

ATLAS MAP

OF

JOHNSON COUNTY,

MISSOURI.

1877.

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HISTORY OF JOHNSON COUNTY.

PART I.

HISTORY PROPER.

The territory now embraced by the county of Johnson in part of that vast region of country ceded by France to the United States in 1804, and known as "Louisiana." A fact which may be valuable to the student of history may not be out of place at this point.

The United States construed the cession of France to include all the territory between the thirty-first parallel and the Gulf of Mexico, and between the Mississippi river and the Perdido, the latter of which is now the western boundary of Florida. Under this construction of the cession the province of Louisiana is now covered by those portions of the states of Alabama and Mississippi which lie south of the thirty-first parallel; by the states of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Oregon, Minnesota, west of the Mississippi river, Kansas, except the small portion thereof south of the Arkansas river and west of the twenty-third meridian (100th Greenwich); by the territories of Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and that known as Indian Country; and by the portion of the state of Colorado lying east of the Rocky Mountains and north of the Arkansas river, and all territory of Wyoming north of the forty-second parallel, and that portion of the territory of Wyoming which is south of that parallel and east of the Rocky Mountains.

In 1800, however, the province of Louisiana had been ceded by Spain to France, Spain claiming that she ceded no territory to France east of the Mississippi river, except the island of New Orleans, and also contending that her province of West Florida included all the territory south of the thirty-first parallel and between the Perdido and Mississippi rivers, except the island of New Orleans. Under this construction, the "Province of Louisiana" included on the east of the Mississippi river only the territory bounded on the north and east by the rivers Deville and Amite, and by Lake Maurepas and Pontchartrain.

The southern part was ceded in 1803 and the northern part in 1804. It was merely a nominal transfer from the Spanish to the French, and the next day it was transferred to the United States. The northern portion was called "Upper Louisiana."

This latter region of country, extending from Arkansas to the British possessions, was divided into districts, viz:

Cape Girardeau district embraced the territory between Tywappaty bottom and Apple creek; population in 1804, 1,476 whites, with a few slaves.

St. Genevieve district extended from Apple creek to the Mernace, population, 2,870.

St. Louis district included all between the Mernace and Missouri rivers; population, 2,780.

St. Charles district included all the inhabited country between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers; population, 1,550. Whole population of Upper Louisiana in 1804, was 10,120 persons.

From the boundaries the reader will see that Johnson county lay in the St. Louis district. June 14th, 1812, the name of the territory of Louisiana was changed to that of Missouri.

In 1816, on the 25th of January, the portion of the territory of Missouri lying north of the Osage river and west of Color creek and the watershed between the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, was organized, and called "Howard County."

Again in 1818, the territorial Legislature held a session, during which several counties were formed, among which was Cooper.

Cooper county, at her organization, December 17th, 1818, comprised all that part of what previously had been Howard county lying south of the Missouri river. It was bounded on the north by the Missouri river, on the east and south by the Osage river, and on the west by what was then called Indian Territory.

This expansion of territory embraced the present counties of Saline, Lafayette, Jackson, Cass, Henry, Johnson, Pottaw, Morgan, Montauk and Cole, which, with itself, formed eleven whole counties, besides a part Bates, St. Clair, Benton, Camden and Miller. The division of this territory into its present portions was effected slowly and gradually. In September, 1820, Lillard county was formed (afterwards changed to Lafayette) from a portion of Cooper, and embraced about the tract now occupied by Lafayette, Henry and Johnson counties.

Ralls, Cole, Chariton, Saline, Gasconade and Calloway were formed during the same legislative session. Johnson county was formed December 13th, 1834; Henry county the same time, while the remainder is now known as Lafayette. The formation of so many counties between 1818 and 1840 will indicate, to the thinking mind, the character and extent of the tide of immigration that spread over this region during the intervening years. It first confined itself immediately to the Missouri and Osage rivers, but at last spread inland from these rivers until it comprehended the whole country between. This tide did not reach this county until about 1827, and at this date we have the first knowledge of an entrance into the present limits.

The first settlers were of that wandering class who break to the front and rest unsettled until the main body of settlers come in, when they gather their few worldly goods and start on ahead, anxious to be freed from the shackles of civilization.

Of their title is known. Settlements of this kind was made on the head waters of Post Oak, on Bear creek, Big creek, Honey creek, Clear Fork, and Plaguff creek, and, undoubtedly many other places in the county. The real substantial settlers, however, arrived about 1820, and from that time on in rapid succession until the year 1856, when there was a halt, and from that on to the close of the war few may be said to have settled here.

After the war there was a large immigration from the Northern states, and then it was that the genius of Johnson were filled, until now her population extends from north to south and from east to west.

The first settlers came from Lafayette, which then embraced Johnson and Henry. This had formerly been called Lillard, but when he discovered himself his name—which the county bore—was changed to that of Lafayette, a more honorable and famous title.

They settled in the vicinity of Columbus, and it may be said that N. Houa was about the first one.

Other settlements were soon made in the southern and eastern parts of the county, an account of which it is not within our power to give. Suffice it to say, that lists of these old settlers are given in connection with the history of each township.

The settlers were mostly from Tennessee and Kentucky, with a few from Virginia. In religious belief they were mostly Cumberland Presbyterianism and Baptists, and in such they formed communities noted for strict morality, uprightness and piety. John and Robert Morrow, Robert Rankin, and many others, are still remembered as earnest workers and as effective aids in assisting many to a higher and nobler life. As church history will be more fully discussed in the township histories, we will omit it here. Many churches adorn the county at the present day, embracing Cumberland Presbyterians, Baptists, Christians, Methodists and Presbyterians; while a few congregations of Catholics, Episcopalians, and members of the German Evangelical Association, exist.

Schools are plenty, such as they are, and they are as much as the country—with its present population and circumstances—can afford. The friends of education and progress have a hard battle to fight in carrying the work ahead, and over the heads, of the foes of education and progress; and in this county they are strong, though a fair advance must be made. Until these are beaten down and proper legislation, by those who know how to legislate on the subject, is had, we can never expect rapid advancement in this department, nor to reap the full reward of our labors.

At present, Johnson county contains one hundred and twenty-three school districts and four boards of education. She also has the Second district State Normal School, which is well attended by residents of the county besides many from abroad.

The first newspaper published was the *Western Messenger*, at Warsawburg in 1854, by J. B. Stoops. Following this were the *American Signal*, by H. R. Dobbin, in 1856; *Warsawburg Union*, by C. A. & J. H. Middleton, in 1858; *Warsawburg Standard*, by Hall & Klaine, in 1860, now owned by Baldwin & Richards; *Warsawburg Journal*, by Vaughn & Davis, in 1867; *Warsawburg Democrat*, by Julian & Conklin, in 1870, and finally the *Journal Democrat*, formed by a union of the two last by Morrow & Middleton, F. C. Farr, editor; and last, the *Daily News*, published by W. J. Bray, at Warsawburg.

The Holston papers will be spoken of in connection with the history of that town.

PART II.

ORGANIZATION.

Johnson county was organized December 13th, 1834. The first county court met April 13th, 1835, at the residence of Mrs. Baehle, Houa, near the present site of Columbus, Columbus township.

The three justices of this court presented commissions from Daniel Dunklin, then governor of Missouri, and were duly sworn and installed by Samuel Wilson, at that time a justice of the peace of Lafayette county. The names of the justices were Amos Horn, Robert W. Rankin and Ural Mearny. Amos Horn was chosen in president, or in other words as presiding justice. About the first act was to appoint John H. Townsend "clerk pro tem" of the county court of Johnson county," who was duly sworn according to law. It was also ordered that James Carmichael be appointed "assessor of the county for one year." So far as

records go we know of no other acts during this session, but court adjourned to meet the following May, 1835.

On Monday, May 4th, 1835, the court met again with the same justices on the bench. At this session James Carmichael, who had been appointed assessor at the term previous, entered into bonds "according to law." Richard Handcock was appointed collector of Johnson county for one year, and the court proceeded to organize the county into townships.

The first township organized was Jackson. It was bounded as follows: beginning at the northwestern corner of the county, on the line of Jackson county; thence east on the county line between Lafayette and Johnson to range line between ranges 27 and 28; thence south on this line to the township line between 46 and 45; thence west on this line to the line between Van Buren county (now Cass county) and Johnson county;

thence north to place of beginning. Washington township lay immediately east of this, extending to the county line on the north and east, but lacking three miles of extending as far south, although it extended two miles farther north than Jackson township. Jefferson was next formed, and embraced all the county which lay immediately south of Washington township. It extended as far west as the range line between 26 and 27, and reached the county line on the east and south. Madison township embraced all that country south of Jackson township, and west of Jefferson, and extended to the county line on the west and south. After the organization of the townships a selection was made in each township of a place to hold the election.

At this session Wm. E. Cooke was appointed constable of Jackson township, and Wm. H. Anderson, constable of Washington township. S. Whitson was appointed surveyor, being undoubtedly the first county

HISTORY OF JOHNSON COUNTY—Continued.

surveyor in the county. Wm. M. Kincaid was appointed deputy clerk. The seat of justice was located at the house of Rachel Houx. P. E. Hudgins was appointed county treasurer. Preparatory to an election to be held in each township, the following were appointed judges of election for the various townships:

Jackson township—Jester Cooke, Jonathan Fine and Robert Craig. Washington township—Robert Graham, Joseph Harrison and Joseph Hobson.

Jefferson township—William Flannery, James Harris and Benj. Scolling.

Madison township—Timothy Dunham, James Strange and Hiram Helm.

James McWilliams was appointed constable of Jefferson township, and Nicholas Turner of Madison.

The following were recommended as proper persons for the office of justice of the peace:

Jackson township—Moses Pinkston, Samuel Wilson and S. Rowden. Washington township—Geo. McMahon and Joseph Robertson.

Jefferson township—Moses Oswley, Benjamin Snell and James Harris.

Madison township—Wm. Conway and Hiram Helm.

After these appointments court adjourned to meet in June, at which session nothing of interest was transacted, save the office of sheriff being filled by Joseph Cookrell, J. H. Townsend continuing as clerk.

Court then adjourned to meet in July, 1835, at which session P. L. Hudgins, was appointed commissioner of school lands.

The first petition was brought before this court by J. B. Morrow, praying for the organization of township 47, range 27, into school districts.

John Thornton presented the next, praying for the sale of the sixteenth section of township 45, range 25. After this were various others, an account of which would be neither interesting nor instructive. Suffice it to say that polls were established in each township, and then court adjourned.

In August an election was held for the purpose of electing justices of the peace for each township. (Result not known by writer.)

In September James Warren took the place of J. H. Townsend, county clerk, who resigned.

In November, 1835, J. McWilliams, constable of Jefferson, resigned, and the vacancy was filled by Wm. Flannery.

Collector made report at this session, and reported delinquents to the amount of seventeen dollars and a few cents.

Joseph Dixon was the first appointment for road overseer in the county. Following his appointment were those of Wm. Flannery, Wm. K. Leveas, James Botchick and J. H. Evans.

The first petition for a road was presented at the December special term, 1835, by Wm. M. Kincaid.

We have now given a synopsis of the various acts during the first year of the county's existence and space demands that we make only the more noted ones appear henceforth.

In 1836 commissioners were appointed to locate the county seat. These were: H. Young, David McDowell and D. N. Boon. They entered the land in the name of the county, and named the new county seat Warrensburg, in honor of Martin Warren.

Upon making their report James Carmichael was appointed commissioner, "to lay out the town and sell the lots;" also furnishing a map of the same, which he did.

The first general election in the county was held in June, to elect a governor, lieutenant-governor, state senators, sheriff, coroner and two members of Congress.

For this election the following were appointed judges: Jackson township—Elehard Bradley, Lynch Brooks and Pleasant Rice.

Madison township—Hiram Helm, James Strange and Isaac Hannan. Jefferson township—Benj. Scolling, David Cooper and J. B. Harris.

Washington township—Geo. Gallaher, Joel Walker and Stephen Blevins.

The court continued to meet at the residence of Rachel Houx until the close of the August term, 1836, when it was ordered that the court should meet at Warrensburg, the county seat.

In September the court met at the residence of Henry Colborn, with Uriel Murray presiding.

In October, 1836, Prince L. Hudgins and Geo. Gallaher, received commissions from the governor, and took the places vacated by Robert Hankin and Amos Horn.

It was during this term that Warrensburg township was organized, thereby producing a variety of changes in all the townships.

Geo. Tibbs, surveyor, was ordered, during this session, to establish corners of town lots in Warrensburg. It seems that he afterwards received \$16.00 for the work.

During November term Wm. Smith succeeded to the office of sheriff.

The following were appointed during 1836 to "view roads:" Joseph Cookrell, Uriel Jackson, Jester Cooke, Wm. Cook, Samuel Graham, Thos. C. Warren, Henry Hays, John Stewart, James Kincaid, Caswell C. Davis, Henry Colborn, Pleasant Rice, John Windsor, and John Ferguson.

Commissioners to "view roads" during 1837 were: Isaac Coy, John Robinson, Wm. Thornton, John Adams, Jacob Parman, and William Fletcher.

Geo. McMahon and Wm. Perry were appointed in 1837 to lay off Warrensburg township into road districts.

J. P. Bullock was appointed for the same work in Jefferson township, and Samuel Wilson and Samuel E. Rowden for Jackson township.

Some changes occurred previous to this, and after it, which it would be well to notice, viz:

John Evans was appointed county treasurer November 16th, 1836. The place of holding court was changed to the residence of Y. E. W. Berry in December, 1836; Robert Graham elected assessor in 1837; Wm. Calhoun appointed clerk pro tem. in August, 1840, and followed by Z. T. Davis, who was elected county clerk in November of the same year.

The following received commissions as justices of the peace in 1839: James S. Jones, Jerome B. Greer, Jacob Kaas and Shelly Harse. In 1840 the following received commissions for the same office: James W. Jones, Charles Winfield, E. B. Skidmore, David W. White, Y. E. W. Berry, Shelly Harse, Wm. Trapp, Robert Thompson, J. C. Strange, Isaac Hannan, Samuel E. Rowden and J. C. Francis.

But we have carried events sufficiently far. The names and events which we have given tend to bring up the past in all its reality, and show us who were the founders of this our own county, and who bore the burden of its care when it was young. They have entrusted its interests to another generation, who seem to be doing well toward the trust imposed on them. Like the founders, may their desire ever be to eventually place it on a sure foundation, financially and otherwise, by the

encouragement of all that tends to elevate her citizens morally and mentally, and place in the offices of trust those men whose tendency shows itself toward the protection and advancement of the county's interests.

The first circuit court met in this county at the residence of Rachel Houx, August 6th, 1835. Judge, Hon. J. F. Ryland; sheriff, Joseph Cookrell; clerk, J. H. Townsend, who was appointed county clerk pro tem. previous to this. It seems that the offices of county clerk and circuit clerk were held by one and the same individual previous to 1860.

The grand jury consisted of the following persons: Robert Graham, fireman; Wesley Pinkston, Elmore Douglas, Wm. Davis, John Windsee, Jester Cooke, Wm. H. Tombs, Joseph Harrison, Nathaniel Lowry, Samuel Brown, Isaac Anderson, John M. Harris, Levi Whitsett, Jesse Harrison, Henry Colborn, John Eppler, John Grant, Caswell Davis, James Grant, J. C. Strange and Jesse Marr.

The jury assembled under a tree outside, and gravely listened to some minor cases brought before them for consideration. Upon a hearing they decided that it was not worth while to "kick up a fuss over such trivial matters," and upon returning to the court announced to him the fact that they had found no indictments against anybody. They were, of course, discharged and court adjourned, after permitting Henderson Young and Eldridge Burden to practice as "attorneys and counselors at law."

The next time they held the session at the same residence on the 10th of December, 1835. J. F. Ryland, judge; James D. Warner, clerk; Joseph Cookrell, sheriff. The following constituted those selected for the grand jury: Wm. Thornton, Geerman, David S. Praffett, Stephen Blevins, Thomas Goings, James B. Wood, Thomas Drummard, James B. Tomlin, James H. Bradley, Wm. Davidson, Wm. Bigham, sr., Wm. Bigham, jr., Samuel G. Bigsbee, John Kitchens, Thomas Evans, Abram Adams, John Stewart, James B. Harris, Joseph Dixon and Solomon Dixon.

The first on the docket which came before them was Joel H. Gason vs. Moses Pinkston, in chancery.

From this on, except in one or two special cases afterwards, they were desirous of "kicking up lawful fusses," and in a few years all such generous spirits were withdrawn.

The courts existing in Johnson county at the present day are as follows:

CRIMINAL COURT.

This court meets the first Monday in May and December. It has jurisdiction over all crimes and misdemeanors. W. H. H. Hill, judge.

CIVIL COURT.

This court meets three times a year—the second Monday in February, June and October—and has jurisdiction over all civil cases. F. F. Wright, judge.

PROBATE COURT.

Holds session regularly on the first Monday in January, April, July and October. It has jurisdiction over all cases pertaining to estates of deceased persons, minors, apprentices, wills, etc. W. T. Hornbuckle, judge.

COUNTY COURT.

Meets the third Monday in January, April, July and November. It has the usual jurisdiction of county courts or county commissioners. Wm. McMahon, John Mays and George Washington, judges.

PART III.

THE SURVEY.

The survey of Johnson county is quite regular; "standard lines" exist north of Jackson and Columbus townships, extending eastward to Ducksburg, and north of townships 44-24, 44-25, 44-26, 44-27, 44-28, and 44-29. The inclination of the latter "standard line" is north of west and south of east. The survey from the south falling to reach this line, the intermediate portion of country has been divided, and is known as "The Lots." These are included respectively in townships forty-four of the various ranges included in the county. On the eastern side of the county these lots begin with four in number, and gradually increase in number as we advance toward the western side. Here they reach the number of six, owing of course to the northern tendency of the "standard line," and crossing the section to embrace nearly, if not fully twelve hundred acres. There is inclined to be an opposite tendency with regard to the other "standard line," as the sections adjoining on the south fall short.

IMPROVEMENTS.

The conveniences and true growth of a county depend greatly upon its soil, climate, surface, and wealth, and especially the enterprise of its inhabitants. The surface of Johnson county is such as to need very little improvement, compared with others. The soil is deep and the streams are not spreading, but reach in some instances a great depth of bank. The "wash" seems to be more from the bed of the creek than

from the sides; this fact made the ferds dangerous, and bridges were early established. The first steps toward improvements were the orders for bridges across Houx's Fork of Blackwater, over Clear Fork at Gallaher's Mill, and across Blackwater at Grindstone Ford. Wm. H. Tombs was appointed commissioner for the first, Wm. Thornton for the second, and Joseph Dixon for the third.

The first appropriation for internal improvements was made in May, 1837, for the purpose of building the bridge across the Blackwater at Grindstone Ford. The second was made in February, 1838, for building a bridge over Post Oak, on the state road. The commissioner was Harvey Dyer.

The third appropriation was made in March, 1838, for a court house. This appropriation was increased in June, 1839. Harvey Dyer was the commissioner.

Very early in the history of the county were roads begun, and now they extend to nearly every necessarily accessible point. The Missouri Pacific railroad extends directly through the center of the county, east and west, affording a means of transportation which is easily accessible from all parts of the county. The M. K. & T. railroad has a branch extending from Holden southwestward, through Cass county, to Paolo, Kansas.

Combining these with the many bridges that now exist and are soon to be built, and we have all the present internal improvements that the condition of the citizens and surface demand.

GEOGRAPHY.

Johnson county is situated in the western part of Missouri, and bounded as follows: North, by Lafayette county; east, by Pettis county; south, by Henry and Cass counties; and on the west, by Cass and Jackson counties.

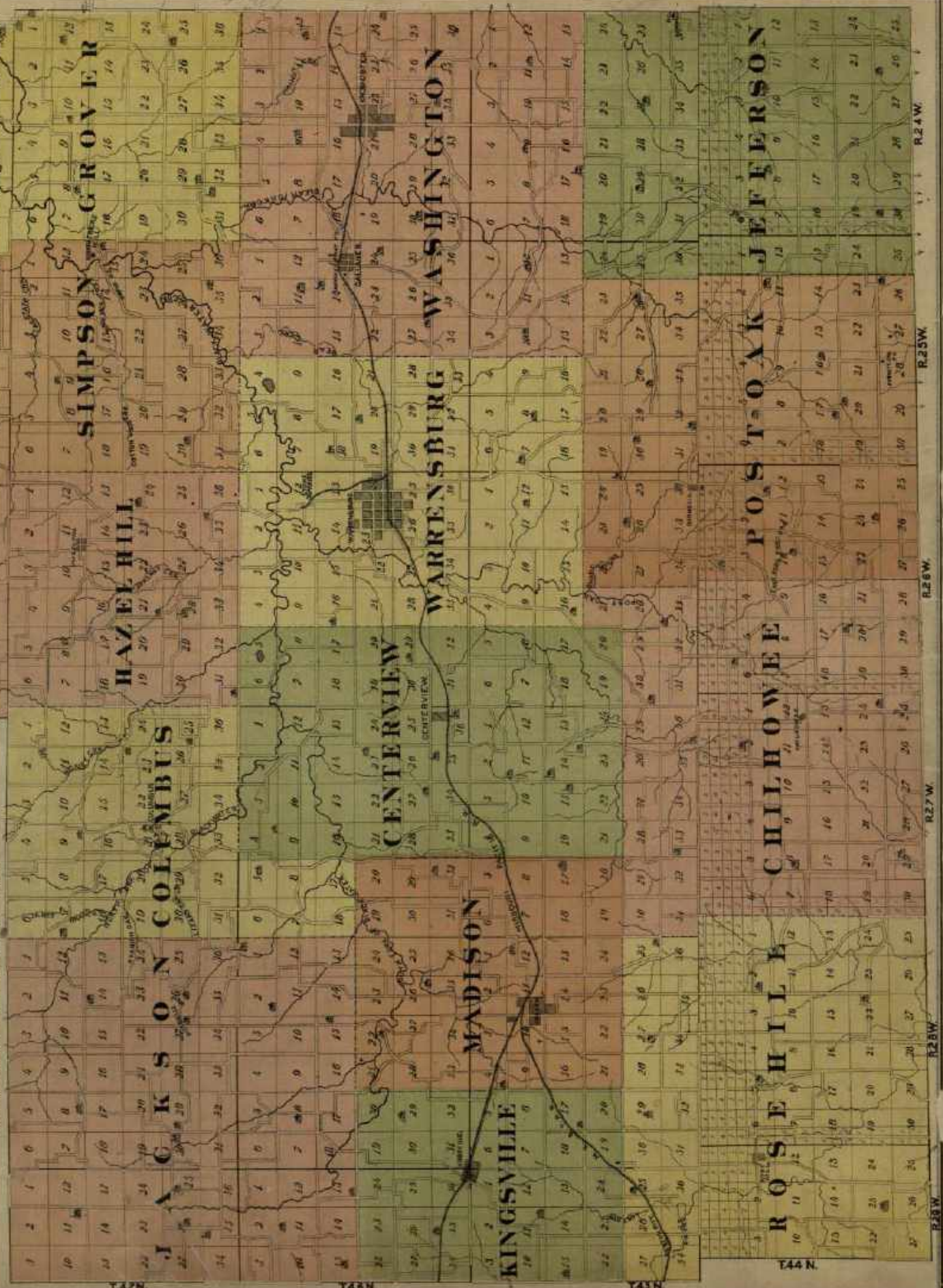
This is one of the largest counties in central western Missouri. Its surface is mostly rolling prairie in the western part, and hilly in the eastern part, where there is an extensive growth of timber. By a reference to our township plats the reader can become familiar with the extent of country covered with timber in all parts of the county. "About four-fifths of the area is prairie, the rest timber land," is the report of the corresponding secretary of the State Board of Agriculture; but this is evidently too large an estimate for the prairie. However, the reader can judge for himself. Timber is abundant, increasing just as rapidly as used, so that there will be an adequate supply at all times.

The soil is generally rich and productive, but in some portions of the prairie it is very light, and yields, in dry seasons, very limited crops. These exceptions, however, are few. The greater part is a limestone soil, except in some portions near Warrensburg and vicinity.

The prairie soil is well adapted to the growth of cereals and grasses of all kinds, while the upland soil, when properly prepared, produces very well.

MAP OF JANSON COUNTY, MO.

Showing an outline of Civil and Congressional Townships, etc. Also
School, State, Union, Hill, Roads, Churches, etc.



SIMPSON GROVE

HAZEL HILL

JACKSON COLUMBUS

CENTER VIEW

WARRENSBURG

WASHINGTON

KINGSVILLE

MADISON

CHILLHOWEE

POST OAK JEFFERSON

T.42N.

T.43N.

T.44N.

T.45N.

T.44N.

R.28W.

R.27W.

R.26W.

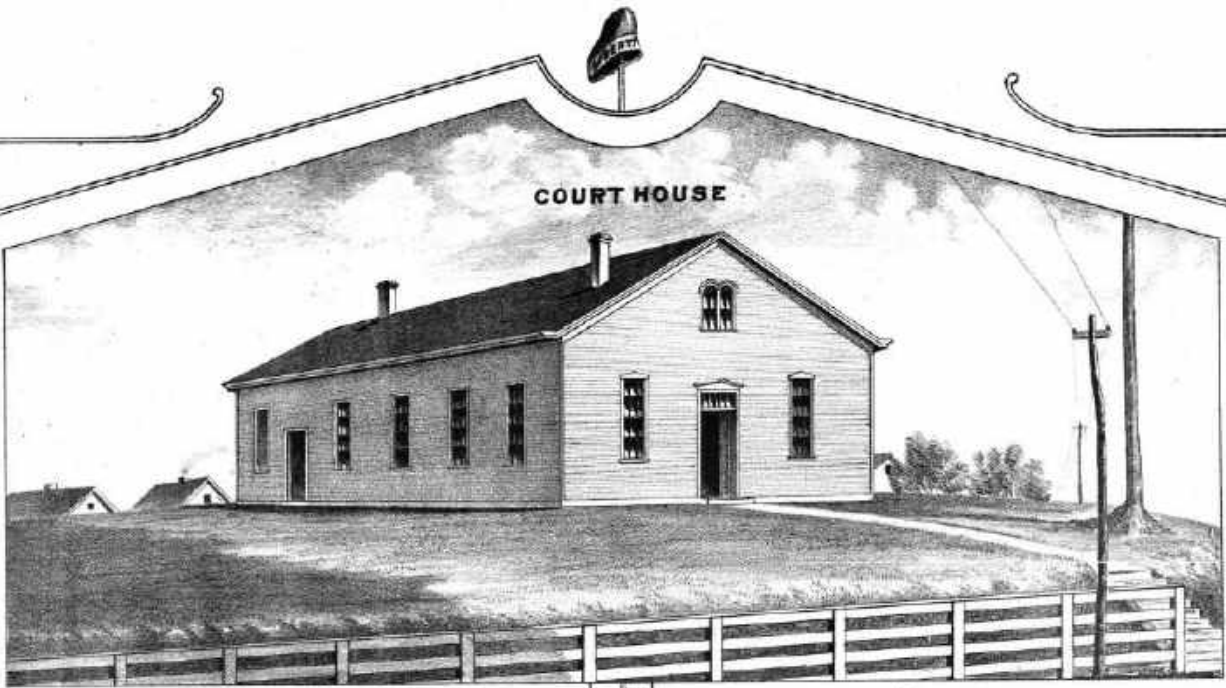
R.25W.

R.24W.

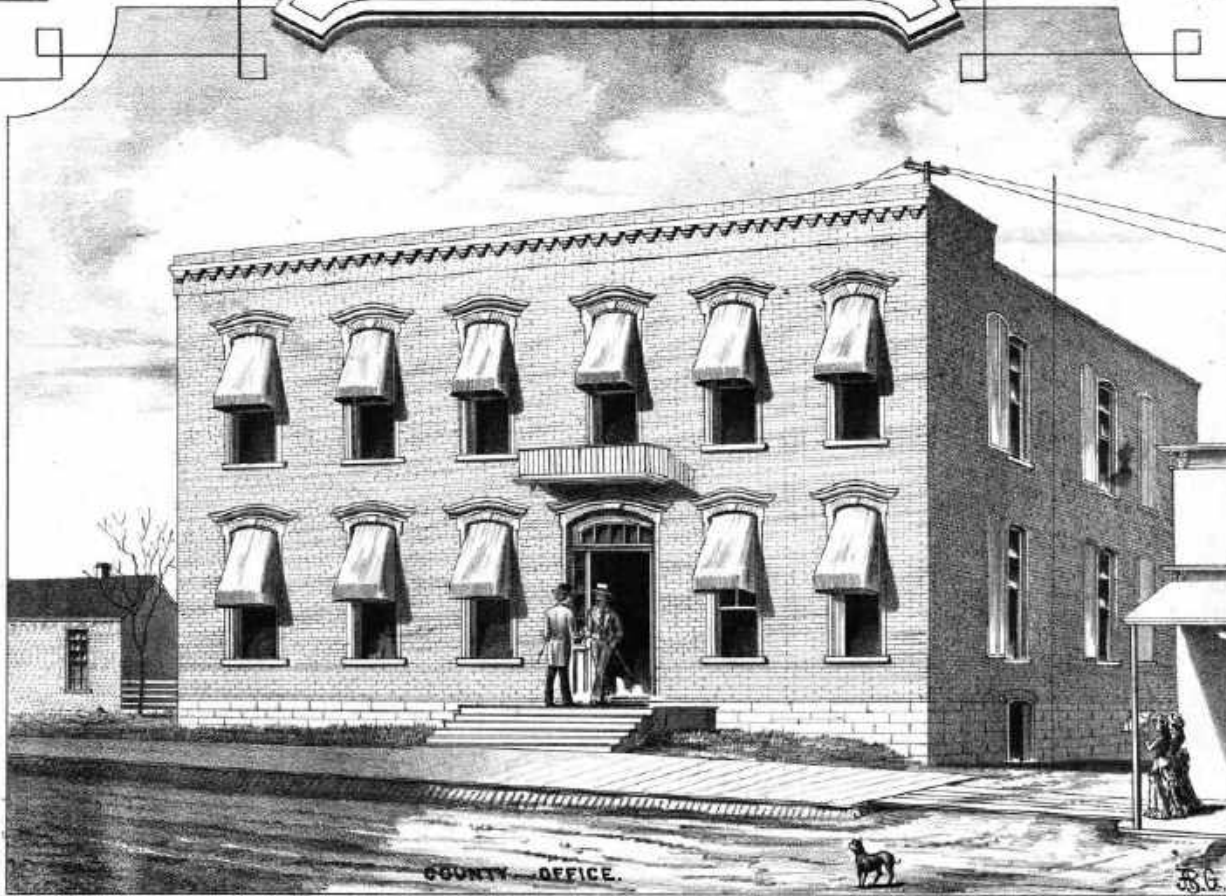
R.23W.

R.22W.

R.21W.



JOHNSON COUNTY



HISTORY OF TOWNSHIPS.

The county is watered by many large and small creeks, which furnish an abundance of water for every purpose except water power.

Blackwater creek heads in this county, and, with its numerous ramifications, penetrates to almost every portion of the county, thereby draining all but a small portion in the southwest and southeast corners. The former is drained by Big creek and its two principal branches, Walnut and Bear creeks; the latter by Tebo, and the headwaters of Muddy creek, which eventually reach the La Mine river, in Cooper county.

The Columbus Mineral Springs, well known on account of the great medicinal properties they possess, are located in this county, and have proven of great benefit to many invalids.

The climate is uniform with that of other sections of the state in the same latitude; that is, not subject to very great extremes of heat and cold.

The principal mineral found is bituminous coal, which is abundant in almost every part of the county. Cannel coal, of good quality, occurs in great quantities in the north central part of the county. The great coal fields of the county, however, lie in the eastern part, near Knobcoster, and some of the mines have been worked quite extensively.

Ochre, of good quality, occurs in section 33, township 46, range 23, and in a few other localities in the county.

A fine quality of cement rock is found south of Warrensburg, from which cement, said to fully equal the famous Louisville cement, is manufactured.

The Warrensburg sandstone is becoming each year more and more

celebrated and sought for. The quarries are situated about one mile and a half north of the city of Warrensburg, on sections 11 and 12 of township 46, range 26. These quarries, which seem inexhaustible, are worked on an extensive scale and form a leading feature in the commercial interests of the county.

The manufacturing interests of Johnson county are as yet in their infancy, and yet it seems that such should not be the case. With her abundant coal fields and productive soil, she should grow rapidly in this branch of industry; but the difficulty seems to lie in two things, viz: the recovery from the effects of the war, soon followed by droughts, grasshoppers and hog disease, and the lack of cheap transportation to the proper markets. The manufacturing interests may be summed up as follows: ten flouring mills, five saw mills, one woolen mill and cloth factory, one foundry and machine shop, three agricultural implement manufactories, and the cement works.

The county has over 505,000 acres of improved land, with an average price of \$18 per acre, and over 203,000 acres of unimproved prairie and timber, the former bringing between \$8 and \$12 per acre, and the latter from \$3 to \$10.

The main occupation is farming, and in some portions it is carried on very extensively. In the southern part large areas are kept in pasture for stock, of which a large amount is fed each year.

The principal agricultural staples are wheat, corn, oats, rye and barley. These are collected by horse buyers, and shipped to St. Louis and Chicago.

During favorable years the average yield of corn is about 40 bushels; of wheat, 15 bushels; and oats, 25 bushels per acre. In most localities the soil is well adapted to the growth of tobacco, but very little is raised.

This county evidently ranks first in the state as a stock-growing county, having a larger number of cattle than any other county, and more horses than any other, with one exception, that of St. Louis county. It may even now be allowed that it ranks first also in horses, considering the separation of St. Louis city from the county.

In most parts of the county rail fences abound, but as the hedge plant seems to thrive, it is in other parts rapidly taking the place of rail.

It is decidedly a fruit-growing county, subject, however, to all drawbacks which may be found in any fruit country. Mr. J. L. Jones has undoubtedly the largest orchard in the West, containing as it does two hundred acres in trees, and all in a good condition. His orchard is situated in section 12, township 46, range 29.

Since the war there has been a decided influx of population from the Eastern and Northern states, and vast areas of land which old settlers thought would take years and years of time ere it was all occupied, are now completely under fence, and dotted with farmhouses and fields of waving grain. A great deal of energy and enterprise was thus introduced, but drought, grasshoppers, hog disease, panic, and general hard times have stricken the enterprise down, and thus it lies, dead to a certain extent, yet ready to spring into life when the sunshine of prosperity falls once more upon it as it did in the past.

HISTORY OF TOWNSHIPS.

KINGSVILLE TOWNSHIP.

This was separated from Madison a few years ago, and derived its name from the station on the Missouri Pacific railroad, which bears the same name. It contains only about thirty-five square miles, and is situated in the western part of Johnson county.

Very few settlers were here previous to 1840, as the situation was uninviting to the frontier's man, owing to the scarcity of timber, except upon the headwaters of the many creeks which have their source in this township.

The list of old settlers is evidently incomplete, but sufficient is given for all practical purposes. They are as follows: A. B. Hamilton, J. B. Chapman, Joseph Howard, Brinkley Hornsby, Alonzo Hornsby, Peter Dunkin, Wm. Dunkin; William, John and Miles Paul, with their families of young men, Samuel Howe, Wm. Denny, Washington Gilbert, George Scump; Rufus Clay and Dr. Benj. King; Judge David B. Reavis and family; Martin Foster, ——— Horner; Martin Marion and his sons; "Pink" Gibson, Perry Gibson, Jonathan Hunt, John White, Joseph Langacre, ——— Perine, Thomas Ferris and Munford Smith. All of these were here previous to 1850, and formed the basis of the population of the township.

So many older and stronger settlements forming around it hindered its progress in many ways until a rather late day; hence we find an absence of churches, etc., until about 1852. From this date on, the improvements have steadily advanced, until a fair degree has been reached. Preaching, however, was held in certain localities, at which the following officiated, though their names do not include the entire list: A. H. Stone and L. C. Dusham, of the Christian Church; Rev. Mr. Minton, of the Baptist; and David Hogue, B. F. Thomas and the Morrow brothers, of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Schools were early established on Lost creek, in the southern part of the township. Some of the early teachers remembered are—Alfred Hawker, James Allen and W. W. Sparks.

The surface is gently rolling, with the exception of some prominent "knobs" in the northern part. In the southern, the most timber occurs on Lost creek and Hornsby's branch.

The soil is only comparatively fertile, except in some portions, where it reaches the usual degree common to the best portions of the county. Wheat and corn are the staples, and the amount of stock which is raised is comparatively small.

We cannot close without remarking concerning the immense orchard of which Mr. J. L. Jones is the owner. It contains two hundred acres, and ten thousand trees. Although some have recently died, it undoubtedly remains the largest orchard in the West.

The main town of the township is Kingsville, situated in four different congressional townships, and occupying portions of sections 30, 31, 6 and 1. It was laid out about 1856; Gen. Wm. King was the owner of the land. The population is about one hundred and fifty persons. It derived its name from the owner of the land, Gen. Wm. King.

COLUMBUS TOWNSHIP.

This portion of the county was the first to be settled, though at that time it was still Lafayette county. After Johnson was formed and the organization of the various townships took place, this was included in Jackson township, and did not assume its present proportions until after the war.

The first settlers arrived in 1829, and proved the first settlers in the county. N. Houz and family were the persons, and they settled near the present site of Columbus. He died about 1834. Other settlers came pouring in, and by 1840 the section of country in that immediate vicinity was very thickly settled. We shall therefore give a miscellaneous list of settlers, which though quite extended, we feel does not include the more important. In this list all were here previous to 1840: Samuel Ramsey, John Kelly, Dr. R. W. Rankin, Pleasant Rice, Riley Jackson (who had the first horse mill in the county), Moses Pinkston, a family named James, and thought to be of the same family as the notorious James Brothers, Jesse Marx, Thomas Windsor, Richard D. Bradley, Sr.; John Ferguson, Elmore Douglas, Morgan Cockrell, Jonathan Pine, B. H. Fine, Prince L. Higgins, Wm. Logan, Isaac Garrison, James Morrow, Uriel Murray, David Morrow, Wm. Davidson, Joseph Cockrell (the father of Hon. F. M. Cockrell, U. S. Senator, who may also be counted an early settler of this township), Jessie Kelly, James M. Fulkerson, M. D.; Josiah Beatty, Wm. Kincaid, J. Washam, James C. Francis, Col. Ambrose Tombs, Benj. Runnels, who was a soldier under Gen. Harrison in his Indian campaign; Benj. Matthews, E. Young, C. D. Cobb, Love S. Corwell, James Perdue, Robert Craig, N. W. Lowery, James C. Strange, a gentleman by the name of Edwards, who was a tailor in the town of Blackwater, and who is the father of Senator Edwards; Peter Drake, Levi Simpson, Wm. C. Baker, T. Simonsman, I. Reese, who was sheriff at one time; Thos. Chasch, J. H. Miller, J. W. Henderson, Wm. Henderson, Dr. E. D. Schreiner, R. R. Dalton, Abel Gilliland, Rev. Wm. Hoen, Ransom Offut, Wm. E. Cooke, R. Sanders, J. P. Murray, R. Rodolph, P. H. Drees, John Kitchin, J. Kinder, Wm. Ramsey, W. T. Herndon, M. Davis, J. Hurac, B. W. Boyan, J. Fickie, C. Ganit, Jas. Norris, and the others whose names shall appear further on in other connections.

The starting point of the town of Columbus was the establishment of a store by Wm. Kincaid, about 1830. Following him was Josiah Beatty, who had for his early assistants Adkins, Townsend, and R. B. Fulkerson. It seems that P. L. Hadgins started a Square store some time afterwards, but was driven from his position by members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church entering the land in their names for the church. This, and undoubtedly other causes, drove him further south, where he started the town of Blackwater. . . . It seems he afterwards became a minister of the gospel, in the service of the Christian Church.

The former town is situated on the east half of the southeast quarter, section 21, Columbus township; the latter on the east half of the south-

east section 28. The former is a thriving little place, socially, morally, and undeniably financially.

The moral element appeared with the first settlers, and churches were early established. What is known as Pine's Church, Southern Methodist, was organized about 1830, and the building erected about 1833. It was burnt during the war, and afterwards was rebuilt.

The Cumberland Presbyterians built about the same time. Rev. Robert D. Morrow, Samuel King, Finis E. Kring, John Whitait and John Morrow, were the founders and preachers of the early days. The labors of Robert D. Morrow will ever be remembered, and exist as a monument of his zeal in the cause of morality and religion. The Christians are very numerous in this community, and are doing noble work in their calling. The first school was built near the present residence of Dr. J. M. Fulkerson. The early teachers were Z. T. Davis, Birket Bomer, otherwise called "Buckley Bomer," and R. D. Morrow. There were many others whose names are not within our reach. Mills were owned by Messrs. Mathews and Kitchin, Wade, and Crest.

The township is located in the northern part of the county, and extends to the Lafayette county line. The surface is quite rolling, and drained by numerous creeks. Honey creek, running southeast, flows through the northeastern part. Houz's branch of Blackwater, running the same direction, extends through the central part; and Little Blackwater, running the same direction, extends through the south western part. Timber lies along these streams and their various branches, while the portions between is rich, rolling prairie. The productions are corn and wheat as the staples, with a quantity of other grains, and a fair portion of stock.

Most of the present inhabitants are descendants from the original settlers, and possess many of their traits and customs. It is a noted township, having produced more noted characters in the professions and politics than any other portion of the county.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP.

Originally this was the third township formed by the county court in 1835. It then embraced almost one-fourth of the county, but by the formation of other townships around it, it was reduced in size until it now embraces about sixty square miles in the extreme southeastern portion of Johnson.

It is a very fertile section, and, being well supplied with timber and water, it attracted the settlers at a very early day. Those who came previous to 1850 are regarded as old settlers; and though our list of old settlers is not complete, we feel it will be sufficient for the purpose. They were:

Samuel Craig, Kit Wingfield, Major Thos. Nail; Ebers, Henry and Frank Conroy; David Styles, Sr. and Jr.; Daniel Cooper; John Oostey and his father; Frank Goodwin, John Draper and his sons, William, Addison and Mosby; Robert H. Douglas and his sons, Willis, Alfred, John and Allen; Benj. Wall, Benj. Fucl, Richard B. Fucl, Washington

HISTORY OF TOWNSHIPS—Continued.

Garret, — Runnels, — Dyer, Squire Davis, Robert Craig, B. A. Holmes and his sons, Robert H., John W., James R. and Benjamin F.; Benjamin Sealing, David White, John Gresham; and also Elijah, John, William and Addison Gresham; Captain Samuel Kinsey and his sons; John Kinsey, the two brothers Mosely; Larkin Potts, Benj. Caldwell, James Gray, Sidney Gray, Dr. Oasley, William and Barch Oasley; also Thomas, "Cap", "Whig" and "Lick" Caldwell.

These were undoubtedly others, but it is not at present within our power to give them.

In this township, as in some others, they were rather slow in building churches and schools. The latter were early established among the settlers, but the former may be said to have existed only after 1818 or 1849.

In 1849, the school house on High Point was enlarged and used as a church, but the new church was not built until about 1857.

Among the early ministers of the gospel were William P. C. Caldwell, a resident and old settler of the township; Rev. Frank Goodwin, Wm. Duval, the pioneer Baptist, and William Gray, also of the Baptist Church.

Regarding the settlers from our own standpoint there was very little schooling to be had, but the population was so scattered that schools of practical value were hard to establish.

Among the early teachers we find the names of John Draper and George Johnson. The latter taught at the residence of B. A. Holmes in 1850.

We are told by the settlers that game was so abundant, and the sport of hunting it so enticing, that little attention was paid to either churches or schools.

The timbered portions lie along the head-waters of Clear fork, as represented by Plum branch, Coppers creek, Johnson's branch, and Wash branch and Tebo; otherwise the land is beautiful rolling prairie. An abundance of wheat and corn is produced, together with a fair amount of other grains.

In past times large amounts of stock were raised, but now comparatively little is produced. The closeness of the settlements and the lack of a good range is the cause of the decline.

Kidando is the only place of note in the township.

POST OAK TOWNSHIP.

In February, 1849, it was ordered that Post Oak township should be organized; which was accordingly done. Since then it has been reduced to its present size by the formation of townships in its immediate neighborhood. It contains a little less than seventy-two square miles, and is drained on the eastern side by Clear fork and its various branches, and on the western by the various branches of Post Oak. The central part is the watershed between the head-waters of these two streams.

The surface is gently rolling throughout, consisting of prairie in the central and southern portions, with heavy timber tracts in the eastern, northern and western portions. The soil is rich throughout, and produces large quantities of corn and wheat, which are the staples. Large amounts of live stock are raised in all parts of the township. Some large tracts of prairie are not as yet under fence, and thereby furnish a fine range for the neighboring stock.

Settlements were made here quite early, probably previous to 1830, but we do not know definitely upon this point. Previous to 1837 the following persons had settled on the head-waters of Post Oak, in the present bounds of this township: Samuel King, Abner Stewart, R. D. King, James Harris and his son John Harris, T. J. Cull, John Culey, Wm. Culey, John Wright, Samuel Evans, Maj. James Warwick, John James, Wm. Roberts, Widow Compton, James Cull, — Anderson, Wm. King and James Stewart. The following list comprises a number of those who came that year and shortly afterwards: Thos. Irwin, Thos. J. Young, S. Stone, Sam'l Houston, Edward Nichols, Phillip Stone, John Stone, Widow Mars and her family, Wm. Strong, Samuel Brown, Joseph Stewart, B. F. Thomas, J. L. Glazebrook and his family, John Marr, Alvan Marr, Owen Cooper, James Hackler, Thos. Innes, James Bone, Col. Wm. Johnson and Addison McSpadden.

This settlement was noted then, and now, for the strict morality which characterized the members, showing that truly the lives of parents were stamped on their children. Shiloh Church was built in 1836. The first burial occurred in 1837. In 1838 the Sunday school was organized; Rev. Samuel King, superintendent.

The first school taught was in 1838; Alex. Mars, instructor. John Gibbons and Wm. Flourney were also early teachers.

This township suffered more during the war, except by the loss of farm products. The security of the settlers in early times was demonstrated by the fact that "barns and barns" was not used for many years after their arrival.

In general appearance the farms are well improved; buildings very substantial, good rail and hedge fences, and a general air of prosperity in every part of the township.

Cornelia and Burdett Station Post Office are the only towns. The former is generally known as "Shanghai."

MADISON TOWNSHIP.

No settler crossed the Blackwater previous to 1830, and the family of Fergusons were about the first to cross it and settle in what is now the northern part of Madison township. This was one of the first townships organized, being the last one of the four that included all the county in 1835. It has now dwindled down to about forty-two square miles, and is situated in the west central part of the county.

It may be said it is about the latest township in the county, for all the improvements and general wealth, none comparatively speaking, existed before the war. There were no settlements in 1835 between the present site of Holden and Issac Hanna's, which latter place is about fifty or a hundred yards south of the northern township line. Most of the settlers lived north of the present site of Holden, and a few west. These were near the two branches of Pin Oak, and were very few in number. There were Samuel and Aaron Ferguson, James Bradley, Wm. Davidson, Squire A. B. Hamilton, P. H. Roy, Archy Roy, and their father, Hugh Roy; Moses Tapecoat; Augustus Demastora, Squire J. G. Dyle; Mathew, William and Sanford Cummings; Joseph Mason, John Windsor, Rouben Fox, John Uri, Thomas Tapecoat, G. Hays, Joseph Christian, Jacob Sahm, Jacob Beck; Martin, Charles S., Pleasant R. and Augustus Ferguson; Joseph Matthews and Wm. Burtlen, Sr. and Jr.; Eldridge Burden, Geo. Conlay, John and Wm. Miller, James Thompson, Geo. Medlock, G. Cunningham, Barret Duff, Squire Thompson, — Williamson, G. K. Roberts and Dr. Roberts.

All outside the Pin Oak settlements was prairie, wild and unbroken, upon which the stock fed for the greater part of the year without any further attention. It was remained until after the war, when the incoming tide swept over it all; and now in place of unbroken prairie, there are good substantial farms.

The soil south of Holden, for some distance, is rather light, with a stratum of "hard pan" underneath. It is not near so rich as other portions of the adjoining prairie. North of Holden the soil improves in quality and produces well. The staples are corn and wheat, with considerable flax; and other grains in small quantities. Stock is raised only in small quantities.

The Missouri Pacific Railroad extends through the township. It was built through there the latter part of the war, as a military necessity.

The town of Holden, which is beautifully situated on the prairie on the watershed between east and west Pin Oak, is the only town of the township. It is just seven miles and a quarter from the Cass county line in the center of the town. It was laid out in 1838, by Isaac Jacobs and Sanford Cummings. The first sale of lots took place August 12th, 1838. The first merchants were Jacobs and Cummings. Population in 1861, 100; in 1876, about 1,500 or 1,200. It was incorporated February 21st, 1881; charter amended 1873. Wm. M. Corentyne was the first mayor. The surrounding country is very productive, regarding the exception spoken of, and the inhabitants enterprising and thrifty.

The first paper was established by K. Giles. On the 25th of August, 1837, the first issue of the *Holden Enterprise* took place. Mr. Giles sold out to Mr. Richards in the spring of 1871. The *Holden Democrat* was first issued from their office, then an old frame building, on the lot now occupied by Alfred's fine brick, on the 24 of June, 1871, by H. Martin Williams and A. Kaga, editors. January 10th, 1872, the office was burned out, but all the material was saved and moved into the Danish building. After the lapse of a few months the office was closed, under a mortgage held by W. H. Plum and Beamer. It was soon bought by E. Koop, of Centerville, and under the management of Capt. A. Kaga, the *Holden True Democrat* made its appearance, and was conducted in the interest of Centerville, to bring the county seat there. Something over a year elapsed, when the material was removed to Houston, Mo., where it is still in use. Meanwhile Mr. Williams had procured other material and resumed the publication of the *Holden Democrat*, and continued the same until July 31st, 1873, when it was entirely destroyed, two of the printers barely escaping with their lives, and has never been resumed. The *Holden Democratic Era* was issued April 8th, 1872, by E. Giles, and only survived a few weeks. In February, 1874, Carpenter & Plum issued the *Real Estate Reporter*, a monthly, which was continued but a short time.

ROSE HILL.

This township is situated in the southeastern part of the county, adjoining Cass and Henry counties, and contains about twenty-two square miles. It is traversed on the eastern side by Bear creek, and on the western side by Big creek. The early settlements were made in the vicinity of these creeks and in the intermediate portion of country, to quite an extent.

The list comprises all those who were here previous to 1850, and is one which we deem quite complete. They were, Nicholas Turner, Col. Henry McCarty and sons; Hiram Helm, Jonas Turner, Daniel Quick.

— Brumfield, Chesley Quilan; John, George and James Bradshaw; Watson Lynch; Obadiah, James and O. W. Strong; Frank and Richard Jackson; Akin, Wm., Nicholas and John Doak; J. G. Cooke, George Burnett; Isaac Hanna and Isaac A. Hanna, Wm. Bigham, Samuel Reed, Arch. Beard, Rich. Anderson, John S. Anderson, James Dolan, John Seagge, Daniel Seagge, and Joseph Seagge, their father; Albert Hall, Wm. Hill; Moses, Wm., and Morris Hodge; John Hunt, Samuel Hunt,

George Hamner, Ike Dunnaway, James Ross, John Oldham, James Oldson, Henry Gray, Smith and Wm. Prophet, Wm. Horner, Thos. Anderson, Richard Scott, Squire Umstead, Garret Wood, Letch. Brooks, Sydney and Leonard Scott, Daniel Fisher, Henry, Thomas, Lewis and Jerome Pemberton; Benj. Derrin, the Hines, Squire Thompson, Berry Summers, Hazad Green, Wm. Gratic, Jessie Dixon, Martin Foster, Perry Foster, James Cox, Squire John Baker, Henry and Nat. Baker, Peter and Wilson A. Campbell, Colman F. Shaulin, John and Watson Ham, Wm. Payne, Squire Astory, George Gilliland; Shau, James and Kavanaugh Gilliland; Berry Strouge, Maj. Wm. Wood, Alfred White, Benj. McVey, Abraham Stout, Jacob Stout, John Newton, Wm. T. Hulac, John and Merton Orr, — Boston, Julius, Sr.; David, James, Julius, Jr., Garret and Wilson Davouport; — Smith, Z. Moore, Daniel Rumoy, John Priestly, James and Let Farnsworth, — Westford, — Trowbridge, Marion, Hanna, and John Bailey. There were well scattered along the valleys of Bear and Big creeks, and to a great extent in the country between.

Considerable of this township is fine prairie land, but a large portion in the eastern part is timber. The main settlements were in the eastern part, and in the neighborhood of Rose Hill. The settlers appeared here about 1832 or 1833.

Churches and school-houses were very scarce then, and for some years afterwards. The Methodists had "Classes" at several of the residences, and held regular meetings. The residence of Isaac Hanna was one of the most important meeting places. Other denominations held services at the various residences until "Bethel" Church was erected, probably about 1848. Preaching was also held in the Stanley Bark school-house in 1849. Among the early preachers will be remembered John Whitsett, John Marr, Thos. Johnson, Robert King, Albert Moore, Frank Moore, and Benjamin Thomas, as Cumberland Presbyterians, and Thos. Wallace, Daniel Lopez, and Garland Burgess, as Methodists. The first burial in the township was at Mr. Seagge's. The township is now well supplied with churches and schools.

The soil is in general quite fertile. Wheat and corn are the main products, while stock is raised in large quantities. The bottom lands along Big creek are almost useless in most portions for agriculture, but afford good pasture for the stock. Swamps abound in the vicinity of this creek throughout its whole course.

Boston City (?), on the M. K. & T. R. R. in the northwestern part, and Rose Hill in the west central part, are the only towns. Throughout this Chilhowee, Post Oak and Jefferson townships, the portions known as "The Linc" extend east and west.

The railroad mentioned above extends from Holden to Park, Kansas, and passes through the northwestern part of the township.

HAZEL HILL TOWNSHIP.

This formed a portion of Washington township when the latter was organized in 1838, but became a separate township in 1850, and assumed its present shape and boundaries about the year 1873. At present it embraces all of township 47, range 26, and the southern third of township 48, range 26.

In early days a school was established, near a wet-weather spring, on a site of ground known as "Hazel Hill." From this school derived its name, and from the latter the town and township derived the name which they now hold. Settlements were made within the present limits of the township probably earlier than 1826, but no account of them, few though they were, can be given by the oldest settlers now living.

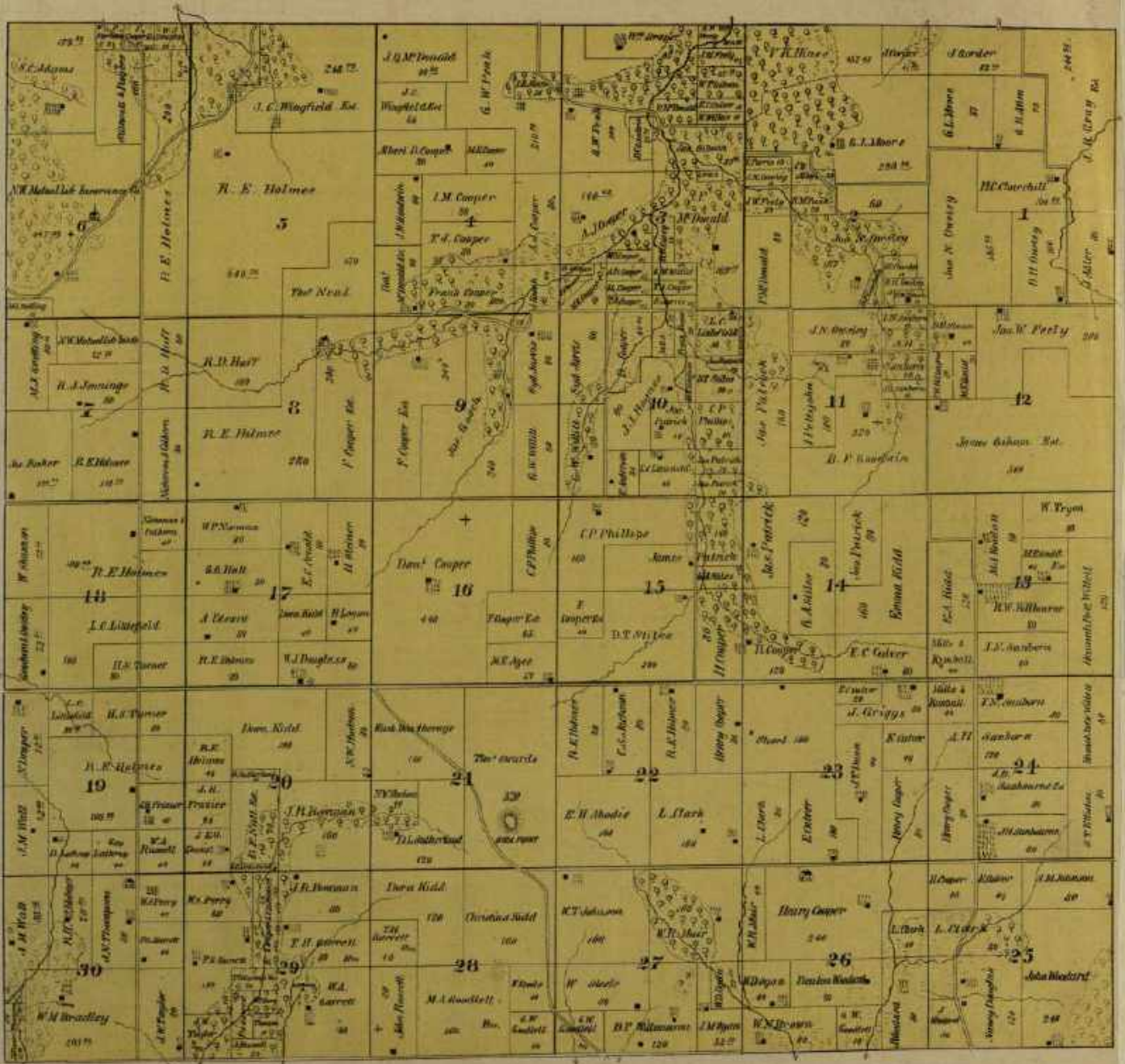
Among those who early settled here, and who figured conspicuously in the early history of the township, may be found the names of Richard Hunsman and John Hantman, who came in 1829; Harvey Harrison, Geo. McMahon, Wm. Adams, Joseph Hobson, William Trapp, William McMahon and Samuel Corrus, who came in 1831. In 1832 Joseph, Jessie and Daniel Harrison, and J. R., J. M., John and B. T. Shackelford arrived; Robert Graham, Joel Walker and Squire Prophet in 1833; Wm. Stockton and Henry Brooks in 1834; Joel Cockrell and James Botchick in 1835; James H. Harris and Elijah Young in 1836; Reason Offin in 1837; Jackson Whitted in 1840; William Brandon in 1841; William Lemmon, Andrew, Thomas, Robert and William Matthews and Adkin Powell in 1842; G. W. J. P. and A. J. Redford in 1843; and James Kiddle, James W. Crutcher and William, Cleveland in 1848. George Hoffman, Leary Barton and Thomas Davidson complete the list. Old settlers will remember Jackson Hall, James Botchick and James Greer as old settlers and school teachers.

Divine services were held at private residences in 1833 and for some time afterwards. Rev. J. B. Morrow preached to one congregation for twenty years. It was known as the Mt. Moriah Church.

This is the representative township of the county. The surface is rolling throughout, with many low places lying near the water-courses. These lands are of little value, except in favorable seasons. The rolling land is, in most cases, quite productive and well adapted to the growth of wheat and corn, which form the great staples of the township. Very little attention is given to the cultivation of any other grains, but considerable is given to the raising of stock, which forms an important item in the wealth of the township. Previous to the war large quantities of hemp were raised, but since then very little attention has been paid to its cultivation. The hedge plant thrives in the soil, and is used considerably in fencing.

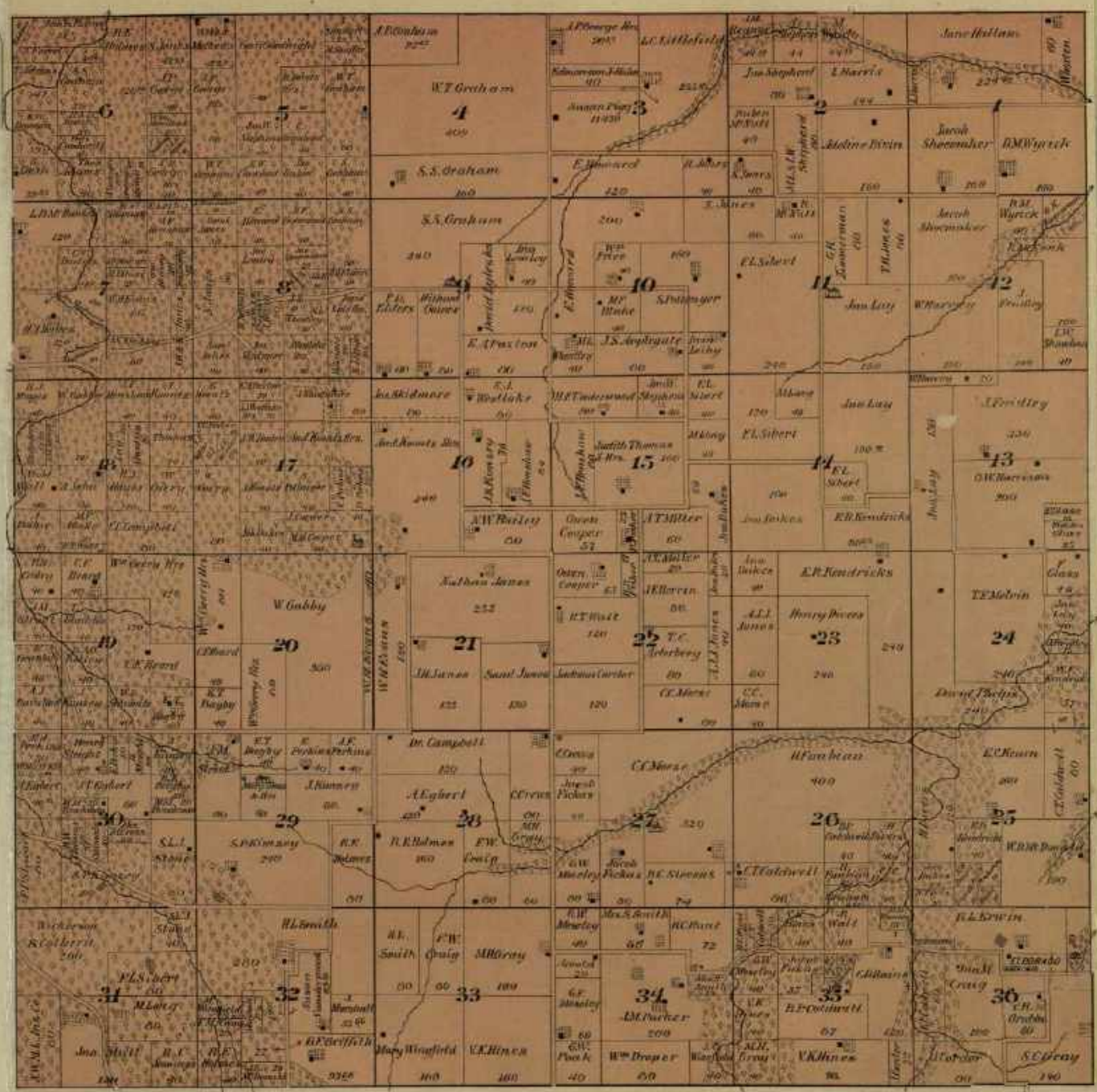
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH

RANGE 24 W. 5TH P.M.



MAP OF TOWNSHIP 13 NORTH

RANGE 24. W. 5TH P.M.



HISTORY OF TOWNSHIPS—Continued.

The farm houses have a substantial appearance, and the farms are well kept; a general spirit of thrift pervades the whole township.

The township is drained by Black Jack, Cottonwood, Prairie and Honey creeks. Fayetteville, named in honor of Fayette Collins, otherwise known as Hossel Hill, is the only town, and is situated in the south-western part of section 11.

CHILHOWEE TOWNSHIP.

This is a fine large tract, situated in the southern part of Johnson, next to the Henry county line.

It contains about seventy-three square miles, and embraces some of the finest farming and timbered portions of the county. In point of settlement it ranks among the first portions settled in the southern part of the county. It was formed out of parts of the original townships of Madison and Jefferson, the largest portion coming from the former.

Most of the earliest settlers came about 1833, and from that on. Any pretense to this date have about passed out of memory, and were merely articles for a season. They collected near the present western line, in the vicinity of Bear creek, and upon the head waters of Post Oak in the eastern part. A few settled in a more central location in the township near the southern line, on the head waters of Panther creek.

The following comprise a partial list of old settlers, previous to 1845: A settler by the name of Hegard is thought to be the first, and following him were Wilkinson Hagan, Samuel Evans, Samuel Brown, John and Douglas Wright, John Murray, George Eppright, Jacob Eppright, Hesse Lisk Brown, John Brown, Basel King, Robert Thompson, Dr. I. B. Melick, Gilson and Wallace Thompson, James McDowen, John Hughes, Allen Guthrie, Zeph. Taylor, Thomas Taylor, Brown Eskew, Harmon Snider, Thompson Chamberlain, Samuel Wear, Fink and Wm. Wear, Robert Litter, Jas. Murphy, John G. and C. C. Morris; George Glazebrook, John Glazebrook, his father; David Graver, Wm. (?) Johnson, Old Mr. Colley, and his sons Wm. and Jeff., Billy Johnson, Saml Carpenter, David Stoo, James Adkins, Robert Adkins, Dr. R. Z. R. Wall, and A. Wall, his son; Wilson Carpenter, Josiah Holden and Charles M. Cooke. To this list we might append the names of Kirkpatrick, Swinney, Baker, Key and Little, who come in a little later day, and are in reality esteemed as old settlers.

Prairies of waving grass met the eye of all when they arrived, and large logs were dragged across the prairie to mark some pathway to a distant point. Roads were unknown, and this was the means taken to start them. Timber existed then, and now exists in the eastern part, and in the western in a small degree. Also, a small portion in the southern. The eastern timber tract is quite extensive. The rest is beautiful rolling prairie, now covered with substantial farms, whose well-kept fences, substantial dwellings, and general comfortable surroundings testify to the quality of the soil.

Wheat and corn are the staples, and a very fair amount of stock is raised in the northern part, while in the southern part large amounts are fed.

In early days the preaching of the various denominations was held outside the present boundaries, but both churches and schools were formed rather early within the limits, and now there are two churches and a good system of schools throughout the township.

The township is drained by the branches of Bear creek and by Post Oak creek.

Chilhowee is the only village in the township, and is situated in section 12, township 44, range 27. James Simpson and Samuel McFarlan built the first house in the place. James Murphy was the original owner of the land. The name was derived from the Chilhowee Mountains in Tennessee. There is also a little town of the same name in Blount county, Tennessee.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

This township is situated in the eastern portion of Johnson county and contains about eighty-one square miles.

It was one of the first organized townships and settled quite early. To those who peruse this work, the following names of old settlers, though incomplete the list may be, will embrace the home and siew of the first organizations. Richard Combs came in 1831, followed by James Brown, John Mays and J. B. Mays, his son; James Gallaher, George Gallaher, Spencer Adams, Henry Hays, Wm. Cook, Fred. Hoax, Jacob Knauz, Joseph Lapsley, John Stewart, John Road, Samuel Graham, Andrew Thompson, Samuel Workman, Thomas M. Ramsey, Samuel McKeehan, George Thornton, Andrew Brockman, Smith McCornack, Ben Howard, Wm. Box, Rev. Robert Lee and others. Most of these came to the township previous to 1840 and a few others came a short time afterwards.

The surface of this township is rolling and in many places quite hilly. The township is drained by Clear fork, Long branch, Walnut creek and Bear creek. The soil is quite productive and the larger part under cultivation. The main articles of produce are corn, wheat and oats. Of the first two, large quantities are raised. Only a moderate supply of stock is produced and is sold generally to home buyers. The soil is part limestone, intermingled with sandstone. Coal abounds in various parts of the township, the mines being extensively worked around Knobnoster, Montecruz and intermediate points. The farms did not suffer so severely here during the grasshopper raid, except in some particular ones.

During the war the township was the scene of many robbing excursions, planned and executed by parties who, in intent, owned neither side, but watched their opportunity for plundering those of either side wherever plunder could be had.

The people of this township are in a thriving condition in many ways, as their well-improved farms and comfortable dwellings truly testify. The first church established was in 1839. Among those who early "taught the young ideas how to shock" were James Cochran, Curran, and a gentleman named Matthews. The educational interest, except in a few localities, are but very slow in their development. Nor can we wonder that such should be the case so long as quite a number, and one in particular, holds the idea that, "If I educate my children it will make taxation worse of them, and I don't intend they shall know more'n me, and I think I her done well." This sentiment exists in many minds. How false, how utterly ruinous to the best interests of her citizens!

Montecruz and Knobnoster are stations on the Missouri Pacific Railroad, which extends through the northern part of the township. The latter has a population of over 1,000 souls. It derived its name from a prominent mound near by.

SIMPSON TOWNSHIP.

This township lies in the northeastern part of the county. Bounded on the east by Grover; on the south by Washington and Warrenburg, and on the west by Hossel Hill. It was named after James Simpson, an old and respected citizen. He was a bachelor and a noted grand-jury, and though peculiar in many ways, was liked by all.

The oldest settler was, probably, Johnson Mulkey. Other settlers were Steven Blevins, John Anderson, Isaac Anderson, Eliaba Blevins, Amos Hox, James Simpson Brown, Greenlee Brown, Richard Handcock, Alex. Greer, John Bowman, John Thurston, George P. Aingell, James Fitzpatrick, James Parker, W. E. Collins, Charles P. Collins, Maj. John Boyles, James Foster, Sr. and James M. Foster, Jr.; A. J. Horn, John Roberts, John McClaney, O. Whitsett, Edward Price, Edward Robinson, Rufus Hornbuckle, George Kibbert, and J. C. Herndon. Many of these assisted materially in the organization of the new county of Johnson, as will be seen by a reference to our general County History.

The surface is rolling throughout, and most favorable for farms in the northern and southern portions; hence these were the first settled. The township has been organized but a year or so, and it is considered that only one-half of it is fairly cultivated. The township is drained by Flagstaff creek, which flows east through the northern part; Cottonwood creek, which flows through the central part, and Blackwater, which flows through the southeastern. This divides the township into three main watersheds upon which the farms are situated.

In the northern part timber is abundant. Wheat and corn are the staples. Many fine orchards exist here, as they do all over the county. The supply of stock is only moderate. No coal is found in any quantity. The soil is quite productive, and crops are quite sure.

Churches were not early established in this township. Preaching was held to some extent in the residences of the settlers. Oak Grove Baptist Church, sixty members, is the only church in the township. This was formed about 1832, although preaching was held in the grove much sooner.

The township is well organized as regards schools. Many good school houses are to be seen. Among the early teachers may be mentioned the names of James M. Shepherd, Squire Neil, Wm. Duval, Lewis Hornbuckle and Samuel Ledford.

The only place of note is a village, situated in section 13. The nearest post-office is Fayetteville, on the west, and Sigel on the east.

CENTERVIEW TOWNSHIP.

This township is situated in the central part of Johnson county, and contains about sixty square miles, or 38,400 acres. It is one of the beautiful prairie townships of Johnson, containing timber in the southern part, on and around Brink creek, and also a strip of timber along the course of Blackwater and its branches in the northern part. The central portion, and also extending the whole length of the township north and south, is beautiful, fertile prairie. It was organized about 1870.

The old settlers' list will comprise the following: Samuel C. Graham, Elhanan Koop, John G. and James J. Graham, M. Hoax, P. S. Hoax and his two sons, R. M. and G. W.; J. Carmichael, P. Carmichael, Solomon Cox, Jesemial Grogg; James Sterling and his sons, John and Chamberlain; James Chamberlain, Thompson C. Chamberlain, John R. Whitsett, J. W. Hoax, Gilson Harrison, Samuel T. Thistle, Samuel McFarlan, Wm. Marr, Jacob Fetterling, Isham Reese, one of the early sheriffs of the county; Capt. Wm. Cooke, M. G. Mullens, John Combs, Jacob Tyler, Wm. Conway, G. Burgess, John Kenny and William M. Ramsey.

Samuel C. Graham built the first cabin on the prairie, near Center-view, in the fall of 1840. At this time hunters thought nothing of setting fire to the prairie to frighten out some wounded deer or other game which they had lost. In this way it was quite dangerous to live on the prairie without great care, as you were likely to be burnt out at any time in the fall.

Near the Blackwater the land is quite low, and gently slopes back,

becoming, a half mile or so from the river, the rolling prairie previously spoken of.

Soon after the war Samuel C. Graham and Elhanan Koop, with the aid of L. Kaufman, surveyor, laid off the present town of Center-view. It was named by Mrs. Koop, by reason of its central position in the county, it being eighteen miles from the eastern side and fifteen from the western, twelve and a half miles from the southern and eleven from the northern; being also nearly in the center of a circle embracing the following towns near its circumference: Fayetteville, Pittsville, Holden, Chilhowee, Canalia and Warrenburg. The township derived its name from this town. Some efforts were made to remove the county seat to this place, but they all proved fruitless. The first settler in the town was Thos. King, next E. Shiddler.

The first church organized was Smyrna Church, built in 1840. Several denominations were interested in it, and sometimes there was a difficulty concerning the use of it on certain Sundays. Some of the divines who held services here at an early day were: Joseph White, Wm. Caldwell and Amos Horn, of the Baptist church; J. B. Morrow, of the Cumberland Presbyterian; and Robert Glen, of the Presbyterian. The early teachers were: Addison Vanarsdal, Alex. Gibbs, James Harrison, John Thistle and Moses G. Mullens.

The soil is fertile; all kinds of grain grow well; stock is raised in fair amounts; and the citizens are all pretty thrifty. There is still a railroad tax on the citizens, which was voted before they were separated from Madison township. The railroad was laid as far as Center-view in 1864 and finished shortly after.

WARRENSBURG TOWNSHIP.

In August, 1836, the township of Warrensburg, named from the county seat, was organized, and being taken from the midst of all, it produced various changes in the limits of each of the other four. It contains about sixty-three square miles, and is entirely drained by Blackwater and its branches. The former runs across the northern side, Post Oak across the western side, and Bear creek across the eastern side. It was settled about 1830, probably a little earlier. The following comprise a miscellaneous list of old settlers, regardless of the date of their arrival:

Dr. Gilkorn, Joseph Wade, Wm. Toulfin, John Evans, James Runnels, Imuel Christian, Zeph. Davis, W. H. Anderson, Wm. B. Moody, Wm. Stephenson, James P. Booker, Martin Warren, James Warren, Benjamin Granger, Abram Adams, Andrew Blevins, James Givin, Wm. Fletcher, I. W. Davis, W. H. Davis, Dr. Thos. Parks, Henry Gilburn, D. B. Wood, Archibald Thistle, James Marshall, Sr., and James Marshall, Jr.; Jacob Perman, Madison Warren, Joseph Potts, Richard E. Page, Shelby Hart, Y. K. W. Berry, and Wm. Woodruff.

This list may fall short of a complete one, but serves the purpose, from the fact that all the more prominent citizens who assisted in the county's affairs are mentioned in connection with them so far as necessary in the general history.

The soil is comparatively fertile. Sandstone exists underneath it, and in many places it crops out to the surface. There is considerable uncultivated land in this township. Surface is rolling throughout. The city of Warrensburg is situated in the central part of this township. The land upon which the old town is situated was entered by the commissioners appointed to locate the county seat. The land upon which the new town is located was owned by John and Martin Warren and James Beaud. The former a resident of Lafayette county. It was first surveyed in 1836, incorporated as a town in 1844, and as a city in 1856. It is situated partly on sections 23, 24, 25 and 26, of township 46, range 26. It is about the highest point within a large area, and may be seen from various points of the county. It has a population of about 3,000, and bids fair to increase in manufacturing interests.

The first three lawyers that came to Warrensburg were N. B. Holden, Thos. R. Watt, and U. O. Silimien. Mr. Watt was a young man of fine ability, and in a few years had a fine practice. He died when comparatively young. Since then many of her citizens of the later class have been called to high state and national positions of honor and trust, which they have filled with credit to themselves and with honor to their constituents.

As a city, there are few elegant, but many very substantial and comfortable dwellings. There also exists a fine system of schools, under the supervision of Mr. J. E. Reynolds. The Second District State Normal School is located here and attended by about 450 pupils. The city is well supplied with churches, and a fine religious sentiment prevails. In general intelligence the citizens are above the average class.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

Originally this was the first township organized in Johnson county in 1836. It then embraced almost one-fourth of the county, but now embraces only about seventy-nine square miles, in the extreme north-western corner of the county. It was settled very early, and its settlement may be said to be contemporaneous with that of Columbus township.

We shall endeavor to give a pretty full list of the earlier settlers, whose names doubtless will recall others whose names do not appear here. They are as follows:

R. B. Fulkerson, M.D.; Jackson Longacre, and two persons by the

BIOGRAPHY.

name of John Longene; Jerry James, Joseph Howard, Joel Ellis, Peter A. Hall, Charles Hood, T. Franklin, William Franklin, John Winfrey, Greenville Griep and sons; Morris Edwards, David Edwards; Samuel, Elias and Amos Lundy; Amos, Robert, and James Green; — Stauffer, Baldwin Fine, George Colbert, Jasper Ferguson, Moses Ferguson, Lee Ferguson; James, Wm., Frank and Thompson Bradley; Wm. Davidson, — Bigham, Judge John Windsor, who was county judge at one time; Richard Bradley and his sons; Squire Campbell, James Craig, Martin Phillips, Charles Phillips, John Miller and his sons, Benson Offut, Doctor Joseph Ragsdale, Wm. and Thomas Ragsdale, Wm. W. Sparks, Wm. Hopper, Calvin Shore, John Y. Martin, Daniel Spainhour, Jesse Howard, who was blind and who at one time kept a store near "Bain Knob;" Wm. Hays, Addison Van Ausdell, James Briggs, Samuel Shirley, Wm. Hill, Wm. P. Paul, — Ryan, — Simcox, Squire Wm. P. Tucker, Wm. Cook. — Hardin, and David Hogan.

Churches were early established within the present limits, but their exact history is somewhat shrouded in doubt, and we will be obliged to only mention one or two of those who officiated in the capacity of ministers of the gospel at meetings held in an early day. They were as follows: Rev. I. N. Newman, Baptist; Rev. Jesse N. Cobb, Methodist Episcopal; Rev. David Hogan, Cumberland Presbyterian, and Addison Van Ausdell, of the same church, while the Rev. Warren M. Pitts represented the Methodist Church, South.

Among the early teachers may be mentioned the names of Wm. W.

Sparks, Jackson Longene, Addison Van Ausdell, and James Briggs.

The soil is quite fertile, and produces wheat and corn in abundance. The other grains are raised only in small quantities. Stock is raised only in small amounts. Timber borders all the streams in narrow strips, while the intermediate portions are fine rolling prairie. Several branches of Blackwater head in this township, as do some of the branches of Big creek.

Pittsville is the only place of note, and was named after the Rev. Warren M. Pitts. It was started about 1857, and is on the main road from Holden to Lexington.

GROVER TOWNSHIP.

Grover township is situated in the northeast corner of Johnson county, and at one time embraced what are now Grover and Simpson townships. It reached its present form but a few years ago. It was named in honor of — Grover, an old and respected citizen of the township.

Among old settlers within the present limits of Grover township may be found the names of Wm. Thornton, Wm. Gilliam, Charles Oglesby, Tarleton Oglesby, Dr. G. Thornton, Charles Thornton, a Mr. Cook, who was among the very oldest settlers in the township; a Mr. Graig, John Coy, Addison Thornton, Josh Cox, John Bone, Wm. Kirkpatrick, Geo. Tibbs, Phillip Barren, John Bradley, Thos. Marshall, Doctor Dunklin, Wm. Marshall, John Phillips, James Bethwell, and Joseph Robinson,

who was one of the first settlers. To this list we will also add the names of Larkin Hooker and John Robinson.

The surface is quite rolling in some portions and covered with timber, while prairie exists in the southern and southeastern parts. It is quite thickly settled. The township is well watered. Blackwater river runs through the northern part, while Clear fork runs just through the southwest corner, and the remainder is drained by Walnut, Little Walnut Tibb's branch and Bee branch. The soil is well adapted to the growth of all kinds of grain, but corn, wheat and oats are the staples of the township. A fair supply of stock is raised, though the township is not noted in this respect. In this township, like others in the county, there are many low portions adjoining the creeks, which prove of no value for cultivation except in a most favorable season. No minerals of any kind are known to exist in paying quantities, though coal is found in small quantities in several localities in the township.

It was quite late before churches were established here, and at present but two exist in the township — a German Baptist and a M. E. Church. Schools were early established, and among the names of early teachers may be found those of Andrew Hamsey, Thomas Jones and William Bethwell.

The village of Danksburg, named after Dr. Dunklin, is the only place of note in the township. The post-office is called Segel.

The township contains about forty-eight square miles, and is just the same size as Simpson and Hazel Hill townships.

BIOGRAPHY OF HON. JAMES M. FULKERSON, M.D.

The ancestors of the subject of this sketch came from Virginia. His father was born in that state, and he himself was born in Lee valley, now Lee county, some thirty miles from the point where Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia corner, March 15th, 1811, making him now in his sixty-seventh year. He was one of eleven children; and, though possessed of no very favorable circumstances, his parents having so many to provide for, he pushed forward in the position in life which he now occupies.

Leaving Virginia, his father settled near Washington, Ray county, Tennessee, and from here he moved to Taber Grove, Lafayette county, Mo., in 1820. James was then only eighteen years old, but had decided on his profession, and had already studied medicine under Drs. Stout and Harris, in Tennessee. While in Lafayette county he studied with Dr. Wood, and in 1830 he went to St. Charles county and studied and practiced with Dr. Lay, while he resided with his uncle, Isaac Fulkerson, who was one of the first settlers of St. Charles county, having come there in 1810, before Missouri was a state.

James M., now arrived at the dignity of a doctor, was living at Dams' bottom, in St. Charles county; but, desiring to better qualify himself for his profession, he attended, in 1831 and 1832, a series of lectures at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Toward the close of 1832 he was called on to attend to some important business in Virginia, and upon his return again went back to St. Charles county. He had volunteered in the Black Hawk war, and no doubt we would have had a brilliant military career to record for the doctor, had he been called on, but his services were not demanded.

About this time he was taken with a severe spell of sickness which came near proving fatal. Indeed it went so far as to cause the physicians to give him up, and a shroud to be made. He recovered, however, and a short time after saw the man who went after the shroud buried in it himself.

He practiced in Dams' bottom until the year 1834. Previous to this he was engaged in trading and practicing at the same time, and sometimes taking lengthy trips to the South.

In 1834 he removed to Johnson county, and took up his home with N. Houx, heretofore mentioned as the oldest settler in the county, who then resided near the present site of Columbus.

On the 5th of January, 1836, he married Mr. Houx's daughter, Elizabeth C., and soon after settled at the old homestead, where he now resides.

With the odds of his father's inability to assist him, want of capital, and, when he grew older, the sad results of the war, he, with characteristic energy, pushed forward and stood amongst the foremost of the county. For three successive terms he represented his county, being the first to occupy that important trust. Again he was bank director in the Lexington Bank, and assignee of bankrupts for Johnson county in 1840. He possesses now about 2,400 acres of good land. The war injured him financially, he having considerable invested in slaves.

His height is about six feet, and his weight about 155 lbs., though he has weighed 210 lbs. for many years previous to present writing. He has six children living and four dead. His frame is still quite robust, his spirits as lively as ever, and he bids fair to live to a ripe old age.

J. W. HARRISON,

LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLES,

EAST PINE STREET,

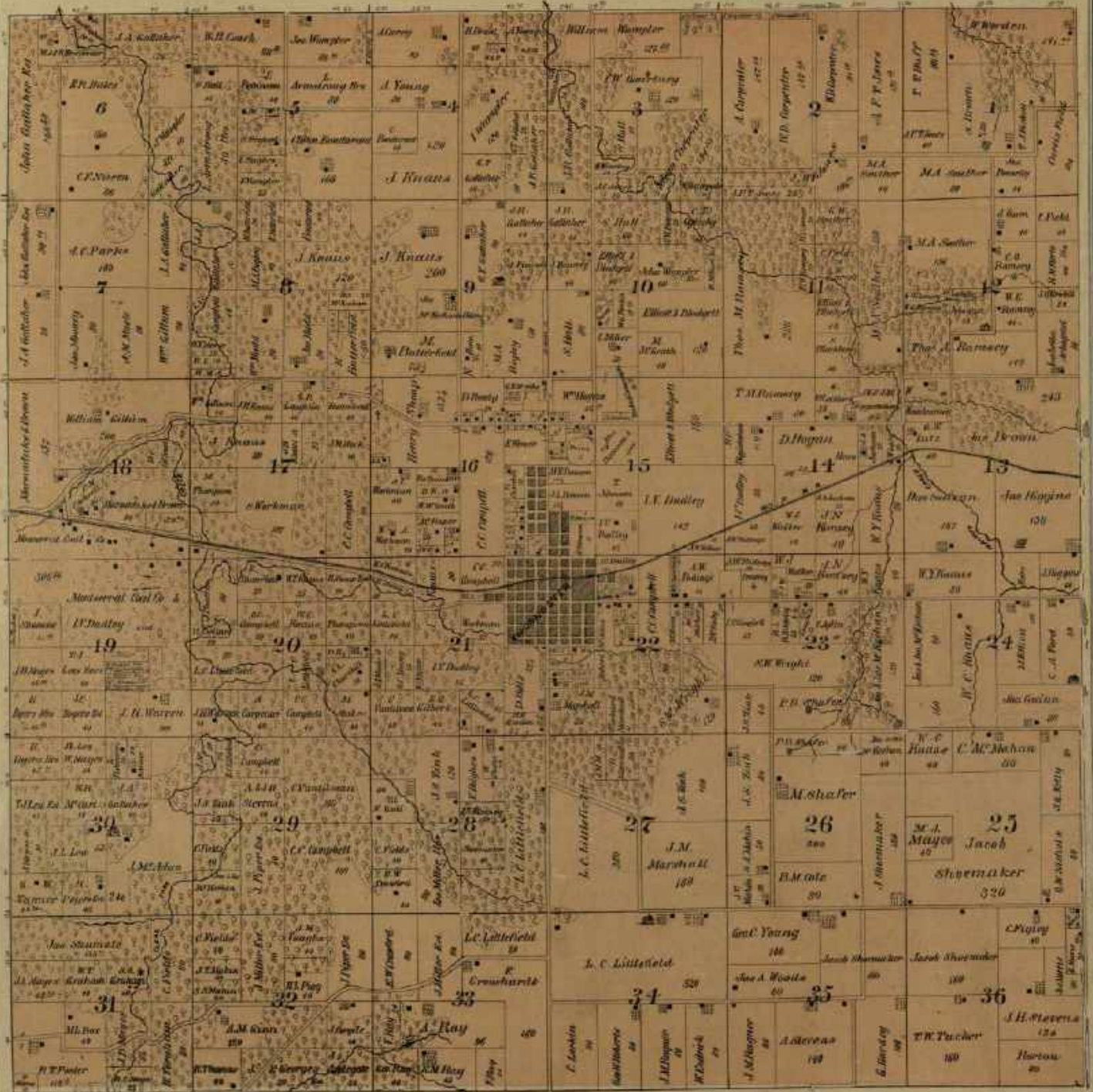
ONE BLOCK EAST OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,

WARRENSBURG, MISSOURI.

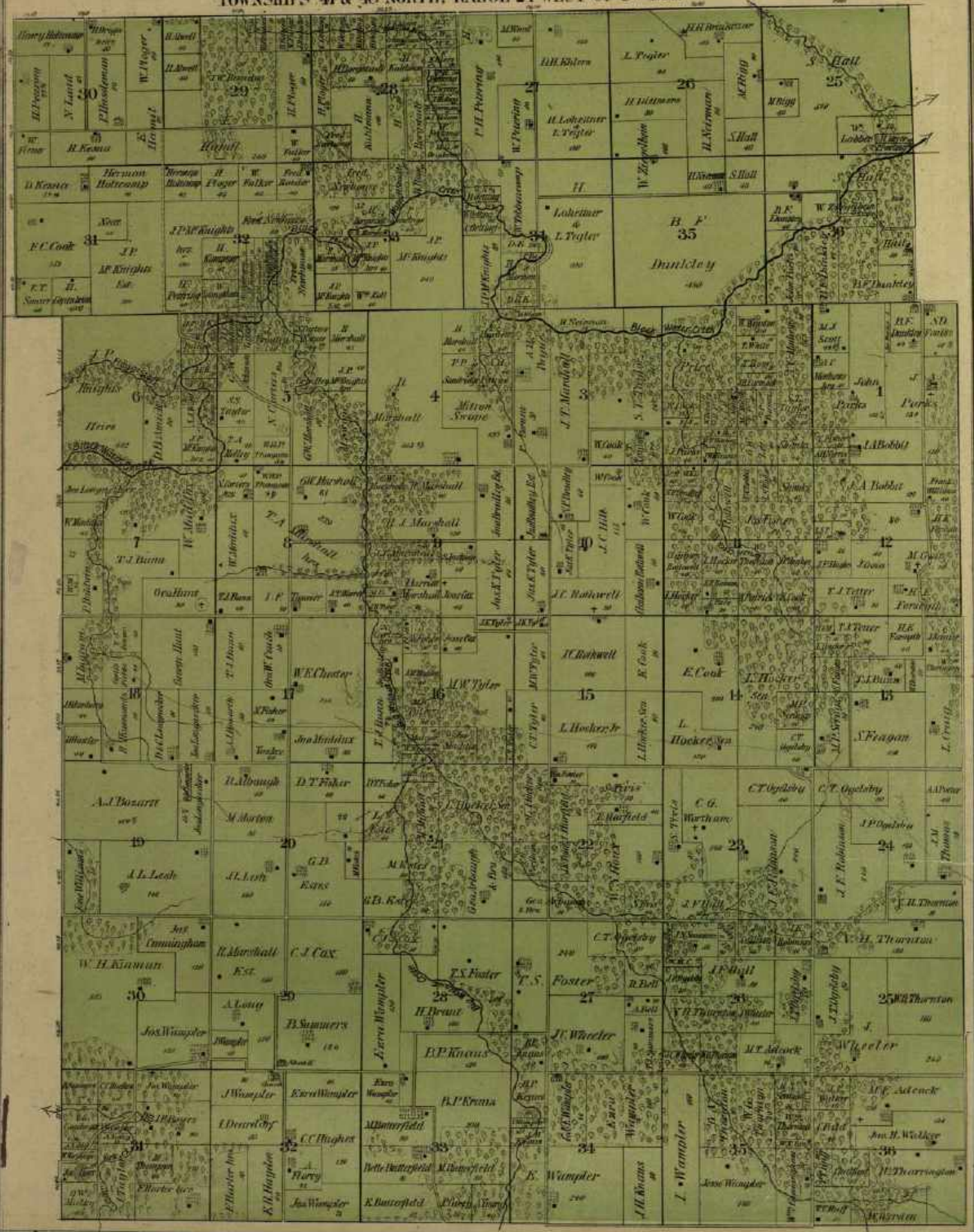
Turnouts on hand for all occasions, and at the lowest living rates. Horses and Mules bought and sold. Horses Boarded by the day, week or month, at reasonable rates. We ask but the opportunity to show the character and rates of our establishment; and we are assured that, having once tried us, you will be constrained to call again.

MAP OF TOWNSHIP 46 NORTH

RANGE 24 W. 5TH PM.

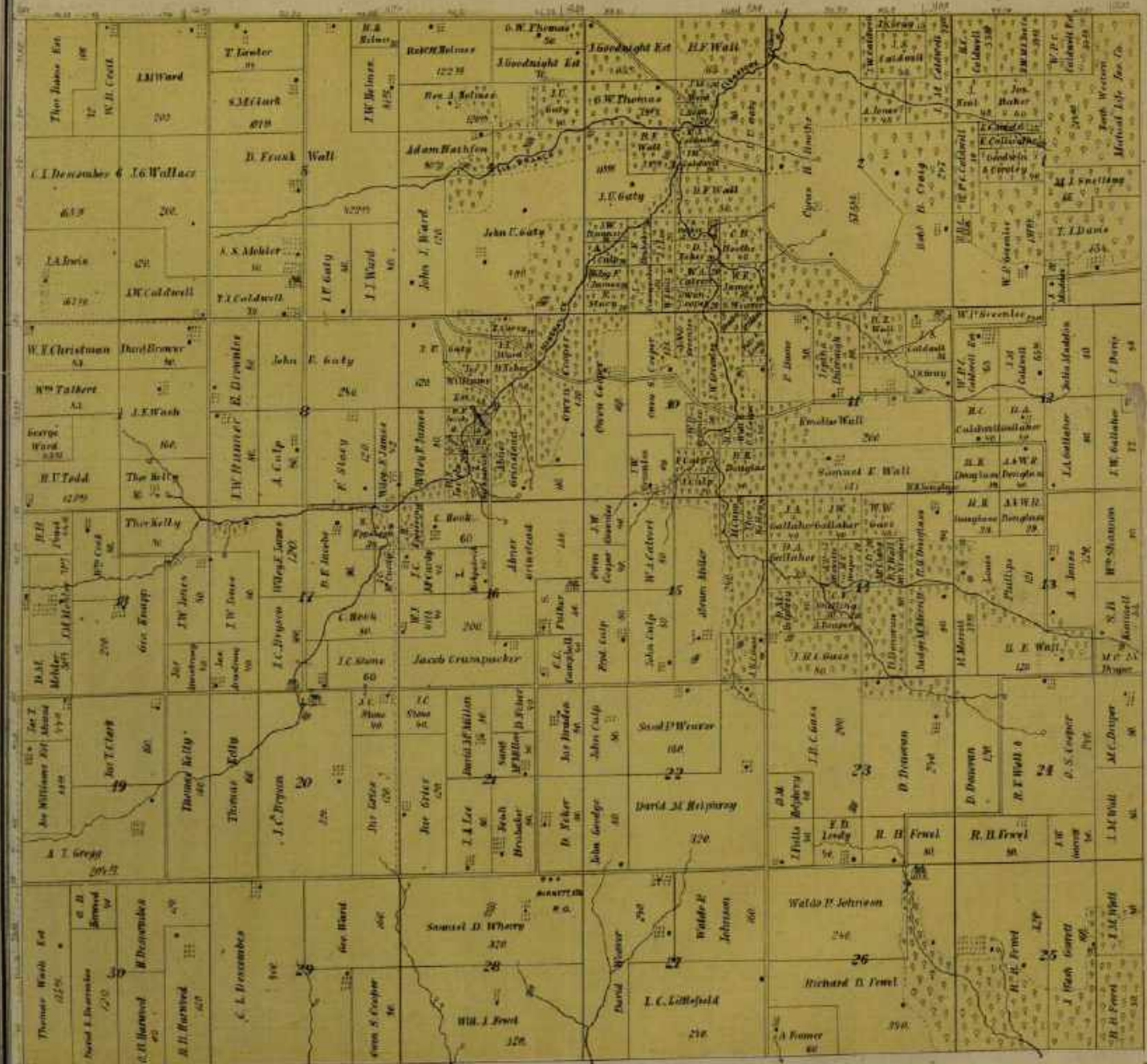


TOWNSHIPS 47 & 48 NORTH, RANGE 24 WEST OF 5TH P.M.



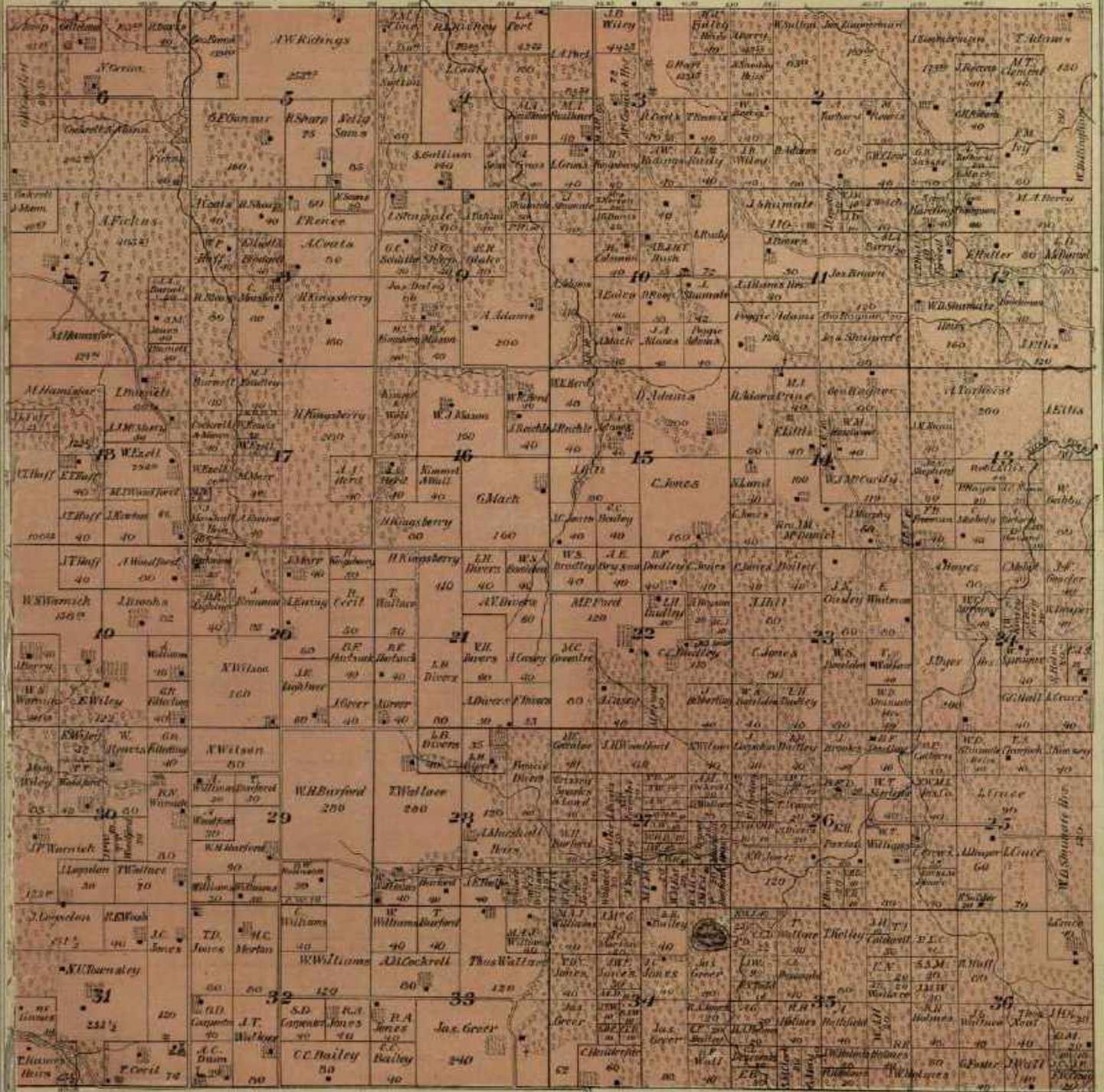
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH

RANGE 25 W. 5th P. M.



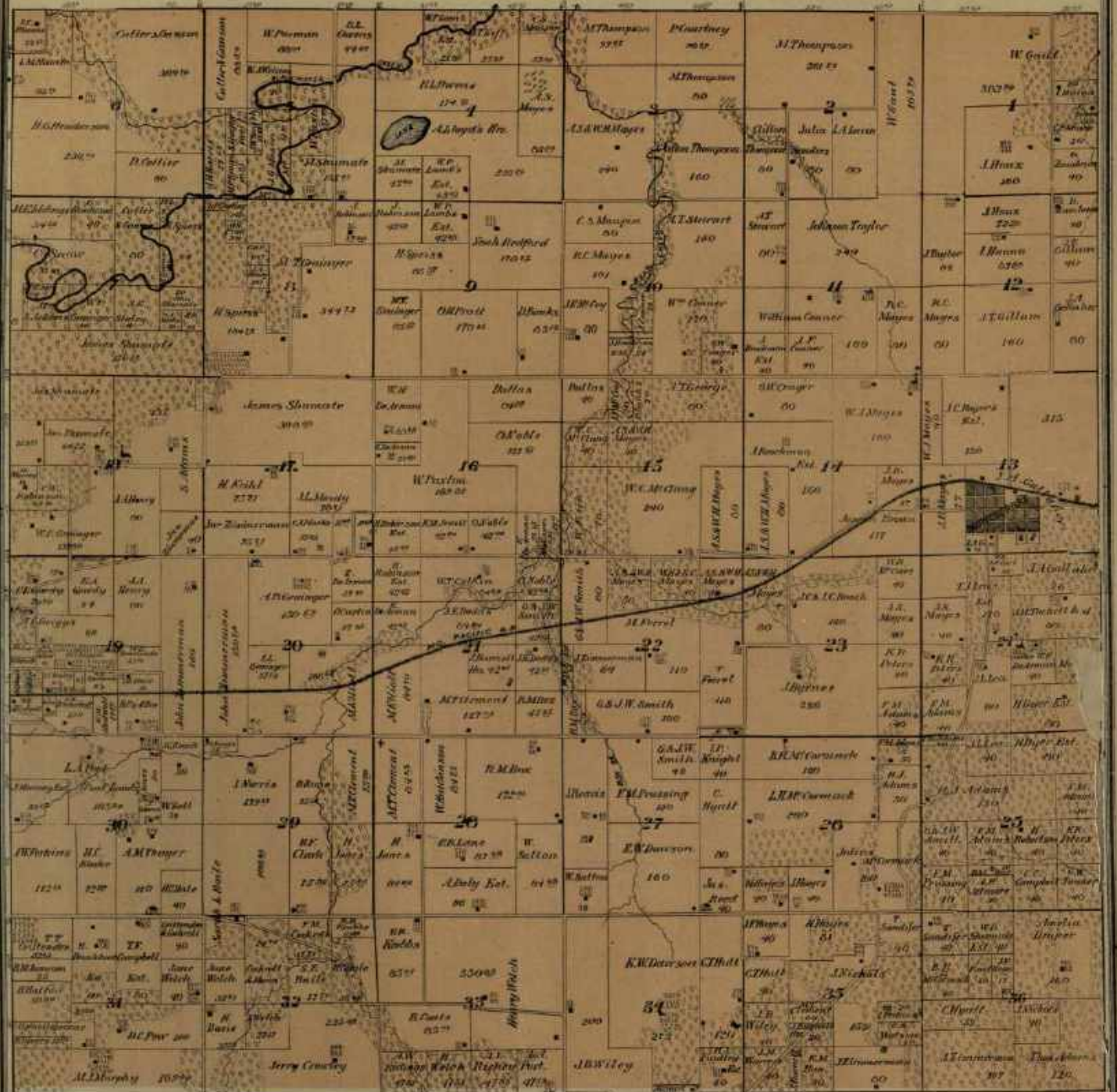
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 43 NORTH

RANGE 25. W. 5TH P.M.

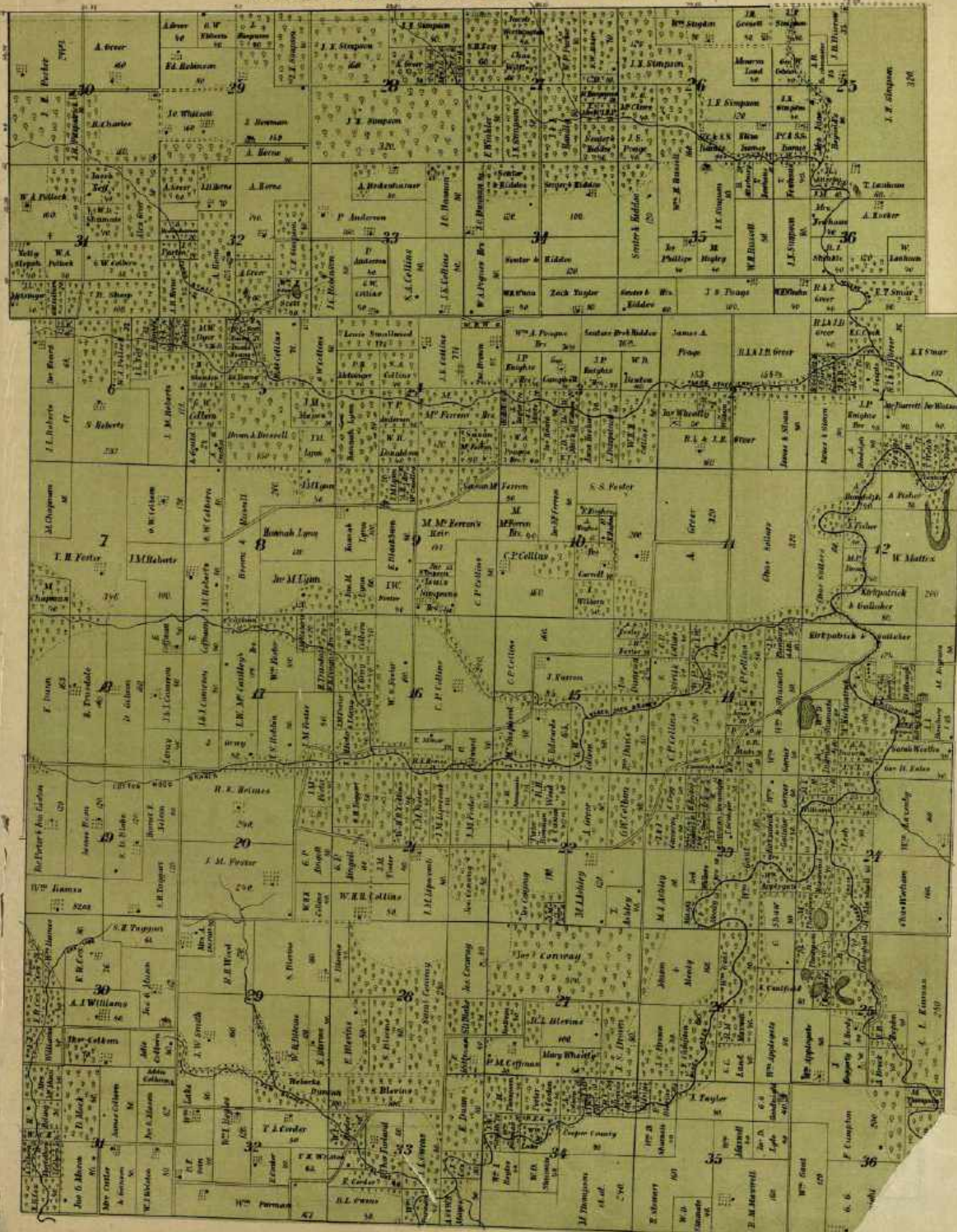


MAP OF TOWNSHIP 46 NORTH

RANGE 25, W. 5TH P.M.

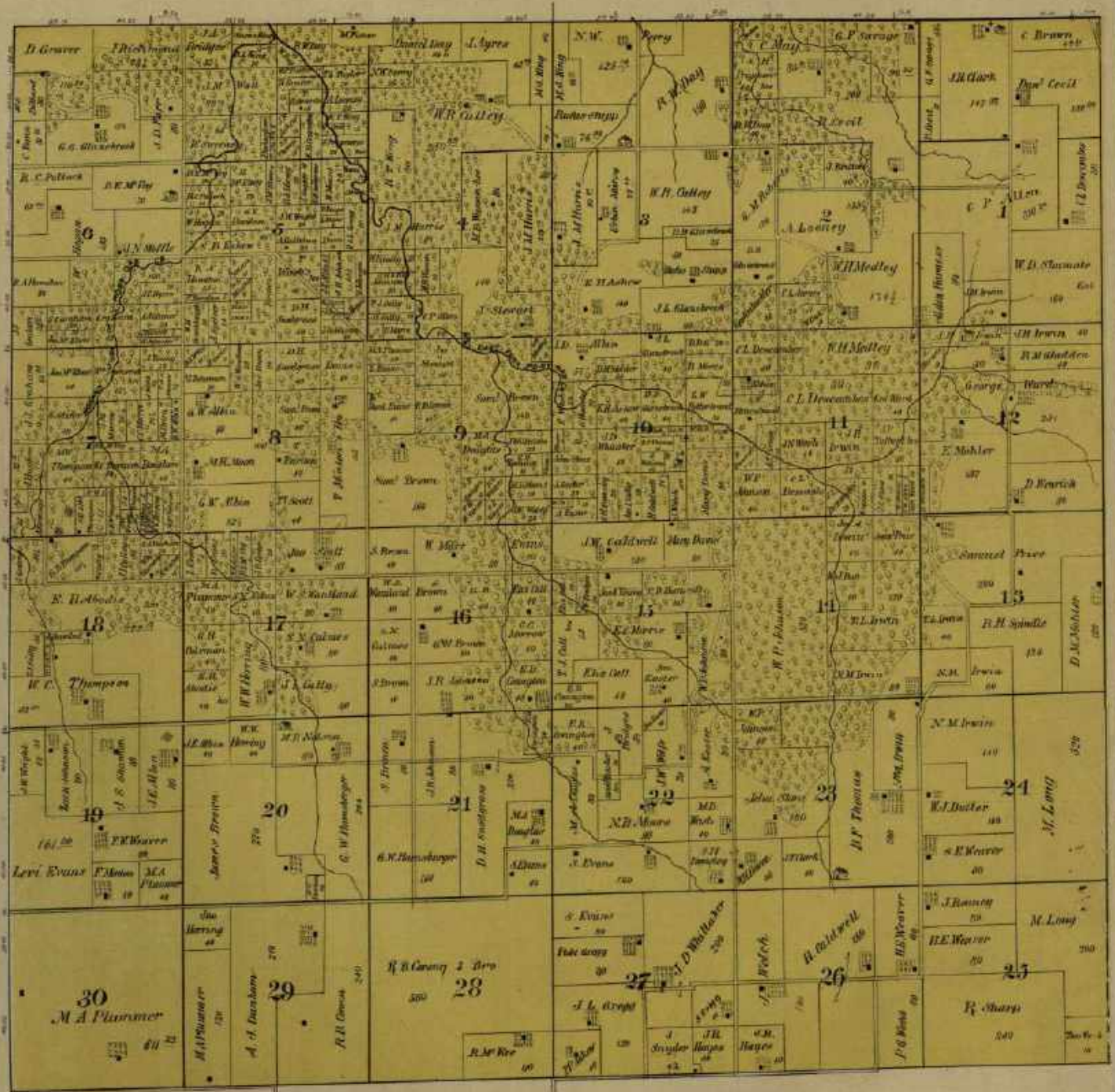


TOWNSHIPS 47 & 48 NORTH RANGE 25 WEST 5th P. M.



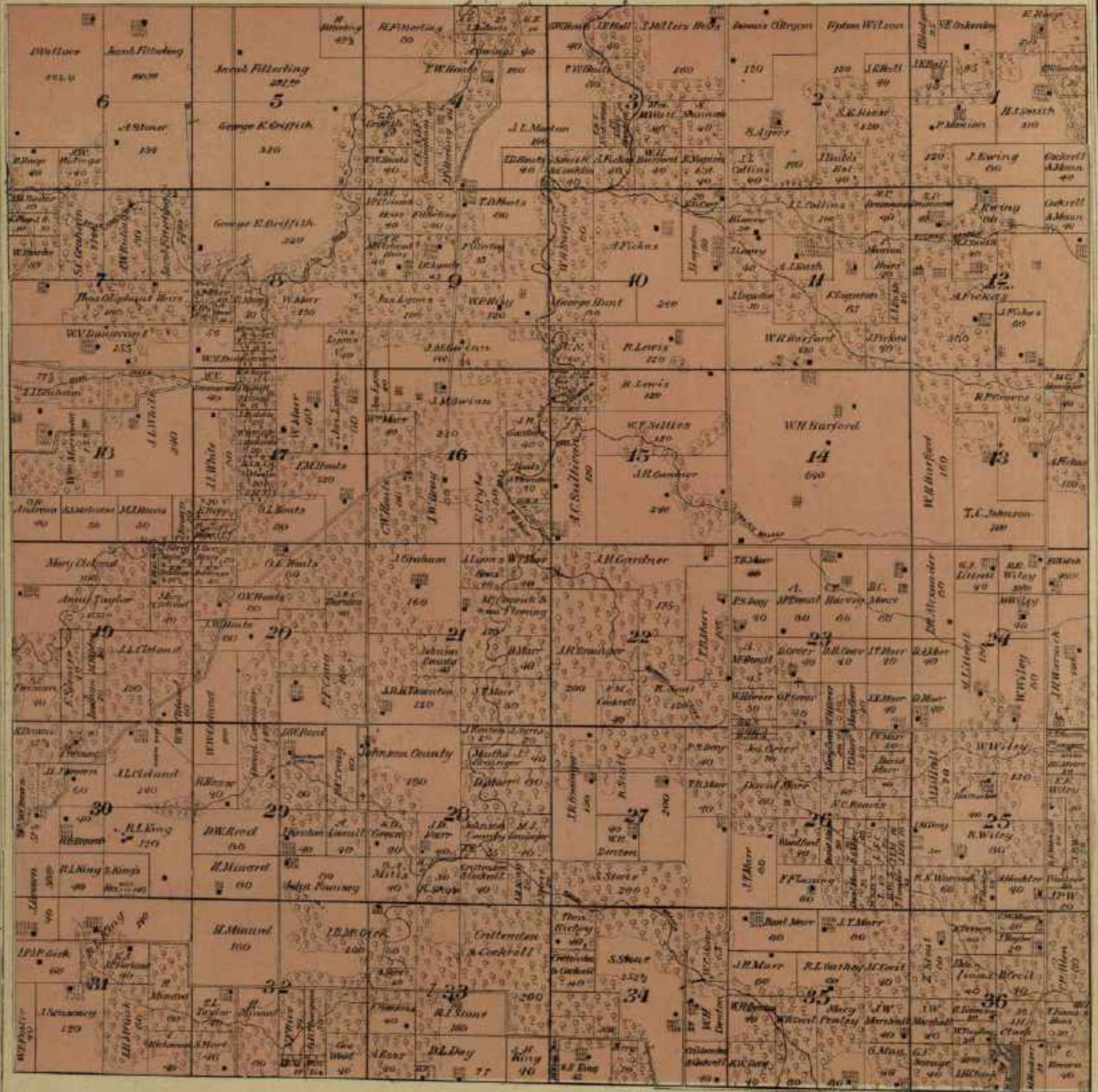
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH

RANGE 26 W 5TH P.M.



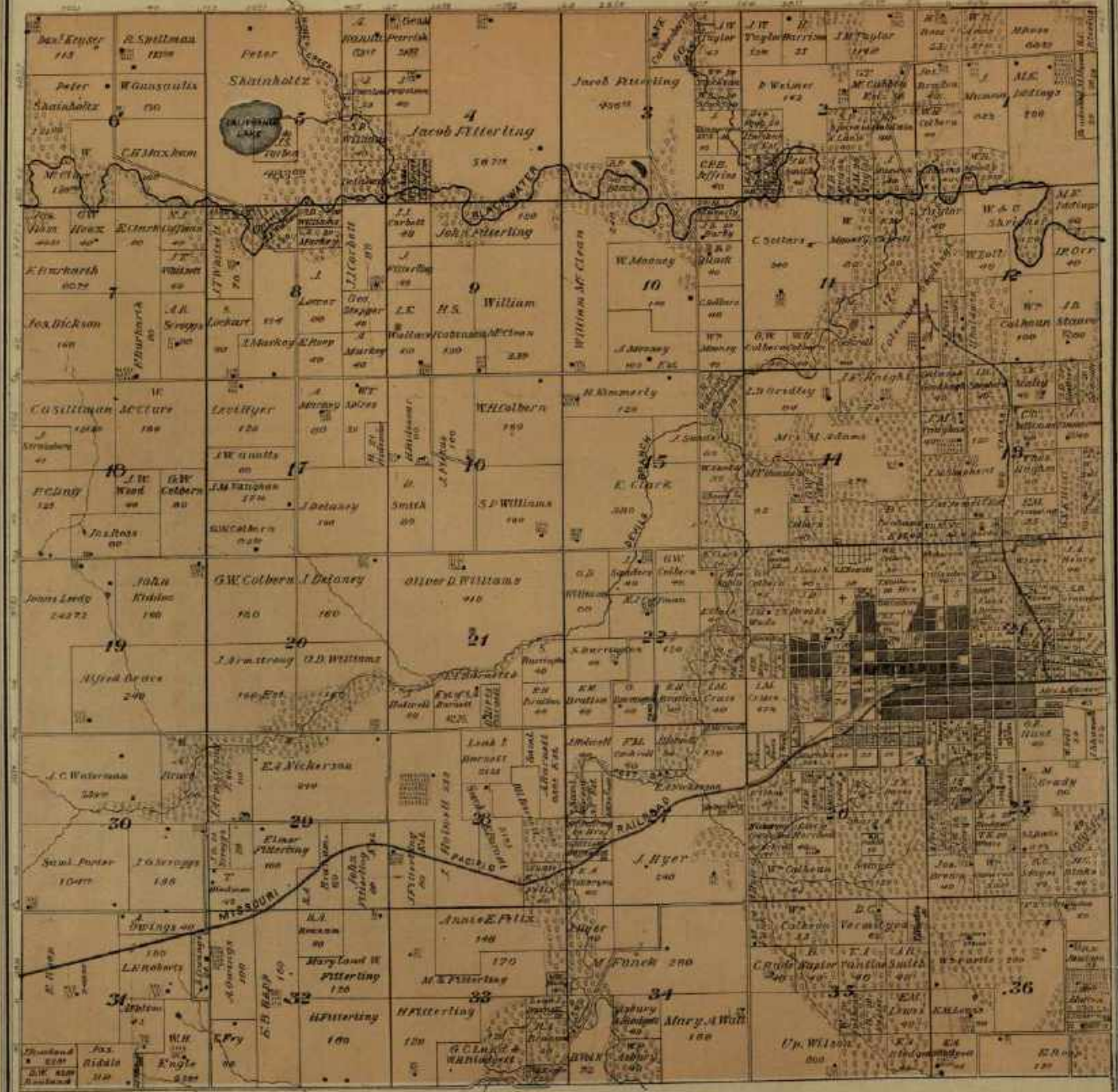
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 43 NORTH

RANGE 26.W. 5TH P. M.

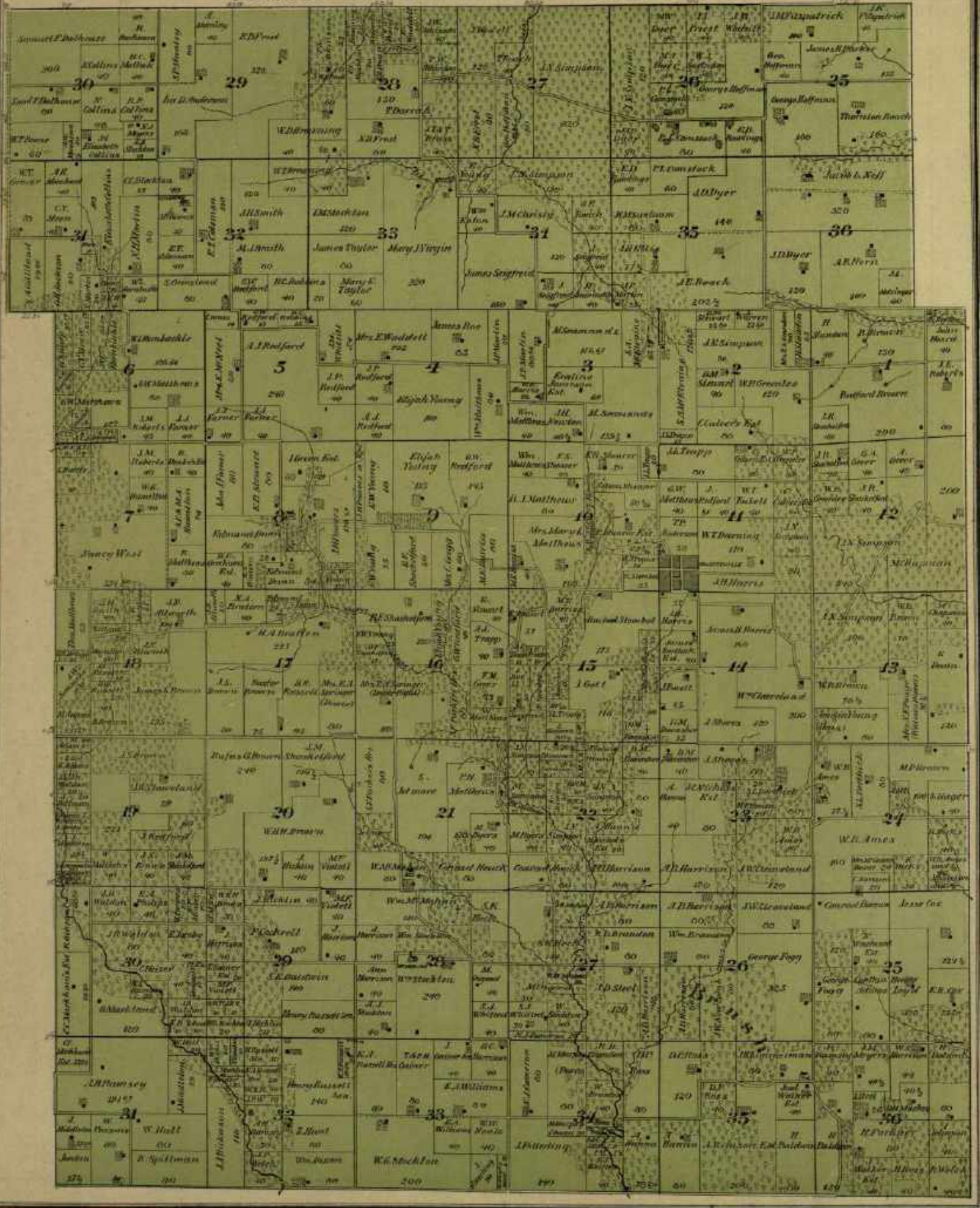


MAP OF TOWNSHIP 48 NORTH

RANGE 26, W. 5TH P.M.

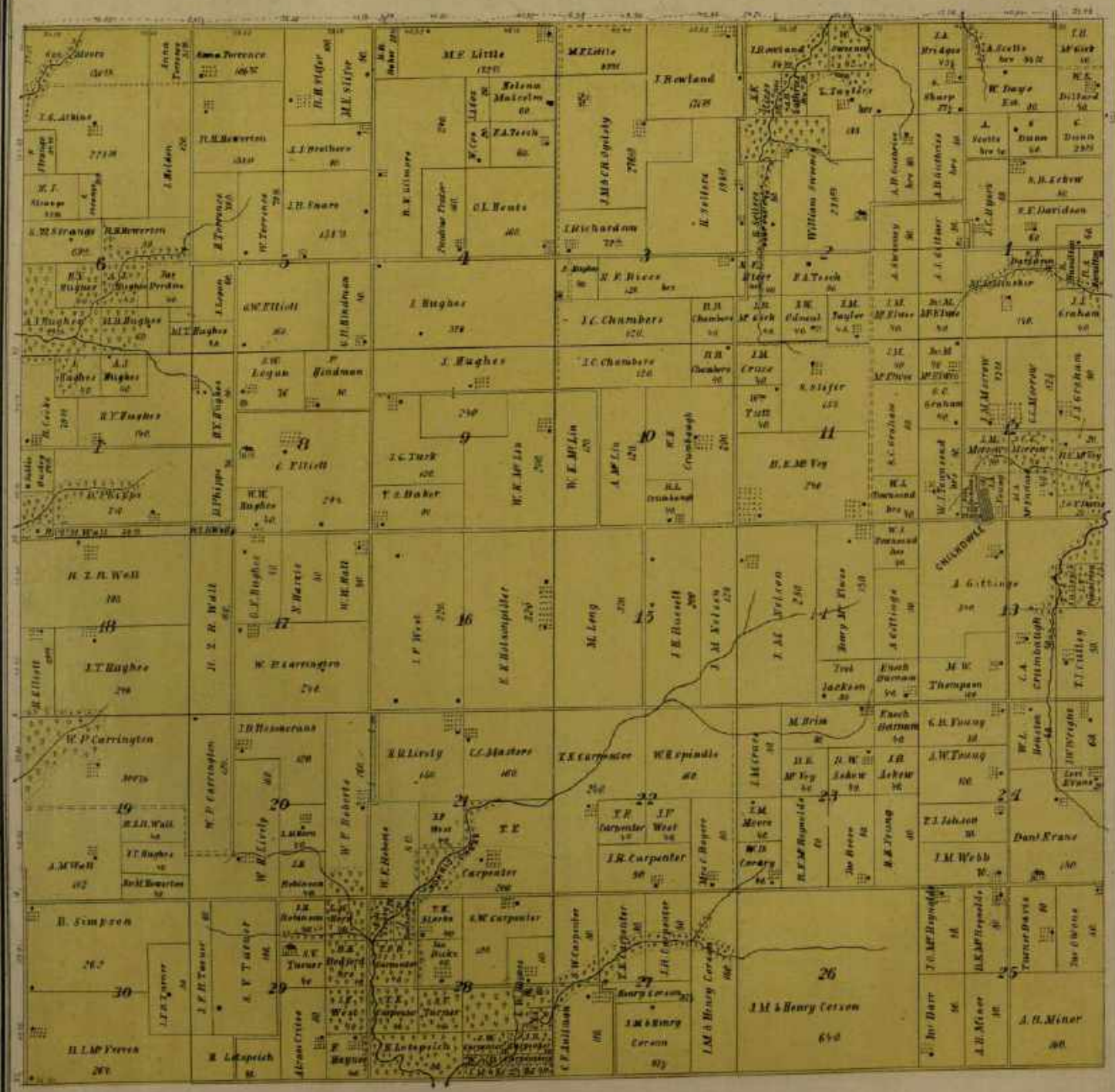


TOWNSHIPS 47 & 48 N. RANGE 26 W. 5TH P.M.



MAP OF TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH

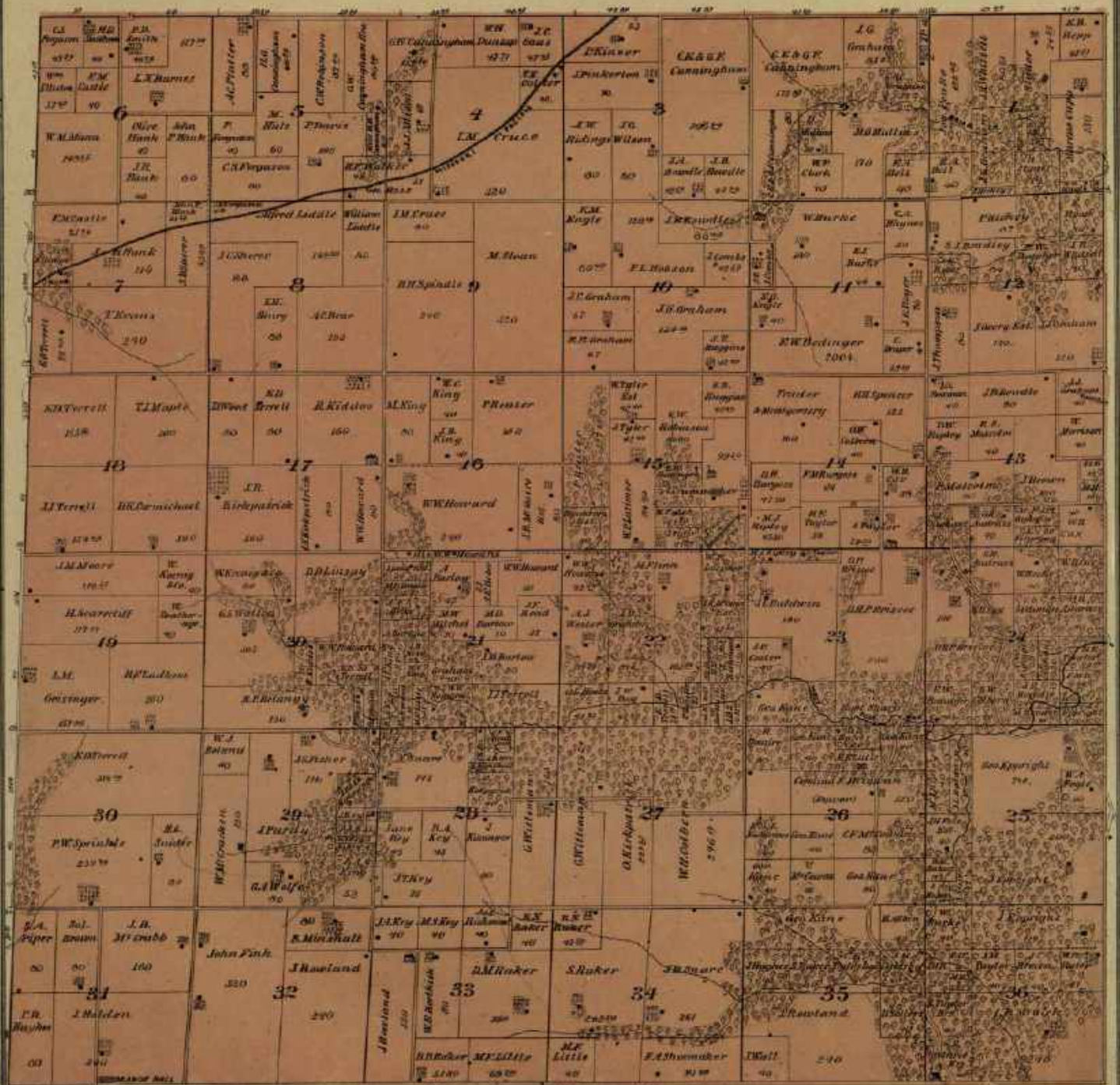
RANGE 27 W. 5th P. M.



MAP OF TOWNSHIP 45 NORTH

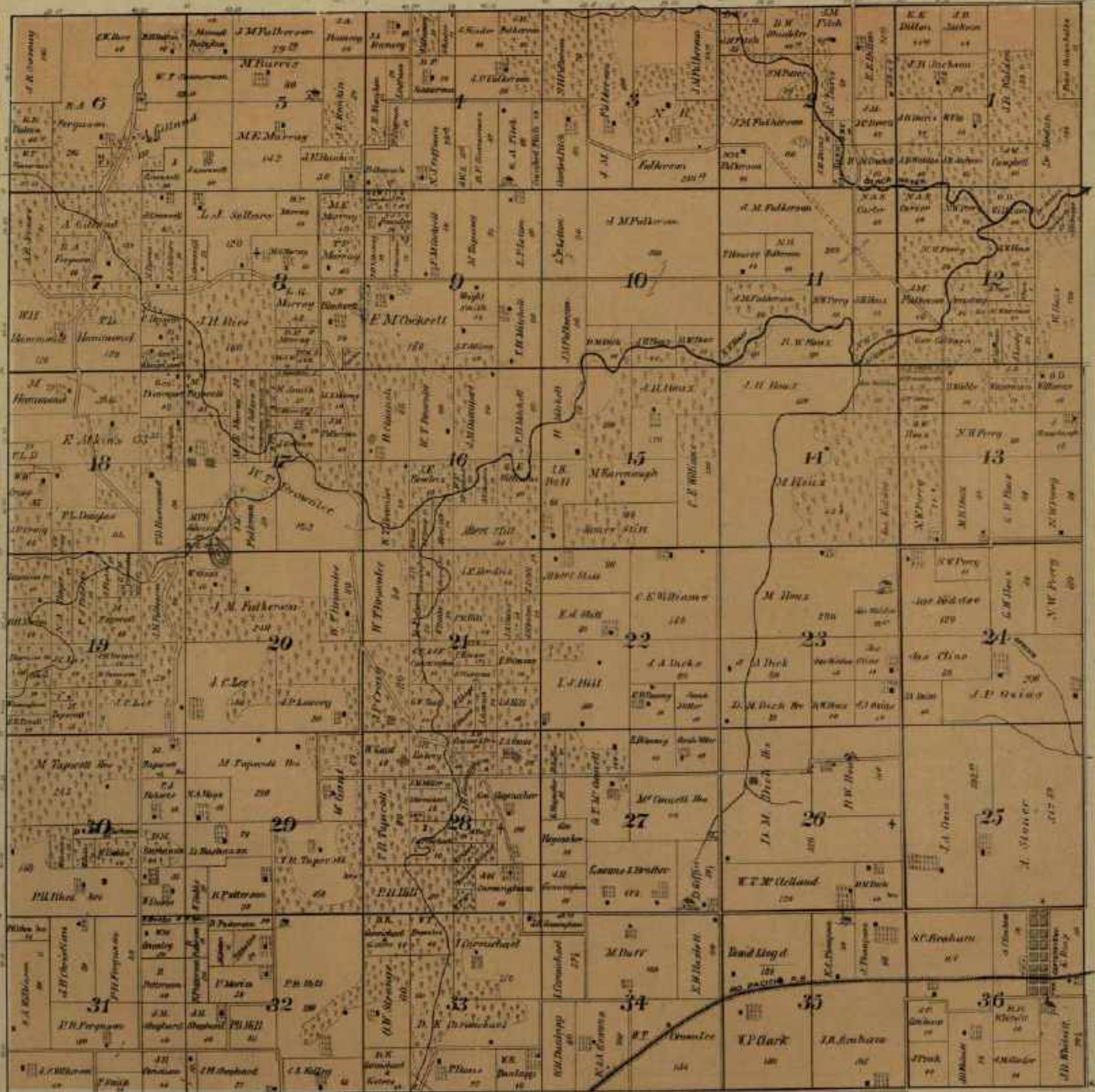
RANGE 27, W. 5TH PM.

AREA 23147



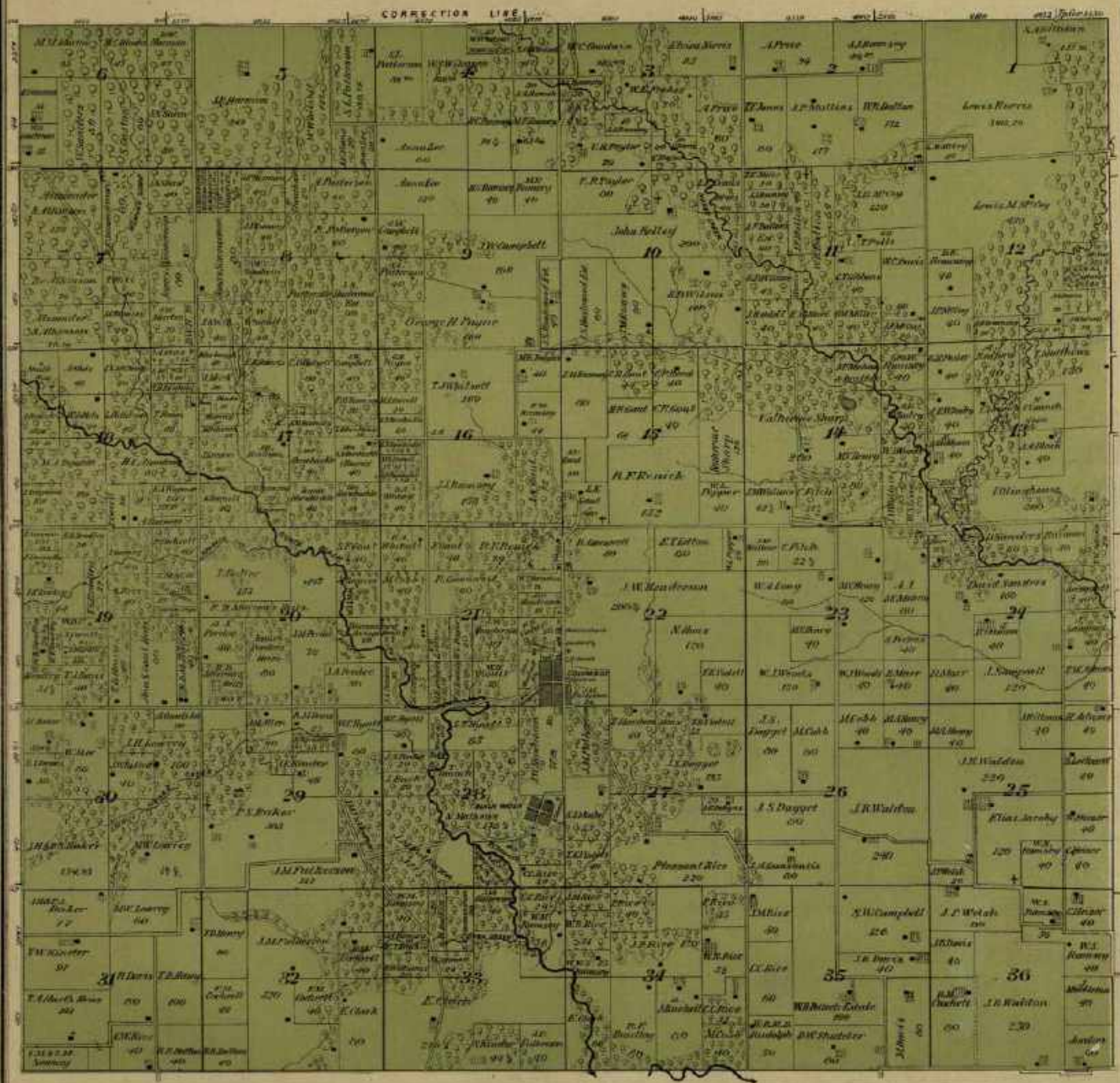
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 48 NORTH

RANGE 27 W. 5TH P.M.



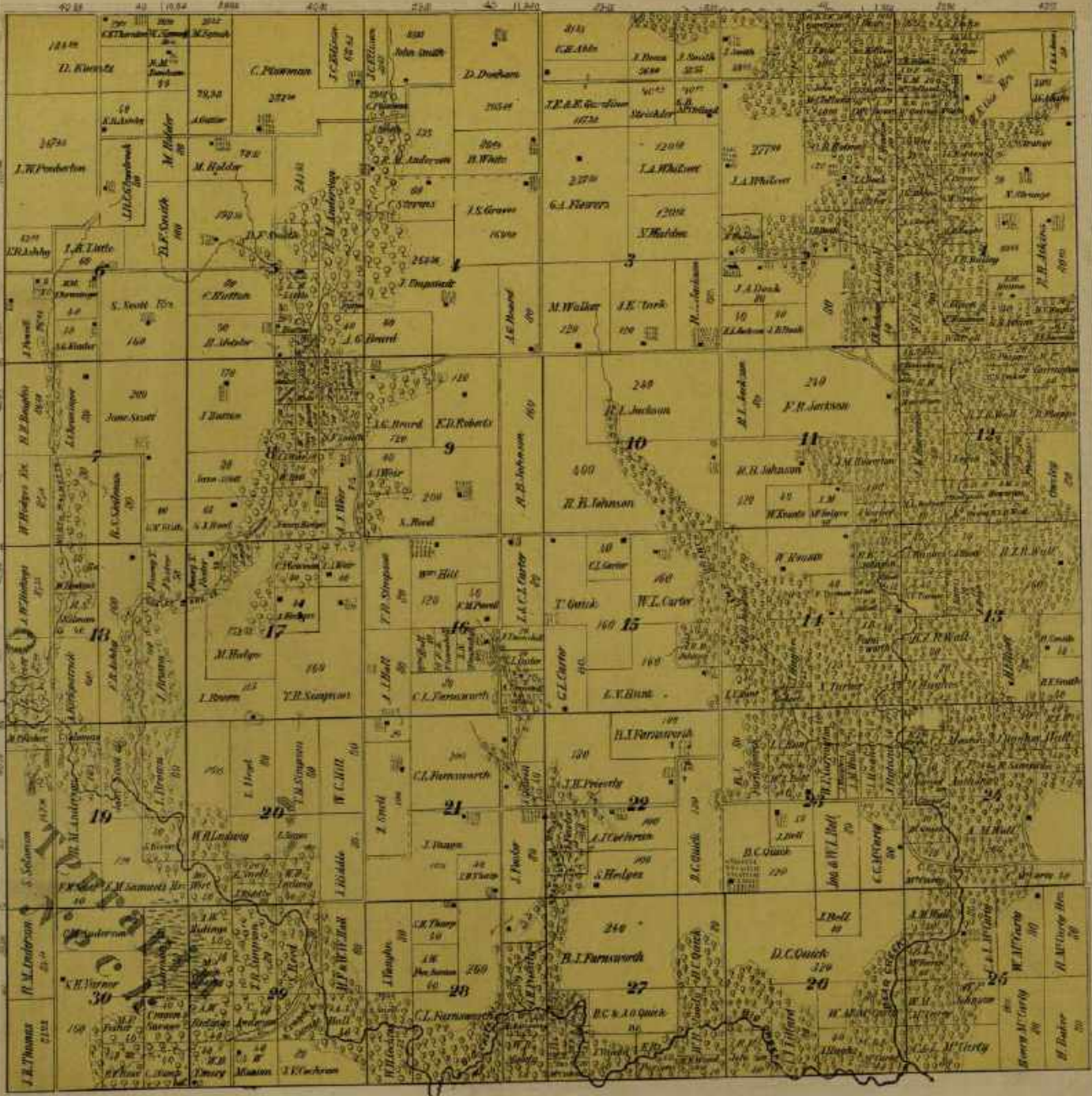
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH

RANGE 27. W. 5TH P. M.



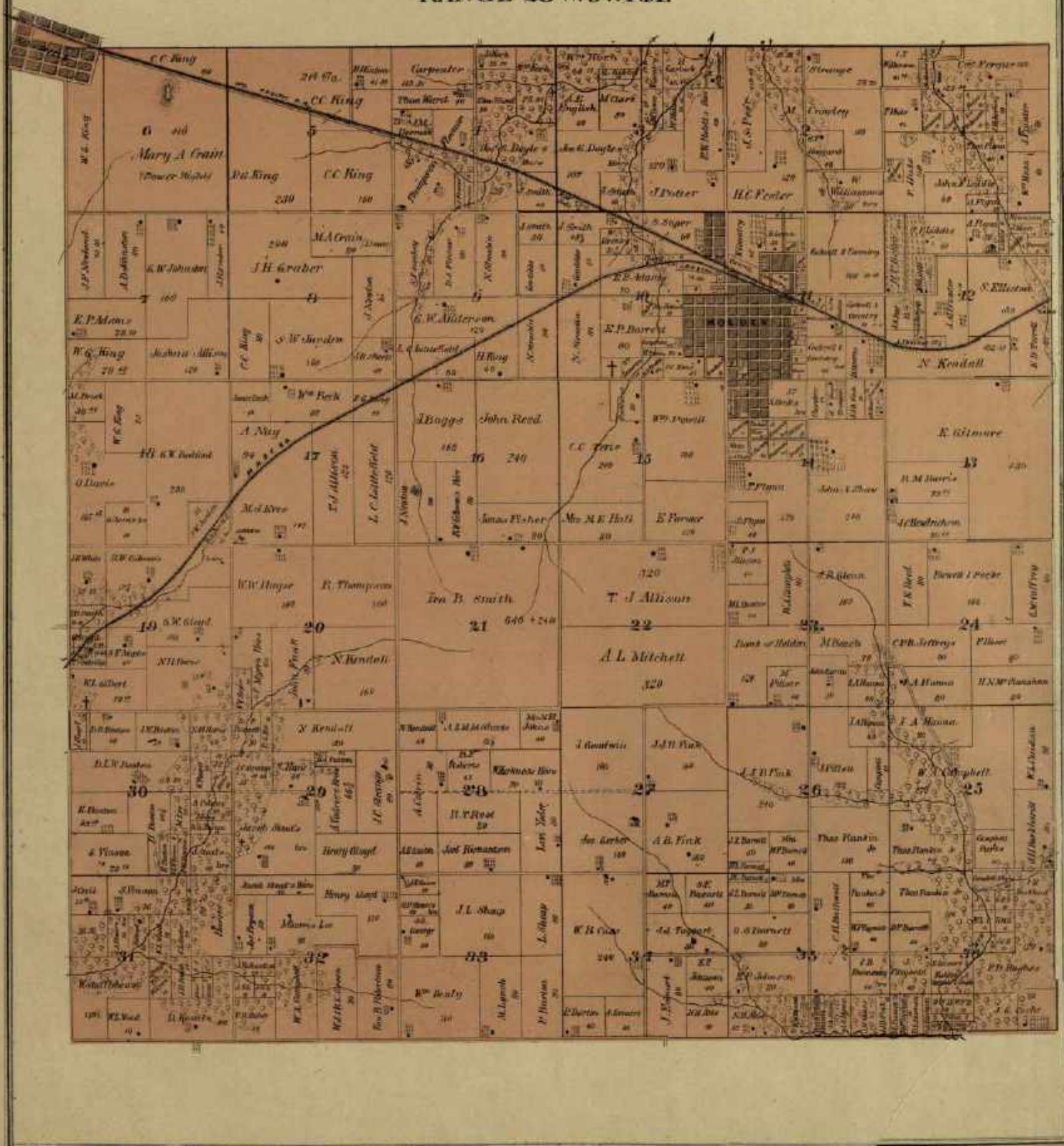
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH

RANGE 28 W. 5th P.M.



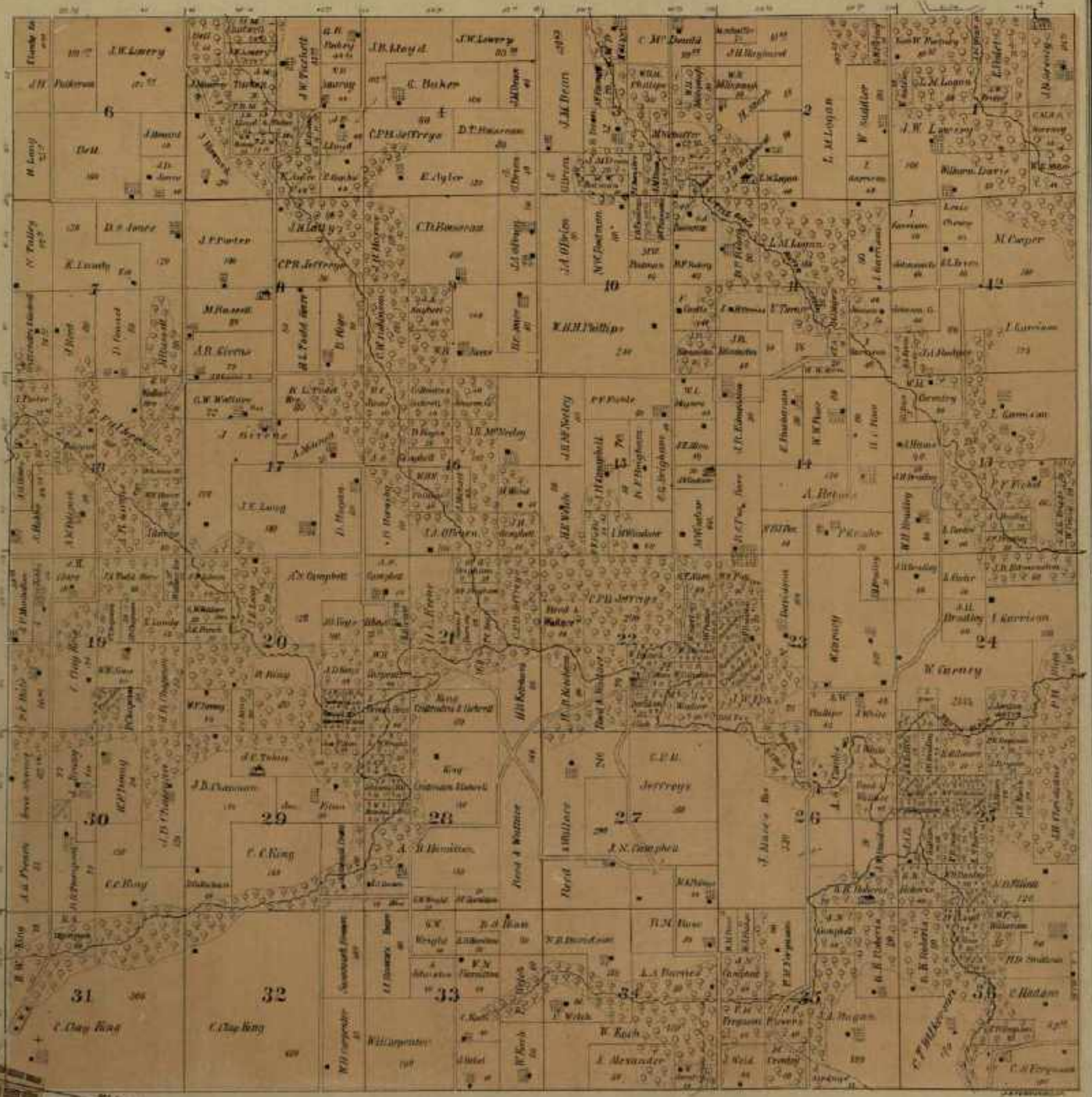
MAP OF TOWNSHIP 43 NORTH

RANGE 28 W. 5TH P.M.



MAP OF TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH

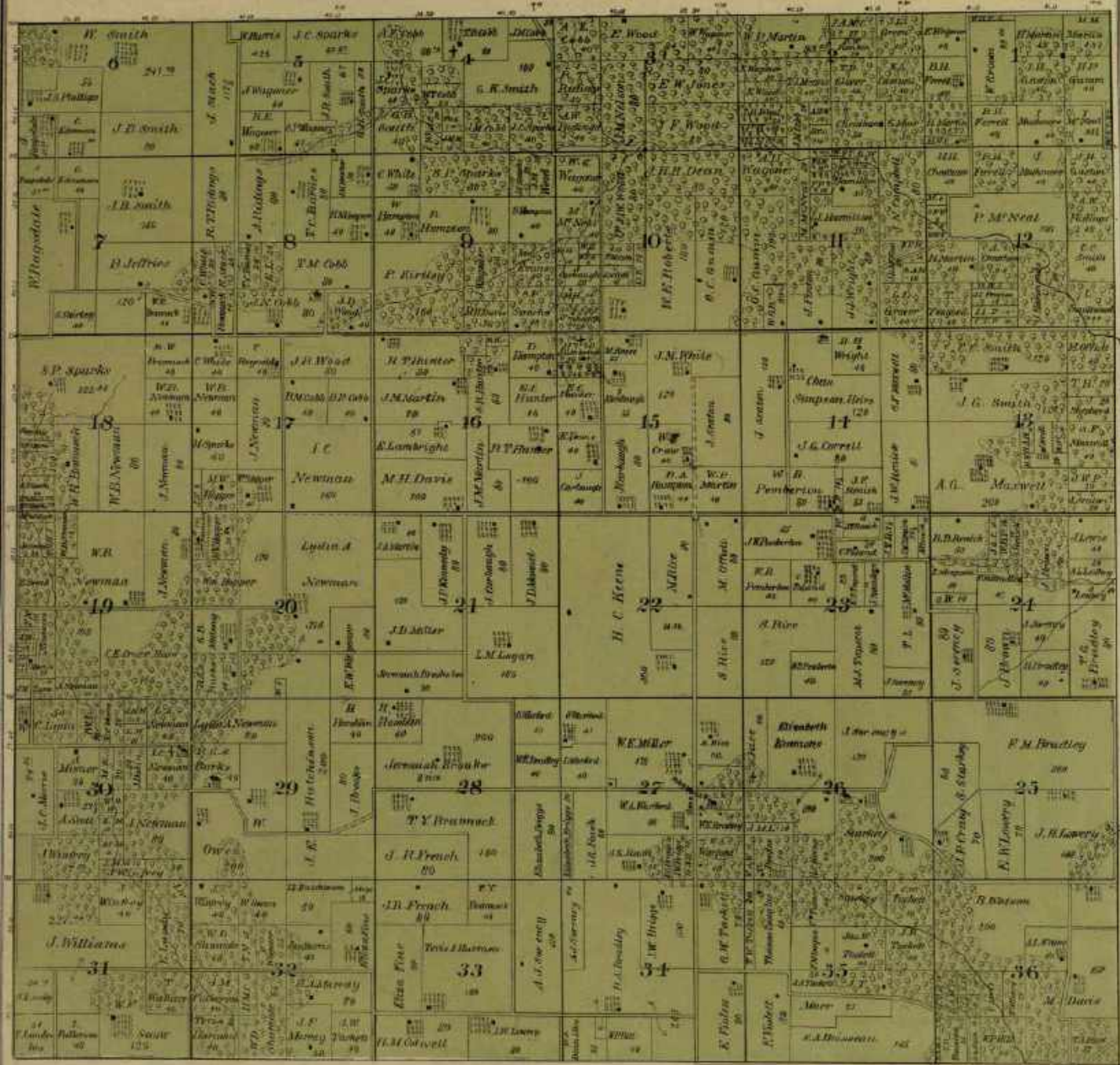
RANGE 28W. 5TH P.M.



NINGSVILLE

MAP OF TOWNSHIP 47 NORTH

RANGE 28 W 5TH P.M.

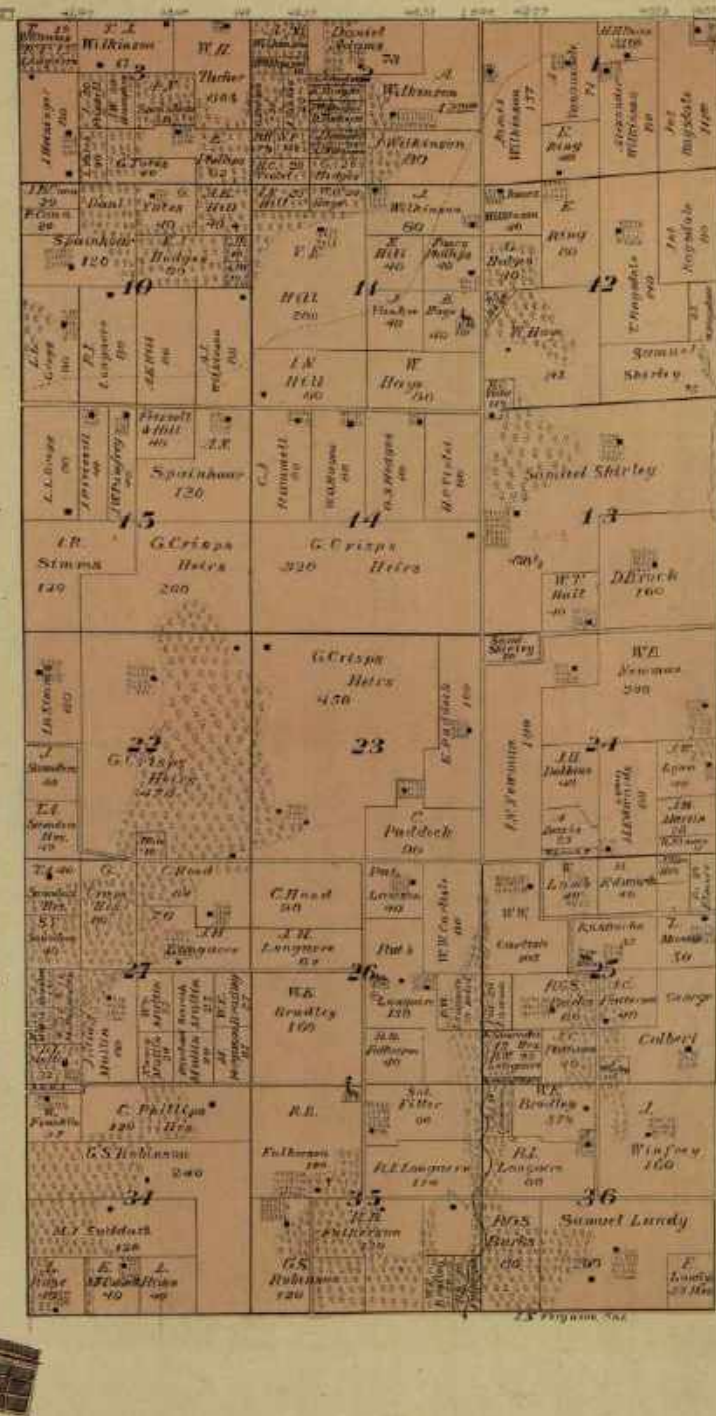
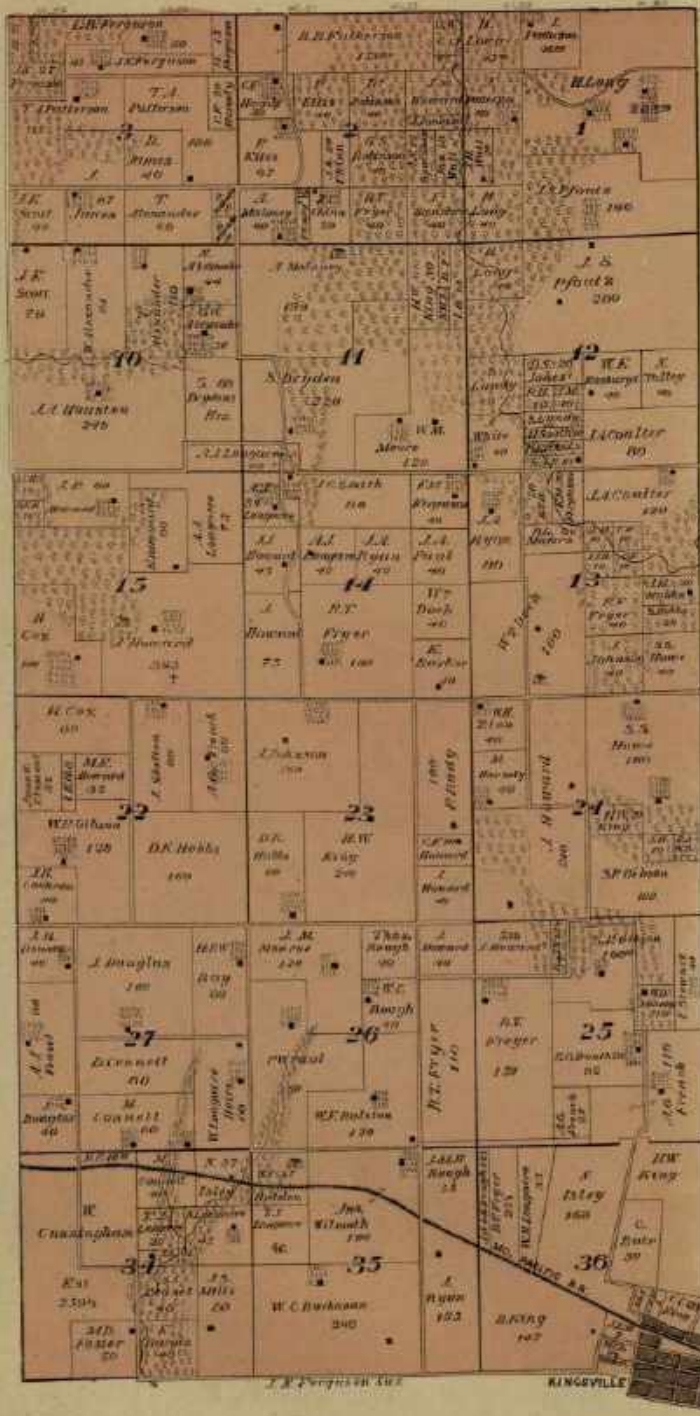


MAP OF TOWNSHIP 46 NORTH

MAP OF TOWNSHIP 47 NORTH

RANGE 29, W. 5TH P. M.

RANGE 29, W. 5TH P. M.



HOLDEN

SCALE 500 FT. = 1 IN.

Original Town or Situation upon Nov. 11 1845 N. R. 20th

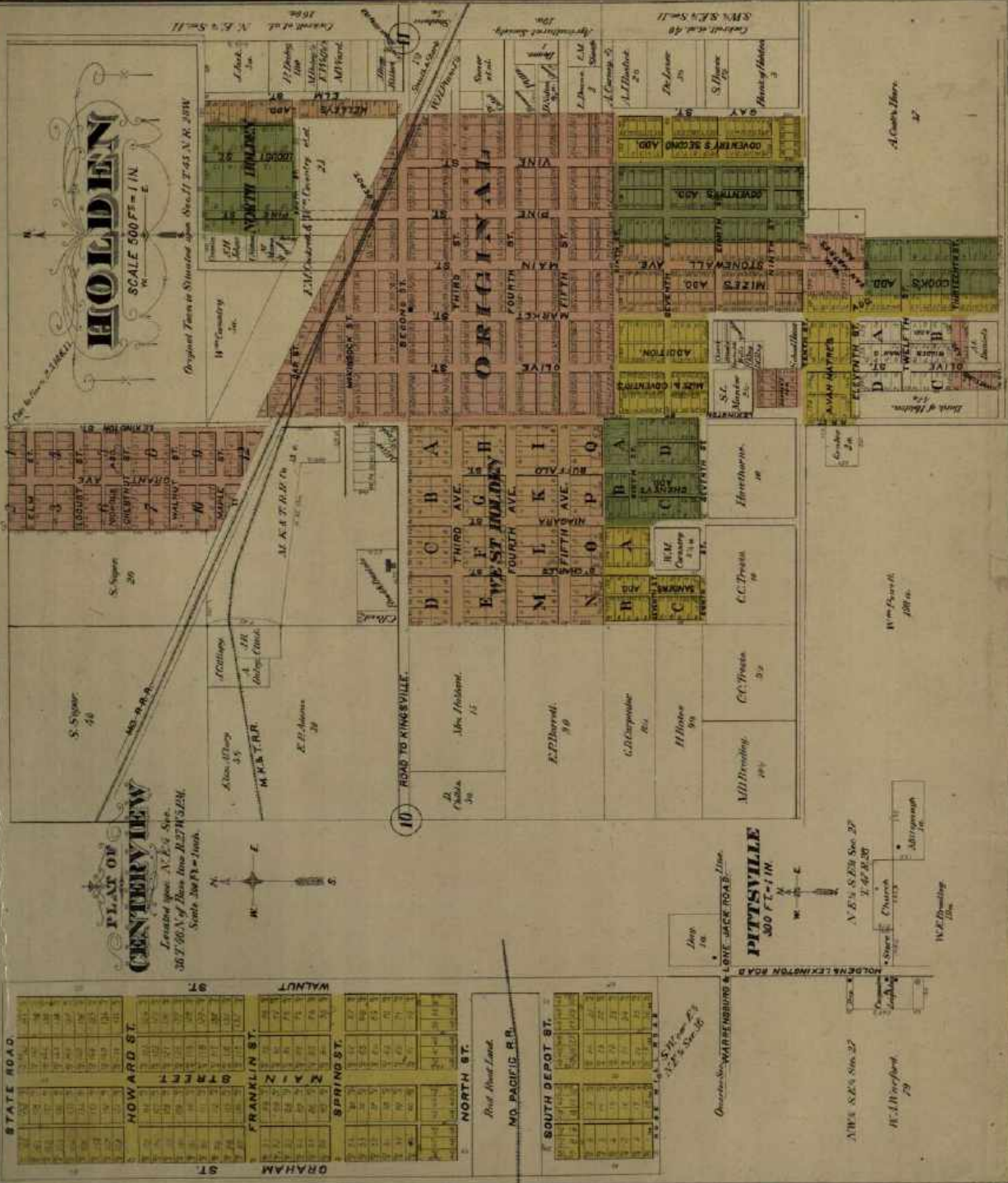
PLAT OF CENTERVIEW

Located upon N. E. 1/4 Sec. 27
30 T. 90. N. of Base line R. 27 W. 5 P. M.
Scale 300 FT. = 1 inch.



PITTSVILLE

300 FT. = 1 IN.



10 ROAD TO KINGSVILLE.

N.W. S.E. 1/4 Sec. 27
 N.E. S.E. 1/4 Sec. 27
 Church
 Store
 Mill
 W.E. Drury
 H.A. Woodford
 M.B. Tarr
 Wm. South 20th

A. C. Cook's Store

Wm. South 20th

W.E. Drury

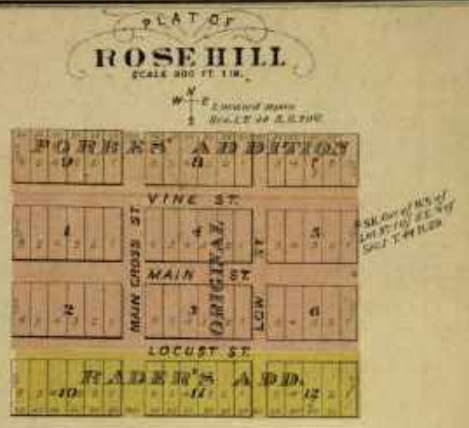
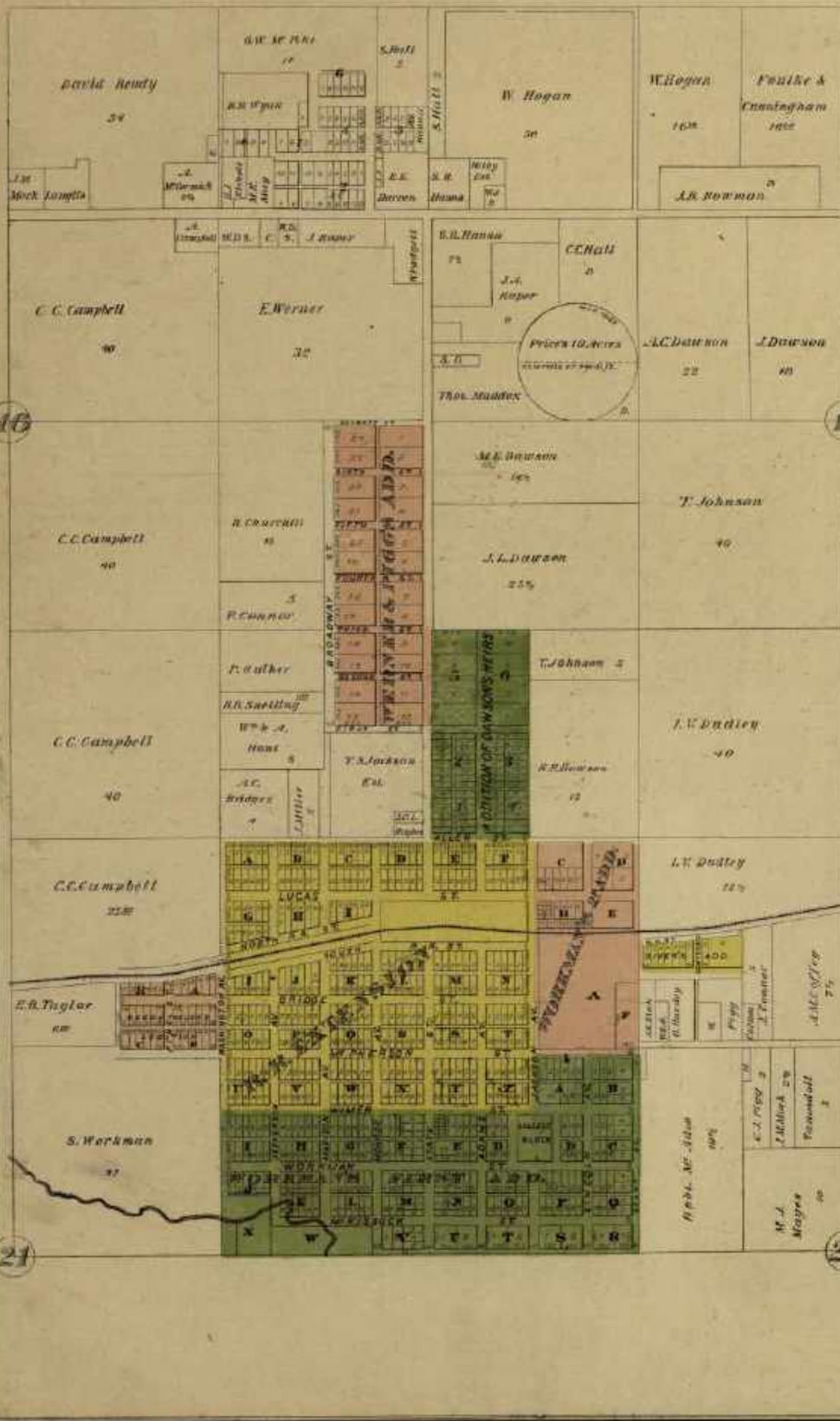
H.A. Woodford

M.B. Tarr

Wm. South 20th

PLAT OF KNOBNOSTER

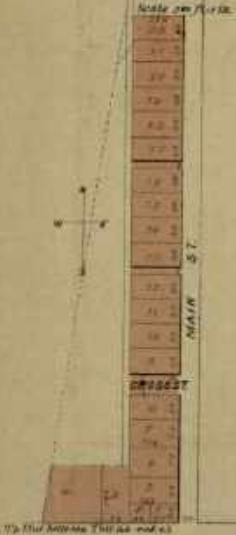
Located on Section 11, T. 22 N. R. 22 E. S. 40 E. D. 25 W.
 Poles 500 FT. 1/4 IN.



PLAT OF CORNELIA

Located upon SW & E of Sec. 36 T.45 N. 26

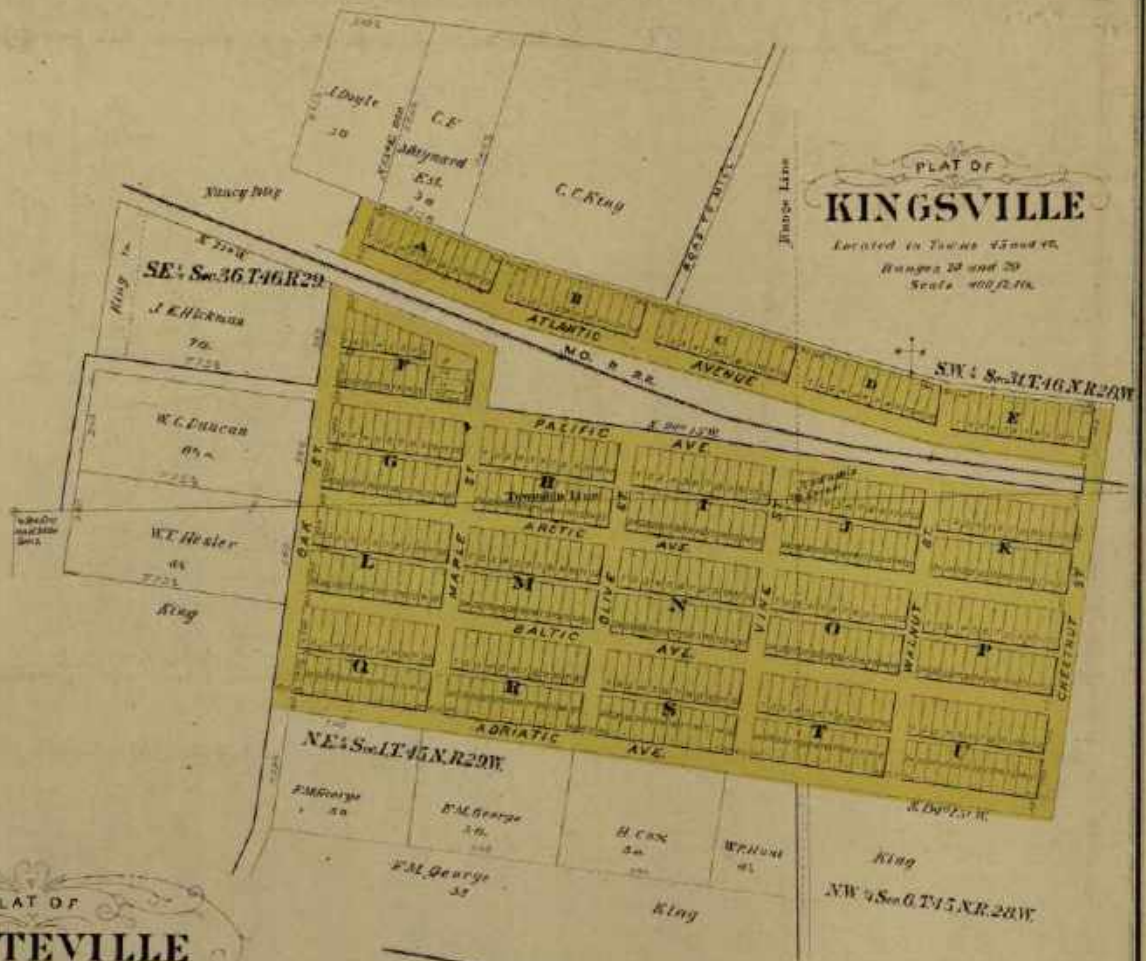
Scale 200 Feet



77 This is the 1st 1/2 of the road

PLAT OF KINGSVILLE

Located in Towns 45 and 46 Ranges 29 and 30 Scale 400 ft. 1 in.



PLAT OF EYETTEVILLE

Located upon the SW 1/4 of Sec. 11 T.45 N. Scale 200 feet - 1 inch.



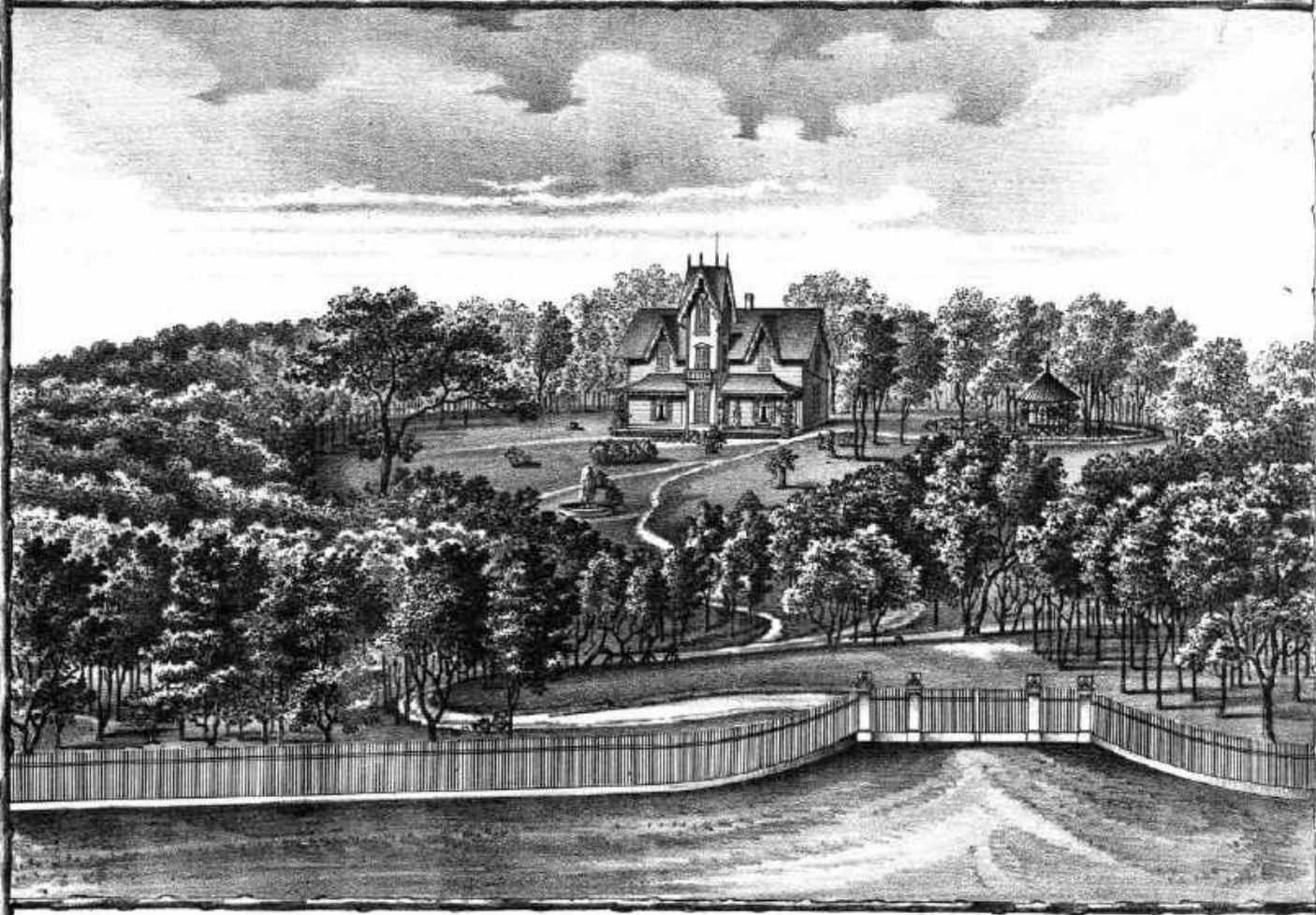
PLAT OF MONTSERRAT

Located upon the W & SE 1/4 and the E 1/4 SW 1/4 Sec. 13 T.46 N. 25 W Scale 300 ft. 1 in.

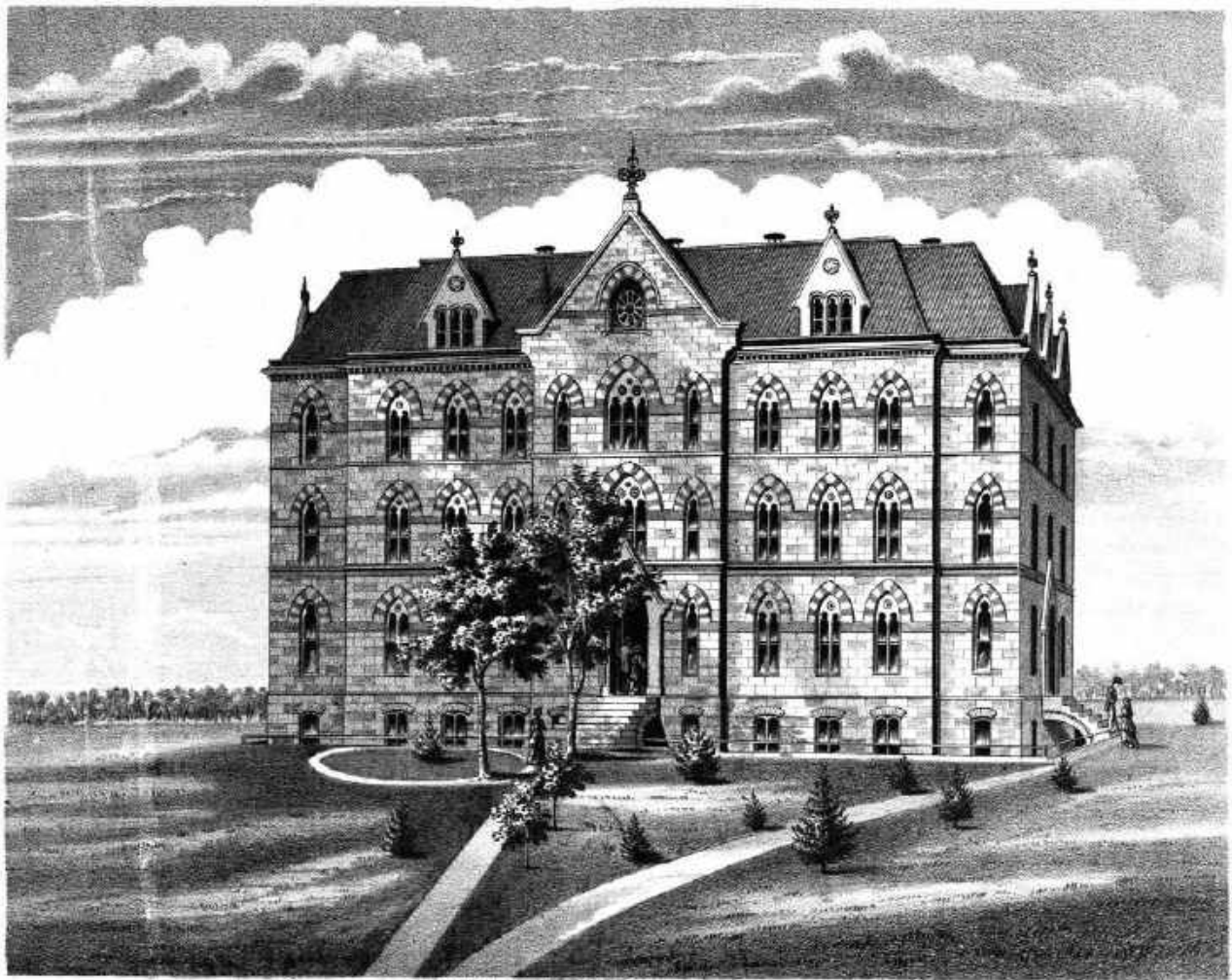




Residence of Dr. J. M. WARD, Sec. 6, T. 44, R. 25.



Residence of R. BALDWIN Esq. WARRENSBURG Mo.



STATE NORMAL SCHOOL WARRENSBURG, MO.