitch, and all was wild exhilaration.

“Then came the reaction, sudden, violent, the most severe the country has ever known.

“The first step out of the panic of 1837 was a return to specie payments – an effort to provide the country with honest money and check the wild delusions that had so long tainted its sense of honor. The poverty of the nation was intense. Its foreign creditors pressed their claims. Labor once more resumed its course. The armer, manufacturer, artisan, capitalist, joined together in honest work. The fields were tilled again, the forests fell before the settler’s ax, the wilderness retreated. It was a slow process; but it was certain. Slowly the country began to revive. The streets of the large cities were once more filled with buyers and sellers. Rents gradually rose. No house was untenanted. New cities sprang up beside the old. The new tide of prosperity which began about 1845 rose in 1846-7 to a real stability. The country was once more producing largely, labor well paid, gold and silver sufficient for the wants of the people.”

Sisson Party

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Dec. 26, 1878, p5

“Two sled-loads of young folks from this city and three from the country, making in all eighteen or twenty couples, assembled at Mr. **H. H. Sisson’s** near Burton View on last Thursday night, where they spent

a delightful evening and got away with one of the best suppers of the season.”

Snakes

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Aug. 1, 1878, p5

“**George Murray**, of this city killed thirty rattlesnakes on Tuesday of last week in a meadow on **W. H. Forbis’** farm, south-west of town. Two were old ones with nine and twelve rattles

respectively and the others, little fellows about a foot long, evidently of this season’s growth.”

St. Patrick’s

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Aug. 5, 1878, p1

“The *Times* of yesterday says: Six sisters of the Ursuline Order have come from the mother house at Louisville, Kentucky, to take charge of the parochial school attached to the St. Patrick’s

church and also that of the German Catholic church of this city.”

The New Tile Works

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, May 16, 1878, p5

“The great importance of farm drainage in its bearing upon the prosperity and health of our people can hardly be over-estimated. An outgrowth of the popular demand for tiles may be seen in the extensive works just now beginning work at the Coal Shaft in this city. They are owned by the Lincoln Coal Mining Company and will be operated in connection with the shaft.

“A visit to the works on Tuesday resulted in the following observations. The company have erected an engine house, two ovens and an immense drying building 180x28 feet in dimensions. The engine, which is an excellent one of forty-horsepower, is driven by steam furnished from the boilers at the coal shaft, a hundred feet or more away. The engine now drives a heavy iron clay mill, a pair of powerful rollers for crushing clay, and a tile machine. The clay comes from beneath the coal, at a depth of 271 feet from the surface. It is of course uniform frequently and entirely from admixture with surface soil. This clay, as it is delivered from the miners’ cars, is fed into the hopper of a crushing machine where a pair of heavy iron rollers reduce to powder any pebbles that may happen to enter into its composition. From this it goes to the clay mill, a powerful machine brought from Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. A pipe leading to the company’s tank at the shaft furnishes all the water needed during the stage of the work. The clay comes out of the mill a grayish mass, thoroughly blended and reduced

to the fine plastic condition necessary to its successful molding. It next goes to the tile machine. This is an upright, cylindrical construction of iron, with a spout at the side where the tile comes out as an endless hollow cylinder and is cut off to regular lengths of about thirteen inches. The machine is of the tiffany pattern which is superior to the plunger machines because it gives the tile a very smooth interior surface.

“From the tile machine a drag belt conveys the tile the entire length of the building without any hand labor whatever. The tiles are placed on end to dry, preparatory to going to the kilns. About 50,000 tiles, varying in size from 2 ½ inches to 8 inches, are now stored on the two floors of the building ready to go in the kilns. Steam pipes are to be laid under the first floor, where the exhaust steam will be used to dry the tile, enabling the company to work in all kinds of weather. Everything is done under cover.

“**Mr. C. C. Merrill**, of Alton, Ill., is the superintendent of the works. Mr. Merrill comes of a family which has been in the business of making sewer pipe and pottery for three generations. He has worked at Alton, Whitehall and at other places and has a thorough knowledge of every detail of the business. He says the clay from the shaft will make as good tile as can be made anywhere and shops samples having a solid, fine texture and

evidently as strong and durable as the best sample from other localities.

“The two ovens now ready for work (two others are to be built soon) are dome-shaped, substantial constructions of fire-brick. They are of the “down draft” pattern which is the best to use. The heat can be thoroughly controlled and can be used with the greatest economy. The work done by this oven is of the best, The drag-belt, before spoken of, carries the tile to the ovens so that but little hand labor is needed at any stage of the process. One exception to this statement is that in molding irregular tiles (angle pieces) a skillful workman is needed to take the straight tile, cut them to the angular patterns and then deftly join them together. This cannot be done by machinery. Enough tile is now in the sheds to fill the ovens three times. About four days are occupied in burning a kiln.

“The company employ fifteen men now and will work 18 or 20 when settling the kilns. It is proposed to put in a machine for making sewer

pipes, when more hands will be needed. The drain tile machine uses dies from two-inch to eight-inch which are the sizes in use for farm drainage.

“The coal company started with advantages of A. No. 1 material close at hand, the very cheapest fuel from their own shaft, water in abundance, and clerical help enough already under pay to do the business. They propose to furnish as good tile as can be bought in the market at about twenty percent below the prices at which the imported article can be furnished. The new tile will be in market in a few days when a price-list will be furnished. Some orders are already in.”

“At the tile works at the coal shaft the work of molding began on the 1st instant and about 50,000 tiles are now ready for the kilns which are to begin operations shortly. The smoke-stack for the works was raised yesterday. It takes about four days to burn a kiln of tile.” *Lincoln Herald, May 16, 1878 p5*

Mt. Pulaski

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Oct. 10, 1878, p1

“In a day’s drive west of Jacksonville, on their return home last week from Kansas and Nebraska, **Tucker Snyder** and **Frank Schindler** passed 122 teams bound for the west. It’s not an

ebb and flow tide, but seemingly an everlasting stream flowing toward the setting sun. This end of Logan County has and is still furnishing a good share of the emigrants.”

Indian Troubles

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, Nov. 19, 1878, p1

“Mr. **J. Weckel**, formerly of Mt. Pulaski, has returned from his newly prepared home in Trego County, Kansas, to which place he will take his family in a few weeks. His version of the great Indian raid is very much to the discredit of the Government officials in charge of them. According to his belief the whites are entirely to blame. Had the Indians received their supplies as the government provides, all this late trouble would have been avoided. The agency officials and their hangers-on swindle them out of the greater portion of their allowances, until the Indians concluded to pull up stakes and go to their

old homes in the Black Hills. The killing was brought on and aggravated, in all instances by scalawags who gain by such difficulties between the Indians and the whites, while occasionally innocent parties are the sufferers. Had the Indians received their just dues they would have remained contented and peaceable. Mr. Weckel, though ten miles from a settlement and almost on the track of the Indian raid as it was called, had no fear of them and was not molested. He is greatly pleased with his new home and thinks the country around him will soon be settled up.”

St. Patrick's

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Aug. 5, 1878, p1

"The *Times* of yesterday says: Six sisters of the Ursuline Order have come from the mother house at Louisville, Kentucky, to take charge of the parochial school attached to the St. Patrick's church and also that of the German Catholic church of this city."

Mt. Pulaski Bank Robbery, 1879 – Scroggin & Sawyer's Bank



"The banking firm of Scroggin & Son is the oldest banking concern in Mt. Pulaski, having been organized in 1872. It was first established by **Leonard K. Scroggin** and **W. P. Sawyer**. Subsequently Mr. Sawyer retired and **Thomas A. Scroggin**, son of Leonard K. Scroggin, became a member of the firm. In 1878, the latter erected a brick banking building on the corner of Cooke and Washington streets at the southeast corner of the public square and the banking house as occupied by these quarters since that time. The junior partner, Thomas A. Scroggin, is cashier of the bank and **G. A. Volle** assistant. (History of Logan County, Stringer, 1911, p540.) (Photo: Mt. Pulaski Historical Society.)

A Trying Incident of Mr. Sawyer and Family

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, May 1, 1879, p1

"A trying incident of the ordeal passed through by Mr. (**Walter**) **Sawyer** and wife, after the bank robbery, was that when returned to the house he was, in his gagged and bound condition, tied in a rear room, while the wife and girl were placed in the front. The object of the robbers was evidently to prevent the family communicating or having any knowledge of each other. Being thus separated and the house left in total darkness, the fate of the husband overcame the fear of the wife, and after liberating herself by the aid of the girl,

she groped her way from room to room, not knowing but an assassin might be lurking about, until she reached the door of the last room. Mr. Sawyer being equally ignorant of the fate of the others, on hearing the door open felt uncertain and, in breathless silence, waited the approach of what new danger he knew not. Instead of the touch of an assassin it was that of his wife – a happy meeting, considering all the circumstances and excitement of the midnight hour."

Bank Robbers & Reminiscences

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, May 1, 1879, p1.

"The arrival Saturday afternoon of an officer from Kenney with Mr. **Joe DeHaven**, suspected as one of the party who attempted the robbery of **Scroggin & Sawyer's** bank, created almost as

much excitement as the event of Wednesday night. To get Counsel and witnesses, the trial was postponed until today, the prisoner in the meantime being placed in the county jail in your city, our calaboose not being considered a very safe one. If all reports are true the precaution was well taken, as six horsemen are said to have appeared in our town Saturday at midnight, hitching their horses at the church racks within less than a block on each side of our village lock-up. A rescue was evidently intended.

"In the old court room before the trial today, many old reminiscences came to mind, of Mr. **Ward Clark**, **H. B. Rowe**, and **George Mayer**, who were reminded of olden times. Among many names immortal, illustrious, prominent, and honored, who in the early days of Logan County were uppermost in this house, and who were the men of most prominence, actors in court scenes: - **Abraham Lincoln**, Judge **David Davis**, Judge **Stephen T. Logan**, **Wm. Ferguson**, Hon. **John**

T. Stuart, **Wm. Herndon**, **Leonard Swett**, Col. **E. D. Baker**, **Ward Lamon**, **James H. Matheny**, **Ninian Edwards**, Col. **Robert Latham**, Judge **S. C. Parks**, **C. H. Moore**, Gov. **Oglesby**, **Elliott Herndon**, **Wm H. Young**, **L. P. Lacey**, **Asahel Gridley**, **J. T. Jenkins**, **Thos. J. Larison**, **Ezekiel Bowman**, Capt. **John Hurt**, **James McGraw**, Also **David Logan** (now of Oregon). The scene during the opening of court was very animated and interesting, the house being crowded to overflowing, with many ladies present to whom court scenes were entirely new. DeHaven, waiving examination, was bound over in the sum of two thousand dollars and court adjourned. Surrounding **Justice Wemple's** bench were attorneys **T. T. Beach**, **Ed Lynch**, **A. Jones**, **R. B. Forrest**; also **C. S. Landis**, **H. F. Loshbaugh**; officers, **Sheriff Ayers**, and constables **Nicholson**, **Dement** and **Wm. Cooper**, of Kenney. Prosecuting witnesses, **W. P. Sawyer** and **L. K. Scroggin**. Beidler"

Bank Robbers Jailed

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, May 1, 1879, p1

"Now that the leaders in the bank robbery are jailed, the excitement in a good measure will wear off. Altogether we have had a first-class sensation, with a conclusion, so far, more satisfactory than is usual in such daring and dangerous undertakings, not only to the perpetrators, but to the victims. Those who boast so largely of what they would have done under like circumstances, can now

better realize the position of Mr. Sawyer and his family. That they escaped so luckily, without injury or insult, is a matter of congratulation. The shock to them was less permanent than the recollection will be – a vividness remaining that will carry the scenes and occurrences uppermost in the mind through life."

Mr. Sawyer Had No Weapon.

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, May 8, 1879, p4

"Mr. Sawyer never keeps a pistol in his house. Two years ago, he abandoned that practice. One night his wife got up and went to the kitchen. He heard her, but not stopping to see if she had left her bed, he arose, took his pistol from under the

pillow, went below with it cocked and just as Mrs. Sayer was coming out of the door, he raised his gun to fire. He saw her just in time to save her life. He sold the pistol the next day and has never kept one since."

A Plucky "Collar."

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln. Illinois, May 8, 1879, p4

"Two of the Mt. Pulaski bank robbers, captured. – A bloody hand-to-hand fight between **Jack Woods**

and **Detective Stewart**. – The robbers pinioned after a desperate struggle of nearly a quarter of an hour.

“On the night of April 23 one of the most daring bank robberies ever known in Southern Illinois was committed on **Scroggin & Sawyer’s** bank, at Mt. Pulaski. Yesterday afternoon two of the robbers were captured in this city by **Detectives O’Neil, Stewart, Tucker and Rahill**. The men were found in a bunch. They were desperate and ready to sacrifice life for freedom. The consequence was a hand-to-hand contest between a reckless desperado and Detective Stewart, in which the latter came off with flying colors, after a terrific struggle in which his life more than once hung by a thread. If he had not, three officers with him, if Detective O’Neil had not pulled a second revolver at the right second after smashing one to smithereens on the head of the strong young giant, **Henry Stewart** would have shared the fate of **Officer White** at the hand the desperado Rande. It was a literal fight for life, with every nerve and muscle and tendon stretched to its uttermost. And it was only **Hughey O’Neil’s** reserve revolver, drawn and leveled in the ruffian’s eye, at the most critical moment, that settled it against the ruffian – good **Henry Stewart’s** bull-dog grit and bravery and **Hughey O’Neil’s** reserve pop.

“The Details of the Robbery,

as gleaned last evening, are as follows: The affair took place, as stated, on the night of the 23d ult. At 2 o’clock Mr. **Walter Sawyer**, cashier of Scroggin & Sawyer’s bank, at Mt. Pulaski, Logan County, Ill., heard a knocking at the front door of his residence, and upon responding was met by three masked men with revolvers, who threatened his life if he uttered a sound. After leaving one man at the house to guard the wife the other three proceeded to buck and gag the cashier, and took him to the bank, which he was compelled to open at the point of the revolver. Once inside the bank, they told him to open the vault, which he did, with the assurance of the robbers at the same time that it would do them no good, because the safe in the interior of the vault was regulated by a chronometer lock, and could not be opened until 9 o’clock in the morning. The three masked men insisted on the vault being opened, and when the door was thrown back they placed their ears to the wall separating them from the safe, and heard the ‘tick-tack’ chronometer lock, satisfying themselves beyond all doubt that the treasure rally was beyond their reach. The safe contained from \$30,000 to \$50,000 in cash and bonds, and the bank was thus saved from wholesale robbery. Looking around, the robbers took about \$150 in dimes and nickels, done up in packages, which had not been placed in the safe on locking up the bank, and this was about the total result

of their labors. Mr. Sawyer was taken back to his residence, bound to his bed and left there, the robbers taking from him a gold watch belonging to his wife, which he had been wearing, his pocket-book and about \$25 in money.

“No Clew To The Robbery

was obtained for a few days, when suspicion fell upon a certain DeHaven, who had been living at Mt. Pulaski for some time previous. DeHaven was arrested by the town constable, **F. V. Nicholson**, and the following letter, which is printed verbatim, found upon his person.

“St. Louis, April 27, 1879. – Friend Joe – We arrived safe in town last night. Send my grip at once. Express it to **Sam Cole** to No 1206 Broadway, St. Louis care of **John Dequan** Joe send us that suggar for we never needed it so much in my life. Of course, I mean for you to keep your own Bit and send it to same address that you have got, as we have seen nor herd nothing a letter directed to the above address will reach me write as you get this I look so ratty I am ashamed to be seen on the street, so send it at once I will look for it here Wednesday. Tom

“In explanation of the phraseology of this remarkable epistle, it may be remarked that ‘suggar,’ in thieves’ slang, means ‘money,’ and ‘grip’ means carpet-sack or satchel or carpet-bag. But it furnished what **Constable Nicholson** wanted - clear traces of the robbers. Accompanied by **A. L. Jones**, a lawyer of Mt. Pulaski, Mr. Nicholson at once took the train for St. Lous, arriving here yesterday morning. Proceeding at once to the Four Courts, they placed the matter in the hands of **Chief McDonough**, who detailed **Hughey O’Niel** to work up the job.

“The First Difficulty

was in arresting the men without a requisition from the Governor of Illinois, which could only be obtained with considerable loss of time, and every moment was precious. Detective O’Neil, however, overcame this obstacle, remembering a statute that provided for the arrest of fugitives from justice, which, just now came most opportunely into play. A warrant was all the more essential because the desperate character of the men would probably necessitate the use of force, and perhaps of arms in order to arrest them; and without a process of law the desperadoes would be justified in shooting down the officers like dogs. **Judge Cady** was appealed to, and issued a warrant such as probably never before went forth from the Court of Criminal Correction.

“Early yesterday afternoon, armed with the warrant, **Hughey O’Neil** proceeded down Fifth street, accompanied by **Detectives Stewart, Rahill and Tucker**, following some distance behind. Their destination was No. 1206 Broadway, the address of the ‘**Sam Cole**’ to whom DeHaven was to have shipped the ‘suggar’ taken from the bank. On the corner of Carr street and Broadway, Stewart, Rahill, and Tucker waited, while O’Neil proceeded up the street. Taking a glance through the windows of 1206 Broadway – a saloon and lodging house kept by **Joe Dequan**. O’Neil saw three men sitting in the rear part of the saloon, and made up his mind that it was worthwhile taking a better look at them. Returning with his companions, the four detectives walked into the saloon and up to the bar. The saloon extends back about 25 feet, being about 12 feet wide, with a bar counter ranged on one side. On the south side, at the extreme was a door leading into a back yard which jutted on to an alley. Near this door were the three men in question. O’Neil saw at once that two of the three closely answered the description of the men they wanted, and nodded to the other three detectives as they ordered the drinks from the man behind the bar.

“The Arrest.

at the same moment one of them made a start for the door. In a second Stewart jumped across the intervening distance, caught him by the back of the coat collar and jerked him back, throwing him to the floor, where Tucker seized and put the bracelets on him. Detective Rahill covered a second who was seated quietly at a table. Tucker Kept the first quiet with a revolver. All this had only taken a second or two. As the first man made his break, a third, who was watching a little in one corner, jumped up and darted towards the door. Stewart caught him just before he reached it. A terrible struggle ensued. Stewart is a powerful fellow, but the man he was engaged with was fully as powerful. The man turned, and for a moment they were locked in a terrible embrace. By a tremendous effort, Stewart threw him, by a backward throw, to the floor, where they rolled over and over each other, O’Neil rushed to Stewart’s assistance, and hammered the struggling ruffian over the head with the but end of his revolver. The blows made no more impression than if they were delivered on so much cast iron. The man again got to his feet, and again Stewart threw him. Three times did he throw his man to the floor, and still the struggle went on. They rolled among the chairs and table until they got into the yard. The danger was that, if he again got to his feet, he would

get through the yard and away. All the time the giant below was trying to get one hand behind him, and yet the revolver in O’Neil’s hands was smashing into pieces. O’Neil’s eye saw the meaning of the attempt to get a hand behind him. He now drew his second revolver, which he had brought ‘for an emergency.’ The emergency was on hand.

“Throw Up Your Hands,

he shouted, leveling the revolver close to the scoundrel’s face. The man quailed. Throwing his hands up. O’Neil and Stewart held him, until they slipped the bracelets on his hands. The struggle had lasted fully ten minutes, and at any moment throughout that time, had the scoundrel got his hand behind him, Stewart would have been a dead man.

“The last man, whose resistance proved almost to much for both Stewart and O’Neil, gave the name of **Jack Woods**, and is the writer of the letter above quoted to DeHaven. Over 6 feet high, he is powerfully built, with muscles of iron, and would probably weigh 185 pounds. His companion who first gave the alarm, answers to the name of **James Woods**, alias **Cole**, in the robbery. The name of the third man was not given to the reporter, as this complicity with the affair is very uncertain, and his statement that he happened accidentally to be in their company is accepted by the police. Both Woods and Oliver are identified beyond all doubt as to be the masked men who entered Cashier **Sawyer**’s house and compelled him to open the bank. Besides this, the watch taken from the cashier was found in **Jack Woods**’ possession, and several packages of dimes and half dimes, done up in the very papers in which they were originally wrapped at the bank, were found upon both Woods and Oliver. At the time of their arrest they each had a .38 caliber revolver in their possession besides a pocket full of cartridges. That they are professional bank robbers is certain, though their connections and pedigree have not, as yet, been ascertained.

“A Letter To A Sister.

“The following letter, printed verbatim, as found in Wood’s possession, is interesting:

May the 1, 1879

“Deare sester the laste letter I wrote to you Did not send you mutch but I hope you wil forgive me for not helping you a long but I have had down hard luck lately and Juste as soon as I get a start I will send some money to mother and mary I want you to be a good girl and take good care of mother and yourself and you will have everything that I can get for you I expect to be fixt all right in a few days I have a nice present to send

you Just as soon as I get a chance Mary let me know in your next letter if Thomas uses you and mother good or not and let me know what he is doing well Mary I ant got mutch more to right I thought you and mother would be on easey about me but you need not fret about me for I don't drink aney thing and as long as I don't drick there is no danger of me I am going to right to Barney to-day I think he will be glad to here from me I will have hi right to you and you can send it to me mary I want you and John to keep me posted all about Charley and what he has to say for him self and I don't want know one to know where I am I will leave here in a few days I will clos-

"The close of the letter is curious and remarkable. As the detectives entered the saloon he was writing, as is stated above, and had not had time to put the final 'e' on 'close,' which stood just at the end of the line, when the alarm was given and he attempted to get away. The present for his sister, which he alludes to, she will probably never receive, and 'Barney' and 'Charley' will learn with regret that the loving and affectionate brother who contemplated doing so much for them is not at present able to carry out his amiable designs.

"A Curious Piece of Evidence

Mt. Pulaski Bank Robbers

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, IL, May 8, 1879, p4

"The St. Louis *Times* of the 3d had an article from which the following extracts are given:

"There were originally three in the scheme, Oliver, Woods, and the one who is yet at large, but who will in all probability be collared inside of the next forty-eight hours.

"They went to **DeHaven's** house, which is situated eighteen miles from Mt. Pulaski. DeHaven is an ex-convict, having done his bit in Joliet for shoving the queer. While he was there, he formed the acquaintance of **Jack Woods**, alias **McElroy**, alias **Cole**, who was doing his stretch for the robbery of \$2,000 worth of silks and gloves in Chicago several years ago. They both came out about the same time. DeHaven was a resident in the vicinity or Mt. Pulaski for several years, and the opinion is prevalent that he did time for another man. He knew Sawyer of the bank and often passed the house. The scheme was gotten up in DeHaven's house. When it was ripe DeHaven

against the gang is the fact that the four men suspected of the robbery were seen a few days previously cutting a piece of wood from a tree and the gag found in Cashier Sawyer's mouth, fitted with a few splinters, to the notch cut in the tree.

"**Woods and Oliver** will be taken back to Mt. Pulaski shortly, as **Constable Nicholson** and **Mr. Jones**, his attorney, left yesterday for Springfield, Ill., to obtain a requisition from **Gov. Callon**. Woods, though badly cut about the head, treated them contemptuously, and said, when questioned by the *Globe-Democrat* reporter, that they didn't amount to anything. He said that he was thirty-seven years of age, and came to this country ten years ago, since which time he had been a laborer and doing 'anything that came along.' He refused to say anything as to his home, and denied that he had any sister, in face of the letter above quoted. Oliver maintained a like reluctance, but is evidently a much younger and more intelligent man.

"**Detective Stewart** and the rest are to be congratulated on their fine success in making so desperate a 'collar.' — St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* of Friday, May 2d."

went about a mile for a spring wagon, which he borrowed and pulled away by hand to his father's house, where he got two horses, which were hitched to the wagon. He drove the wagon, and seated in it were Oliver, Woods and the third party, who is yet missing.

"After describing the robbery, the *Times* says: 'They jumped in the wagon and DeHaven laid the lash to the team from the start, heading for the house eighteen miles away over a dirt road. They made the house in one and three-quarters of an hour. Then DeHaven unhitched his horses and pulled the wagon to the stable where he had borrowed it, by hand, arriving with it about daylight.

"A man on the road heard the team going by at a furious rate, and on the following morning there were found in the road a package of dimes which had been taken from the vault. In the search that was instituted for the robbers, the house of

DeHaven was looked into and he was absent. His place was shadowed three nights and he says that on two occasions the parties in search came within ten feet of him. When he was arrested, he squealed, and last night when he brought down,

Oliver and Woods were brought out in the light room and DeHaven was placed where they could not see him. He identified them fully as the men whom he drew.”

Key of Bastille

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Sep. 25, 1879, p4

“The **Bastile** was a royal castle built in the city of Paris, and completed in 1383 by **Charles V, of France**, for the defense of the city against the English. It was afterward used as a state prison and called by the French the ‘Bastide St. Antoine.’ During its existence, it was the place of imprisonment of vast numbers of persons, who were incarcerated within its gloomy dungeons on orders issued by the king of France, called *letters de cachet*. The people regarded it as the stronghold of tyranny in 1789, it was one of their first objects of attack. It was taken by storm on the memorable 14 of July, and its destruction at once ordered by General Lafayette, who was at that time commander-in-chief of the National Guards. The building was torn down and the stones used in erecting the bridge over the seine, called *Pont Louis Seize* (Bridge of **Louis XVI**).

“The great key of the Bastile was given to **General Lafayette**, who sent it to **General Washington** in March 1790, by the hand of **Thomas Paine**, who was then in London, together with a pencil sketch representing the destruction of the building. A letter soon followed these, in which Lafayette said: ‘Give me leave, my Dear

General, to present you with a picture of the Bastile just as it looked a few days after I ordered its demolition, with the main key of the fortress of despotism. It is a tribute which I owe as a son to my adopted father – as an aid-de-camp to my general – as a missionary of liberty to its patriarch.’ To this Washington replied as follows: ‘I have received your affectionate letter of the 17th of March by one conveyance, and the token of the victory gained by liberty over despotism by another, for which testimonials of your friendship and regard I pray you accept my sincerest thanks. In this great subject of triumph for the New World, and for humanity in general, it will never be forgotten how conspicuous a part you bore, and how much luster you reflected on a country in which you made the first displays of your character.’

“Washington placed the key in a glass case and fastened it to the wall of the central hall of his residence at Mount Vernon, where it was seen by thousands of visitors who stopped there on their road to the Centennial Exhibition. Near it is a model of the Bastile carved from one of the stones of the prison.”

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Lincoln, IL 62656 - 2729
"Change Service Requested"**