

ROCK ISLAND PRESERVATION COMMISSION
NOMINATION FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION

Common Street Address of Property:

816-20th Street; Rock Island, Illinois

Name and Address of Property Owner(s):

Catholic Diocese of Peoria; 607 N.E. Madison; P.O. Box 817; Peoria, IL 61603

Is Owner Aware of Proposed Designation:

Yes

X No

Please attach a short report setting forth the reasons for requesting designation. Please refer to the criteria listed on the reverse side. (These are excerpted from the Rock Island Preservation Ordinance.) A list of other details you should attempt to provide in the nomination report is attached.

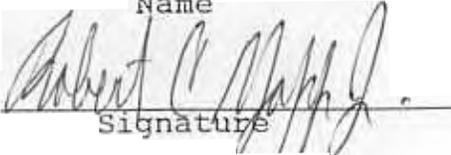
Please also attach the following:

1. Legal description of property (available from abstract or County Recorder of Deeds office).
2. One photograph of each elevation (side) of the property being nominated. Copies of old photographs or drawings may also be included.
3. Sources used to write the report

Name(s) and Address(es) of Applicant(s):

Robert Yapp, Jr.

Name


Signature

1915-9th Avenue, Rock Island, Ill.

Address

788-6311 (Work)

Phone Number

Return Nomination Form To:

City of Rock Island
Planning and Redevelopment Division
1528 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

OFFICE
USE
ONLY

Case # 92-10

Date 7/1/92

Time 8:30 a.m.

NOMINATION FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION

EDWARD D. SWEENEY HOUSE

816-20th Street
Rock Island, Illinois

Legal Description:

The North Eighty (80) feet of the South One Hundred and Eighty-six (186) feet of Out Lot Number three (3) in John W. Spencer's Third Addition to the City of Rock Island, Situated in Rock Island County, Illinois.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

The applicant believes the Edward D. Sweeney house meets the following criteria as set forth in Section 6-B of the Rock Island Preservation Ordinance:

2. Associated with an important person or event in national state or local history.
3. Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural and/or landscape type inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of indigenous materials and which retains a high degree of integrity.
5. Identifiable as an established and familiar visual feature in the community owing to its unique location or physical characteristics.

Criteria 2:

Edward Dennell Sweeney was born in Simsville, Delaware, on 13 August 1833, the son of Miles and Ann (Dennell) Sweeney. He attended Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania, after which he taught school in Kane, Illinois for three months. In the fall of 1857, he moved to Rock Island to become principal of the 2nd Ward School. While involved in education, he studied law under the Hon. George W. Pleasants.

Edward D. Sweeney was admitted to the bar in 1860 and shortly thereafter formed a partnership with fellow Rock Island attorney William Jackson. Sweeney practiced law in Rock Island for 50 years and at the time of his death on 14 September 1910 was the oldest and longest sitting member on the Rock Island Bar. He was 76 years of age at death. The 1910 Rock Island City Directory shows the entry "Sweeney, Edward D. (Sweeney & Walker)." The 1911 directory has the entry "Sweeney, Edward D. (aged 76) died Sept 14, 1910."

The firm of Sweeney & Jackson later became Sweeney, Jackson & Walker after Charles L. Walker joined the partnership. Later,

William Jackson left the firm and the partnership became Sweeney & Walker. The law partnership founded by Edward D. Sweeney and William Jackson lives on today in Rock Island as the firm of Eagle & Eagle. Their letterhead proudly lists past and present partners in the firm and at the top of the list is Edward D. Sweeney.

Interestingly, Sweeney's law partner, William Jackson, built a home immediately to the south of Sweeney. The practice of law partners living in close proximity to one another was not unusual in Rock Island in the 1800's and early 1900's. Most notorious were attorneys, law partners and neighbors Frank Kelly and John Looney in the Highland Park Historic District.

Besides a long and distinguished law career in the City of Rock Island, Sweeney made many other contributions to both the City and his profession. Among these include:

- * Director, Rock Island National Bank (30+ years)
- * President, Davenport & Rock Island Ferry Company.
- * President & Founder, Black Hawk Building & Loan and Savings Association.
- * President & Director, Banner Coal & Coal Oil Company.
- * Member, Rock Island Lodge No. 18, I.O.O.F. (40+ years).
- * Delivered keynote oration at the dedication of laying the cornerstone for the new Rock Island County Court House, 1 October 1895.
- * President, Rock Island Library Board.
- * Member, First Methodist Church (taught bible class and was Superintendent of the Sunday School).
- * Division Attorney, St. Louis & Rock Island Division, Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad.
- * United States commissioner for the 2nd District from 1861 until the position was abolished shortly after the turn of the century.

A concise but more complete biographical sketch of Edward D. Sweeney appears in the Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Rock Island County. A copy of this biography has been included as a part of this application.

The Sweeney family continued to reside in the home until the mid-1940's.

Clearly Edward D. Sweeney played a powerful and influential role in the development of Rock Island from 1860 until his death in 1910.

He was both a successful attorney and a community leader. Landmark designation for his home during most of those years would be a fitting tribute to his legacy.

Criteria 3:

The home built for Edward D. Sweeney at 816 Madison Street was built in or about 1874. The 1873 Rock Island City Directory lists Sweeney's address as "Jefferson ws 2 n Highland" (Jefferson Street, west side, 2 lots north of Highland). On this location today sits the rear addition to the First United Methodist Church south of the intersection of 19th Street and 5th Avenue. The 1875 City Directory gives his address as "ws Madison s Guyer" (west side of Madison Street, south of Guyer Street). Madison Street is now 20th Street and Guyer Street was that portion of 8th Avenue crossing 20th Street. Clearly, Sweeney moved into the house between 1873 and 1875.

Many other houses in the 800 block of 20th Street were also constructed in 1874. The abstract of the Charles Hansgen house at 848-20th Street, a structure almost identical to the Sweeney House, indicates an 1874 construction. Although it has not been documented, these two houses may have been constructed by the same contractor. The builder of the Charles Hansgen is reported to be John Volk, a prominent Rock Island contractor and owner of the John Volk Sash & Door Works.

The Sweeney house is a classic front-gable Italianate and is constructed of brick. Details faithful to the style include tall narrow windows of a 2 over 2 design with rounded tops, brick "hoods" over the windows with limestone keystones and sills, paired double windows, single story bay on the first floor, and an asymmetrical design. There is an oval window in the front gable and circular windows in the north and south gables. The house originally had small brackets and drops under the bay roofline, a finial and crossed pendant gable decoration. The house retains a high degree of integrity. About 20 percent of Italianate houses are front-gable.

The foundation is of Joliet limestone blocks laid in an irregular length running bond. The walls are solid brick rather than brick veneer. The bricks are laid in common (header) bond with every seventh course laid as headers to add strength and tie the wall together. The brick has been painted.

A number of changes over the years have been made to the exterior of the Sweeney house. Most obvious is the addition of a large wrap-around front porch. This porch was added between 1898 and 1906. Both the 1892 and 1898 Sanborn fire insurance maps show a small square porch at the front entrance. This porch was probably very similar to the existing porch on the Charles Hansgen house, which is original to the structure. The 1906 map shows the larger wrap-around porch. The applicant feels this addition has achieved historical significance in its own right. A photograph of the

Sweeney house which appears in Picturesque Tri-Cities shows the house with the existing porch. The photograph also shows a figure believed to be Edward D. Sweeney standing on the front steps. The book also contains a large portrait of Sweeney.

In keeping with the Italianate style, the house also had a double front door with double screen doors. One can still see where the upper flush bolt on the left screen door entered the door frame. These doors were probably removed about the time the new porch was added and a single front door with side and overhead lites installed. A similar front entrance existed on the Charles Hansgen house when landmark status was approved for that structure in 1987. Again, the existing entrance to the Edward Sweeney house has achieved some historical significance in it's own right as an example of how wealthy turn-of-the-century homeowners "modernized" their homes to remain fashionable.

The most unfortunate alteration has been the removal or enclosure of the rear porch. The Sanborn maps and the photograph in Picturesque Tri-Cities all show a small open porch on the south side of the house to the rear of the structure. This is now an enclosed reception area for the Catholic Social Services which occupies the property.

Finally, the soffit on both the house and bay window rooflines have been covered with aluminum siding material. This probably conceals a more decorative wooden soffit and could be removed in the future. The applicant does not consider this to be a significant or permanent alteration to the structure.

One important feature retained by the Sweeney house is the rear "summer kitchen." The Charles Hansgen house also had such a kitchen however it was removed prior to 1890.

Despite the alterations described, the Sweeney House still retains it's strong front-gable Italianate character and is an outstanding example of this style. The applicant feels many of the changes (ie.: front porch and entrance) effectively document the efforts to "modernize" a house by a family who could well afford to do so.

Criteria 5:

The structure has a strong visual presence on 20th Street, one of the main arteries to the downtown area. The significant architectural features (asymmetrical design, bay window and front porch) are particularly visible as one travels north on 20th Street. There is a large open space between the Sweeney house and the William Jackson house to the south which provides an excellent view of the house from the street. The photograph of the house in Picturesque Tri-Cities also makes the Sweeney house one of the more recognized houses in Rock Island.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

City Directory for 1875. Rock Island, Ill. Southwestern Publishing Co., 1875

Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Rock Island County : Historical and Biographical / edited by Newton Bateman and Paul Selby. Chicago, Ill. : Munsell Publishing Co., 1914.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York, N.Y. : Knopf, 1984.

The Past and Present of Rock Island County, Ill. Chicago, Ill H.F. Kett & Co., 1877.

Picturesque Tri-Cities : Davenport, Rock Island and Moline. Davenport, Iowa : C.J. Martin, 1901-1905.

Polk, R. L. & Co. 1910 Rock Island City Directory. Detroit Mich. : R.L. Polk Co., c1910.

Polk, R. L. & Co. 1911 Rock Island City Directory. Detroit, Mich. : R.L. Polk Co., c1911.

Rock Island Argus. 26 February 1875: p. 4, c. 2.

Rock Island Argus. 6 August 1879: p. 4, c. 3

Rock Island Argus. 14 September 1910: p. 5, c. 3.

Rock Island City Directory. Davenport, Iowa Griggs, Watson & Day, 1873.

Rock Island, Illinois. New York, N.Y. : Sanborn Map & Publishing Co., Ltd., 1892, 1898 & 1906.

Sweeney, Edward D. Oration delivered October First, A.D. 1895 at the laying of the corner-stone of the new Court House at Rock Island, Illinois. Rock Island, Ill. : Kramer, Bleuer & Co., printers, 1895.

691761

C. R. "Dick" Craig

Recorder of Deeds

This Indenture Witnesseth That the Grantor JAMES E. SULLIVAN and GLADYS M. SULLIVAN a/k/a GLADYS MAY SULLIVAN

of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois

for and in consideration of the sum of One (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration in hand paid, CONVEY and WARRANT to CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PEORIA, an Illinois religious corporation, 607 N.E. Madison Avenue of the City of Peoria County of Peoria and State of Illinois,

the following described real estate, to-wit:

The North Eighty (80) feet of the South One Hundred and Eighty-six (186) feet of Out Lot Number Three (3) in John W. Spencer's Third Addition to the City of Rock Island, Situated in Rock Island County, Illinois

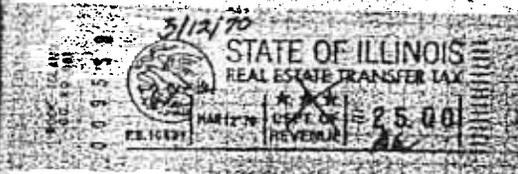
situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

Dated this

17th

day of March

A. D. 1970



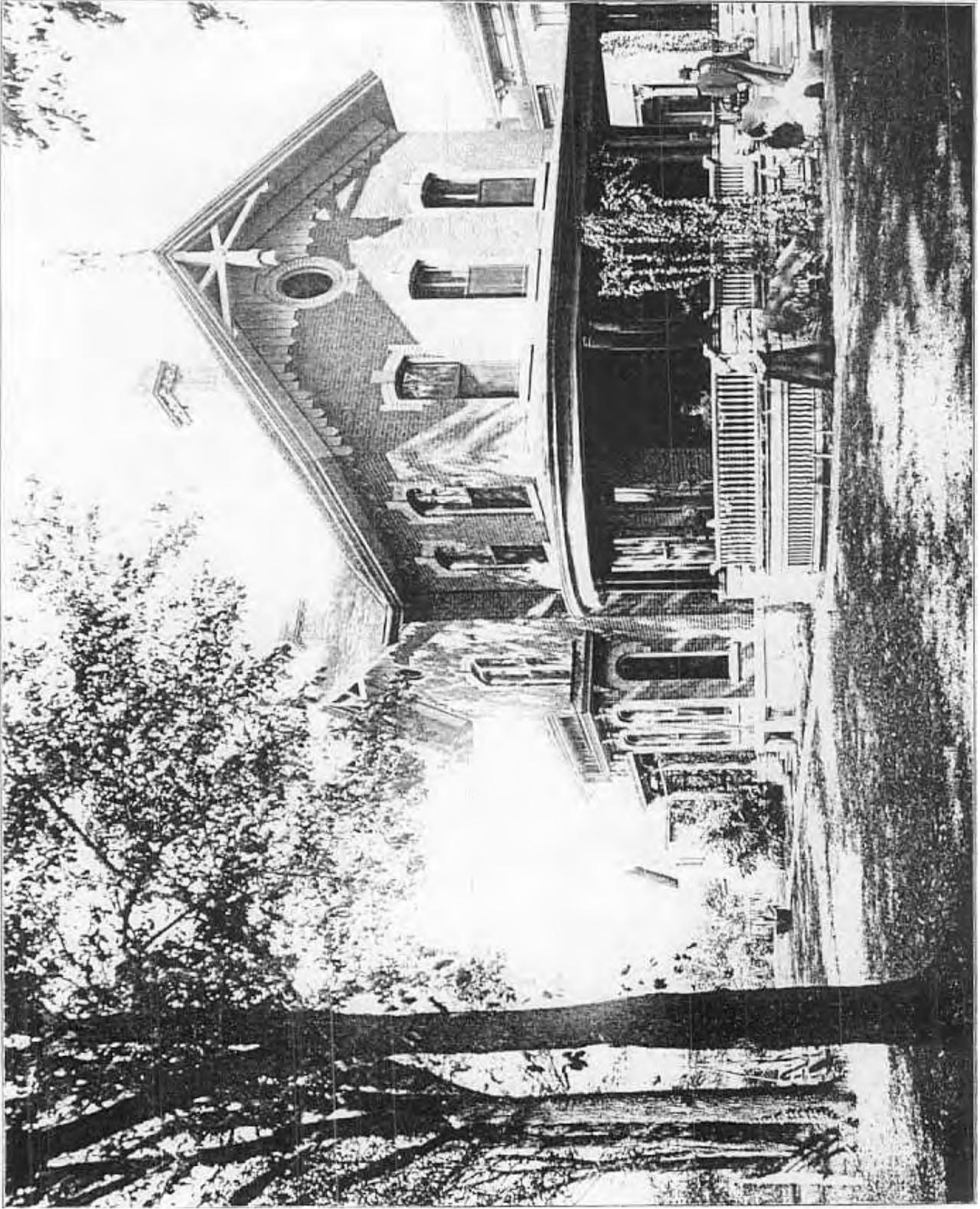
James E. Sullivan (Seal) Gladys M. Sullivan (Seal)

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said County and State, aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that JAMES E. SULLIVAN and GLADYS M. SULLIVAN a/k/a GLADYS MAY SULLIVAN

personally known to me to be the same persons whose names they subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as their free and voluntary act, for the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right or homestead.

Given under my hand and notary seal this 17th day of March, A. D. 1970





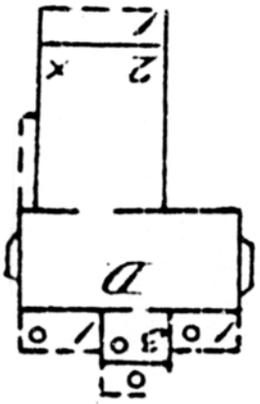
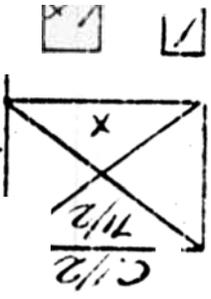
RESIDENCE OF E. D. SWEENEY ROCK ISLAND.



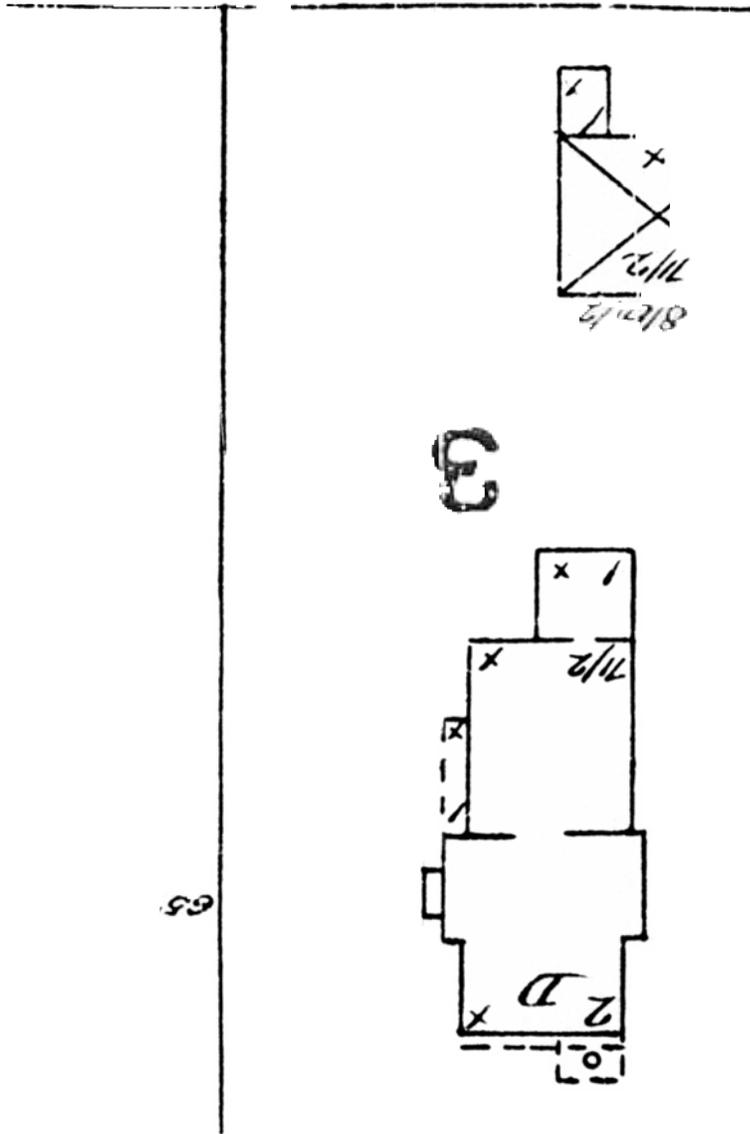
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Rock Island.



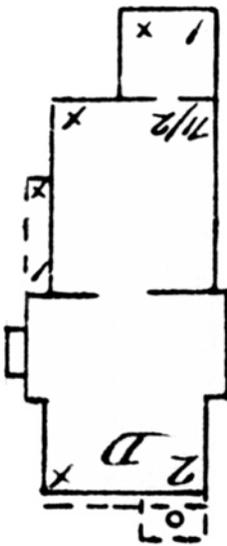
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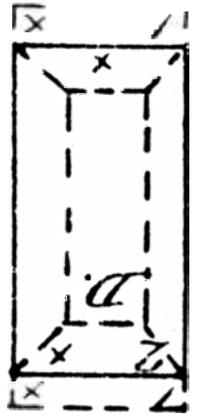


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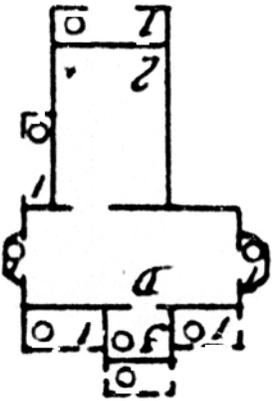
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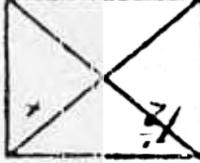
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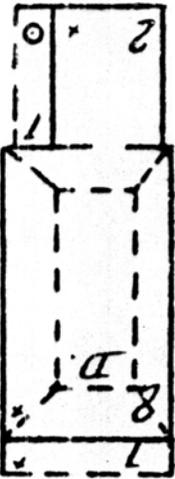
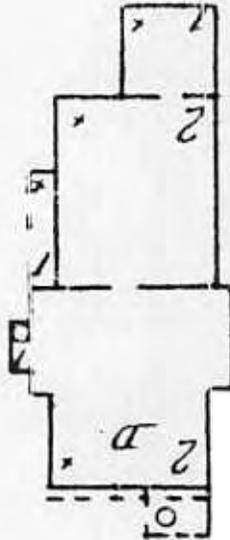
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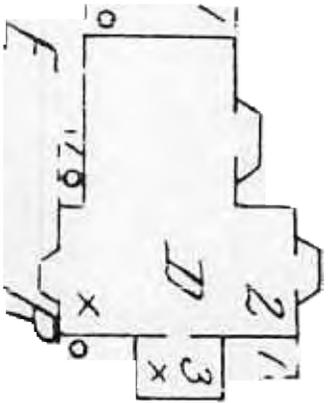
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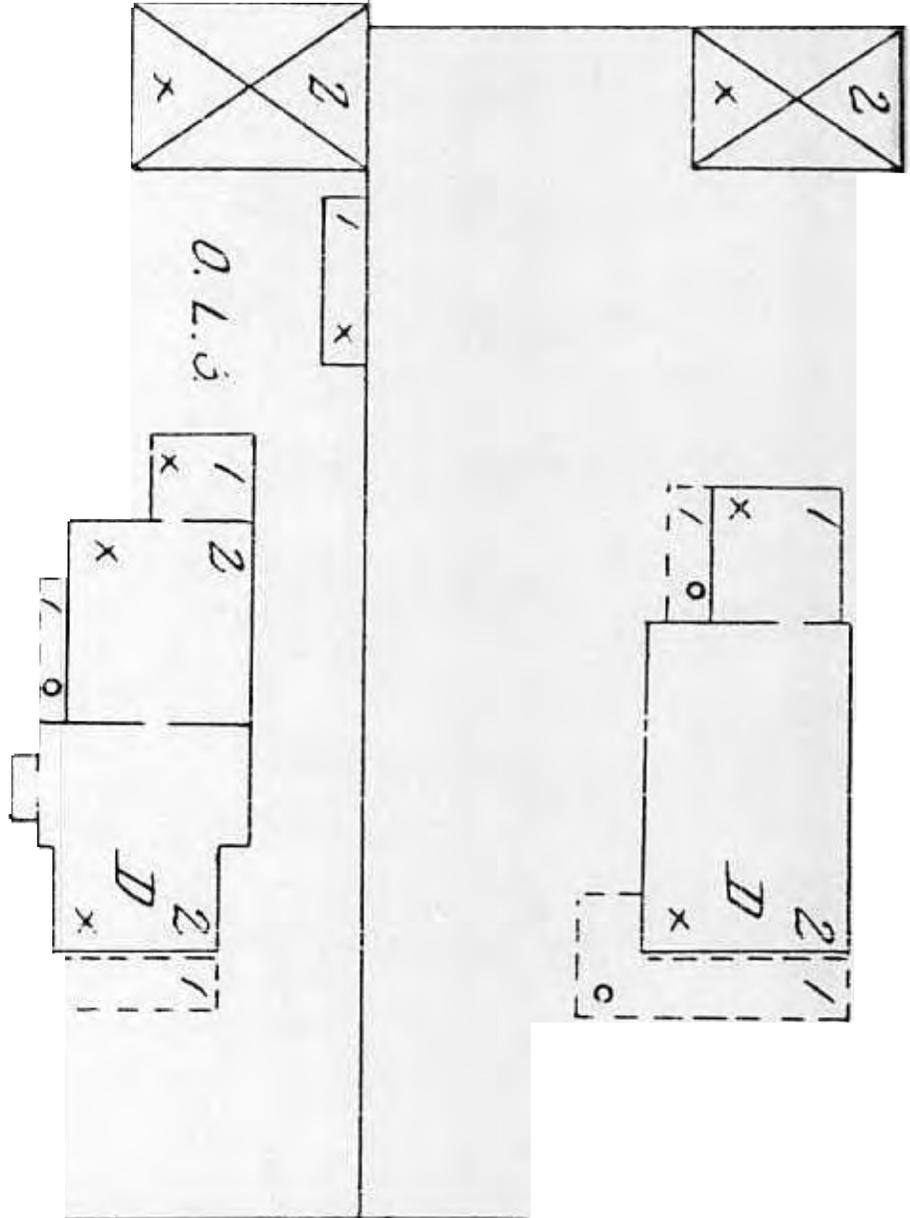
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- Swanson Gustav, carp, Cutter es 9 s Toledo.
Swartz J. K., clk, bds Illinois ss 9 w Jefferson.
Swartz S., clk, bds Eagle ws 2 s Illinois.
Swedish Lutheran Church, South sw cor Ohio.
Sweeney E. D. (E. D. S. & Wm. Jackson), res Jefferson ws 2 n Highland.
SWEENEY & JACKSON (E. D. S. & W. J.), attorneys and counselors at law, office, Eagle se cor Illinois, up stairs.
Sweeney W. L. (C. Churchill & W. L. S.), res Rock River ns 2 w Eagle.
Swiler & Fleming (M. A. S. & G. A. F.), plumbers and gas fitters, Illinois ns 2 w Buffalo.
Swiler George, res Rock River ws 2 n Canal.
Swiler M. A., plumber, res Illinois ss 1 e Swan.
Swiler William, tinner, Illinois ns 2 w Buffalo.
Swyler Annie, saleswoman, Illinois ss 9 e Buffalo.
Taft Daniel, clk, bds Illinois ss 2 e Ohio.
Taite Alexander, apprentice machinist, bds Buffalo es 2 s Illinois.
Taite Miss Sarah, Buffalo es 2 s Illinois.
Tallent A. D., confectionery, store Illinois ns 9 e Elk.
Tanneger Wilhelm, timekeeper on the Island, res Dock es 4 s Orleans.
Tanner E. S., grinder in stove foundry, res St. Claire 2 n Rock River.
Taylor John, drayman, Cutter es 4 n Indian Boundary.
Taylor R. B., res Illinois se cor Main.
Taylor Mrs. Sarah L., Madison ws 2 s Spencer.
Taylor Thomas, at glass works.
Taylor William, carpenter and joiner, shop Rock River ss 3 w Washington.
Taylor W., at glass works.
Teal S. R., iron moulder, Rock River ss 2 e Dock.
Tearnshow Philip, drayman, Rock River ss 6 e Beaver.
Teate William, stone mason, bds Adams ws 2 n Orleans.
TEGELER C. & CO. (C. T., A. Huessing, and C. G. Meyer), importers of and wholesale dealers in wines, liquors, etc., Illinois ss 2 w Eagle.
Telegraph Company, Pacific and Atlantic, Washington nw cor Illinois.
Telegraph Company, Western Union, Illinois ss 6 e Eagle.
Temple of Honor Society, lodge Eagle se cor Illinois, up stairs.

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Stropp Peter, laborer, res ne cor Huron and Union.
Stroube A, stove moulder, res nw cor Monroe & Commercial.
Strouk Peter, laborer, Weyerhauser & Denkmann.
Struck John, teamster, res ss R River e Broadway.
Strue Henry, laborer, res se cor Monroe and Commercial.
Strupp William, laborer, Weyerhauser & Denkmann.
Strum Christian, brewer, res ws Broadway s Orleans.
Struss John D, wagon maker, res es Stoddard s Toledo.
Stuart John, laborer, Rock Island Glass Works.
Stuart S, second-hand store, ns Illinois e Jefferson, res same.
Studer Albert, carriage driver, res Ohio s R River.
Stuhr, John, laborer, res se cor Ohio and South.
Sturgeon Abraham attorney, res ws Cherry n Indian Bound'y.
Sturgeon M M, co supt, res se cor Cherry & Indian Boundary.
Sturgeon, F, B D Buford & Co.
Sturgeon Oliver H, ship carpenter, res ss R River e Huron.
Sturgeon William, clerk, res ss R River w Main.
Sturgis Daniel A, moulder, bds nw cor Howard & Moline avs.
Sullivan Catharine, boarding, 73 Orleans, res same.
Sullivan Julia (Byrnes & Sullivan), bds Taylor House.
Sumner R, brakeman, bds 79 Orleans.
Sunby William H, leather, res ss Ohio w R River.
Sunby Nathaniel, res ws Eagle s Mississippi.
Susong Daniel, tinner, res ws Buffalo n Illinois.
Sutcliffe Edwin, painter, res ss R River e Beaver.
Sutcliffe John (Lewis & Sutcliffe), res nw cor Indian Bound-
ary and Otter.
Sutten Mrs, res ns R River w Madison.
Swander Wm H, printer, res nw cor Ontario and Illinois.
Swanson Charles, laborer, Weyerhauser & Denkmann.
Swiler W A, stoves, res ns Illinois e Swan.
Swan B E, res ss Toledo e Stoddard.
Swan Charles, laborer, bds Ohio s R River.
Swan Edward, hostler, with T B Hetton.
Swanson A, laborer, Anawalt, Denkmann & Co.
Swanson A J, boots and shoes, ss Illinois w Jefferson, bds
Harper House.
Swanson P W, B D Buford & Co, res es Pearl n Canal.
SWEENEY EDWARD D, (Sweeney & Jackson), res ws Mad-
ison s Guyer.
Sweeney Elice, blacksmith, res ns Moline av, 4th ward.
Sweeney R, time-keeper, res nw cor R River and Broadway.
Sweeney William E, laborer, res ns R River e Buffalo.
Sweeney W L, (Churchill & Sweeney), res ns R River e Buffalo.
SWEENEY & JACKSON (Edw D Sweeney, Wm Jackson),
attorneys at law, se cor Eagle and Illinois.

- Strahle Jos. tinner; 4th av; dem; Cath; from Tenn.
- Strahle Julius, mason; 627 17th st; dem; from Ohio.
- Strahle Jos. laborer; 6th av, bet 13th and 14th sts; dem; Cath; from Germany.
- Strate Ernst, saloon; 4th av and 22d st; Ger.
- Stranger Samuel, engineer; 2008 5th av; dem; from Penn.
- Strecker Daniel, cooper; 413 10th st; dem; Luth; from Germany.
- STRECKFUS B.** Wagon and Carriage Maker; residence 129 4th av; born in Germany; Dem; Cath; all kinds of repairing to satisfy the public.
- STRECKFUS JOHN.** Grocer; residence 129 4th av; keeps everything in the grocery line, opposite the Taylor House; takes farm and garden produce in exchange.
- Streckfus Michael, wagon-maker; dem.
- Stroup Chas. carpenter; 503 8th av.
- Stroup Peter, laborer; 503 8th av.
- Struck Jno. teamster; 4th av; rep; Ger.
- Struk Peter, laborer; 721 10th st; rep; Luth; from Germany.
- Struss J. D. wagon-maker; 14th st, bet 7th and 8th avs; dem; Luth; Germany.
- Stuart Saml. A. dealer in second-hand clothing; 2008 2d av; from Scotland.
- Studen Albert, coachman; 419 10th st; dem; from Switzerland.
- STURGEON M. M.** Attorney; member of firm of Sturgeon & Adams; residence 846 19th st; born in Meigs Co., O., Sept. 10, 1843; came to this Co. in 1850; Rep; has been Co. Supt. for eight years; was in army two years; married Jennie Matterson, of Ogle Co., June 22, 1870; has two children.
- Sturvy C. laborer; 21st st, bet 3d and 4th avs.
- Sullivan Mrs. C. boarding; 2109 3d av.
- Sulsar Christ. laborer; 11th st, bet 8th and 9th avs; from Switzerland.
- Sultz Jacob, laborer; 1st st, bet 5th and 6th avs; dem; from Switzerland.
- Summers Jas. huckster; 24th st, bet 6th and 7th avs; rep; born Illinois.
- Sunley Wm. lather; 9th st, bet 6th and 7th avs; rep; from N. Y.
- Surr Jno. laborer; Commercial st, bet 15th and 16th avs; rep; Meth; from Ireland.
- Surr W. J. laborer; Commercial st, bet 15th and 16th avs; rep; Meth; Scotland.
- Sutcliffe Edwin, painter; 4th av.
- Sutcliffe Jno. painter; 1501 2d av; rep; from England.
- Suttle Jacob, laborer; Sec. 2.
- Suttle Samuel, brick-maker; Sec. 2.
- Sutton Mrs. Maria, 1923 4th av.
- Swan Jno. laborer; 917 7th av; rep; from Sweden.
- SWANSON A. J.** Boot and Shoe Store; residence 1818 2d av; born in Sweden, Jan. 29, 1829; came to this Co. in 1850; Dem; keeps leather and findings.
- Swanson Andrew, laborer; 2608 6th av; rep; from Sweden.
- Swanson C. P. carpenter; 22d st, bet 5th and 6th avs; rep; from Sweden.
- Swanson Gus, carpenter; 735 15th st; from Sweden.
- Swanson L. P. laborer; cor 3d av and 24th st; from Sweden.
- Swanson Nelson, laborer; 421 7th st; rep; from Sweden.
- Swanson P. W. carpenter; 421 7th st; rep; Luth; from Sweden.
- Swanson Swan, saloon; 3d av; Sweden.
- Swartz Mr. clerk; 423 6th st; rep; Luth; from Germany.
- SWEENEY EDWARD D.** Attorney; residence 819 20th st; born in New-castle Co., Del., Aug. 13, 1833; came to this Co. in 1857; Rep; Meth; member of the firm Sweeney & Jackson; married Harrietta E. Allen, Nov. 5, 1862; has three children.
- Sweeney W. E. wagon-maker; 5th av, bet 18th and 19th sts; rep; born Illinois.
- SWEENEY W. L.** Wagon and Carriage Manufacturer; residence 1810 5th av; born in Monmouth Co., N. J., July 4, 1826; came to this Co. 1853; Rep; Meth Pref; is a member of firm of Churchill & Sweeney; was five years a member of the Board of Education; served two years as Alderman of Rock Island; has been President of Rock Island Co. Agricultural Society for two years; twice elected to office of Assistant Supervisor, also holds the office of Most Worthy Grand Patriarch of I. O. O. F.; married Amelia M. Robb, of Mercer Co., Penn., March 10, 1850; has three children.
- Sweiler John; 2d av; Bapt; born Illinois.
- Swiler Geo. cabinet-maker; 408 16th st; rep; Presb; from Germany.
- TATE ALBERT,** blacksmith; 428 12th st; dem.
- Taylor Chas. soap-maker; 16th st, bet 2d and 3d avs.
- Taylor Chas. C. clerk; 16th st, bet 2d and 3d avs; rep.
- Taylor Henry, laborer; 707 2d st; rep.
- Taylor J. D. contractor and builder; 9th av and 19th st; dem; from New York.
- Taylor Jas. soap-maker; 8th av, bet 14th and 15th sts; rep; Presb; from Ireland.
- Taylor Jas. P. proprietor Taylor House; 1600 16th st; rep; born Illinois.

NOTE: Address incorrect.

1877. he visited his family, which he had left in Sweden, twice, and on his last trip remained three years, then returned to Rock Island, bringing his wife and two youngest children with him, and resumed work in the plow shops. In 1887 he went to McPherson county, Kas., and operated a rented farm, remaining there until 1901, when he came back to Rock Island, where he now lives with his son, John G. There were nine children in the family, three of whom died in infancy, the others being: Ida and Neils, who came to Rock Island in 1876, the former dying four years later, and the latter still making his home in this city; Swan and Annie who came here in 1877, both of whom are deceased; Olaf and John S., who came with their parents in 1880, live in Rock Island. Mrs. Swanson died in the fall of 1898, while on a visit to Rock Island. Mr. Swanson is a republican, and the entire family belong to the Lutheran church.

John G. Swanson was educated in the public schools of Sweden and Rock Island, and Augustana college, entering the latter institution prior to graduation from the grammar grade, and taking a two-year course. During his boyhood days he helped his father on the small farm he rented in Sweden, and in 1885 he and his brother Olaf went to McPherson county, Kas., renting a farm of 240 acres. On account of the hot winds which prevailed in 1887 these brothers failed, losing forty hogs that were all ready for shipment, and John G. Swanson traveled during the remainder of that year, and a portion of the next in New Mexico, Arizona and other southern states, working on railroads, ranches and engaging in similar lines, but in the fall of 1888 he went to Canton, Ill., entering the shops of Parlen & Orendorf as a steel welder. In 1896 he moved to Rock Island and engaged in teaming, and two years later went to work for Mr. R. R. Cable as coachman, later becoming chauffeur for the same family, and continued in Mr. Cable's employ for fifteen years. In September, 1912, Mr. Swanson purchased the buffet located at 1700 Fourth avenue, and since then has devoted his entire time to this business.

In November, 1902, Mr. Swanson was married in Moline to Agnes A. Bergendahl, born in Vesterjotland, Sweden, September 5, 1874, daughter of John and Christina (Anderson) Bergendahl. The family came to America in 1881, locating at Moline. One child, Madeline Marlon, was born of this marriage, on August 9, 1906. Mr. Swanson is a republican, and has been a member of the county central committee of his party since 1903, and was elected assistant supervisor in 1911. Fraternally he belongs to the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America and Independent Order of Svithiod and the Moose. The Lutheran church holds his membership. He is an intelligent, hard working man, who holds the confidence of all who know him.

SWANSON, John Oscar, proprietor of the Union Express Company, conveniently located at No.

2023 Fourth avenue, Rock Island, is one of the substantial business men and native sons of the city. He was born on the corner of Third avenue and Twentieth street, February 4, 1872, a son of Swan and Tina (Peterson) Swanson, natives of Sweden, who came to America prior to marriage, settling in Rock Island. The father was a carpenter by trade, and followed this calling for some years, afterward was coachman for Benjamin Harper for several years, and following this, he owned and operated a first-class buffet on the corner of Third avenue and Twentieth street for many years. Moving to Goodhue, Minn., he located fourteen miles from Red Wing, where he still resides. His wife lives in Rock Island. They had two children, John Oscar, and Edward, deceased.

John Oscar Swanson was educated in the excellent schools of Rock Island. Then he learned the trade of blacksmithing, and followed it for five years, a portion of the time on Government Island, and during this period, he helped to build the bridge. In 1907, he embarked in his present business, which he has developed into an important enterprise. He is a reliable, sound business man, who knows how to take advantage of opportunities offered him, and to turn them to good account. On February 19, 1896, Mr. Swanson was married in Rock Island to Tina Rodeen of Berlin, Rock Island county. They have two children, Paul Lester and John Edwin. Mr. Swanson is not connected with any religious denomination. His political convictions are of such a nature that he prefers to vote for the man he deems best fitted for the office, and not to tie himself down to any particular party. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

SWEENEY, Edward Dennell (deceased), who, for a half century was a member of the Rock Island bar, was distinguished in his profession and prominent in other walks of life. He was born at Simsville, Dela., August 13, 1833, a son of Miles and Ann (Dennell) Sweeney. Miles Sweeney, the father, was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pa., November 29, 1803. When seven years old he lost his mother and when twelve years of age was apprenticed to the trade of cotton spinning, on the Brandywine, in Delaware, nevertheless managed to acquire sufficient book knowledge to become a school teacher. Later he moved to Mercer, Crawford county, Pa., where he engaged in farming until 1862, when he removed to Champaign county, Ill. In his later years he was a very active worker and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His pleasant, genial manner made him welcome in every circle. He died at the home of his son, Edward D. Sweeney, at Rock Island, when aged seventy-nine years. On October 3, 1825, he was married to Ann Dennell, who died in Champaign county, Ill., in August, 1862, at the age of fifty-six years. One son, A. B. Sweeney, served all through the Civil war as captain in an Illinois regiment, and, although

severely wounded, was nursed back to health and returned to his family.

Edward Dennell Sweeney received his primary instruction from his father. He was an ambitious youth and taught school to aid in paying his expenses and thus secured academic advantages and passed through Allegheny college, at Meadville, Pa., then a famous institution of learning. On Washington's Birthday, 1857, he came to Alton, Ill., and soon went to Kane, Greene county, Ill., and taught school there for three months, in July of the same year coming to Rock Island and in the fall of that year was chosen principal of the second ward school, being the first incumbent under the new organization and was selected by competitive examination. While engaged in teaching he studied law under the late Hon. George W. Pleasants, for many years judge of the circuit and appellate courts. He was admitted to the bar in 1860 and soon afterward joined with William Jackson to form the law firm of Sweeney & Jackson. Later C. L. Walker was admitted to the firm, the style then becoming Sweeney, Jackson & Walker, which continued until Mr. Jackson withdrew, when the title became Sweeney & Walker. At the time of his death Mr. Sweeney was the senior member and was the oldest member in service of the Rock Island bar. A few weeks prior to his death, which occurred September 14, 1910, in his seventy-eighth year, Mr. Sweeney had celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his admission to the bar. He was appointed United States commissioner for the Second District, in 1861, an office he efficiently filled until it was abolished a short time before his death. For over thirty-five years he was division attorney for the St. Louis & Rock Island Division of the C. B. & Q. Railway and was regarded as one of the soundest corporation lawyers in the state. For over thirty years he was a director of the Rock Island National Bank; was president of the Davenport & Rock Island Ferry Company; was president and one of the founders of the Black Hawk Building & Loan and Savings Association; for many years was president and a director of the Banner Coal & Coal Oil Company, and was interested in other lines of business. He was a very active member of the republican party, always well posted and willingly took part in campaign speaking for others, while desiring no offices for himself.

Mr. Sweeney was twice married. His first wife, Harriet E. Allen, was born at Greenfield, Ill., July 13, 1834, and died March 20, 1889. She was a daughter of George W. and Caroline (Henderson) Allen. Mr. Allen was a pioneer at Greenfield, Ill., which he platted and named, and died there January 17, 1865. He was the first postmaster, holding the office for sixteen years; was the first merchant, in 1832; built the first mill in 1835, and for many years served in the office of justice of the peace. Five children were born to the above marriage, the survivors being: Mrs. F. S. Kenfield, of Long Beach Farm, Berry county, Mich., and Edward

A. and William J., both of Rock Island, the latter being a member of the law firm of Walker, Ingram & Sweeney. Mr. Sweeney's second marriage was to Miss Emma Tunnell, a niece of his first wife, and a resident of Rock Island. She is a daughter of William A. and Mary Jane (Allen) Tunnell. The father of Mrs. Sweeney, William Albertus Tunnell, was a prominent pioneer of Greene county, Ill. He was born in Tennessee, September 3, 1814, and died August 14, 1865, at Greenfield, Ill. He was a man of education, a student of history, a teacher, farmer and merchant, and during the Civil War was deputy internal revenue collector under President Lincoln. He married Mary Jane Allen, who was born at Whitehall, Greene county, Ill., October 5, 1828. During the war he wrote and published in newspaper articles, a history of Greene county, which was later published in book form.

Mrs. Sweeney completed her education by a course in Monticello seminary, Godfrey, Ill., and was a successful teacher in the public schools of Greenfield and Carrolton, Ill., and from 1883 until 1894, was assistant circuit clerk of Rock Island county. With Mr. Sweeney she enjoyed a trip to Europe in 1904 taking what is known as the Mediterranean Tour, and they also traveled extensively in their own country. At the time of his death, Mr. Sweeney had been a member of Rock Island Lodge No. 18, I. O. O. F., for over forty years and had filled all the offices in its gift. He was an earnest member of the First Methodist church of Rock Island and a regular attendant and for more than forty years taught the bible class in the Sunday school, of which he had been superintendent for many years. For over seventy years he had been a member of the church, having united with the same in Pennsylvania at the age of seven years and had belonged to the Rock Island church for over fifty years.

SWENSON, Anton S.—It has been only within comparatively recent years that the value of cement and the number of uses to which it may be put has been really appreciated by contractors and builders, but one who has been in the field for a long period and has done a great deal of work in the cement line is Anton S. Swenson, a general contractor in all kinds of cement, brick and tile work. He was born in Sweden, October 12, 1873, and is a son of Swen J. and Clara (Yarn) Peterson, who came to the United States in 1881 and settled at Red Wing, Minn. They resided there for one year and then moved to Aledo, Ill., where Swen J. Peterson died in 1882, his widow surviving him until 1891. Their children were as follows: John W., who is of Keithsburg, Ill.; Carl Otto, who is residing at Cloquet, Minn.; Anna L., who married Oscar Johnson, of Joy, Ill.; Clara, who married Fritz Carlson, of Cannon Falls, Minn.; Fritz, who is living at Joy, Ill.; August, who is of Aledo, Ill.; Helga, who is the widow of Theo Boquet, of Los Angeles, Cal.; and Anton S.

Anton S. Swenson received his education in

Rock Island Argus
26 February 1875
p. 4; c. 2

ion Merchants
Washington Street,
.....ILL.

LD'S SALVE!

IS SALVE IN THE HOUSE
FOR JAW in case of any injury.
Get the best for dressing cuts or
for boils, sores, burns, &c., &c.
Price 25 cents.
Suggs in Rock Island.
BIBSON BUTLER & CO.,
Hartford, Conn.

MPHORINE,

DURES ALL
ic Complaints

run Bruses, Spruces and Ockle
best fabric. For sale in Rock
Island, E. Bressart and Small
25 per bottle.
HEN HOYT, Proprietor,
302 Greenwich street, N. Y.

TOBACCO WORKS

N & ELLIS,
Manufacturers of

ACOOS,

and 15 Vine Street,
River St. CINCINNATI
land at Wholesale, by
T & KING,
1st St. West.

IT TAILORING!

ICTAILORING

Thos. P. Cratty, a prominent attorney,
of Peoria, is at the Harper House. Also
W. C. C. Weir, F. Cowell, Clinton, Iowa;
J. H. Marvin, J. Q. Walker, Chicago; C.
T. Orton, New York; A. M. Titus, Bos-
ton; E. H. Collins, E. S. Berry, Chicago;
C. S. Medick, Toledo, Ohio; and many
others.

Law Office Moving.

On Monday Mr. Bengston will com-
mence tearing down the old three-story
block, corner of Illinois street and Market
square, so long occupied by E. H. Smyth,
—and all the tenants will have to get out
this week. Messrs. Sweeney & Jackson
have rented three rooms in the old Frizzell
house, next door to Quist's cigar store, and
over the Hong Kong tea store. Magis-
trate Cropper also moves to the same
place, he having secured a rear room on
the same floor with Sweeney & Jackson.

Mr. Sweeney opened his office in
Smyth's block on July 27, 1860, the day
he was admitted to the practice of law.
Mr. Jackson joined him on Jan. 9, 1864.
They have engaged offices in the new
Bengston block, which will be elegantly
fitted up and ready for occupation before
another winter.

The Temple of Honor and the United
Lodget Order of Workmen will find a
temporary place of meeting in the Mason-
ic Hall over the store of the Rock Island
Stone Company.

Five Parades of Amherst and
There was a meeting at the Exchange
attended to the butchers and drovers of this
county to attend, and some 25 or 30 from
this city, Moline, Union, Coal Valley and

Delegates—
ter. W. C. Welch,
Atkinson, O M K
Election Com.—
Alderman—
Committee—
Delegates—
W H Sage, J M
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Philip Miller, W
Election Com.—

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NOTES HERE AND THERE.

—Mrs. David Hawes is seriously ill.

—The Davenport police made 189 arrests in July.

—The celebrated Megatherian minstrels at the Opera House to night.

—Justice Cropper assesses fines and penalties for the city in August.

—Married life often begins with rose-wood and mahogany, and ends with pine.

—E. D. Sweeney is now president of the library board, and H. C. Connelly secretary.

—It is good to dwell in amity, though it is amity hard thing to do so with some people.

—The Father Matthew total abstinence society will have a ball at Armory Hall, August 22.

—James Haskell and Wm. Burton were run in by Officer Metach last evening for being drunk.

—Peter Huntcon was assessed \$10 and costs by Justice Hawes for peddling without a license.

—Over 40,000 pounds of glycerine are used annually in the United States for

file at all times at
No. 56 Clark St.,
at liberty to call

in spite of your
Kidney dis-

For maiden, wife
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ORATION

DELIVERED OCTOBER FIRST, A. D. 1895

AT THE

Laying of the Corner-Stone of the New Court
House at Rock Island, Illinois

BY

EDWARD D. SWEENEY, ESQ.

Corner-Stone Laid by Benjamin Goble, the Oldest Settler in Rock Island County,
and who came to the County May 26, 1829, and being the Oldest Living
American Citizen Born on Illinois Soil, he having been Born
in Wabash County, Illinois, October 17, 1809.

1895

KRAMER, BLEUER & CO., PRINTERS
ROCK ISLAND, ILL.

Mr. Chairman and Fellow Citizens :

We celebrate to-day the laying of the Corner Stone for the new Court House, and the occasion is an event which awakens in us emotions of the deepest interest. While it is true that this vast assemblage of citizens are of divers nationalities, of varied political faiths, and are of many religious beliefs, we all stand before this mute block of granite as before the throne of the Eternal, on equal footing, no special privilege of nobility or preference places one before the other. The significance of this great gathering is a tribute of respect to the grand Temple of Justice planned to rise from this Corner Stone and an acknowledgement of homage to the fair Goddess of Justice, who, with sightless eyes and extended hand under the law, holds the balances in which causes between man and man are weighed without partiality or favor and determined. The law abiding people of this great County as by one common impulse from the various pursuits of life, the farmers from their fields, the merchants from their counters, the mechanics from their shops, the bankers from their desks, and the humblest toilers from their work, have come to witness the simple act of the laying of this stone. It must be that in this there is much that ought to challenge our thoughtful consideration and engage our earnest contemplation for the hour which we are permitted to spend together on this event. It is the transition moment from the old to the new ; it is the passing a great mile-stone in the career of our county. More than fifty years of history is about to close its record to-day, and a new book presents itself in which we are to begin to record events, yet in the bosom of the future, to be born each day and each month in the coming years. The thought which occupies every one here assembled must be in reference to the old Court House, its associations of lawyers and judges, of law suits, of law and its administration, and of officers, and this thought is the theme to which I address myself for the few moments allotted me.

Of Lawyers and their profession much may be said. Whether justly or unjustly, they have been bombarded with denunciations, sarcasms, jokes and lampoons through all times and in all countries. The Savior came saying, "Woe unto you, lawyers," and there is a prevalent notion from His day to the present time that a good lawyer is a bad Christian. A satirist, writing of the lawyers of the last century, said it was "their business to soap the judges and butter the juries," and another writer of a later date, when the coin of England bore the stamp of an angel, wrote: "A lawyer is like Baalam's ass—he cannot speak until he sees the angel." Notwithstanding the derogatory things which are said and thought about lawyers, they are the noblest of the professional men, because it goes without saying that the profession of the law stands pre-eminently at the head of all the learned professions. The ideal lawyer is not only a habitue of the wrangling courts, winning cases as best he may, or losing them when he has to, but he is learned in the law, and when, in the extremity of the case, a Daniel is called to judgment, he furnishes from his ample store of knowledge a solution of the controversy and untangles the net thrown around the innocent by avarice and an unscrupulous Shylock. The lawyer is a part of the court and aids it in its investigations, and sees that the right is done, though the heavens fall. The ideal lawyer knows all there is in all channels of knowledge and is a real scholar in the true sense of the word. All books of knowledge find a proper place on the shelves of his library, all teachers are used by him to furnish the information he must have in the practice of his profession. When a suit involving the right use of medicine comes into his hands for investigation and trial, he must know more than the doctors and more than the druggist that compounded the medicine; when a case of surgery is on trial he must know more than the surgeon and more than the anatomist; if a case involving questions of orthodoxy, he must know more than the theologians; if a case involving the question of the erection of a building, he must know more than the architect that planned it, more than the carpenter, mason, painter, plasterer and every other artisan that has worked on the building; if a case involving the running of a

train on the railroad, he must know more than the engineer or train men or the superintendent of the road. There is nothing under the sun in the affairs of men, in the physical, mental or spiritual realm that may not come under his jurisdiction for his investigation and control, and which must submit to his domination in the application of the law. "The sparks of all the sciences in the world," said Sir Henry Finch, "are raked up in the ashes of the law." The ideal lawyer never tires nor wears in the preparation of his case, and is never satisfied until he has exhausted every means that will contribute to his success. The preparatory work of his case is the guarantee of his triumph, and no lawyer of experience need be told that the pains of the damned are not equal to the horrors of a lawyer going into court unprepared. The law is a jealous mistress and will allow no division of devotion to her.

What is law, has elicited many answers and many definitions. It is harder to define than life or thought or feeling, because it goes above and beyond all these; it reaches to the highest and to the lowest, it compasses all things material and immaterial, and includes all time, past, present and future.

Montesque, Bracton, Coke, Blackstone, Kent and Story, have attempted it, but of all who have undertaken this task, Richard Hooker is entitled to the highest credit for success; he says, "Of law there can be no less acknowledged than that her seat is the bosom of God, her voice the harmony of the world, all things in Heaven and earth do her honor, the least as feeling her care and the greatest as not exempt from her power, both angels and men and creatures of whatsoever condition, though each in different sort and manner, yet all with uniform consent admire her as their mother of peace and joy." While Mr. Hooker in his enthusiastic definition of the law has reached the highest excellency in giving the scope and grandeur of its jurisdiction, yet when he describes the law as the mother of peace and joy he practically goes beyond the facts. For the offspring of this mother have at oft times had reason to lament their maternal inheritance and to complain that what they derived *ex parte materna* was wholly wanting of peace and joy and that the fruits gathered from this source had turned like the fruit of the Dead Sea, to ashes on their lips.

One eminent writer, after having wrestled for many weary hours with the definitions found in the books, first adopted one and then another, obliterated them all and wrote as the definition which defines the word correctly, "law is law." Blackstone, the prince of law writers, says that "law is a rule of conduct prescribed by a superior power, forbidding what is wrong and commanding what is right," but this definition is now discarded by the best law schools in the country and not used by any of the law writers of to-day. A wag^{ish} writer recently in a facetious manner, has given the following definitions: "Law is like a country dance, people are led up and down in it until they are tired. Law is like a book of surgery, there are a great many terrible cases in it. Law is like physic, they who take the least of it are best off. Law is like a homely gentle woman, very well to follow. Law is like a scolding wife, very bad when it follows you. Law is like a new fashion, people are bewitched to get into it and just as glad to get out of it. Law is like bad weather, most people are glad when there is a change. Law is like a battle, they are safest who are furthest from it. Law is like a sieve, easily to see through, but a man must be greatly reduced before he gets through." Another writer disgusted with a certain law says, "the law is a two-faced molten calf. It is a satire with the face of a man and the legs of a beast. It is hypocrisy in uniform. It is a skeleton wearing a velvet gown, a shark dressed in a duster, a polar bear carrying a sunshade, the devil as a monk." The uncertainties of the law and the often unsatisfactory termination of law suits, has long ago given rise to the saying, that "in a law suit has win a cat and loose a cow."

The early beginnings of all communities are remembered with the greatest of interest and cherished in the fond recollections of those who have participated therein. The County of Rock Island was organized on the 8th day of July, 1833, it having been formerly a part of Jo Daviess County, and the first term of the Circuit Court was held at the house of John Barrell, beginning on the 28th day of April, 1834; this house stood on the banks of the Sylvan Waters, just west of the Cable residence, and was chosen by the County Commissioners as the tem-

porary place of holding the Court, and the village was called Farnamsburg. In this house was held the Court until abandoned at the September Term, 1837—in all six terms of Court. At each of these terms there was a grand jury selected and chosen, and in looking over the list of names which compose these grand juries, I find that Benjamin Goble, the old settler who lays the Corner Stone to-day, was a grand juror at three of these terms. It is very evident that they in those days had as good an opinion of Mr. Goble as we of the present day, while we think he is a little too old to do heavy mason work, yet, if called upon, that he would be as willing to serve as a grand juror to punish wrong-doers as he was in those early times. I also find the name of our venerable and worthy friend, Michael Hartzell, that he served two terms as a grand juror in vindicating the law in this new-forming community. I also find that John Tindall, the sturdy and prosperous farmer of Bowling Township, and Charles Titterington, the leading farmer of Edgington, the father of our present County Treasurer, each served a term as a grand juror in the house of John Barrell; all of these four are now present on this glad day to witness the laying of the Corner Stone of the new Court House, which to them must be an event of more than usual interest. I also find that William Bell was a grand juror at the house of John Barrell at the April Term, 1837, this gentleman, who always took such an interest in the affairs of our County and City of Rock Island, and always had a pleasant word and smile for everybody, is absent in body, but we know must be present in mind. He is living with his daughter, Rose, at Toledo, Ohio, and in a ripe old age.

"Approaches the grave,

Like one that wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

The rest of the illustrious names, which compose these grand juries have gone to join the silent majority across the stream to the shores of which we are approaching, to launch upon the weird voyage in waiting for us all.

In the month of June, in the year 1835, in pursuance of an act of the legislature, three commissioners, William Bennet of Jo Daviess County, Peter Butler of Warren County, and John

G. Sandborn of Knox County, located on the northwest quarter of section thirty-five, township eighteen, two west, the permanent seat of Justice of Rock Island County, and in the year 1837 the new Court House, and which is now the old Court House which we are about to abandon, was erected on the spot so selected and on the same spot to-day we lay the Corner Stone of the New Court House. The first term of Court held in the house so erected was begun on the 28th day of April, 1838. The officers that composed that Honorable Court were Daniel Stone, Judge, Joseph Conway, Clerk, Edward Southwick, State's Attorney, and Charles Eams, Sheriff. The Grand Jury selected and chosen at that term was Samuel Smith, foreman; Miles Drury, Thomas Klumph, Zacheus Mayhue, Isaac B. Essex, Henry Powers, Zachariah Cook, Samuel Bowles, David Jamieson, David Lamberson, Josiah Carter, Mentevell Gillett, William Brooks, Daniel Edgington, Joseph Dunlap, Jonah H. Case, A. Philleo, H. H. Beardsley, William Buck, A. P. Clapp, William Bell, Jacob Coleman, and Jonathan Buffum; the recital of those names will recall to the mind of the old settlers present that these were the prominent citizens and the pioneers of the County. Of this roll of names called on that spring day, fifty-seven years ago, there is not one present to answer to the call. These men were then young and vigorous, the best of the communities from which they had come to lay the foundations of society in a new country, broad and deep upon virtuous lines with purposes fixed and determined that this should be a law abiding community; how well they succeeded, the history of these fifty-seven years is their record, and this great and prosperous County, the goodly heritage which they have bequeathed to the generation of to-day. As the Plymouth Rock received the fathers from the Mayflower, so the shores of the Mississippi received these early comers. They

"Crossed the prairies as of old
The Pilgrims crossed the sea."

This was the beginning of our long Court dockets of hundreds of cases and terms of Court dragging through tedious months, to which has been added the County Court, now given common law jurisdiction with a civil and criminal docket, and

with its long probate docket upon which are the estates and through which already has passed nearly all the titles to real estate within the limits of the County. The population of the County has grown from 350 to about 45,000; at the time of the organization there was one straggling village on the site of the City of Rock Island and here and there a settler throughout the County. Now there are six incorporated towns and villages, full of activity and business, and two large commercial cities, teeming with industry, thrift and enterprise, growing in importance and multiplying in wealth; then the taxable property of the County was a few hundred dollars, now it is over eight millions. For a few years there were only two terms of Court in each year, but very soon the Legislature gave this County three terms of the Circuit Court, with a Probate Court in session substantially all the year round. From this stream of litigation, which has been as a rising tide with its noise and turbulent clamor, what a tale of contention, dispute and strife could be told, what a history of anxiety, of hopes and fears, of deceit and fraud, what bitter heartburnings, hates and animosities engendered; from it also could be told a tale of justice done, of wrongs redressed and injuries requited, the guilty punished, the innocent vindicated, and the majesty of the law upheld and exalted. From the long list of cases, civil and criminal, before our Courts during these early years, many could be singled out and brought to your recollections as illustrations of the folly of litigation; it is a fact appearing on the records of the Court that in a long suit concerning a colt of the value of less than a hundred dollars, which dragged its slow length through many terms, the costs equalled in amount to the price of a small farm, and there are to be found on these records numerous cases in which the contention reduced itself to the question who should pay the costs of the suit, the object for which the suit was begun having entirely disappeared and buried under the more important question of costs. From these dockets could be culled other cases in which after long drawn out and tedious contentions and much expense the right was the paramount result, and justice and equity crowned the judgment of the Court.

The most remarkable criminal proceedings that ever occurred within the walls of the old Court House, and which is one of the familiar reminiscences of the early settlers, was the trial of the murderers of Colonel George Davenport; this trial was not remarkable so much on account of the principles of law involved in the case as it was the assertion of the law in a peaceable, quiet and orderly manner, against the three desperate men who cruelly took the life of their victim, whom they were attempting to rob; while the condemnation of these men was a foregone conclusion from the first, their arraignment, trial, sentence and final execution on the 29th day of October, 1845, were all thrilling scenes, but furnish indubitable arguments in favor of the wisdom of allowing the law to take its course. In the sentence of the Court the body of John Long, one of the defendants in the Davenport case, was given to Dr. Patrick Gregg, then the eminent physician of the County, who articulated the skeleton, which has been used twice in the old Court House by lawyers in suits involving questions of surgery; and is now doing service in the High School in the study of anatomy. While it is true that the delays of the law are sometime wearisome, and the guilty sometimes escape by reason of such delays, yet the maturity of judgment comes forth from the slow processes of the law to establish the right, which by haste would be perverted and destructive of the very object sought to be reached. At the June Term of the Circuit Court, 1855, David Stoddard was tried and convicted of the murder of his wife, and hanged on July 13th in the same year. At the March Term, 1857, Samuel Ingraham was tried and convicted of the murder of his wife and hanged on May 5, 1857. William Heilwagon at the January Term, 1882, was tried and convicted of the murder of his daughter-in-law and hanged March 4, 1882. The people of this County, from their practices, show they are believers in capital punishment.

While we may express our surprise at the long civil dockets of our courts, and wonder how it is that so many people waste their time and money in and about law suits, yet, when we take into consideration how much the law enters into the warp and woof of civilized life, and how everything tangible and intangible,

corporeal and incorporeal, are amenable to, and the rights to which are fixed and determined by law, we ought not to be surprised. The varied and complicated relations of every person to society and to the State, give rise to myriads of questions which can only be determined from the law, and furnishes a greater surprise that there are not more people at cross purposes with each other and engaged oftener in litigation. The title to every foot of real estate and personal property we own, whether acquired by purchase, gift or descent, is determined, defined and fixed by law, and the right to hold the same is only justified by us being within the limits of the law, and the right to use and enjoy the same is held by the same tenure.

Everything that we do which in any way comes in touch with others has its legal status, and our acts in reference to the same must be so regulated as not to violate its legal relation. The violation of such legal limit or status gives the right to another for a remedy against the wrong-doer. The simplest acts which we do find their limits expressed in the law. A man cannot go forth from his farm out on the highway without the law saying to him within what lines he must keep and on what side he must pass, and if he aspires to take a flight in a balloon, as he descends he must be careful not to alight in his neighbor's garden and destroy his vegetables, or on his housetop to interrupt the smoke from his kitchen; or if he has a fancy for the wheel and mounts the bicycle, he must within city limits keep off sidewalks, carry a bell in good condition to ring and a lighted lamp in the night time, or run the risk of having to measure speed with a vigilant policeman. We walk through perils as thick as grass blades—most of these are the result of negligence of our fellowmen.

In the ownership of property a man may do with the same as he sees fit up to the limit that in whatever he does must be without injury to others. He may utterly destroy his own house, with all its valuable furniture, books and paintings, so long as he keeps within the bounds not to injure another. This is the boundary which the law places around us all and which every man surrenders to the good of society, and the law abiding man is the servant of the laws upon which good society and sound government are established.

Considering the multiplied motives which may have their origin in the human breast to arouse the passions of avarice, greed, revenge and hatred, which seek to accomplish their purposes by the infringement of the rights of others, it is still more surprising that there is so little disregard of law, so little strife and contention, and so few law suits in this great County of Rock Island. The records show that less than one in a hundred of the whole 45,000 people resident of this County are in any way engaged in litigation, and most of these only incidentally and in a trifling way. The balance of this vast population are pursuing the even tenor of their way under the law and in accordance with the law; they are paying their taxes, bartering, selling and carrying on business in its thousand channels, with its unnumbered complications and with whom the various domestic relations are properly sustained and cherished. The number of criminals which come before the courts of our County for correction are surprisingly small. Few Counties in the State send a less number to the penitentiary, the reform schools and the jails for punishment, in accordance with their population, than the County of Rock Island. As evidence of how carefully the legal limits are observed among us stands forth the fact that in the affairs of our County transacted by our honorable Board of Supervisors, every step of the way in which they proceed being regulated and determined by law, not a legal contest is raised or issue made concerning the new Court House, the greatest building ever erected in the County, which is rising to its completion and will be built from foundation to dome without the Circuit Court having taken cognizance of it in any manner whatever except to hear the hammers of the workmen and to finally obey the summons to quarter itself in the magnificent Court room, as grand as the old hall of William Rufus, the pride of England for a thousand years, which is being provided for it in accordance with law, there to administer the law for the people "with malice towards none and with charity for all."

Of the men who have acted prominent parts in the events which have transpired in the old Court House the lawyers have been the chief actors, and whatever have been the results ar-

rived at in the administration of justice within those walls, whether for good or evil, the lawyers have prepared and directed the work and have given shape and form to the final decisions. The Court in a sense has been the workshop of the lawyers and the law the instrument in their hands with which they have carried on and accomplished their work. The minister of the gospel may preach with the eloquence of an angel and with the unction of a saint of morals and of the judgment to come, and future rewards and punishments to the violators of the decalogue and his hearers may go hence and keep on transgressing as before, and waste his life, and see but little good accomplished, but the lawyer when an infraction of rights has been submitted to him and he has determined that a wrong has been perpetrated and should be redressed, seeks in the law a remedy and proceeds to castigate the wrong-doer and applies to his back the whip of the law, which sometimes has the sting of the whip of scorpions, and whether he does his work well or ill he is the only practical man in the reform of morals. He teaches with object lessons before the whole people and is obedient to the injunction, "To write the law upon their hearts and engrave it upon their bones." While lawyers care but little for words of praise and flattery I am here to assert, and I do it from the record made in the presence of the people of this County, that the lawyers who have composed the bar of Rock Island County prior to the present day, have adorned their calling to which they were devoted, have done their work well and have been illustrious in their profession. In the long roll of those who have composed the bar of Rock Island County, not a single member has ever forfeited his right to stand a peer among his peers before the Court, by conduct sufficiently reprehensible to close his mouth. The humblest have done well and deserve praise, while the strong have accomplished prodigies by their industry, their eloquence and their learning.

Among the names of those who have served their day and stamped upon the events of the times in which they lived the impress of their character and have gone to their reward, and are in your memories, while I speak, are Joseph Knox, Ira O. Wilkinson, E. R. Bean, John B. Hawley, Alfred Webster, J. J. Beardsley, Robert W. Smith and Patrick O'Mara.

The oratory of Joseph Knox will always be remembered by those who have had the good fortune to hear him. His style was fervant and impassionate, and when in his happiest moods his speech poured forth like a swelling torrent and he carried everything before him. The impression that his oratory made upon my mind when a young man, was that it was close akin to that of Demosthenes. History records that when the issue was before the Athenians whether they would submit to Phillip of Macedon, or resist him with arms, that Demosthenes espoused the cause of war; in this he was opposed by the accomplished orator, Aeschines. When Aeschines addressed the people they would say, what wonderful eloquence, what a great orator; when Demosthenes would speak they would leap and shout, "let us go and fight Phillip." Mr. Knox was often greeted with similar responses. Judge Wilkinson was a slave to his profession, he never allowed his mind to be occupied by anything which would draw him away from the pure pursuit and practice of the law. He was for many years the mentor of our bar and no young lawyer struggling with legal difficulties ever went to him, but he received him kindly and furnished material help without claim of compensation. He did not lay down his work until the hand of disease arrested his powers, and like "Nicanor" he "lay dead in his harness." General Hawley will be remembered as the impetuous, vigilant and aggressive advocate. He was like the plumed Knight of Ivory, always to the front in the thickest of the contest, pushing every advantage until victory crowned his efforts. Patrick O'Mara was the silver-tongued orator of the bar, young, promising and brilliant; he was a shining mark for the shafts of death which too soon claimed him for a prey. Time forbids further mention of the merits of the dead, but the best and the highest efforts of those who have gone and those who remain are to be found in the records of the Courts, published in the 58 volumes of the Appellate and in the 155 volumes of the Supreme Court reports. It is in this work, the real test comes of the lawyer's knowledge of the law and his merits as a lawyer, who has within his grasp and comprehension the highest elements of law.

To constitute a Court there must be a Judge to preside, a

Clerk to keep the record, a Sheriff to execute the orders, and a Prosecuting Attorney to represent the State, and the first three should always be present in Court. The Judge is the head of the Court and in common parlance is called the Court. The lawyers are officers of the Court but their attendance is voluntary. During the time we review to-day, there have been nineteen different judges who have held Court in our County. Richard M. Young was the first Judge who ever held Court in our County. He came from Galena and was succeeded by Daniel Stone, who came from the same place. Sidney Breese held the second term, and which was his first, after his election. He afterwards became a member of the Supreme Court and served a number of years, was elected to the United States Senate where he served a term, after which he went on to the Supreme Bench again, where he remained until his death in 1878, full of years, honors and good deeds. Benjamin R. Sheldon held the May term, 1849; he afterwards went on the Supreme Bench, where he remained until his death, a good man and a strong Judge. Thomas Ford held the April term of our Court in 1836; he afterwards became Governor of the State and in his declining days wrote Ford's History of Illinois, the best yet written of the State. Of these who are not now in office I know of only two who are living—the Honorable J. W. Drury, who was Circuit Judge from 1856 until 1859 or '60, and the Honorable Arthur A. Smith, who first held Court here in 1879 and resigned on account of ill health in the fall of 1894. Judge Drury was the judge of the Court when I came to Rock Island and he is the first Judge I ever heard speak from our bench. I was not then a lawyer but had a fondness for the Courts. He was one day being pressed by a lawyer on a ruling he had made and in reply he said that "it was for the Circuit Court to decide and for the Supreme Court to correct errors." His cheerful disposition and warm attachment for his associates of the early times and the scenes of the days long ago, make him the object of our sincere affection and love. No man ever sat upon our Bench who had a keener sense of right and had more courage to enforce his convictions than Judge Smith, and while he is not a citizen of our County, yet his long service as our Judge in a cer-

tain sense makes him one of us and gives him a warm place in our hearts. The present incumbents are the Honorable George W. Pleasants, John J. Glenn and Hiram Bigelow. The first named was elected in the year 1867. In the year 1878 he was chosen as one of the Judges of the Appellate Court, which position he still holds. His place is now as a member of the Appellate Court of the Third District, located at Springfield, and his duties call him there most of the time. Judge Pleasants has by his industry, his learning and legal ability as well as by his personal attractions and gentlemanly manners, won golden opinions from the bar throughout the entire State, and it is only by reason of the locality in which he lives, that he is not a member of the Supreme Court of the State. He is the equal and peer of any man now on that bench. It is in my heart to say many good things of these three men but the proprieties of this occasion forbid. I can only say, that constituted as our civil structure is, the position of the judge is the most important, and we have been singularly blessed with upright, able and just judges, men of broad magnanimity, of liberal views and generous dispositions. The world is full of judgments and become often enough, and hard enough, under the best of circumstances to all of us. A man who has a selfish heart and cherishes malice and hatred towards his fellows and is willing to seize upon their mistakes and misfortunes, to rasp and harrow them to make their conditions worse, should never have a place upon the bench. While the judge should be a man who would follow the leadings of mercy to the farthest verge, he should also be a man to know when that line has been reached and when to stop. It has long been a maxim of the law that ninety-nine guilty men had better escape than one innocent man should suffer. Some time ago a lawyer defending a criminal before a Kansas judge handed up an instruction setting forth this principle of law to be given to the jury. The judge said no, that the ninety-nine had already escaped in Kansas and that he thought the prisoner had the bar the hundredth man.

The first-Clerk of our Court was Joseph Conway, a man well versed in the forms of law and who did much to give proper shape and form to our legal proceedings; he held the office until

1849, and was followed by Frazer Wilson. If it were not for the presence of the Major, whom I know to be a very modest man, I would like to say some complimentary things concerning him, but I must respect the Major's feelings and forbear, still I will venture to say this much. Charles Mackay sings a song of a class of men who on account of their sterling quality of character, their happy disposition and their willingness to serve others, he calls "Uncrowned Kings;" the Major has been always in my mind one of the "Uncrowned Kings." Quincy McNeil succeeded the Major, and a man more useful in his place and more in love with his office never was Clerk of our Court. What Quincy McNeil did not know about the records in his office was not to be known. Edward H. Bowman, who was a distinguished scholar, soldier and fellow-citizen, succeeded McNeil. Samuel P. Hodges succeeded Mr. Bowman; he served two terms and was a good clerk and a grand man. Since then George M. Gould, Levi F. Harson, Edward H. Bowman, jr. and George W. Gamble have held the office of Circuit Clerk and have been faithful to the confidence and trust reposed in them by the people.

Twenty-one different men have held the office of Sheriff, and those who are still living, as far as I am able to ascertain, are David Hawes, who was sheriff in 1861, who is with us to-day, still holding up the standard of life with zeal and courage, and purer and more upright man is not to be found in the County; Charles A. McLaughlin in 1863; the Hon. William Payne in 1871; J. L. Perkins in 1877, succeeded by J. F. Ankrum, John M. Roticker, T. S. Silvis, C. D. Gordon and Fred C. Henenway.

Fifteen different lawyers have served in our County as prosecuting attorneys. Thomas Ford, heretofore mentioned, appeared at the first term held at the house of John Barrell and acted as prosecuting attorney and represented the State in the first criminal suit, which was the case of the People vs. Thomas Hibbard, for using threatening language. The defendant was discharged and Mr. Ford lost his fee. Of the ex-Prosecuting Attorneys there are only three in this County who survive. E. E. Parmenter, who served the County so efficiently for sixteen

years, and Walter J. Entrikin and M. M. Sturgeon, both of whom served a term in this office and acquitted themselves with great credit; they were a terror to wrong-doers and a refuge of safety to the people.

Thus far I have said nothing about the offices of County Judge and County Clerk. The County Clerk's office is the great work-shop of the County; in that office all the taxes are levied and extended, the judgment for tax sales entered and the record of the sales made and kept. In that office all the business done by the Board of Supervisors is written up and recorded; aside from this is the probate business of the County, which has grown to be of immense magnitude, and to which is added the records of the County Court, civil and criminal proceedings; within the last few years has passed through the County Clerk's office the proceedings for the paying assessments, which has been a stupendous work in itself. To appreciate the volume of the work which is done in this office you must be acquainted with its vastness and its importance. I would be pleased on this occasion to speak of the men who have acted as County Clerks, and who have been responsible for and so ably and faithfully discharged their obligations, but time forbids any lengthy notice. Of the ex-county Clerks who are still with us, Joseph Conet is the oldest. He will be remembered by all as long as we can remember anybody, as being the most accommodating, courteous and willing public servant that ever served in the Court House. The readiness to serve and aid everyone who had business in his office came natural to him; what he did was disrobed of every semblance of affectation or effort. Mr. Conet was succeeded by Major Beardsley, who came into office in the latter part of the war and performed Herculean labors in the interests of the widows and orphans of the soldiers who died or had fallen in battle during the Rebellion, whom he ever carried on his heart. The accounts kept in the book of remembrance by Him, "who neither slumbers or sleeps" will show a great credit to the Major's account for the disinterested and patriotic work of those years. John V. Cook succeeded the Major and his memory is embalmed in the hearts of all who knew him; he was succeeded

by Mr. Donaldson, whose efficiency and reliability were not excelled by any one. Colonel Kochler, the present incumbent, needs no commendation from me, his work shows for itself and his manner and demeanor in office are sufficient to win for him the highest respect and regard.

Of the ex-Probate Justices and County Judges there are only two living to-day, Capt. T. J. Robinson, who acted as associate Justice, with John W. Spencer as Judge in 1849, and J. M. Gould who takes part in the exercises of this occasion, who was County Judge in 1854 to 1857. There has been no more responsible position in our County than that of looking after the trusts in the hands of executors, administrators and guardians, and faithfully have these trust estates been guarded and protected by our County Judges. The present incumbent, the Honorable Lucian Adams, has grown gray in the service of these trusts and no one has ever been allowed to suffer in his hands. He is a thorough believer in the doctrine that a public office as a public trust and that what he does should be done as behind glass doors in the presence of all the people.

Three members of Congress have been sent from our County. The Honorable John B. Hawley, the Honorable William H. Gest and the Honorable Benjamin Cable. We are indebted to these gentlemen for great services in securing appropriations for the National Armory on the Island, for the great bridge across the Mississippi river, the Moline dam, the viaduct, the new government building now being erected, and the Hennepin Canal.

The early settlers laid the foundations of our institutions in a broad and vigorous morality and an exalted patriotism. Love of country is the highest test of good citizenship, and when the war came our County sent to the field of strife two thousand three hundred soldiers, one from almost every family among us, and in some instances two and three from a single family, who made a record which has ever been the pride of the whole people. The monument in whose shadow we stand to-day has engraved on it the names of the heroic dead to be ever kept in grateful remembrance and which we gladly wreath with garlands of choicest flowers on each memorial day, and in our

hearts these names are always entwined around by the sweetest immortelles. It was patriotism which filled the heart of Abraham Lincoln and made him the greatest leader and the grandest vindicator of human rights and human liberties since the days of Him, who among Judea's hills spake as never man spake. It was patriotism which filled the heart of U. S. Grant, the greatest military captain of all ages, greater than Napoleon, greater than Caesar or Alexander, because he fought for and vindicated a greater cause and a sublimer purpose; it was patriotism that filled the heart of John A. Logan, the ideal soldier of Illinois, and it was this same patriotism, Illinois patriotism, which possessed the hearts of our boys in blue as they went forth to fight the battles of the republic. The soldiers of Illinois were foremost at Donaldson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chickanauga, Lookout Mountain and in Sherman's march to the sea. Gen. Sherman was their great leader in that famous march, but it is said if the old hero had fallen by the way the boys would have gone right on to the sea. The Illinois soldiers brought home from the fields of the south three hundred battle flags taken from the enemy, and it was an Illinois flag that floated over the advance guard of the soldiers who first marched into Richmond with President Lincoln at their head, in April 1865. All honor to the old soldiers and love and charity to all their kith and kin.

Solomon's Temple surpassed all former ones in its glory and grandeur, but in following years there was erected a second temple, and the glory of the latter house exceeded the former. The days of the early pioneers were full of noble deeds, efforts and struggles, around which a halo of heroism lingers, while the names of the men and women who took part in the stirring events of those days are held in tender remembrance by their descendants and the people of to-day. No State in the Union excels Illinois in the race of noble pioneers who wrought out of the broad untracked and untilled prairies the beginnings of the greatest agricultural state of the Mississippi-valley, and which laid the foundations of third greatest and grandest commonwealth of the Union, and no county in all of the one hundred and two in the State can boast of a nobler band of early settlers, than can

our County. The limit line of pioneer and old settlers' life is drawn at the year 1850 and all time subsequent is counted out. Let due honor and credit be given to the early settlers and old pioneers and to all who have helped in the early efforts to lay the bases of the institutions of which we are so proud to-day and to which we can point with becoming pride, but no one will think of comparing what has been accomplished in the advancements of civilization since the date of the limit with what has gone before.

In 1850 the City of Rock Island had been organized only one year and was a municipal infant, and Moline, now the proud city of factories, schools and churches, was still a village, and outside of these there was not an organized town or village in the County; the iron horse had never sounded his sonorous tones on the shores of the Father of Waters; the great plow factories of the Twin Cities were only in the prophecies of the dim future; the magnificent water works, now sending flowing water through every street and into every house, were unthought of; paved streets, which have come to us within the last eight years, and which make our cities the rivals of those in the old world of a century's growth, were not even in the dreams of the oldest inhabitant; while every man was his own letter carrier, express messenger and telephone girl. Never since the days when Adam and Eve went forth from the Garden of Eden, unsandaled and uncovered, was human nature so well clothed, so well fed, so well housed and surrounded with the conveniences and luxuries of life, as to-day; we are all pleased to hear the Old Settlers talk of the "good old times," and never tire of hearing rehearsed the events of early pioneer life; but we who did not live in these "good old times" may be excused for speaking of the "good new times."

Modern inventions have come like swift-winged angels, showering blessings in this land. Only yesterday it took a first class vessel sixty days to cross the Atlantic; now the great ocean racers, with their thousands of passengers on board, pass from shore to shore in a single week. Towards the close of the last century Lord Campbell, then Chancellor of England, made the journey from Edimburgh to London, a distance of two hundred

and fifty miles, in a stage coach, in three days and three nights. This was then considered a remarkable feat in rapid transit and his friends warned him of the danger of ever repeating such a journey and told of some who had died from rapidity of motion. In the year 1850, Daniel Webster declared in the United States Senate that it would be no use to organize Oregon into a Territory, as a delegate from that far off region could not reach Washington for a year after his term had expired. Now the citizens of Rock Island and Molins carry on business in Oregon and find no special inconvenience on account of distance. When General Jackson was elected to the presidency, November 4th, 1828, the news of the event was brought from Galena to this place by the late Judge John W. Spencer, about the last of December, having made the whole trip to Galena on foot carrying the mail both ways. When the battle of Waterloo was fought, the greatest battle of modern times, it took three days for the news to reach London. In 1870 the news of the battle of Sedan in the Franco-Prussian war was received in New York within a few minutes after the first gun was fired and the victory of the Germans was published in all the morning papers of this country, the next day.

Morse invented the telegraph five years before 1850, but no telegram reached Rock Island until after the advent of the railroad in 1854. In the year 1859 a hack was run between the cities of Rock Island and Moline, drawn by two horses, and often had empty seats, and if the roads were good and nothing happened, the trip could be made in an hour; now two lines of trolley cars run between the twin cities, a car every seven minutes. When the railroad first came through from Chicago to Rock Island, it was a day's journey either way; now we can leave Rock Island on an early morning train, do a day's work in Chicago and get back by bed time. Speed is being so increased on the railroads that a mile a minute is getting to be a fashionable rate and the conveniences of travel have been so improved that you can have your meals on the railroad train, and your bed, too, as comfortable and convenient as in your own house. Electricity, which in the years of the first half of this century was seen only in the clouds, and studied as one of the mysterious

forces of nature, is now a common motive power in all departments of mechanics. Through this wonderful agency telegrams are sent under the waters of all oceans and we can receive news by telegram from Japan almost a day ahead of time. The telephone, which a few years ago was a plaything and a curiosity, is now an agency which no business man can get along without; he can talk through this to his neighbor or business connection in his own town and in other towns, and if necessity requires, with his Chicago or New York friends, and do this in almost as satisfactory a manner as if face to face with the person with whom he talks. Already electric railroads between Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, and other cities, which will outdo in speed all steam transit between those places, are being projected. The wonders brought to us by the use of electricity have been constant recurring revelations, and what in the future may we not expect from this marvelous subtle force, so ready and prompt to do our bidding?

Not only on these lines, but on all other lines, which have a tendency to exalt and better mankind advances during the last forty years have been made, which challenge our surprise and wonder. Knowledge has been increased and multiplied in all channels so that the educated of to-day is equal to the scholar of the "good old times."

"Tis coming up the steps of time
And this old world is growing brighter."

To-day the forces of the "good old times" and the forces of the "good new times" meet on this common platform to lay the Corner Stone of the New Court House and blend without rivalry in a united effort for the common weal.

At the April term A. D., 1893, of the Board of Supervisors, F. M. Sinnet, Esq., was elected chairman, and in his address to the Board, returning thanks for his election, among other things he said that the necessity existed for the erection of a New Court House, and he believed that the times were propitious for its erection. During this session of the Board, Joseph Fitzpatrick, Esq., then Supervisor from Black Hawk, came to the office of Sweeney & Walker and talked to the same effect, and Mr. C. L. Walker prepared resolutions setting forth

that the necessity existed for a New Court House and that the times were propitious for the building of the same. The resolutions were delivered to Mr. Fitzpatrick who introduced them in the Board then in session and they were adopted. The resolutions, among other things, provided for the appointment of a committee to report on the feasibility of the project at the next meeting in July.

In the meantime, Charles J. Searle, our young and vigorous State's Attorney, with his accustomed zeal and enthusiasm, took hold of the work and put the report of the committee in shape, which was presented at the next session of the Board and adopted, and the cause of the New Court House was squarely before the people. The press, which has always been a great factor in the pushing forward of the welfare of the County in all channels, took hold and advocated the enterprise, the people with great unanimity seconded the move and the Board of Supervisors pushed on until the building of the New Court House became a fixed fact. C. J. Larkin, Esq., was given the contract with S. J. Collins as superintendent, who with Rock Island mechanics to do the work, present to us to-day a foundation apparently strong and massive enough so sustain the National Capitol, from which will rise a building worthy of our County and the times in which we live. The Parthenon of Athens, built by Phidias, has never in the world's history been paralleled for refinement of design and perfection of execution. In this, Pericles poured forth his eloquence and Socrates taught philosophy and became the wonder of all ages and the glory of his own. The golden days of Roman splendor were when her Emperors lavished their wealth upon the Forums, from which Cicero delivered his orations and reached the highest excellence in the use of the Latin tongue and became the model orator of all ages. The Court Houses of our country are the forums of the people and for the people, and it is fitting that they should be built and adorned as become the wealth of those who build and the uses to which they are dedicated.

It is a grand sight to see a ship leave her port for a long voyage across the ocean, with sails set and every rope taut, with her brave prow breasting the waves, but it is a grander

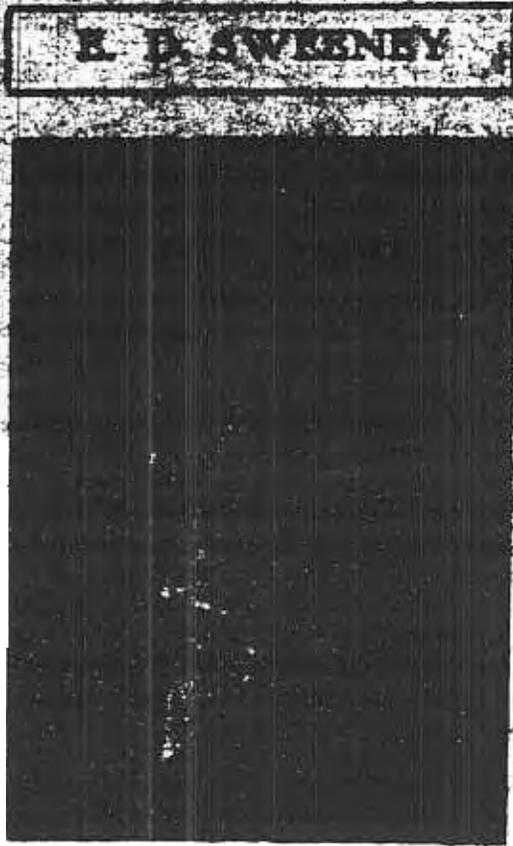
sight to see her return from a prosperous voyage having weathered the storms and escaped the perils of the sea with her sails and rigging intact and able to start out on another cruise. Standing in the presence of a glorious past, inspired by the enthusiasm of the hour, we look out upon the future spanned by the bow of promise, in which generations unborn will rise up to bless the men who built the New Court House.

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BURGLARS ENTER OSCO POSTOFFICE

Oscos, Ill., Sept. 14.—(Special.)—The postoffice at Oscos was broken into and robbed this morning between 1 and 3. The intruders entered through a side door. They broke in the glass of the door and then reached in and unlatched it. All that they could find of value was some stamp books amounting to about \$75. Nine cents were left in the cash drawer by the postmaster, August Anderson, when he closed the office in the evening, but outside of this no money was missing from the office this morning when the discovery of the robbery was made. The thieves left no clew.

E. D. SWEENEY IN HIS FINAL SLEEP

Death Closes Career of Pioneer Legal Practitioner of Rock Island.

AILING SEVERAL MONTHS

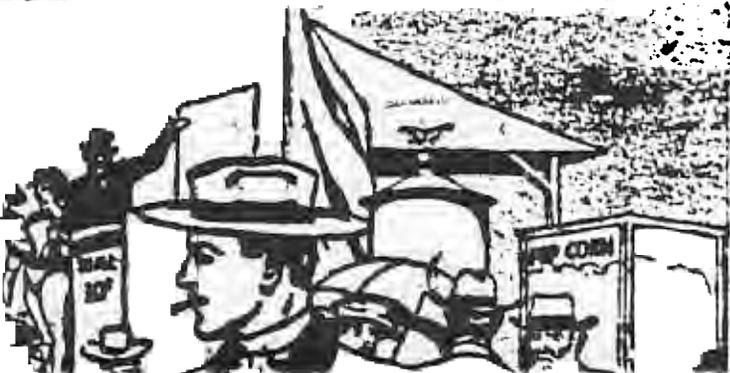
Recently Had Celebrated His 50th Anniversary as Member of the State Bar—A Useful Life.

Edward D. Sweeney, one of the leading attorneys of this city, died at his home, 816 Twentieth street, this morning at 9 o'clock. He had been in poor health for several months and his death, although a shock to his many friends, was not unexpected.

Mr. Sweeney celebrated his 77th birthday Aug. 13 last, and Aug. 9 celebrated the 50th anniversary of his admission to the bar of this state. In the same month Mr. Sweeney's early associate, William Jackson, celebrated his 50th anniversary as a practitioner. Mr. Sweeney was born at Simsville, on the banks of the Brandywine, in the state of Delaware, Aug. 13, 1833, from whence, with his father, he removed to western Pennsylvania in 1839. He received his education at the famous old Allegheny college, Meadville, Pa., teaching school during part of the time to assist in defraying his college expenses. After leaving college he came west, first stopping at Alton, Ill., in February, 1857, and from there went to Greene county, where he taught school for a few months.

School Principal and Law Student

Learning of better inducements at Rock Island, he came to the place destined to be the scene of his labors and future home in July, 1857, and was shortly thereafter chosen principal of its Second ward school. While engaged in this work he spent his spare time in the study of law, under the direction and guidance of Hon. George W. Pleasants, then a practicing lawyer here, and who was afterwards for



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Shortly after his admission to the bar, Mr. Sweeney, together with William Jackson of this city, formed a partnership in the practice of law under the firm name of Sweeney & Jackson. Afterwards, when C. L. Walker was admitted to the firm, the name became Sweeney, Jackson & Walker. Mr. Jackson withdrew from the firm in 1884, since which time the firm has been Sweeney & Walker, and of which Mr. Sweeney was the senior member at the date of his death.

Long District Commissioner

Early in his legal career Mr. Sweeney was appointed United States commissioner for the district, including this county, which position he continued to hold, performing its duties acceptably and well until the abolishment of commissionerships outside of the larger cities a few years ago. His firm has always had a very large general practice, representing many im-



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Mr. Sweeney was for many years one of the leaders of the Rock Island county bar and was engaged either on one side or the other in much of the important litigation arising in the county. He was an able and well read lawyer, industrious and indefatigable in all he undertook, a good business man and an excellent citizen. In politics he was always a steadfast republican, one of those desiring no offices for themselves but working always for the success of the party. He stood high in the ranks of the republican party and during his earlier years was active in political work. As an orator he took high rank, being both eloquent and forcible, and made addresses on many notable occasions, chief among which perhaps was an oration delivered by him on the laying of the cornerstone for the new court house at Rock Island some years ago.

Oldest Member of His Church

For over 40 years Mr. Sweeney had been an Odd Fellow, having membership in Rock Island lodge No. 18, I. O. O. F. In religion he was a Methodist and a regular attendant at the First M. E. church of this city, to which he was much attached and through his efforts and means did much to aid and upbuild the church and extend its influence. He was the oldest living member of the church here.

For over 30 years and until his death Mr. Sweeney was a director of the Rock Island National bank. He was also one of the officers of the Rock Island Development Ferry company and was the president and one of the founders of the Black Hawk Home-stead Building Loan & Savings association. He had served for many

Democratic Candidate for Representative.

"I stand for Honest Democratic Principles."

years president and one of the directors of the Banner Coal & Oil company and was interested in other lines of endeavor.

Wife and Three Children

Mr. Sweeney was twice married, his first wife being Miss Harriet F. Allen of Greenfield, Ill., to whom he was united in 1862 and who bore him five children, two of whom are deceased. Those living are Mrs. F. S. Kenfield, who lives at Long Beach farm, Berry county, Michigan, and Edward A. Sweeney and William J. Sweeney of Rock Island. Mrs. Sweeney died in 1889, and in 1894 Mr. Sweeney was united in marriage with Miss Emma Tunnel, who survives him. Mr. Sweeney is also survived by his sister, Mrs. Margaret Magill of Silverlake, Kan.

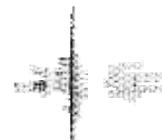
Arrangements for the funeral will be announced later.

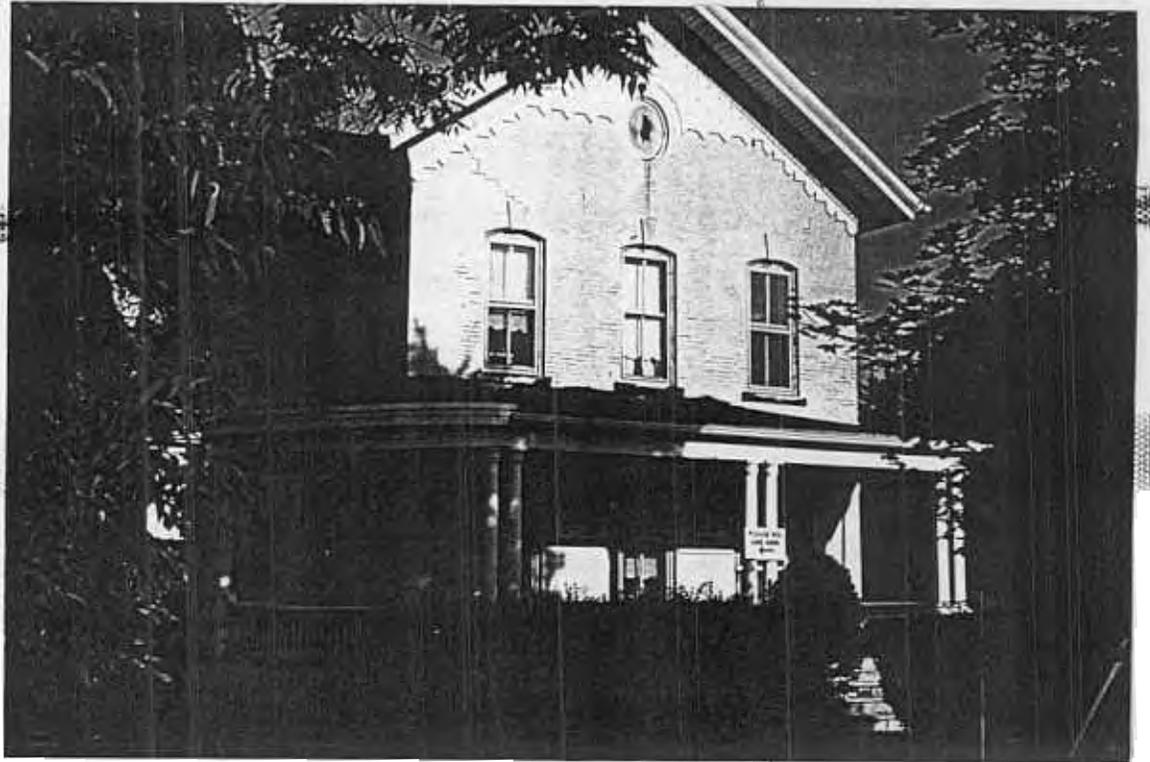
John Ackerman

John Ackerman died yesterday afternoon at 3:45 at his residence, 421 Fourth street, after an illness of seven years of paralysis of the heart. Deceased was born at Northeast, Pa., June 1, 1857. Twenty years later he came to Rock Island and entered the employ of the Weyerhaeuser & Deakman company, with whom he remained until a few years ago. At the time of his resignation he was foreman of the mill.

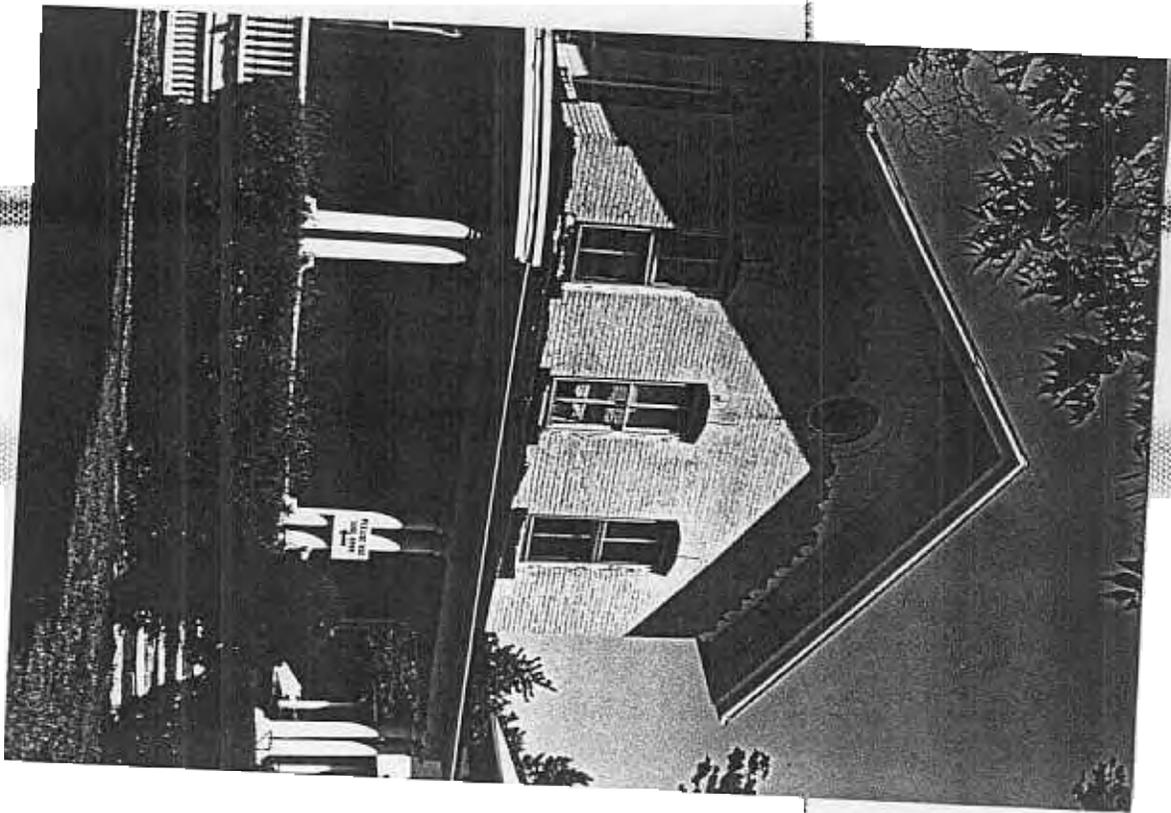
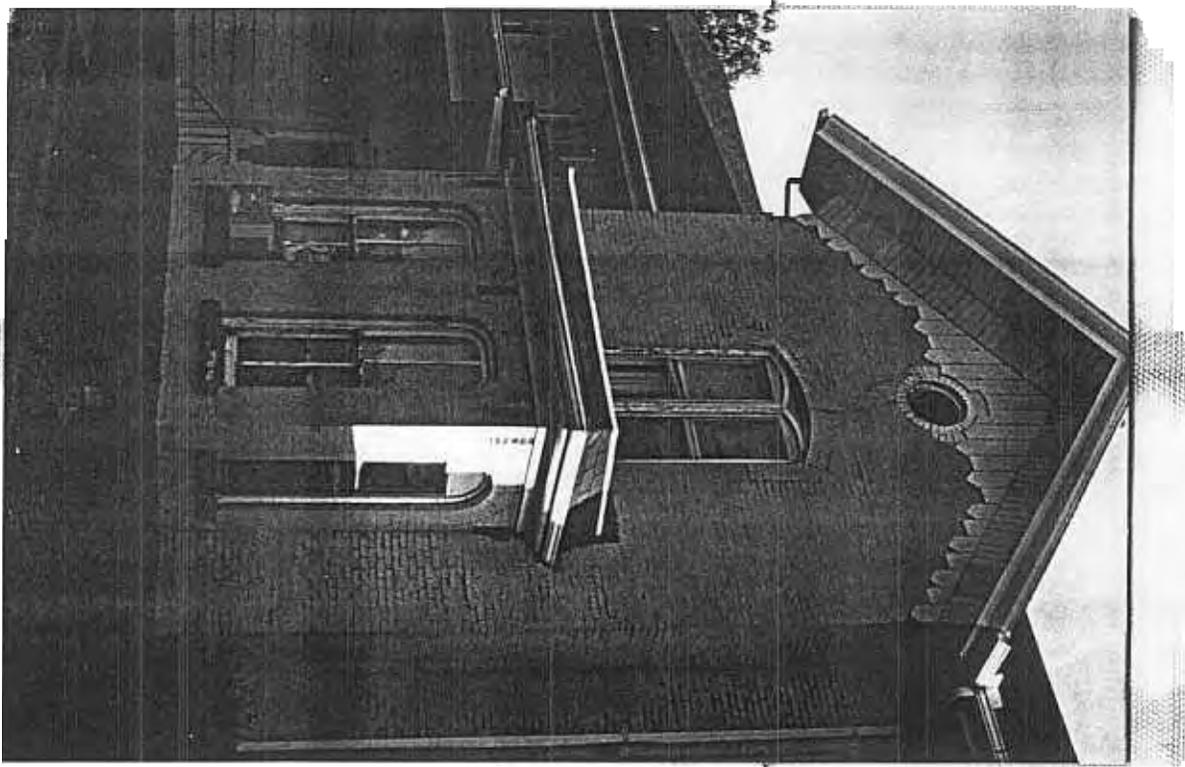
In 1883 Mr. Ackerman returned to his native home, and there he contracted in marriage with Miss Augusta Newcomb. The couple came to this city immediately after their marriage and resided here since. Mr. Ackerman was a member of the First M. E. church and a member of U. W.

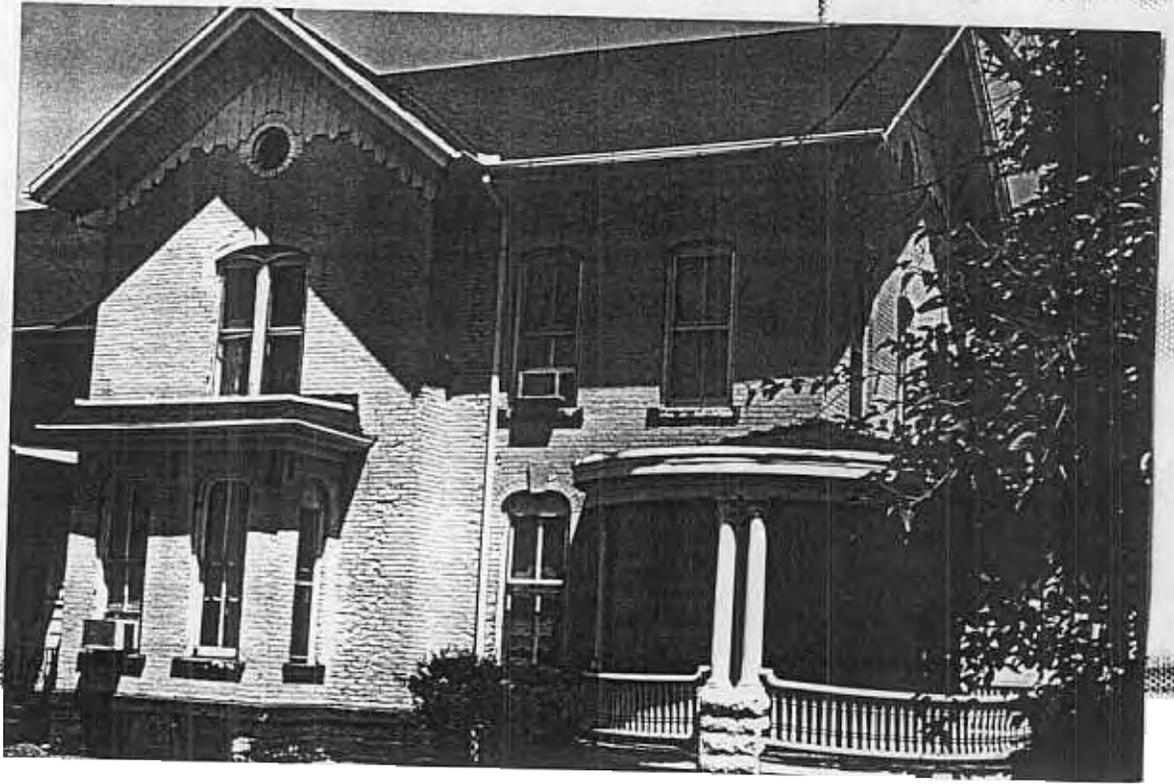
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