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Dr. William Jewell

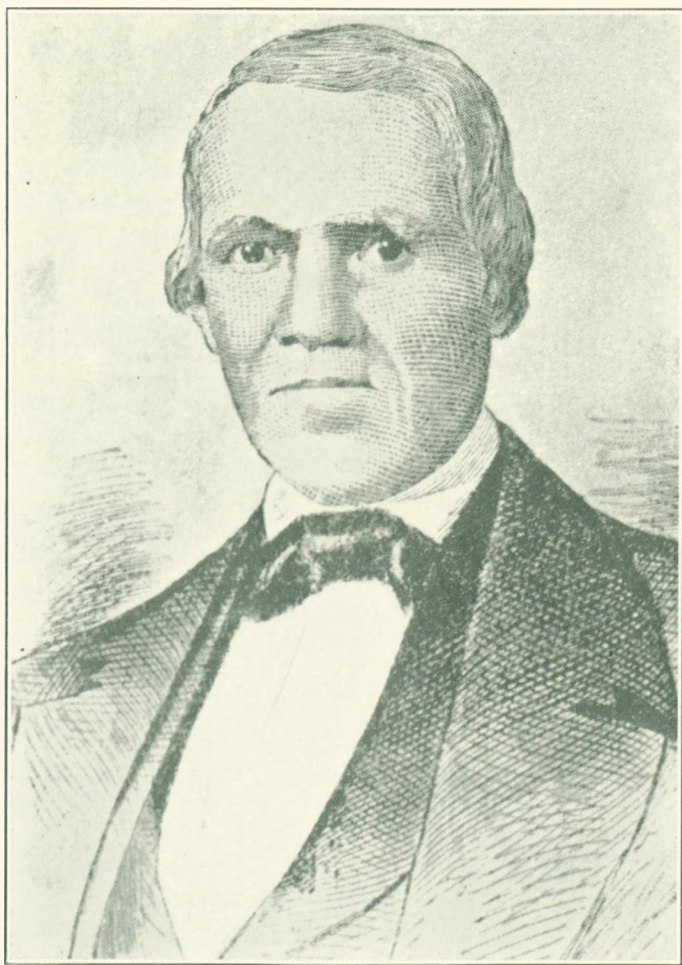
Address delivered in Gano Chapel
of William Jewell College, Liberty,
Mo., Tuesday, December 6, 1932.

BY

Judge North Todd Gentry

OF

Columbia, Missouri



DR. WILLIAM JEWELL.
*Photograph taken from portrait painted by
General Geo. C. Bingham.*

Dr. William Jewell was one of the most distinguished citizens Boone County ever had; in fact, he may be classed as one of the four leading men of the county.

He was born January 1, 1789, in Loudon County, Virginia, moved with his parents at the age of ten years to Gallatin County, Kentucky, and was educated at Transylvania University at Lexington. According to the custom of that time, he read medicine in the office of one of the leading physicians of his county and graduated from a medical college. He soon became interested in politics and served one term in the Kentucky Legislature, and voted for John J. Crittenden for United States Senator.

In 1820, the "Missouri Compromise" attracted the attention of the nation, and Dr. Jewell moved that year to Missouri, locating at first, like so many Boone County people did, in Howard County at Franklin, sometimes erroneously called "Old Franklin." Six recorded deeds, dated in 1821, conveying Boone County real estate to Dr. Jewell, described him as being a resident of Howard County: but later recorded deeds, conveying Columbia real estate to him, describe him as then being a resident of Boone County: so he probably moved to Columbia in 1821. He was accompanied by his father, George Jewell, his mother, Mary Jewell, and his three sisters, Hannah Jewell Hardin, Sarah Jewell Callihan and Elizabeth Jewell Hitt.

Col. Wm. F. Switzler said that Dr. Jewell was a resident of Columbia in 1822, for in that year "there was a spirited rivalry between him and Col. Richard Gentry (my grandfather) as to what would be the center of the town of Columbia, Dr. Jewell being a west-end boomer, and Col. Gentry being an east-end boomer." Dr. Jewell and Col. Gentry differed on nearly

every subject; the former was a Whig and the latter a Democrat; the former was a Baptist and the latter a Presbyterian; Gentry defeated Jewell for mayor of Columbia, then Jewell defeated Gentry for mayor; Jewell defeated Gentry for state senator, and Gentry defeated Jewell for state senator; then Jewell defeated Gentry for the legislature. But, tennacious and belligerent as both of them were, they buried their difference, and, as trustees of Columbia, they employed Peter Wright, a surveyor, to lay out Columbia and he did so making Broadway and Fourth Street each one hundred feet wide, and the remaining streets sixty-six feet wide. When we remember that Columbia was located in a thick forest with only about twenty families at first, the foresight and wisdom of Dr. Jewell and his associates will readily be seen.

In 1828, Dr. Jewell built a two-story brick residence at the northwest corner of Broadway and Sixth Street, and he lived there until shortly before his death; he kept his office there, and in it practiced his profession and looked after his numerous farms, town properties and public matters in which he was interested. The Columbia residence was later known as the home of Mrs. Ellen A. Conway, and still later as the Central Hotel. In 1929, after standing for a century, the building was torn down and replaced by one of Columbia's numerous filling stations. I am pleased to state that the stone steps, which for so many years were at the front door of this residence, have been brought to Liberty and appropriately placed at the east entrance on the south end of Jewell Hall.

Dr. Jewell served as mayor of Columbia for a number of years, and he practically ran the town affairs; whatever he wanted was done, and he often acted without

advising with his official associates, expecting that they would promptly ratify his actions. In 1843, Dr. Jewell decided that it was necessary to properly grade Broadway in Columbia, making certain cuts and fills, and he had the work done. Brick pavements and stone curbing and gutters were constructed on both sides of Broadway from Fourth to Hitt streets (seven blocks), and on both sides of Eighth Street from the entrance of the University campus to the court house (four blocks), and both Broadway and Eighth Street were macadamized from curb to curb. Of course this benefited the town but it injured the property of several persons; and some of them were so opposed to the grading that Mr. Edwin W. Stephens said that they threatened personal violence; but Dr. Jewell went ahead with the work, heeding no one. When one of them would complain of the damage he had sustained, Dr. Jewell would decide whether or not his claim was just, and would tell the city fathers what sum, if any, should be paid the property owner. And the city fathers did what Dr. Jewell told them to do; and strange to say, not a single property owner brought suit for damages. When the work was finished, even those who radically differed with Dr. Jewell were frank to admit that his plans were wise and well executed. Dr. Jewell saw the need of sanitation in Columbia, and as mayor recommended the passage of an ordinance providing for the inspection and regulation of slaughter houses, tan yards, livery stables and pigstys, which at that early date met with a perfect storm of opposition; but the ordinance was enacted and enforced.

In 1826, Dr. Jewell was elected Boone County's representative in the legislature, and he became one of the leaders in that body. During this session, he vot-

ed in favor of repealing the Missouri statute which provided for the whipping post and pillory as a punishment for crime; and the statute was repealed. He also voted for Thomas H. Benton for United States Senator, instead of Joseph G. Brown, the Whig candidate (Journal p. 132); this in spite of the fact that Benton was one of the leading Democrats of the nation. From 1830 to 1834, Dr. Jewell was a member of the state senate from the Eleventh district, and he was associated in that body with five distinguished Missourians, Benjamin H. Reeves, Lewis F. Linn, Edward Bates, Lilburn W. Boggs and Jas. H. Birch. Dr. Jewell voted for Alexander Buckner, of Cape Girardeau County, for United States Senator in 1830 (Journal p. 65); and he voted for William H. Ashley, of St. Louis County, for United States Senator in 1832 (Journal p. 55). Dr. Jewell voted for acts establishing the St. Louis Public Hospital, Palmyra Academy, Fayette Academy, St. Louis Public School, St. Louis Library Association, St. Louis University and Columbia College. Columbia College purchased ground on South Sixth Street in Columbia, erected a two-story brick building thereon and functioned for several years; it has been well termed the "Seed from which grew the University of Missouri." Dr. Jewell also voted for the act prohibiting the proprietor of a grog shop (later known as a saloon) from permitting slaves to congregate, assemble or drink in such a place without the consent of their masters. He was chairman of the committee on internal improvements, and he recommended the improvement of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, the establishment of state roads and state and federal appropriations to improve roads. But Dr. Jewell voted against the provision in the charter of the town of New Franklin, which author-

ized the raising of fifteen thousand dollars by means of a lottery.

Dr. Jewell was the author of the statute on confidential communications between physician and patient, which reads as follows:

“Section 17. No person authorized to practice physic or surgery shall be required or allowed to disclose any information which he may have acquired from any patient, while attending him in a professional character, and which information was necessary to enable him to prescribe for such patient as a physician, or do any act for him as a surgeon.”

This statute appears in Revised Statutes of Missouri 1835, page 623, and it is worthy of mention that, with some additions, it has been the law of Missouri for one hundred years.

In 1844, Dr. Jewell was chairman of the “Henry Clay for President Club of Boone County,” being a personal acquaintance of “Harry of the West.” That year Dr. Jewell was again elected to the legislature; and he voted in favor of acts which granted charters to municipalities, schools, academies, and to establish ferries across the Mississippi, Missouri, Osage, Grand and Salt Rivers, and to establish probate courts and common pleas courts in several counties, and to establish state roads in various localities, and to change the name of the town of Philadelphia to Arrow Rock. That year he voted for Abiel Leonard, of Howard County, for United States Senator (Journal p. 40).

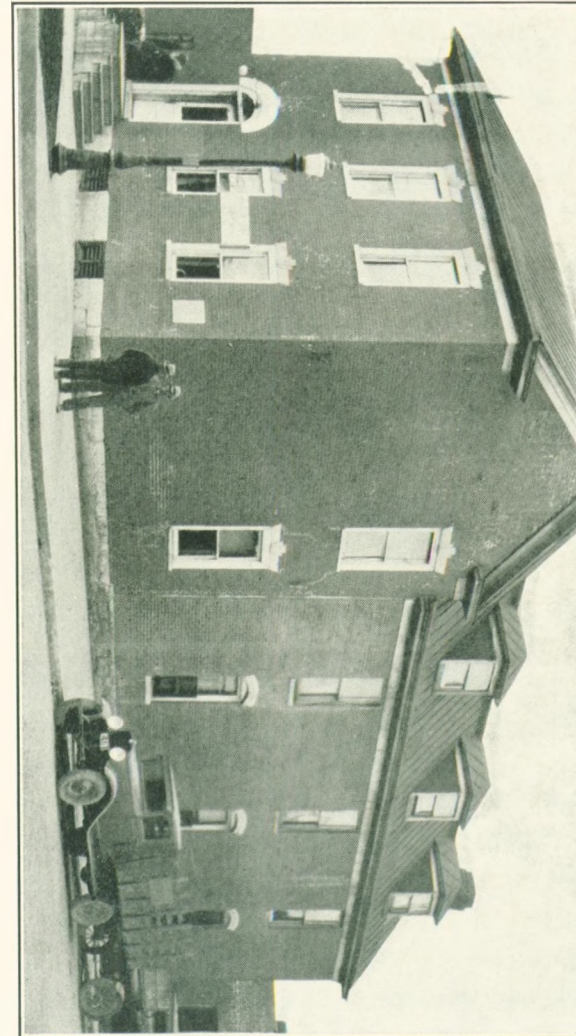
On July 4, 1831, the people of Boone County celebrated the “Glorious Fourth” by having a free dinner and barbecue near the Spring of Captain David Gordon,

one mile east of Columbia, which was preceded by a procession of horsemen and a band, and after dinner patriotic oratory was in evidence. Dr. Jewell was one of the speakers, and he responded to the toast, "The Constitution of the United States." An early newspaper in commenting on the speeches, said that Dr. Jewell's remarks "were of real practical value."

Dr. Jewell was interested in all public enterprises, including the race track that was laid out in 1832, on part of what is now the west campus of the university, also the Columbia Fair of 1835, the first county agricultural fair given in Missouri. But he opposed horse racing on Sunday and on public streets of Columbia, and he caused four Columbia citizens to be prosecuted and fined for violating the law on those subjects.

In 1832, Governor John Miller issued a call for one regiment of soldiers to go to the northeast part of our state on account of Indian troubles, the leader being a noted chieftain called Black Hawk; and citizens of Clay, Boone, Callaway, Montgomery, St. Charles, Lincoln, Pike, Monroe and Ralls Counties responded to that call, my grandfather, Richard Gentry, being the commanding officer. Dr. Jewell volunteered, again forgot all differences and went with the Boone County soldiers, as surgeon. In that war, Dr. Jewell probably met Captain Abraham Lincoln, of the Illinois troops, for the Illinois troops joined with those from Missouri in their campaign against Black Hawk. But the war lasted only a few weeks, as some of Black Hawk's braves were captured in the first skirmish, and the remaining Indians on Missouri soil ran so fast that even the enthusiastic pioneer volunteers could not catch them.

Dr. Jewell was a member of the Bonne Femme Baptist Church, the second church of that denomination to



RESIDENCE OF DR. WILLIAM JEWELL, 1828-1929.

be organized in Boone County, situated some six miles southeast of Columbia, on what is now Highway 63. Being a man of strong convictions he did not allow anything to pass unnoticed; so he had a dispute with two members of that church, one a physician, regarding a reflection by them on his professional standing, and the dispute waxed warm. He prepared and circulated a paper denouncing them in strong terms, calling one of them "a so-called physician, but in reality only a 'quack.'" For this offense, the church withdrew from him the right hand of fellowship; so Dr. Jewell apologized. But later, he felt called on to again denounce those two men, and he prepared and distributed a second circular, more vigorous than the first. For this, he was again arraigned by the Bonne Femme Church, but he did not apologize; on the contrary, he withdrew and organized a Baptist Church in Columbia, in November, 1823. To Dr. Jewell is due the credit for organizing the first church of any denomination in Columbia, and he and some of his family were among the original members of that church.

In 1836, Dr. Jewell and Rev. Moses U. Payne, a Methodist minister, bought a lot at the southwest corner of Walnut and Guitar Streets, in Columbia, and built what they called the Union Church, which was occupied by the Baptist and Methodist churches jointly for sixteen years. This building and ground belonged to and was paid for by those two gentlemen alone. In 1851, the Baptist congregation had grown till a separate building was needed, so Dr. Jewell had the Baptist Church built on the courthouse square, the only church built on a courthouse square that your speaker has ever heard of. But Dr. Jewell told the Boone County Court that that was the proper thing to do, and of course the

court agreed with Dr. Jewell. The plans for this church edifice were prepared by Dr. Jewell, the contract let by him and the work was nearly completed when he died. This building was used by the Columbia Baptists until 1891, when they erected a new house of worship on Broadway and Waugh Street, and wanted to dispose of the old one on the courthouse square. The personnel of the county court had of course changed, and the court of 1891 did not want to pay anything for the building and ground, claiming that the building was erected there without authority of law. The court sought the advice of your speaker (he being a disinterested Presbyterian), and he looked up the record to see what order had been made; when to his surprise and the surprise of everyone, he found a deed from the county court for 70 by 142½ feet, a part of the courthouse square, which deed was made to Dr. Jewell and others as trustees of that church, and recorded by him in 1851. As a lawyer and a friend of all parties, your speaker advised the county court to settle with the Baptist Church, as in his opinion that church could not afford to have a law suit with Boone County, and Boone County could not afford to have a law suit with the Baptist Church. The county offered to pay fifteen hundred dollars for a deed, but the Baptists wanted twenty-five hundred dollars; so your speaker recommended that both sides be as liberal as horse-traders, and "split the difference," which was agreed to. The Columbia Baptist Church then made a deed to Boone County for that part of the courthouse square and the old church building, and the county paid two thousand dollars therefor. As far as known, this is the only case in Missouri where a county court repurchased a part of the courthouse square.

Dr. Jewell was an earnest advocate of higher education, and he and Austin A. King, Moses U. Payne and others were named as the first board of trustees of Columbia Female Academy (Laws of Missouri 1837, p. 145), an institution in Columbia for the higher education of women. A brick building was erected and used by that academy for many years; it was situated at the southwest corner of Tenth and Cherry streets in Columbia; it was later known as the Cottage Hotel, then the Gordon Hotel, now the Gordon Hotel Apartments. This academy was the forerunner of Christian College and Baptist College (now Stephens College).

In 1839, when there was a contest between Cole, Cooper, Howard, Boone and Saline Counties for the location of the University of Missouri (Laws of Missouri 1839, p. 185), Dr. Jewell was so anxious to have Boone County selected that he subscribed eighteen hundred dollars. Dr. Jewell, Major Jas. S. Rollins and others were members of the soliciting committee that raised seventeen thousand nine hundred dollars from the citizens of Boone County, and the university was located in Columbia. On the 4th of July, 1840, the corner stone of the first building (the main building) was laid, and Dr. Jewell was prominent in the celebration of that event. He was, in 1849, chairman of the committee of arrangements that gave a public dinner to a large number of people assembled on the university campus, the occasion being the retirement of Dr. John H. Lathrop, first president of the university.

Dr. Jewell raised and educated a boy, John F. Stone, who became a Boone County lawyer and later married a niece of Dr. Jewell; of course he became a Baptist and a Whig. Dr. Jewell assisted in electing Mr. Stone a member of the state constitutional convention of 1845

from the Boone County district, Mr. Stone being only twenty-six years of age, the youngest man in the convention. It was said that Dr. Jewell aided in educating a number of young men, but was strict in requiring of each that he be sober and industrious.

Dr. Jewell was one of the active practitioners of medicine in Boone and adjoining counties; and that was during the time that a physician had to ride horseback over bad roads, through mud, snow and cold and across many unbridged streams, and treat patients without the aid of hospitals, ex-ray machines, operating chairs, etc. He was one of the few early physicians to make money out of his practice, for it was said that he would accept of all kinds of livestock and farm produce and most any kind of labor in payment for medical bills. He did not hesitate to bring suit against persons who owed him notes or accounts, as numerous judgments of the Boone Circuit Court and other courts of that county attest, and later those judgments were paid; his motto being, "The laborer is worthy of his hire." Dr. Wm. H. Duncan, a well-known physician of that day, many years later, said, "The night was never too dark nor the day too stormy for Dr. Jewell to travel miles from home to wait on patients who could not and did not pay him a penny: he seemed to enjoy charity practice, and he did so much of it that his friends realized and he realized that it was injuring his health and shortening his life." Dr. Jewell was an ethical practitioner, had high ideals, was strict in the observance of them and looked down with scorn and contempt on "quacks and charlatans," as he was pleased to call certain other practitioners. He was absolutely fair in the expression of his opinion, would not vary to please any one, and he was often called to testify in court as an ex-

pert in medical matters. In 1847, one Grubb and a Mrs. Hendricks were charged in Boone County with the murder of Mrs. Hendricks' husband, by the use of arsenic, and the two defendants were found together in Randolph County a few days after the husband's mysterious death, and there were other suspicious circumstances against the woman and her admirer, so public sentiment ran high and it was against both defendants. But Dr. Jewell and Dr. Wm. H. Duncan, who held the post mortem examination, testified that they could find no trace of poison in the body of the husband; so the two defendants were acquitted. In another murder case, the track of the bullet was considered important evidence tending to show that the homicide was not accidental, as the defendant claimed. Dr. Jewell testified, in spite of public feeling to the contrary, that the course of the bullet would often be deflected by a bone or even by a muscle, so the jury found that the killing was accidental. The proprietor of a certain Columbia grocery (later called saloon) had little sympathy for his customers after they had spent all of their money with him: so one night he tried to put one of them out of his place of business, and struck the drunken man on the head with an iron poker. Dr. Jewell was called to treat the injured man, put him to bed, told him to stay there for two weeks and assured him that he would recover in that time. Instead the injured man got up and went to plowing corn, which caused serious complications and death resulted. The proprietor of the grocery was prosecuted for murder and the community felt that his conduct was deserving of death. When Dr. Jewell was called as a witness, he stated that the wound inflicted was not a fatal wound and that the injured man's actions caused his own death;

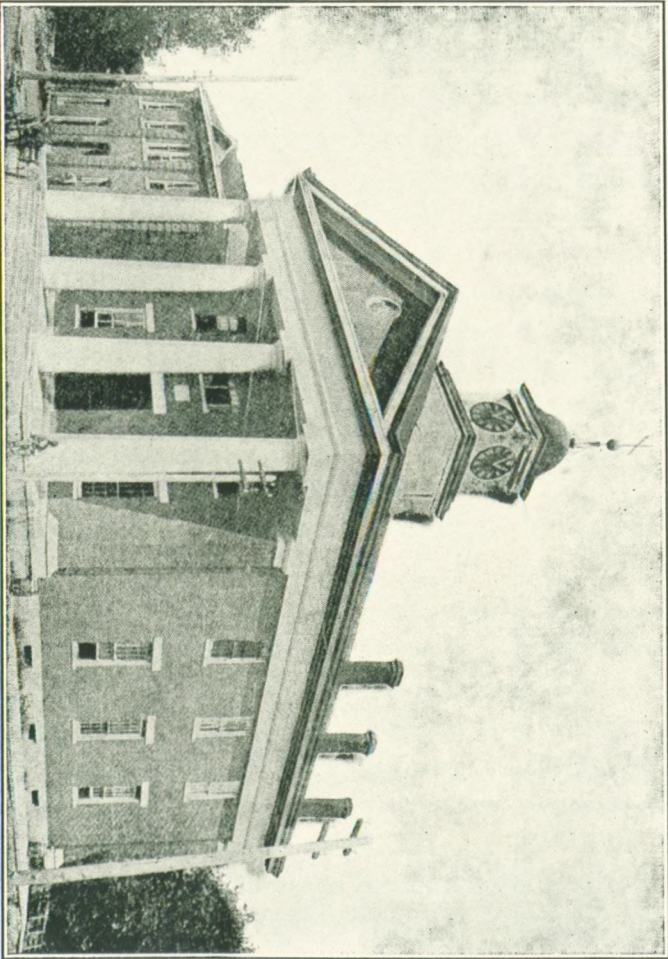
so the court very properly held that the proprietor of the grocery could only be convicted of an assault with intent to kill.

In July, 1847, the Missouri statute required lawyers and physicians to pay a license fee of two and one half dollars each, and this statute was bitterly resented by most all practitioners of those professions, and many refused to pay. But the Boone County Court records show that Dr. Jewell and two other Boone County physicians paid this license fee till the statute was repealed, Dr. Jewell taking the position that it was the duty of all good citizens to obey a law even though they disapproved of that law.

In 1843, a number of Boone County citizens became interested in and organized an African Colonization Society, and Dr. William Jewell was elected president, Rev. Thomas M. Allen, of the Christian Church, Rev. Fielding Wilhite, of the Baptist Church, and Rev. Isaac Jones, of the Presbyterian Church, were elected vice-presidents, and Col. Wm. F. Switzler was elected secretary. The members of this organization were dissatisfied with slavery, as it then existed in this country, but no definite plan was worked out, although meetings of the organization were held once a month for two years. Dr. Jewell, like many of the citizens of Boone and adjoining counties, owned slaves, but he evidently did not approve of slavery; for in 1846 he executed deeds of emancipation to four of them, Mandy, Ralph, Emanuel and Phillis, as shown by the Boone County deed records. Then, as shown by the Boone County Court records, Dr. Jewell took his former slaves into the Boone County Court, had them to apply for a license to live in the state as free persons, made proof of their good character and signed the bond of each one for one

hundred dollars for good behavior, as the law then required (R. S. Mo. 1845, pp. 1094-5). By his will, executed in February, 1852, Dr. Jewell emancipated "Stephen, a blacksmith by trade," and gave him his blacksmith tools; and by his will he emancipated "Ellen, a faithful servant."

In 1845, Boone County decided to have a new court house, and Dr. Jewell, who seemed to have been well informed on the subject of architecture and building, was appointed superintendent, and he served for two years without compensation. The building was completed in November, 1847, and Dr. Jewell delivered the speech to the county court and formally delivered the keys of the building: the speech of acceptance was made by Presiding Judge Alexander Persinger, who complimented Dr. Jewell upon his erection of such a fine structure and at such a reasonable price. On a stone slab over the front door were the names of those who did the stone, brick and interior work, also the name of B. McAlester, who did the wood work, and the name of Dr. William Jewell, superintendent. On another slab was an appropriate motto, and Dr. Jewell was generally believed to be its author. It was, "Oh, Justice! when expelled from other habitations make this thy dwelling place." The University of Missouri had just completed its main building, and it was situated at the south end of Eighth Street; so Dr. Jewell erected the court house in the middle of Eighth Street, just half a mile north of the university main building, the center door of the court house being due north of the center door of the university main building. This court house, which was well built and of classic architecture, stood till 1909, when it was torn down, the four stone columns alone remaining. The slab with the



BOONE COUNTY COURT HOUSE OF 1847.
DR. WILLIAM JEWELL, *Superintendent.*

motto on it was taken from the court house of 1847 and placed in the front entrance of the court house of 1909.

In 1847-8, Dr. Jewell, Jas. S. Rollins, Wm. F. Switzler, Henry S. Geyer, Samuel T. Glover and other well-known Missourians were members of the Whig state committee, and worked hard for the election of Taylor and Fillmore. After the election, there was an elaborate celebration of the Whig victory in Columbia, and at this meeting Dr. Jewell and other members of the committee made speeches.

Dr. Jewell frequently acted as executor and administrator of estates, some of them complicated, also as guardian and curator of minors; and the county court records show that he discharged his duties satisfactorily to the court and to all parties in interest. Some of his work of this kind was unfinished, and it was taken in charge by his nephew Charles H. Hardin, who, following the example of his illustrious kinsman, discharged his duties according to law.

In 1848, the first temperance society, known as the Sons of Temperance, was organized in Columbia, and Dr. Jewell was one of its officers. He took an active stand against the use of whisky by candidates on election day; and he once said that he did not care to have the political friendship of a man who was so common as to require a drink of whisky in order to secure his vote.

In 1849, Dr. Jewell and a number of other progressive citizens of Boone County became stockholders in the Columbia & Missouri river turnpike company (Laws of Mo. 1849, p. 290), later the Columbia & Missouri river plank road company, which built an improved road popularly known as the "Providence plank road." While this road looked good and served the people for

a short time, it, like the fifteen other plank roads of our state, proved to be a failure and was abandoned in ten years. But the company did construct a good covered bridge, ninety feet long, across Hinkson creek, in 1854-5, which was used till 1888, when it was torn down. This covered bridge was patterned after the covered bridge across Perche creek on the Columbia and Rocheport road (now Highway 40), which was constructed in 1851, the plans and drawings of which were made by Dr. Jewell, which bridge stood for eighty years when it was torn down. In 1849, the Boonslick Turnpike company was chartered (Laws of Mo. 1849, p. 336), and it was authorized to build a turnpike or plank road from Glasgow by way of Fayette, Columbia, Fulton, Danville and Warrenton to St. Charles, and Dr. Jewell was one of the incorporators. While this one hundred and fifty mile road was not built, it can truthfully be said that the promotors of these plank roads were responsible for the good roads movement in Missouri.

Dr. Jewell was one of the leading Baptist laymen of Missouri, and he showed his interest in his church and the principles for which it stood on many occasions. He was not only a liberal contributor to local causes, but was specially interested in missions, both domestic and foreign. In August, 1843, Dr. Jewell offered to donate ten thousand dollars to the Baptist General Association of Missouri for the purpose of erecting a college for young men, provided the Baptist Church raised sixteen thousand dollars additional: but in August, 1844, his offer was declined, as the additional sum had not been raised. In August, 1847, the Baptist General Association met at Walnut Grove Baptist Church (fourteen miles northwest of Columbia in Boone County) and

sixteen thousand nine hundred and thirty-six dollars was raised, so Dr. Jewell's offer was accepted. It may be of interest to you to know that my great-uncle Rev. Christy Gentry, a Baptist minister of Ralls County, Missouri, was in attendance upon this association, and made a small donation to the college. A charter was obtained from the Missouri legislature on February 27, 1849 (Laws of Mo. 1849, p. 232), but in it the name of the college was not given, nor its location; but the charter authorized a majority of the donors for its endowment to determine the name and also its location, and to cause a certificate thereof to be recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds in the county in which it should be located. The act granting the charter (which was sponsored by Jas. S. Rollins in the senate and by Wm. F. Switzler in the house) named Tyre C. Harris, Robert S. Thomas, John Ellis, William Jewell, Isaac Lionberger, John O'Brien, W. C. Ligon, A. W. Doniphan, T. N. Thompson, W. D. Hubbell, Robert James, Samuel T. Glover, T. L. Anderson, R. F. Richmond, S. D. South, T. E. Hatcher, William Carson, David Perkins, W. M. Jackson, Roland Hughes, W. M. McPherson, R. E. McDonald, John Robinson, M. F. Price and Edward M. Samuel as trustees; the first four named were then citizens of Boone County; and Messrs. Doniphan, Ligon, Hubbell and Samuel were then citizens of Clay County. At the meeting of the Baptist General Association at Boonville in August, 1849, there was a contest for the location for the college, Boonville, Liberty, Fulton and Palmyra being considered. Col. Alexander W. Doniphan presented the claim of Liberty, Congressman John Miller that of Boonville, and Rev. Noah Flood that of Fulton. Liberty was selected as the location, and it was then unanimously decided that

the name of the institution should be William Jewell College. Work soon began on the college building, and Dr. Jewell was made commissioner in charge of the same; and he employed his trusted friend with whom he had been associated in the erection of the Boone County court house, B. McAlester, of Columbia, as superintendent. Dr. Jewell, as was his custom, devoted his time to the undertaking; he gave up his medical practice, abandoned his extensive business enterprises, moved to Liberty temporarily and looked after every detail of the work. It was generally believed that he applied himself too closely to this work, for he died before the college building was half finished.

Dr. Jewell owned a farm two miles south of Columbia on the Providence Road, which formerly belonged to George Jewell, his father. Shortly before his father's death in June, 1841, his father executed a deed conveying one-third of an acre of this farm to Dr. Jewell and Thomas Boyle Jewell, and their successors in trust, for a burying ground for George Jewell and his family, his children and their families, their children and their families, but no one else, and to be known as the Jewell Cemetery (See Deed recorded in Book L, page 103 of Boone County deed records.) This cemetery is surrounded by a stone wall with an iron gate, while stately pines and cedars, said to have been planted by Dr. Jewell, ornament the same; and a trustee, H. H. Banks, handles a trust fund, bequeathed for that purpose, and looks after the up-keep of the ground and monuments. Charles Hardin, Columbia's first postmaster, Charles H. Hardin, governor of our state, Dr. T. R. H. Smith, Missouri's first superintendent of the first hospital for the insane, Wm. Y. Hitt, the man for whom Hitt Street in Columbia was named, John F. Stone, Dr. William

Jewell and George Jewell are buried there, also members of their families.

In 1852, the North Missouri (now Wabash) railroad was the subject of much discussion; some of the people being opposed to its location through Callaway, Boone and Howard counties, as they believed the same would furnish an easy way of escape for their slaves. Dr. Jewell favored the construction of the railroad through Boone County, and several times said that he would be a subscriber to the enterprise; but his death occurred before the road was built or stock subscriptions made.

Dr. Jewell's death occurred in Liberty, on August 7, 1852, and shortly thereafter citizens of both Clay and Boone counties held memorial meetings, at which resolutions of respect were adopted and tributes to his memory were made by some of the leading men of Missouri. His body was taken to Liberty Landing, thence to Boone County by steam-boat on the Missouri river, a stream for the improvement of which he was so active; and his burial was in the Jewell Cemetery. At both Liberty and Columbia, public offices were closed and business suspended at the times of the funeral services, and the services at each place were largely attended. A tomb stone at his grave bears this inscription, "William Jewell, M. D., Born Jan. 1, 1789, Died Aug. 7, 1852. His work is done, he did it well and faithfully."

In his will, Dr. Jewell made provision for his grandson, William B. Jewell, then eight years of age, as follows: "I appoint Charles H. Hardin guardian and curator of my grandson, whom I particularly wish to be trained in industry and active duties of life. No room is to be left for idleness, useless consumption of time, or pleasure, so called. Industry, temperance in all things, good morals and our holy Christianity

are to be perseveringly inculcated in winning and skillful manner upon my said grandson, whom I desire also to be raised, if possible, under Missionary Baptist influence, as I regard it in its purity the safest and best on earth." Dr. Jewell gave three thousand dollars to his name-sake, William Jewell Black, of Boone County. And he also gave, by his will, three thousand dollars to the trustees of William Jewell College, and the full-sized portrait of himself, which he says was painted in 1849 by General George C. Bingham, when a suitable place therefor should be provided by the trustees in the college building. He gave a part of his estate to his only daughter, Mrs. Angeline A. Wilson, but most of his estate he gave to his grandson, William B. Jewell, during his life, and at his death to his child or children, if any. But if the grandson died leaving no child or children, then such property and money should go to the Baptist Church for missions and education; and he specially mentioned the purchase of a library and apparatus for a chemical laboratory for William Jewell College. The grandson married when he was twenty years old, and died a year later leaving one child Williamine, then a baby two months old. So the baby, according to Dr. Jewell's will, acquired the Jewell estate: and eight months later, the baby died, and the baby's mother Malissa Jewell inherited from the baby. Then the mother married Rev. Henry Branch, a Presbyterian minister; so the money and property got out of the Jewell family and out of the Baptist Church. If there is such a thing as a man's turning over in his grave, I feel certain that Dr. Jewell did.

Dr. Jewell was twice married, first to Miss Arethusa Boyle, who died in 1818; then to Miss Cynthia Compton, who died in 1822. His only son by his first wife,

Thomas Boyle Jewell, predeceased him eight years: and his only child, George Jewell, by the second wife, died young.

Dr. Jewell failed in one undertaking. He and Robert L. Todd tried to get Boone County Court to build a new jail in 1852, after a man had been there confined and then found not guilty. He said that the old log jail, or "goal" as it was formerly called, was unsanitary and unsafe; and that the welding of an iron band around a prisoner's leg or wrist and chaining him to the floor (as the Boone County records of 1847 show was done) was, to use his language, "an act of barbarism." But Dr. Jewell did not exert the influence that he formerly did, as he was then so much interested in building the college at Liberty. But Boone County did build a new stone jail in 1856, due largely to the effort of Dr. Jewell and others some four years before.

Although but sixty-three years old at the time of his death, it can be said that Dr. Jewell exerted an influence in this state religiously, politically, financially and professionally, that was equaled by few men of his day, or since then. He was a wise counselor, an aggressive moral advocate, a liberal donor to good causes, a friend of those in need and a public servant of the highest character: and he possessed those lofty ideals of the many good people who then constituted the citizenship of the three great states, Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri.

And it can be further said, Mr. President, that my distinguished former fellow-townsmen labored industriously to make the people of his adopted state stronger physically, stronger mentally and stronger morally, and also to make Missouri an ideal commonwealth.

