

Weekly Intelligencer.

OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER.

Two billsards this week. Remember the democratic township meetings on Saturday, April 10.

Now or never is what the directors of the Short Line say. Shall it be now, or next Thursday?

Gen. Odon Guitard, Messrs. Williams and Waugh will be at the railroad meeting next Thursday.

Let Lafayette county come up with her share of stock in the Short Line, as other counties along the route have done.

Negotiations have been going on all week to bring the strike to a close, but, no, we are sorry to say, with any definite results.

The Short Line will add two million dollars of property to Lafayette county and thereby pay one fourth of our taxes. We need this money as well as the road.

Remember when you subscribe stock to the Short Line, that you are not getting money, but taking stock that will be worth its face value, long before it is all paid in.

The Short Line will be built if we all put our shoulders to the wheel of public enterprise and assist. Otherwise we will be left at the mercy of Jay Gould's road, without competition.

Strike! Strike! for the Short Line, next Thursday, April 8, at the court house, 11 o'clock sharp. All who want to make Lafayette county rich and prosperous will strike while the iron is hot.

The Academy boys drilled before the jail windows for Jeff's benefit, last Wednesday. He returned his acknowledgments at the time and afterward asked us to thank all the gentlemen who had taken part in giving him this innocent amusement.

The Short Line railroad meeting next Thursday, will be one of the most interesting public meetings ever held in Lafayette county, so far as great public benefits to the county are concerned, and every tax payer in the county is interested and should be on hand.

Yesterday was cold, cloudy and snowy, and the crowd in town was consequently not what it otherwise would have been. There were probably from five to six thousand persons present at the execution. Sheriff Bowman's measures were all carefully taken, and no untoward event occurred.

Judge Jno E Ryland will be a candidate for re-election as criminal judge for the counties of Saline, Pettis, Johnson and Lafayette. Judge Ryland has been a conscientious, faithful and diligent officer, and stands so well in all the counties of his district, that up to this time no opposition to his re-election has been developed.

Jeff Wilson, on last Wednesday, desired us to write a special paragraph of thanks to his attorneys, Messrs. Wm. Young, A. J. Hall and Robt. Hicklin, for their zealous and able defense, made, practically, without remuneration. Jeff seemed to be exceedingly grateful to Judge Young, who gave his case great credit and labor and thought, and who left nothing undone in his behalf.

Judge Alexander Martin, of St. Louis, who will probably be a candidate for supreme judge spent a day in Lexington, recently. Judge Martin has served as a supreme court commissioner. He is one of the ablest law writers in the state, in the prime of life, and would be an ornament to the supreme bench. He was twice before within a few votes of a nomination for the position.

Chicago Times:—"Congressman Phelps, of New Jersey, wants congress to make a diligent investigation of the reasons for the exclusion of American pork from Germany, France, Austria and other foreign countries. The reason can be learned by any member of congress by a casual examination of the list of tariff duties. A bill knocking off the taxes on the goods that those countries send to us would be an effective passport for the American hog to every part of Europe."

The place of execution is situated in the county's meadow yard, on Water street, a short distance east of Third street, the principal street leading to the river. The yard is usually enclosed by a high, tight fence, but in order that the scaffold might be seen from all directions the south fence was removed. The point of execution is at the detachment of a large ravine, and the hills ascend in either direction, forming an amphitheater upon a magnificent scale, from which twenty thousand people could witness the scene without retired, and not within sight of the windows of a single residence in the city limits, but five minutes' walk from the business portion of town. The sheriff could not have made a more judicious selection, providing that privacy which could be no shock to those who did not wish to behold the tragedy, but also providing that publicity that the law contemplates in order to render an execution an example and a terror to evil doers.

An Italian astronomer is said to have announced that "the inhabitants of the planet Mars are making signals to the earth." This is evidently a matter of great interest, as having solved so many of our terrestrial philosophical phenomena our scientific men must soon look for other worlds to conquer. They have fattened the depths of knowledge as to the earth; learned its age by its teeth, as it were; reduced the mystery of its component parts to mere formulas; resolved its solid substances into gases; and some endless gases, perhaps, into solids or fluids; brought up the question of its origin and elevated matter into its plane of responsibility, so called. Now they evidence the uselessness of their resources by putting us in communication with the people of another world; for who shall say how intimate the intercourse may not be between persons who are within speaking distance of each other. Truly, science is a wonderful thing.

THE SHORT LINE.

The St. Louis-Kansas City Short Line railroad will pass through the counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Warren, Montgomery, Callaway, Boone, Howard, Saline, Lafayette etc. Jack-son, making a most direct line between St. Louis and Kansas City.

The gentlemen who compose the directory have assurances that the money will be furnished to build and equip it as a first class road, if the people along the line will give the rights-of-way and subscribe, as stock, \$2,000 per mile.

The cities in the counties of Howard, Boone, Callaway and Saline have held public meetings, and have about complied with the requirements made of them by giving the rights-of-way and subscribing the amount of stock asked.

A meeting is called for April 8, at which time it is expected that Lafayette county will not be found lagging at this great enterprise. Lafayette county is expected to respond and to do its share in securing this valuable addition to its wealth. There is no county in the great state of Missouri that needs development of its resources more than does Lafayette. No region in the world enjoys the richest hamp lands of the continent. It has greater depth, versatility and productiveness of soil than any section of equal extent in America, with over one-half of the county underlaid with coal that has no impurities, that burns freely and ranks with the cleanest bituminous coals in the country. The coal fields of Lafayette are the nearest to Kansas City, and are far more easily worked than are any other veins in the state. If the Short Line is built we will have competing lines to Kansas City, and thus these coal lands will be more than doubled in value. Along the line of this road will be almost a continuation of coal shafts and drills, and the coal underlying our land will be ready to sell for \$30 or \$100 per acre, and thousands of dollars of foreign capital will be sent here. It is estimated that an acre of coal contains between seventy and eighty thousand bushels of coal. At one cent per bushel it will bring \$700 to \$800 per acre. Just think of this vast wealth underlying your land, and the great and increasing demand for it in our great growing City of Kansas. In addition to this we will have a splendid market for all the products of the county.

Lafayette county has a large bonded debt and is in need of more tax payers to help bear its burdens. Let us take as a comparison the C. & A. railroad. The Short Line is proposed to be at least as good a road. The county valuation in 1879, the year the C. & A. was built, was \$7,600,000; it is now \$8,600,000, without including the road and its equipments, depot houses, etc. The increase in the taxable wealth, not including the railroad, is one million dollars. The assessment of railroads in the county for 1879 was \$189,444; for 1885, \$219,064, or a gain of \$29,620. There is also a large gain by the increase of merchants; so it can be safely stated that by the building of the C. & A. railroad we have brought into the county of Lafayette a tax payer that pays on an assessment of \$1,750, 000, or in other words a tax payer that pays one-fifth of the revenue of Lafayette county, and who will pay one-fifth of the bonded debt of this county. The C. & A. railroad paid, last year, into the public school fund of the county \$2,043 on its property alone. Figure out how many teachers this sum will employ to educate your children? The road paid a total revenue of \$8,977 04 into your county treasury last year. Middleton township has a township debt of \$23,800; an interest of \$1,488 annual interest. Of this amount the C. & A. paid \$234 40, or the interest on nearly \$4,000 of this debt, on its road alone, to say nothing of the increase of property by building of roads and increase of population.

Let us get another road like the C. & A., and thereby increase our county's wealth and resources and lessen the burden of taxation. Let us put our shoulders to the wheel of progress and advance this enterprise. Let every citizen along the line be on hand on Thursday next, April 8. Build this road and you will have the garden spot of the world. Your land will be sought for immediately; demand your coal will have a ready market, and purchasers will be on hand to buy it of you. Your taxes will be light; your bonded debt will not be a scarecrow to frighten away those seeking homes among us. We mention the C. & A. road in order to demonstrate what the Short Line will be. The cities of Ottumwa and Higginsville were built up by that road; the lands along its line were made valuable and salable, and it will value attach to the building of the Short Line. The construction of the road will be a strong inducement to bring us, here in Lexington, the St. Joseph branch and a bridge over the river. Every tax payer in Lexington should be wide awake, and work for this road with a determination to succeed, as should all citizens along the line.

THE FINAL SCENE.

Jeff Wilson passed the night before his execution calmly and in good spirits. He talked pleasantly to his guards till 12:25 when he went to sleep. At 3 o'clock he awoke and remained awake about ten minutes, after which he slept till 6 o'clock. The morning was passed in making preparations for the final scene. He bathed carefully; dressed himself in scrupulously neat attire, in a black Prince Albert coat; white muscivore vest; dark colored pants; and with the top of his body coat ornamented with two button hole buttons. In the carriage with him on the way to the scaffold were Sheriff Jos. W. Bowman, Deputy Sheriffs W. R. Jackson and Jos. Chinn. To preserve order there were beside these, 30 guards, over whom Mr. Jos. P. Owen presided. At 10:20 o'clock the cortege arrived at the gallows. At 10:27 the prisoner, who was coolly smoking a cigar, and the officers moved on the scaffold, there being beside Jeff Wilson, Sheriff Bowman, Deputy Sheriffs Jackson, Wright and Chinn; Dr. J. G. Russell, coroner; Sheriff Jno. Morris, of Ray county; Sheriff

R. W. Hickman, of Saline county; Sheriff Lewis, of Carroll county; Rev. Dr. Howard and Rev. Geo. D. Sanders. Jeff was perfectly cool, calm and self-possessed. He was well dressed and presented a good appearance.

Dr. Howard began the proceedings on the scaffold by reading a selection from the Bible. He then announced the hymn, "Savior, More than Life to me," which was sung. Jeff, joining in it heartily. Mr. Sanders then made an earnest and feeling prayer, dwelling upon the solemnity of the occasion; invoking the mercy of God; warning Jeff of his fate, and trusting Jesus' blood for Jeff's salvation. While the prayer was being made Jeff. smiled and nodded his assent. At its conclusion he advanced to the front of the scaffold and spoke as follows:

"Friends, brothers, fellow-citizens: I stand before you to-day as a man to whom many of you have been kind. I do not feel it my duty to say anything. I see here a large gathering of people. I have been here, off and on, since '68 and I have never seen a larger. I am glad to see you. I see many young faces, colored and white; let them learn a warning to them; let them learn what evil will bring them to. There have been so many rumors of what I am doing here, and I am told those were afraid to come here. Friends, brothers, sisters, I am not here in my last hour of earth to uncover any one's evil deeds. I leave those things with them and their God. May God bless those young men as I know He has blessed me. I have a duty to do in complimenting my friends. I have some friends here now I know; but there is a greater friend for me to look to, as I hope my friends will do. I am thankful for all they have done for me, I am thankful to my attorneys. God bless them! They made a good fight for me at the bar. I have made a better fight at a greater bar. I want them now to help me plead at that bar. Many have come here thinking to see such a face as I have; they do not see. I am the sorriest man on the globe. Sorry about what? Sorry because I have got to die. No; I am not sorry about that; but I am sorry for the one that went before me and for whom I am here to pay the penalty. Sorry because she was plunged into eternity without such repentance as I have had. I have surrendered myself to God. I believe my sins have been forgiven. You are all here to bear witness that I could not stand here as I do if I did not know this. Every day and hour and minute I have prayed and even waked up praying for forgiveness and for strength to meet my punishment boldly. I cannot say much as a warning, as most of this crowd is more ignorant than I am. I will say this, though, that if you are in any like circumstances to the ones which surrounded me and 99 of you would stand here I stand to-day. I will cut my speech short. I thank you and I thank the officials. I surrendered to the officers, into the prison, just so I surrender myself into the hands of God; and I am the gladdest man to meet this day. I thank you for your attention."

The speech occupied 18 minutes. After it he nodded, smiled and waved his hand to friends who recognized him in the crowd. The hymn, "O, Think of the Home Over There," was sung, in which Jeff. joined. He then took the black cap and handed it to Mr. Joseph Chinn, and Rev. Dr. Howard made a long and earnest prayer. Jeff. then removed his overcoat, and at 11 o'clock the sheriff began tying the rope to the beam overhead. He then strapped Jeff together and tied his arms together with a small rope. While this was being done the prisoner was smiling and bowing to his friends. At 11:05 the black cap was put over his head, and the knot was adjusted under his left ear; at 11:06 the trap was sprung and the soul of Jefferson Wilson was spoken into eternity. His neck was broken by the fall and there was scarcely a struggle. His legs were drawn up once, and straightened them out on his feet touched the trap that had fallen from his head, and the body swung against the rope, but he was already dead and there was no convulsive motion. Drs. Russell, Chambers and Baue were immediately called. At 11:07 the pulse was 60; 11:08, 68; 11:09, 40; 11:10, 32; 11:12, 24; 11:16, 24; 11:20, 20; 11:22, none. About five minutes afterward he was taken down and placed in his coffin and turned over to his relatives, who took the body to the country for interment.

Whatever else may be alleged of Jefferson Franklin Wilson it is here only just to say, that no man ever went to his death more bravely than he. The majesty of the law is vindicated. May God's mercy rest upon his soul.

JEFF'S SECOND TRIAL.

After the first conviction, as narrated elsewhere, Jeff. Wilson's attorneys, Messrs. Young, Hall and Hicklin, appealed to the supreme court for a new trial, which was granted on the ground that the court below having in its instructions to the jury stated that in certain events it might find a verdict of murder in the second degree failed to define that crime.

A second trial was had, beginning on Wednesday, October 21. The following jury was selected from the panel of 100 men: Samuel W. Roberts, Charles C. Brooks, George A. Chambers, John H. Anderson, Benjamin E. Green, James C. Corbin, John W. Lewis, Samuel B. Burton, John W. Thompson, Samuel B. Burton, John W. Thompson, and Henry Larkin. The witnesses were called and sworn, and evidence taken. The first witness, Mattie Jones, told a straight story, but was somewhat confused on the cross-examination. Ross Johnson gave her evidence in a straightforward manner, but on the cross-examination became confused, and forgot many points. The evidence of the witnesses was straight, and she stood a good cross-examination, but was somewhat confused toward the last. Dudley Smith was cool, and gave a straight story, and stuck to it. Geo. Bullard, a new witness, said he was boarding at the Laclede hotel at the time of the killing. A night or two before the killing Jeff. told him that Jennie had gone back on him. Jeff. said he had \$150, and he would leave the country, now that she had gone back on him, but if she did not have

herself he would shoot her. The conversation occurred near Leard's livery stable. Martin Collins took a straight story, using almost the same words in his former evidence. Logan Hays told a straight story, and was unshaken on the cross-examination. Amanda Tracy used almost the same words that she used on the former trial. Her memory was defective in only one instance. Albert Johnson told about the same story as at the first trial. Catherine Fleming, a new witness, said she was working at the Laclede at the time of the killing. Jeff. was much excited and crying. She asked what was the matter, and he said two white men had drawn a pistol on him, and he did not want to do it again; he told us all goodbye, and left. About 10 or 20 minutes after, she heard of the killing, and went over to see Jennie, and for her death. Jeff. did not seem so much excited as troubled. Mary Hawkins, a new witness, said she was working at the Laclede at the time of the killing. On the morning of the killing Jeff. came back and went to his room. He came back from there, picked up two butcher-knives and a cleaver and gave them to me, and said he was going away. He shook hands with me and others, and told us goodbye. I called him back and told him he would get hurt, or would hurt somebody. He went away, and 20 minutes after came back and I asked him what was the matter, and he said he had shot Jennie. There were three dining-room girls in the room, and he told us all goodbye. Nelson Davis said Jeff. had asked him, on the morning of the shooting, if Jennie was at his house. Wm. Davis knew a little more about the case this year than he did last year. David Callahan, a new witness, said he saw Jennie about 10 o'clock on the night before the shooting; there were two white men with her. They were at Baer's corner, and went east. Joseph Chinn and Buford Chinn made the same statements they made at the former trial. Dr. Russell and W. G. Musgrove made about the same statements of facts made at the former trial. Judge Simpson, H. C. Francisco, R. D. Bledsoe, F. M. Thomas and Frank Trickett, testified to the good character of the defendant. Mr. Dickey told when the gas was lighted on the night before the shooting. The defendant took the stand, and made a statement which was not very favorable to himself. Judge Jno. Wilson testified as to the size of the room where the shooting occurred, and the case was closed. The case was argued Friday, and submitted to the jury about dusk. At 7:40, p. m., the prisoner was brought into court, a large crowd being present, the colored people being especially numerous. The judge, Mr. J. E. Ryland, read the verdict, and the judge ordered it to be brought into court. Mr. John Wyatt Lewis read the verdict as follows: "We, the jury, find the defendant guilty of murder in the first degree. The jury was polled and discharged. The prisoner received the verdict without apparent emotion.

On Saturday October 31, Jefferson Wilson was, by the court, for a second time, sentenced to die. He was taken to the gallows on Friday, December 18, until dead, for the murder of Jennie Santford. At two o'clock the judge took his place upon the bench, and the court was called to order. In a few minutes the prisoner appeared, calm, with steady nerves, but with a troubled look upon his face. After a few words were exchanged between the judge and Mr. Blackwell regarding the filing of the bill of exceptions, Judge Ryland spoke, substantially as follows: "Mr. Wilson, stand up. Mr. Wilson you are here for the purpose of being sentenced to death for the murder of Jennie Santford, on July 31, 1884. Prior to that time, sir, you were respected by whites and colored alike. But a short time before that a demon seems to have taken possession of you, a demon that is perhaps in most of us. Maddened by this cause you ceased to be a good man; you turned to be a demon. Armed with a deadly weapon you slew a poor, defenseless, feeble woman. You have been fairly tried twice. The supreme court has given you a second trial. You were defended by able and persistent counsel, and yet both juries found you guilty of murder. There were no extenuating circumstances in your case. If your victim had been a man, or even a woman to whom you had given a chance for her life, it would not have been so bad; but you went to the gallows, and you were shot when she had no opportunity for defense; you pursued her; she put up her hand to plead with you and to beseech you for mercy; and you shot her in that hand. As you stand, there is nothing to plead for you; that is, nothing human, but there is One who does hold up his wounds and bleed for all of us; every sinner can look to Jesus for comfort and hope. If I were you I should put away all hope in men. The law says that he who takes the life of a fellow being shall forfeit his own upon the gallows. Make your peace with God. Look to Him. The supreme court may help you; error may be discovered; but I do not believe it will. I do not think you have anything to hope for from man. Look to God rather than to any human help. Turn your mind from earthly things to the Infinite God. You have been found guilty and will be executed, not as a recompense or atonement for the life you took, but to deter others from committing a like crime, and to prevent you from repeating it. I am not one of those who hold that a man who commits a murder is beyond redemption by repentance. No sir; I do not believe that. The thief on the cross repented. You may repent and save your soul. It becomes my duty, Mr. Wilson, to pass placidly the date of your execution as late a date as is consistent with the duty. You will now be returned to the jail where you will be retained until you are taken thence, on Friday, December 18, to be hanged by the neck until you are dead, dead. May the Lord have mercy on your soul of my ability.

A second appeal was taken to the supreme court, which, on Monday, March 1, refused to grant a new trial, and decided that Jeff must hang, fixing

the day for his execution on Friday, April 3, 1886.

With great reluctance, and with sincere regret I find it necessary in self-defense to publicly answer the "Warning" by the Rev. T. P. Cobb. Silence under the circumstances might be construed as a virtual confession of inability to the trust and confidence you have so long and so generously reposed in me, and which, to merit, I have favored the energies and capacities of the best years of my life. It is not my purpose in this reply to enter into all the details in connection with the affair of which Cobb complains. That would necessitate the use of the names of others for whom I entertain the highest respect, and whose tender sensibilities, no doubt, would be wounded, and I will not detract the quiet happiness that abides with them in their cottage home in a neighboring town. Bessie there are other considerations and reasons why I greatly desire to make this answer an explanation, and not a vindication of personal attack as possible. Since the marriage license law became operative, there have been issued from this office in round numbers about 100 licenses of this kind, number we have been misled in three only of which I have any knowledge; and I am permitted to say that I doubt if there are any more of this kind now issued, and better in this respect. If my habit, and the care to use every precaution and investigate carefully and closely every application, and to act in all cases with prudence and caution, are not sufficient to insure, I could possibly have to issue a license illegally; surely no one who knows me will say that the prospect of the gain of the fee of one dollar would induce me to violate the law or wrong my fellow-man. This law, like many others enacted by our legislature in the last ten years, is so vague and indefinite that nearly every lawyer would be able to find in its provisions. With regard to the character of the testimony respecting the ages of the applicants it is as silent as a grave. It clothes the records with no authority to require the affidavits of the parties, and should be refused to issue the license upon the testimony produced, and the applicants should be made to understand that the penalties are certain and severe. Before the marriage license law was placed upon the statutes, and the ministers and magistrates performed the ceremony without license, it frequently happened that these dignitaries, conclusions and cautions as they generally are, were misled and deceived by the statements of those seeking their services. This license law has removed all responsibility from them, numerous as they are in every county, and placed it all upon one man in each county, the recorder of deeds. Some of the grandest and noblest Christian ministers I have known are content to know how to perform the duties of their office, and are not in every county, and placed it all upon one man in each county, the recorder of deeds. Some of the grandest and noblest Christian ministers I have known are content to know how to perform the duties of their office, and are not in every county, and placed it all upon one man in each county, the recorder of deeds. Some of the grandest and noblest Christian ministers I have known are content to know how to perform the duties of their office, and are not in every county, and placed it all upon one man in each county, the recorder of deeds.

1. Leland Trumby, hanged April 4, 1884, for killing with an axe, one Jas. Stephens. Jno. F. Ryland, was the judge. Amos Rees, prosecuting attorney; J. S. Fletcher, sheriff; Eldridge Burden, attorney for the defense.

2. Mary Andrews, alias Mary Tromberg, hanged April 30, 1884, for killing her infant child, Sarah Tromberg. Jno. F. Ryland, judge; James Fletcher, sheriff; Amos Rees, prosecuting attorney; Alex. W. Doniphan and Henderson Young, attorneys for the defense.

3. Joseph Ralph Savilla, a Spaniard, for killing a peddler, an unknown man, on the Sai, was hanged January 28, 1842; Jno. F. Ryland, judge; Daniel McDowell, sheriff; Henderson Young, prosecuting attorney; Ed. M. Ryland, L. W. Smallwood, James L. Thomas and John Wilson attorneys for the defense.

4. Joel Elliott and James E. Gillispie were tried in 1852 for the murder of Wm. Smith, in Cass county. Gillispie was sent to the penitentiary for 40 years, and Elliott was hanged, September 10, 1852. Henderson Young was judge; M. W. Withers, sheriff; Samuel L. Sawyer, prosecuting attorney.

5. Henry, a slave, belonging to a Mr. Yeager, was hanged July 11, 1856, for killing John Winslow. Wm. T. Wood was the judge; M. W. Withers, sheriff; Jno. W. Bryant prosecuting attorney; Wm. Field and Henry C. Wallace attorneys for the defense.

6. and 7. John and Sparrell, slaves of Robt. H. Early, hanged December 31, 1858, for the murder of one Henry Nauance, the overseer of a plantation. Russell Hicks, judge; Jno. P. Bowman, sheriff; Jno. W. Bryant, prosecuting attorney, and Judge Jno. F. Ryland and Lee J. Sharp attorneys for the defendants.

It will be observed that there are two curious coincidences in this record: 1. That Judge John F. Ryland sentenced to death the first murderer who was executed in this county; and his son, Judge Jno. E. Ryland, sentenced the last.

2. Mr. Jno. P. Bowman was the sheriff who officiated at the last legal execution, 25 years ago, and his son, Joseph W. Bowman is the sheriff who superintended the execution of Jefferson Wilson yesterday.

Tax-payer, you have an opportunity, next Tuesday, to do for yourself and the county great good. Will you let the golden opportunity pass?

COUNTY JUDGESHIP—WESTERN DISTRICT.

EDITOR INTELLIGENCER:—Several good names have been mentioned in connection with the county judgeship for the Western (western) but I think there is a more general desire for our former judge, Hon. John A. Frather, than for any other man. Judge Frather is a man of high character, a strong, active and vigorous mind, a clear perception, and of that peculiarly well balanced nature so necessary in those holding public offices, especially judicial ones. The judge on long experience has become his perfect familiarity with the law, laws, the questions and the management of our county business, render him especially fitted for the duties of the office. By multiple recommendations, the Judge's record when formerly in this place having never been surpassed, is sufficient to recommend him to the voters of the district. Let us by all means have Judge Frather back in the county.

MR. SANTIYER'S RESPONSE.

HIGGINSVILLE, Mo., March 20, 1886. Messrs. Joe. Christy, W. C. Anson, G. W. Fox, E. Handley, Chas. McGill, W. B. Brown, W. H. Harland, G. W. Wesley, D. L. Gurdy, P. E. Avers, R. H. Barton, V. W. Higgins, D. G. Wade, J. W. Foster, J. A. Chamberlain, J. R. Douglas, J. H. Siderstricker, Dr. M. T. Hartman, R. C. Adams, J. W. McLain, Dr. M. M. Robinson, J. P. Greer, J. A. Emmerson, E. L. Benton, J. W. Hannab, C. H. Payne and others. Gentlemen: Your call, dated March 16, and appearing in the Lexington Intelligencer of March 27, calling upon me to announce myself as a candidate for the office of assessor of Lafayette county has been duly considered. In answer to your call and to solicitations from some of the best men in different parts of the county, I have concluded to make the race, subject to such rules as the democratic party of the county may see proper to adopt.

Thanking you, gentlemen, for your flattering expressions of confidence, I am, very respectfully yours, J. B. SANTIYER.

MR. PURCELL'S RESPONSE.

CLAY TOWNSHIP, LAFAYETTE COUNTY, Mo., March 28, 1886. Messrs. Irvin, Chas. W. Wesley, D. L. Gurdy, P. E. Avers, R. H. Barton, V. W. Higgins, D. G. Wade, J. W. Foster, J. A. Chamberlain, J. R. Douglas, J. H. Siderstricker, Dr. M. T. Hartman, R. C. Adams, J. W. McLain, Dr. M. M. Robinson, J. P. Greer, J. A. Emmerson, E. L. Benton, J. W. Hannab, C. H. Payne and others. Gentlemen: Your call, dated March 16, and appearing in the Lexington Intelligencer of March 27, calling upon me to announce myself as a candidate for the office of assessor of Lafayette county has been duly considered. In answer to your call and to solicitations from some of the best men in different parts of the county, I have concluded to make the race, subject to such rules as the democratic party of the county may see proper to adopt.

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CLAY TOWNSHIP, LAFAYETTE COUNTY, Mo., March 28, 1886. Messrs. Irvin, Chas. W. Wesley, D. L. Gurdy, P. E. Avers, R. H. Barton, V. W. Higgins, D. G. Wade, J. W. Foster, J. A. Chamberlain, J. R. Douglas, J. H. Siderstricker, Dr. M. T. Hartman, R. C. Adams, J. W. McLain, Dr. M. M. Robinson, J. P. Greer, J. A. Emmerson, E. L. Benton, J. W. Hannab, C. H. Payne and others. Gentlemen: Your call, dated March 16, and appearing in the Lexington Intelligencer of March 27, calling upon me to announce myself as a candidate for the office of assessor of Lafayette county has been duly considered. In answer to your call and to solicitations from some of the best men in different parts of the county, I have concluded to make the race, subject to such rules as the democratic party of the county may see proper to adopt.

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TO THE PEOPLE OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY.

With great reluctance, and with sincere regret I find it necessary in self-defense to publicly answer the "Warning" by the Rev. T. P. Cobb. Silence under the circumstances might be construed as a virtual confession of inability to the trust and confidence you have so long and so generously reposed in me, and which, to merit, I have favored the energies and capacities of the best years of my life. It is not my purpose in this reply to enter into all the details in connection with the affair of which Cobb complains. That would necessitate the use of the names of others for whom I entertain the highest respect, and whose tender sensibilities, no doubt, would be wounded, and I will not detract the quiet happiness that abides with them in their cottage home in a neighboring town. Bessie there are other considerations and reasons why I greatly desire to make this answer an explanation, and not a vindication of personal attack as possible. Since the marriage license law became operative, there have been issued from this office in round numbers about 100 licenses of this kind, number we have been misled in three only of which I have any knowledge; and I am permitted to say that I doubt if there are any more of this kind now issued, and better in this respect. If my habit, and the care to use every precaution and investigate carefully and closely every application, and to act in all cases with prudence and caution, are not sufficient to insure, I could possibly have to issue a license illegally; surely no one who knows me will say that the prospect of the gain of the fee of one dollar would induce me to violate the law or wrong my fellow-man. This law, like many others enacted by our legislature in the last ten years, is so vague and indefinite that nearly every lawyer would be able to find in its provisions. With regard to the character of the testimony respecting the ages of the applicants it is as silent as a grave. It clothes the records with no authority to require the affidavits of the parties, and should be refused to issue the license upon the testimony produced, and the applicants should be made to understand that the penalties are certain and severe. Before the marriage license law was placed upon the statutes, and the ministers and magistrates performed the ceremony without license, it frequently happened that these dignitaries, conclusions and cautions as they generally are, were misled and deceived by the statements of those seeking their services. This license law has removed all responsibility from them, numerous as they are in every county, and placed it all upon one man in each county, the recorder of deeds. Some of the grandest and noblest Christian ministers I have known are content to know how to perform the duties of their office, and are not in every county, and placed it all upon one man in each county, the recorder of deeds. Some of the grandest and noblest Christian ministers I have known are content to know how to perform the duties of their office, and are not in every county, and placed it all upon one man in each county, the recorder of deeds.

1. Leland Trumby, hanged April 4, 1884, for killing with an axe, one Jas. Stephens. Jno. F. Ryland, was the judge. Amos Rees, prosecuting attorney; J. S. Fletcher, sheriff; Eldridge Burden, attorney for the defense.

2. Mary Andrews, alias Mary Tromberg, hanged April 30, 1884, for killing her infant child, Sarah Tromberg. Jno. F. Ryland, judge; James Fletcher, sheriff; Amos Rees, prosecuting attorney; Alex. W. Doniphan and Henderson Young, attorneys for the defense.

3. Joseph Ralph Savilla, a Spaniard, for killing a peddler, an unknown man, on the Sai, was hanged January 28, 1842; Jno. F. Ryland, judge; Daniel McDowell, sheriff; Henderson Young, prosecuting attorney; Ed. M. Ryland, L. W. Smallwood, James L. Thomas and John Wilson attorneys for the defense.

4. Joel Elliott and James E. Gillispie were tried in 1852 for the murder of Wm. Smith, in Cass county. Gillispie was sent to the penitentiary for 40 years, and Elliott was hanged, September 10, 1852. Henderson Young was judge; M. W. Withers, sheriff; Samuel L. Sawyer, prosecuting attorney.

5. Henry, a slave, belonging to a Mr. Yeager, was hanged