

PHELPS COUNTY NEW-ERA.

"It is not in a Splendid Government, supported by powerful monopolies and Aristocratic Establishments that the people find happiness; but in a plain system, void of pomp, protecting all and granting favors to none." — JACKSON.

Volume 1.

ROLLA, MISSOURI, DEC. 18, 1875.

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ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Rolla, Mo. will practice in the Supreme and U. S. District Courts at Jefferson City, and in the Circuit Courts of Phelps, Marion, Texas, Polk, Dent and Crawford Counties. Office in O'Brien's building, up stairs.

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ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, and Abstractors of Title. Having a complete Abstract of the Titles of Phelps County, we are prepared to furnish any information that may be desired as to Titles of Lands, and to pay Taxes for non-residents. Office in Court House, Rolla, Mo.

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ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, will practice in the 14th and 15th Judicial Circuits. All business entrusted to his care will receive prompt attention.

HENRY CLENO.
LEBANON, Missouri.
REAL ESTATE AGENT, and Local Land Agent of the Atlantic & Pacific R. Co., Rolla, Mo. Office in Taylor's Brick Building, up-stairs.

W. J. POWELL.
REAL ESTATE AGENT, and Conveyancer, will buy and sell lands on commission, pay taxes for non-residents and do a general Agency Business.

Physicians & Dentists.

DR. C. H. SPURTS.
OFFICE ON SIXTH STREET NEAR PINE, ROLLA, MO.

DR. C. E. CAUFMAN,
DENTIST.
Rooms up-stairs, next door south of Simmons & Deegan's Old Stand.

HOTELS.

GRANT HOUSE.
ROLLA, MO.
This Hotel is good in all its appointments. Its tables are at all times supplied with the greatest abundance and with all the delicacies that the market affords. Terms reasonable. 1-6 ly. H. M. SHAW, Prop.

CRANDELL HOUSE.
ROLLA, MO.
Mrs. A. M. Crandall keeps a First Class Hotel. The traveling public are respectfully invited to patronize this hotel. Large house, airy rooms, and tables supplied with the best that can be bought in the market. Terms reasonable. There will be no pains spared to make the guests friends of this hotel.

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE,
ROLLA, MO.
Fourth Street, near Main, P. C. Roberts, Proprietor. Travellers will find at this hotel good accommodations, and the best fare the market affords at the above rates. Rooms and board, \$3.50 per week. 1-5.

NATIONAL HOTEL.
KOENIG & BLACKSMITH, Proprietors,
St. James, Mo.
This Hotel is open to receive guests. The new management will take care that the guests are provided with every convenience of a First Class Country Hotel. The table furnished with the best that the market affords. Rates reasonable. 10-11.

CLARENDON HOTEL,
St. Louis, Mo.
Thos. Ranley, Prop., opposite Pacific R. R. Depot. Temporary Union Depot Two Blocks from the House. Rates, \$2.00 per day. 1-11

AMERICAN HOTEL
Cuba, Mo.
Wm. Turner, Proprietor. Travellers will find at this Hotel good accommodations and the best fare the market affords at reasonable prices. The house is open for all night trains. Good stabling for horses.

Boot & Shoemakers.

J. H. PARKER.
BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,
Pine Street, Rolla, Missouri.
Is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line. Work guaranteed. Charges reasonable.

Star Boot and Shoe Shop.
B. M. CULBERTSON.
Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes. Ladies and Gentlemen's fine wear made to order. Repairing done, and all work warranted. I can always be found at my place of business, prepared to do work. 1-1-y

National Banks.

C. H. FROST, Pres't. D. W. MALCOLM, Cashier.
NATIONAL BANK OF ROLLA,
ROLLA, MISSOURI.

Dealer in Foreign and Domestic Exchange (Gold and Silver) Bonds of the United States, State and County City and County Warrants &c. Special attention given to remittances, promptly made. Interest allowed on time deposits. Exchange on St. Louis and eastern cities furnished at accommodating rates. 11-15-18

Subscribe!

Phelps Co. Official Directory.

Representative—F. M. Lenox.
Circuit Judge—V. B. Hill.
Prosecuting Attorney—Wm. C. Kelly.
Sheriff—John L. Bogler.
Collector—Henry Dean.
Assessor—Samuel Ledgerwood.
Circuit Clerk—Granville Allen.
County Justices—J. K. Bowman, John A. Sully, C. P. Paulsell.
County Clerk—J. S. French.
Probate Judge—J. R. Bowman.
Probate Clerk—L. F. Parker.
Superintendent Public Schools—W. S. Perkins.
County Treasurer—Louis Auerbach.
County Surveyor—T. D. Smith.
Coroner—C. G. Woody.
Public Administrator—Wm. Dawson.

TIME OF HOLDING COURT.
Circuit Court—First Monday in February, and August.
Probate Court—Last Monday in January, April, July, October.
County Court—First Monday in February, May, August and November.

CITY OFFICERS.
I. S. WATSON, Mayor and Recorder,
Henry Webster, Register,
Arthur Corss, City Attorney.
COUNCILMEN.
George Bruher, D. W. Malcolm, T. Q. Emerson, E. J. Morris, C. H. Frost and E. W. Bishop.

Flouring Mills, &c.
ROLLA MILLS Co; Jos CAMPBELL, Pres't.

Wm. Beddoe.
PROPRIETOR OF THE
ROLLA STEAM GRIST MILLS.
Corner Fifth and Rolla Streets.
Having put in new and powerful machinery, he is prepared to do a general Grist Business. Wool Carding a specialty. Has the new attachment to the cards that makes the "Endless Roll." Fair dealing guaranteed.

Tailoring! Tailoring!!
A. M. WADE,
Has just received the Fall and Winter styles for Men's Clothing and is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line. Satisfaction given and charges reasonable.
Shop over Dr Storts office, Rolla, Mo. 29

Painting!
I will do all kinds of work in the painting line, on short notice and reasonable rates.
Sign Writing, Paper Hanging and Graining, a specialty.
Orders for Sign Writing from a distance promptly attended to.
Shop over O. K. Store Building, Pine Street, Rolla, Mo. All work warranted.
H. M. DEVENS, 1-5.

C. G. Woody,
Undertaker and Cabinet Maker, Eighth Street, Rolla, Mo.,
Has recently laid in a large and varied assortment of goods in his line. The finest goods in this section of country. A fine lot of Mouldings for picture Frames, &c., Locks and Knobs of every description, Brackets made and Bracket work done at short notice.
Repairing and Cabinet work promptly done. 1-1 y.

Headstones, &c.
N. M. TOMPSON,
Manufacturer of
MONUMENTS, TOMBSTONES, &c.
Shop, one and half miles south of St James. Only the best material used. Work guaranteed. Prices very reasonable. 16-17

J. H. Welsh & Son,
MANUFACTURERS OF ITALIAN
AND AMERICAN
Marble Monuments,
TOMBS, AND TOMBSTONES.
Having opened a Marble Shop 8 miles northwest of Rolla, I am prepared to manufacture Monuments, Tomb Stones &c., &c. from the best quality of American and Italian Marble, on short notice.
Being an experienced workman I defy competition from any quarter.

Saddles and Harness;

Removal!
The Stock of Harness and Saddlery belonging to O'Brien & Bro. has been removed to the building known as the Red Store. We respectfully invite our patrons to favor us with their orders, convinced that with increased facilities we cannot fail to give satisfaction.
O'BRIEN & BROTHER
Rolla, Aug. 27th, 1875.

Awarded the Highest Medal at Vienna
E. & H. T. ANTHONY & Co.,
501 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.
(Opp. Metropolitan Hotel.)
Manufacturers, Importers & Dealers in
CHROMOS AND FRAMES,
STEREOSCOPIES AND VIEWS,
ALBUMS, GRAPHOSCOPES, and SUITABLE VIEWS,
PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS.

We are Headquarters for everything in the way of
STEREOSCOPIES, and MAGIC LANTERNS
Being Manufacturers of the
MICRO-SCIENTIFIC LANTERN,
STEREO-PANORAMIC,
UNIVERSITY STEREOPTICON,
ADVERTISERS STEREOPTICON,
ARTOPTICON,
SCHOOL LANTERN, FAMILY LANTERN,
PROFESSOR'S LANTERN.

Each style being the best of its class in the market.
Catalogues of Lanterns and Slides with directions for using sent on application.
Any enterprising man can make money with a Magic Lantern. 25-611

St James Advertisements.

Glad Tidings!

THOMAS HOBART,
(Successor to Jos. Peters.)

St. James, - - - - - Missouri.
Has Recently Purchased in St. Louis an immense stock of Dry Goods,
Groceries,
Hardware,
Boots, & Shoes,
Hats & Caps;

All of which he will sell at a small advance on Cost. Everything in the Produce line taken in exchange for goods.
Call and examine prices and stocks and you will be astonished at the lowness of the price of these Goods.

MILLINERY.
A special department of these goods and a fine stock in this line will be kept constantly on hand during the season.

BOOTS & SHOES.
The largest stock ever received in St. James just received direct from Boston.
Cash is what I want! No Credit.
—MY MOTTO—
Large Sales and Small Profits.
THOS. HOBART,
St. James, Sept. 17, '75. 23-1f.

Job Smith,
—DEALER IN—
Lumber, Shingles, Lath, Sash,
DOORS AND BLINDS,
LIME AND CEMENT,
And a General Assortment of
HARDWARE,
PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS,
NAILS, BAR STEEL AND IRON
—OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
St. James, Mo.

Real Estate

—FOR SALE BY—
W. J. POWELL,
LAND AGENT, ROLLA, MO.

No. 1. A neat cottage in Rolla, 3 rooms lot 5x114 feet, neatly fenced, house new. Price \$350. On easy terms.
No. 2. Two roomed house and lot 66x206 feet in Paris, Monroe County, Mo. Price \$350. Cash or trade.
No. 3. Two lots 66x170 feet each at same place \$100.00 each. Cash or trade.
No. 4. House and fractional lot in original town Rolla 4 rooms and basement kitchen and large cellar, custom and oil houses complete. Price \$500.00. On easy terms.
No. 5. Two lots in James addition to Rolla, fenced. Price \$30 each.
No. 6. 1 lot in West Plains, Howell Co. Mo. On public square. Price \$100.
No. 7. Notes to the amt of \$132.50 secured by deed of trust on house in St. James worth \$250. Will take a small discount from face.

No. 8. A tract of pine lands containing 1,200 acres. Price \$3.00 per acre.
No. 9. A tract of timber lands principally Oak and Pine with a Steam Saw Mill complete and in working order. Acres in tract 280. Price for the Mill and Lands \$2,000.
No. 10. A tract of land containing 618 acres, about 100 all bottom in cultivation, with a lot of fine bottom land yet uncleared. Fine dwelling house that cost \$1,000, Grist and Saw Mill run with water power. Finest water power in the State. Situated on Pine River known as "The Number One Mill." Fine opening for a man with capital. Price for the whole \$4,000.

No. 11. A tract of land containing 240 acres known as the Bell Mill tract. Fine Millsite with unimproved water power. Price per acre \$5.00.
No. 12. A tract of 120 acres of Pine Lands, in Texas County, Missouri. Price \$3.00 per acre.
No. 13. Very fine tract of farming land containing 320 acres about 80 in cultivation. Little improvements. \$10 per acre.
No. 14. A tract of 280 acres known as the Keith and Yates place. Price \$3.00 per acre.
No. 15. A tract of land containing 320 acres a part of the Ellis Prairie tract, fair agricultural land. Price \$3.00 per acre.

No. 16. Several other small tracts of lands in Texas and other counties which will be sold at very reasonable rates. The title to the above lands is perfect in every respect. They are some of the choicest Pine and Agricultural lands in Texas County having been entered at a very early day in good neighborhoods. A very desirable stock farm. Price \$5.00 per acre.
No. 17. 120 on Elk Creek in Wright County very desirable tract of land, 50 acres in cultivation. Price \$10 per acre, cash.
No. 18. 680 acres near Competition P. O., in Laclede County, good springs of water, about 100 acres open in cultivation. Price \$5.00 per acre.
No. 19. 8 1/2 acres of land lying about 20 rods from the School of Mines, good 2 story frame house, well finished, 5 rooms and cellar; eastern, about 200 fruit trees of all kinds and 75 grape vines. Good barn and necessary outbuildings. Price \$1,000, on easy terms.
No. 20. A tract of 120 acres of land, on Edgar's Prairie, 80 acres in cultivation and under fence and 40 acres of timber, splendid farming land. Price \$1,000.

No. 21. 920 acres, 4 miles North-east of Hartsville Wright County, 150 acres in cultivation, good house and barn and other buildings. All kinds of fruit trees, school and church house land in good neighborhood. A very desirable stock farm. Price \$5.00 per acre.

No. 22. 120 on Elk Creek in Wright County very desirable tract of land, 50 acres in cultivation. Price \$10 per acre, cash.
No. 23. 680 acres near Competition P. O., in Laclede County, good springs of water, about 100 acres open in cultivation. Price \$5.00 per acre.
No. 24. 8 1/2 acres of land lying about 20 rods from the School of Mines, good 2 story frame house, well finished, 5 rooms and cellar; eastern, about 200 fruit trees of all kinds and 75 grape vines. Good barn and necessary outbuildings. Price \$1,000, on easy terms.
No. 25. A tract of 120 acres of land, on Edgar's Prairie, 80 acres in cultivation and under fence and 40 acres of timber, splendid farming land. Price \$1,000.

No. 26. 120 on Elk Creek in Wright County very desirable tract of land, 50 acres in cultivation. Price \$10 per acre, cash.
No. 27. 680 acres near Competition P. O., in Laclede County, good springs of water, about 100 acres open in cultivation. Price \$5.00 per acre.
No. 28. 8 1/2 acres of land lying about 20 rods from the School of Mines, good 2 story frame house, well finished, 5 rooms and cellar; eastern, about 200 fruit trees of all kinds and 75 grape vines. Good barn and necessary outbuildings. Price \$1,000, on easy terms.
No. 29. A tract of 120 acres of land, on Edgar's Prairie, 80 acres in cultivation and under fence and 40 acres of timber, splendid farming land. Price \$1,000.

GIGANTIC LAND SWINDLES.

Twelve Millions of Acres Sold on Forged Deeds.
The Swindlers Operating in Missouri and Arkansas Land Agencies in All the Principal Cities—The Conspirators Indicted.

(From the St. Louis Times.)
It is claimed that the existence of a heavy Land Ring was brought to light recently by the investigations of the Grand Jury of Shannon county, this State. That body on Saturday last returned indictments against three parties, two of them residents of this city, charging them with complicity in certain alleged swindling operations extending over a period of years, by which various parties have been defrauded out of millions of dollars.

The indictments are against Dr. Thomas K. Harmon, David S. Bigham, and James M. Lawton. The last-named gentleman claims to be an English subject, with his residence at Manchester, England; but he spends considerable time in this city, and is expected here in a short time on his return from a visit to England.

Capiases on the indictments mentioned were received by Sheriff Thomas yesterday, but he refused to arrest Harmon and Bigham on the ground that the county marshal was the proper party to make the arrests. The capiases were therefore returned to Shannon county to be made out and sent back directed to the county marshal.

The parties named, in connection with others, as appears from testimony adduced before the Shannon county Grand Jury, it is charged, formed a Ring some five years ago for the systematic forging of deeds to lands in Northern Arkansas and Southeast Missouri. The Ring, in addition to the parties interested here, is said to have agencies established in Cincinnati, Pittsburg, Philadelphia, New York, and Manchester, England. Some of the agencies, it is alleged, have done an excellent business, and it is estimated that the Ring has forged and disposed of deeds to at least 12,000,000 acres of land, worth some twenty-five or thirty million of dollars.

THE LANDS SELECTED.
It is a well-known fact that the greater part of the land in the territory to which the operations of the Ring have been confined is owned by non-residents, who pay little or no attention to their claims, and frequently neglect to pay the taxes due on the same for years, and much of it is yearly sold by reason of non-payment of taxes.

Another fact that greatly favored the operations of the Ring is, that the records of the counties of the territory around were very generally destroyed during the late civil war.

The mode of operations pursued by the Ring seems to have been to get possession of the yearly delinquent tax list of these counties. From these lists was obtained information concerning the land upon which taxes were not paid, and it was deemed quite safe to conclude that the parties owning the land were not watchful of their interests. Forged deeds were made to such lands, showing titles through several fictitious parties. The deeds were ingeniously drawn, having the proper acknowledgement taken in due form before David S. Bigham, notary public for St. Louis county. The deeds were also properly recorded in the counties where the land lies, and have the appearance of being genuine in every respect.

Whenever parties desired abstracts of titles they obtained them in due form, showing the claim of title running back through successive parties to the Government. In some cases deeds were forged to lands occupied, but as a rule the Ring

confined its operations to the lands of non-residents, which were unoccupied. No suspicion attaches to the recorders of the counties making out the abstracts of titles, as they have simply followed the records as they appear in making out the chains of title.

VICTIMS IN ENGLAND.
The forged deeds have been sold all over the country; many of them are held in St. Louis. Lawton has operated principally in England. He is said to be a sharp operator, and has victimized his countrymen out of many thousands of dollars. One of his favorite plans was to form colonies to settle in certain localities in Missouri, where he represented he owned immense tracts of land. He would sell off as far as possible, reserving for himself a large tract in the proposed settlement. After completing his sales, and just prior to the time set for the colony to depart for their new homes, Mr. Lawton would find some pretences for abandoning the scheme.

Numbers of these deeds have been exchanged for property in other States, the latter being sold for cash at sums below the real value. The deeds generally call for quarter and half sections, with the consideration \$750 and \$1,500.

Another mode resorted to in disposing of the deeds was to leave the name of the grantee blank, and borrow on them with the understanding that if it was not repaid in a specified time the lender should have the right to fill the blank with his name. As the deed called for land, the consideration for which was mentioned in the deed to be two or three times greater than the sum desired as a loan, it is easy to see that considerable money could be realized in this way.

The operations of the Ring have been suspected for some time, but the indictments mentioned are the first that have been returned against any of the suspected parties.

FORMER ARRESTS.

In August last Harmon and Lawton were arrested in Shannon county on the charge of implication in these frauds. They were found guilty before a Justice of the Peace at their preliminary examination, and sent to jail. They were transferred to the jail in Dent county, as that of Shannon county was not deemed a secure structure, where they succeeded in effecting their release on a writ of habeas corpus. At the time of the arrest of the parties forty-seven forged deeds, calling for nearly fifteen thousand acres of land, were found in their possession.

The people living in the section of the country in which the Ring operated are aroused and determined to bring the guilty parties to justice, and no efforts will be spared to effect their conviction.

Mr. Harmon, it will be recollected, is the man who recently swore out an affidavit in the Court of Criminal Correction, charging Messrs. Gumersell & Lipman, prominent Fourth street merchants, with inflating the currency. The case is to come up for a hearing on the 17th instant. Messrs. Gumersell & Lipman claim that their alleged currency consists simply of demand notes that are issued to their employees at the Junction mills, in Shannon county, taken up at the supply stores and then cancelled, never to be reissued again. The defendants were, it is understood, interfering somewhat with the successful operation of the Ring, hence the suit against them.