

Graduate Opens Law Offices.
George H. English, LL. B. '99, former
of the law firm of Gates and Eng-
has opened law offices in Kansas
city. Mr. Gates was forced to retire
practice because of ill health.

Last: Package containing three
socks and two pairs of children's
stockings. Finder please call 853 or
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NEXT YEAR IS CENTENNIAL OF COLUMBIA HOMESTEAD

One dark, dismal night toward the
close of the Civil War, a soldier of the
Union Army rode wearily along the
Fulton road, known then as "the road
to St. Charles." Coming to a large
brick dwelling, beside which snuggled
a small cabin, both set back from the
road, he turned his horse free to the
pastures and climbed to the tiny loft
of the cabin to sleep—a bed not un-
usual for a campaigner.

In the morning, General Odon Gut-
tar, later a citizen and forbear of citi-
zens of Columbia, awoke to look
through a narrow window on the
country to which he had come. Im-
mediately before him was an even-
then-old massive brick house, former-
ly the home of David Gordon, his
grandfather; out beyond, he looked
on rolling fields and partly cultivated
farm lands.

"It was my first glimpse of Boone
County," he commented to friends later.

Forty-four years before the Civil
War began, nearly one hundred years
ago, Captain David Gordon of the Ken-
tucky militia pulled up the horses of



The Gordon Home.

his covered wagon and ended his
homeseeking pilgrimage here. Leav-
ing his wife and children in Madison
County, Kentucky, he had come to find
a home for them in the wilderness of
the Louisiana Territory, three years
before the state of Missouri was born.

Brick Made on the Place.

When the clearing was completed,
rude brick kilns were set up and the
work of construction was begun. First
a small brick cabin was built, suitable
to withstand Indian attacks and to
serve as a temporary shelter for the
Gordon family, until the long, ardu-
ous task of pioneer homebuilding was
accomplished. And with the same
rugged determination with which the
pioneer faced to the west and cut his
way into an unknown world did he
build his home when he found a place
to put it. That cabin, built for tem-
porary purposes, has served its time
from a century ago when it was a
home, on through the days of Indian
fighting when it was a fortress, through
the days when it was used for the
Gordon slaves, to the present.



Where General Odon Guttar spent
his first night in Boone County.

when it serves sometimes as a make-
shift office, sometimes as a storehouse.
It has seen the permanent homes of
modern builders crumble away and
still is a solid structure.

As soon as the cabin was built, Gor-
don returned for his family. At the
Kentucky home, he was questioned:
"Have you found land with timber
on it?"

"Yes."
"Water?"
"Yes."
"Stone?"

"Well, I don't know about stone.
There was some scattered about the
ground, but I gave a good deal away
for neighbors to build chimneys with;
there may be none left."

That was in 1817. Many chimneys
and walls and other things have been
built from the stone on the Gordon

place, and still there is enough to last
several hundred years.

Two years later, the house was fin-
ished, and the 400-acre farm of David
Gordon became a landmark of Boone
County. Ten children were reared on
the place. When David Gordon died,
at the age of 70, the property passed
to his eldest son, Judge Madison Gor-
don, who died there in 1875. The es-
tate is now in the hands of a grand-
daughter of Captain Gordon, Mrs.
Newton D. Evans.

Prisoners Break Jail.

In the early twenties, David Gordon
opened the Gordon Lake and the Gor-
don Spring. Here for about fifteen
years was held the Boone County
Fourth of July celebrations, which in
the days of the Declaration of 1776, was
a personal recollection and a event of
no little moment. Once, when nearly all
the men of the community were at the
lake attending a celebration, about fif-
teen prisoners in the county jail broke
out. Before sufficient men could as-
semble to give chase the refugees were
beyond pursuit.

Gordon Lake, during one of the dry
seasons, supplied Columbia with wat-
er.

Across the road from the Gordon
homestead was Boone County's first
fairground. Here races were held be-
fore the Civil War. Gordon was him-
self an enthusiastic horseman and
owned what he said to be the finest
carriage and set of horses in the coun-
ty. He had not been born in Kentucky
for nothing. The carriage, familiar
all through this part of Missouri, was
of the old Colonial style, with win-
dows, doors, shutters and curtains.
Inside were armchairs in which to
rest the elbow while looking from the
window. Makers of the modern Pull-
man or of the French touring cars are
not more thoughtful of comfort than
the makers of these vehicles of Amer-
ica's early aristocracy.

Captain Gordon Rases Pea-fowls.
But horses were not the captain's
only hobby, and he drifted rather len-



Old Mounting Stone at the Gordon
Home.

iently toward pea-fowls. He enjoyed
with pride the reputation of raising
peculiarly fine specimens. And the
picturesque fly-brushes made from the
tail feathers were used at his table
instead of the more efficient but ill-
appearing fly paper of the present.

On the north part of the Gordon es-
tate, five acres were reserved for a
family cemetery. Here all members
of the Missouri Gordons were buried
until fifteen years ago, when the bod-
ies were removed to the Columbia
Cemetery, and the use of the private
burial ground given up. The plot is
still enclosed, however, by a fence, and
several tombstones are lying about.
The graves of David Gordon and his
wife, marked by the old fashioned
carved slabs, remain intact, time hav-
ing desiccated the remains too far for
removal.

Shortly before his death, in 1875,
Judge Madison Gordon sold part of his
land to Prof. C. C. Prossinger, a teach-
er of music in Christian College. Later
Prossinger, getting irretrievably in
debt, disappeared, leaving brewery,
land, debts and all.

Robert Hinkson, another Boone
County pioneer, was a tenant of David
Gordon, renting the extreme eastern
part of the ground, through which
runs the creek which bears his name.
This was during the early years of
Gordon's residency of Boone County,
and the state was in its rugged infan-
cy. Indian outbreaks were not un-
common, and the militia, organized

chiefly for protection against these
native inroads, was an important fea-
ture of pioneer life. Muster days, on
which troops met for drill in various
sections of the state, were frequent
in this part of Missouri. These drills
were held on Hinkson's corner of the
Gordon farm.

Has Militia Order of 1821.

In the possession of N. T. Gentry, a
Columbia attorney for whom the col-
lection of data concerning Missouri's
early history holds a keen attraction,
is a military order written to Major
Shubael Allen, almost at the time
when Missouri was born. The letter
follows:

Howard County, Missouri,
August the 6th, 1821.

Sir:—
You are required to attend at Robert
Hinkson's in Boone County, on the road
leading to St. Charles, in the county afore-
said on the third Monday in September, by
twelve o'clock, in order to elect a major
general in the first division of the Missouri
militia. No doubt you are fully apprised
of the importance of said election, and that
it takes two-thirds of all the field officers
in the division to constitute a board suf-
ficient to effectuate that object,—therefore,
I hope you will pay due attention in com-
plying to the requisites of this order.

Yours respectfully,
STEPHEN TRIGG,
Brig. Gen., First Division,
Missouri Militia.

To Major Allen,

In the front yard of the Evans' home
is an old mounting stone, a relic of
the days before those of the automo-
bile, or even of the astride saddle for
any but men, when women used to
mount to their side-saddles to go to
church, to a neighbor's or to any of
the many places where her descend-
ant now is taken, half hidden in a met-
al tonneau.

REVENUE FROM
Missouri State Treasury Gets Check
for \$1,097.41.

By United Press
JEFFERSON CITY, Dec. 16.—The
state inheritance tax fund was in-
creased \$1,097.41 by a check from the

gan owned stock in the Central Coal
and Coke Company of St. Louis and
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which the University of Missouri de-
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