

MEXICO, MISSOURI.

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## MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

## DIES SUDDENLY.

## J. D. Morris, One Our Best Citizens, Quietly Passes Away.

This community was greatly shocked last Friday to learn of the death of J. D. Morris. He came to his store Friday morning apparently in his usual health, but about 10 o'clock he fell from a stroke of apoplexy. He was removed to his home where about an hour later he passed to the world beyond.

The writer had known Joe Morris since we were a child. Our parents traded with him in his store for years. He was an honest man—the noblest work of God. What more could be said? He was kind, courteous and faithful, and had a friend in every acquaintance. This community is the poorer that he is gone.

Mr. Morris was a native of Callaway county, Mo., born in Nov-



J. D. MORRIS

ember 1833. When he was a small child his parents moved to this county, settling on the present site of Mexico, his father building the first house of the city. His brother, Peyton Morris, was the first child born in the town.

Deceased grew to manhood here and in 1849 made a trip to California, returning seven years later. In 1858 he was married to Miss Martha L. Cauthorn of this city. The wife preceded him to the grave less than two years since. The following children survive: L. B. Morris of St. Louis; Mrs. Robert Morris of Blythesville, Ark.; Luke Morris of San Angelo, Texas; Miss Julia Morris of this city; Dr. E. H. Morris of Derby, Conn., and Mrs. Emma Holt of this city.

Mr. Morris followed merchandising in Mexico for over 50 years. Of late years he was associated with J. A. Abbay, of the firm of Morris and Abbay.

He was a Mason, an A. O. U. W. and a member of the Christian church. The funeral was pre-arranged at the Christian church Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. A. W. Kokendoffer.

The following old friends and neighbors served as pallbearers: J. D. McKee, J. A. Abbay, J. C. Wilkins, Sam Locke, Wm. Coons, J. N. Baskett.

At the hour for the funeral the court house bell tolled and the business houses of the city closed in memory of the honored dead.

"The steps of a good man are ordered of the Lord."

## A FRIEND'S TRIBUTE.

J. D. Morris, for half a century a business man in Mexico, closed his ledger forever early Saturday morning, February 15,

1908, apparently in good health and certainly in the same good social genial frame of mind which had always made him a source of pleasure to all he met. A few of his friends who happened to be near, and his family physician, Dr. E. S. Cave, rendered what assistance they could at the store and took him to his old homestead where he passed peacefully and painlessly "into that realm from which no traveler returns," surrounded by those of his devoted family who made their home with him.

Governors, senators and other great public men at death have the eulogies of the trained tongue of oratory pronounced upon their lives, but here in a casket covered and surrounded by floral tributes from every rank of society, lay the plain man who was every day and to everybody the same, who never held an office or catered to public favor, who had the genuine tribute of tears and sobs from hundreds of strong men as they took the last look at the peaceful face of the man whom they could always trust and whose word they never doubted. His pastor, Elder A. W. Kokendoffer, very truthfully said in his funeral sermon:

"If every man, woman and child in Audrain county who knew and honored Brother Morris could pass by this bier and drop one flower, this pulpit and casket would be covered out of sight beneath their floral tribute of respect." That funeral demonstrated that this busy world of ours is still ready to stop its commercialism and with uncovered head bow to an honest, upright character, who though but a private citizen, was honored by rich and poor, white and black alike. He was ready for the sudden call and with an unflinching faith entered doubtless into the spirit world well prepared for the coming judgment. May we heed the awful warning. "Be ye also ready."

## Big Land Trade.

T. B. Ridgeway came back from Texas a few days ago. He has traded his 252 1/2 acre farm, just east of Thompson, to a Mr. Eli Dunlap for a 600 acre farm near Hereford, Texas.

Only nine years since the first house was built in Hereford, but now the town has a population of 4,000. It has three banks, four churches, fine court house, an opera house, and no saloons—a booming place.

A son of Mr. Dunlap will live on the Ridgeway farm here but Mr. Ridgeway does not give possession until August 1st. Will be sorry to lose Mr. Ridgeway and his good family, but we are glad to have Mr. Dunlap come among us. He is a prominent stock man.

## Editors Talk Shop.

The editors of the county met in Mexico last Friday. Talked business two or three hours and compared ideas along various lines of interest to the craft. Later the editors and their wives were the guests of R. M. White at a 7 o'clock dinner at Hotel Hoxsey.

Those present were: L. A. Bird and wife of the Vandalia Mail; Mrs. Frank Frost and Mrs. Reed of the Vandalia Leader; C. A. Davault and wife of the Farber Forum; C. E. Mayhall and wife of the Laddonia Herald; J. B. Devault of the Martinsburg Sunbeam; R. M. White and wife of the Mexico Ledger; John Beal and wife of the Mexico MESSAGE, and O. D. Gray and wife of the Sturgeon Leader.

## Mr. Fennewald Dead.

Joseph Fennewald of near Martinsburg died last Friday night. He was a highly respected man and will be greatly missed in that community.

## A GOOD PLATFORM.

## Judge W. H. Wallace Is a Candidate for Governor.

Judge Wallace of Kansas City, who is a brother of Rev. A. A. Wallace of Mexico, is in the race for the nomination for Governor. We like his platform. It contains these characteristic statements:

"The preservation of the Sabbath is one of the greatest moral problems in the life of the Republic. The laborer longs for one day in seven as a day of rest as he longs for immortality in the great beyond. And this rest is an inalienable right which no one should ever permit to be wrested from him.

"The Sunday theater is as demoralizing as the Sunday saloon, and should be suppressed. If I am elected, by the plenary powers of the governorship our Sunday laws shall be enforced throughout the State, but with due regard to the necessities of the advanced civilization of our times.

"Intemperance is the greatest single enemy of the human race. That every murder tried so far since I have occupied the criminal bench has been traceable to intoxicants, and that more than 75 per cent of other crimes had been due to the same cause, has put me inexorably against the open saloon.

"I am heartily in favor of local option, and if elected will urge the passage of a law extending it to ward cities.

"The next Legislature should submit for the people's suffrage a constitutional amendment for State-wide prohibition. If it becomes a law, during my administration it will be enforced."

## Brother, Keep Sweet.

The Middletown Chips published an item two weeks ago, which was extensively copied in the papers, headed, "Their troubles about ended—after several attempts young man obtains possession of his wife." Chips had attorney P. H. Cullen of Mexico interested in the case. Last week Chips took the story all back—about everything it had told concerning the matter was wrong. The young married couple are living together and everything is "fixed."—Mexico MESSAGE.

Chips didn't take it all back. The only error made was in Cullen's connection with the case, and that was given just as told to us. The MESSAGE had to exaggerate in an attempt to make the above item funny or cutting. Stick as near to the truth as you can, brother.—Middletown Chips.

Brother, if what we said of what you said was not just right, it was because we misunderstood your language. You advised us, now this little tip to you—Let not the sun go down upon thy wrath, even if we did go wrong a little, as you view it. Keep sweet.

## Planning New Poor House.

The following is a late dispatch from Marshall; it may furnish some suggestions for action by Audrain County:

Contractors have been in conference with the Judges of the Saline County Court, regarding plans and the probable cost for the erection of a new county home for the poor. The estimated cost of a modern brick building is \$35,000. This is likely to be raised by a levy on the tax payers of the county, and it is estimated that a 10-cent levy will provide \$13,000 a year, paying for the building in three years. An election will be called to decide upon the proposition.

J. S. Wilson of Grinnell, Iowa arrived last week to look after his big farm in the neighborhood of Rush Hill.

## REPUBLICANS GATHER.

## Held Mass Convention in Mexico Last Friday.

Audrain county Republicans held a mass convention at the Mexico court house last Friday afternoon, for the purpose of electing five delegates and five alternates to the Ninth Congressional Convention to be held in St. Charles on February 18, and five delegates and five alternates to the State Convention to be held in St. Louis, February 27, 1908.

C. A. Barnes, Chairman of the County Central Committee, called the meeting to order and named the following as temporary officers: John S. Galson, of Vandalia, chairman; Walter S. Boyd, of Cuivre, and Chester G. Starr, of Saling, secretaries.

The chair appointed the following committees:

On resolutions—John X. Brown, C. A. Smith, Ed Pritchett, D. M. Roberts and Dave Nation.

On rules and order—W. T. Keath Mathias Crum, E. B. Norris, F. L. Crosby and Mr. Prother.

On permanent organization—W. S. Hathway, Ralph Dean, J. C. Parrish, E. C. Kennen and Mr. Allison.

While these committees were preparing their reports Judge Reuben F. Roy, of Ralls county, prospective candidate for Congress against the Hon. Champ Clark, was called upon and made a speech discussing the tariff and other issues dividing the Republican and Democratic parties. In his opening remarks he paid a high compliment to the good citizenship of Audrain county and made this reference to Mexico: "She is a nursery of moral, intellect, thought and culture."

The temporary officers of the convention were made permanent. The following delegates were then elected:

To St. Louis convention, Feb. 27—A. C. Barnes, W. S. Hathway, E. C. Kennen, W. T. Keath, Wm. Ross.

To Congressional Convention at St. Charles, Feb. 18—John Gatsoun, John X. Brown, L. W. Roberts, Charles Householder, G. W. Pigg.

Delegates uninstructed and to choose their own alternates.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

We, the Republicans of Audrain County, Missouri, in Mass Convention assembled, take this opportunity of expressing our approbation of the masterful way in which President Roosevelt has executed the trust the Nation has reposed in him. We gratefully acknowledge the visit of Vice President Fairbanks to our midst. We again proclaim our allegiance to the great fundamental principles of the Republican Party, and the policies of their administration.

We heartily endorse the efficient aid rendered the Administration by our able and distinguished friend, Senator William Warner.

We are exceedingly proud of the unceasing, conscientious and patriotic work of the ablest Attorney General the State of Missouri ever had. We especially commend his broad learning and scholarly attainments, his sterling manhood and pure patriotism, and his undying devotion to duty to the great citizenship of Missouri as the logical Governor of the commonwealth—a Governor of the people.

Further, we hereby instruct the delegates to the State Convention to vote for William Warner and Herbert S. Hadley as Delegates-at-large to the National Convention.

We endorse the administration of each of the Republican State Officials and their treatment of a public office as a public trust.

Recognizing in Honorable N. T.

Gentry a citizen of honor and integrity, and a lawyer of profound learning, one whose record of successful achievement at the bar shows him to be fully qualified for the office of Attorney General of Missouri, we commend; his candidacy as the immediate successor of Attorney General Hadley.

Recognizing in Hon. Norman A. Mozley a lawyer of ability and possessing a highly trained judicial temperament, we commend his candidacy as Judge of the St. Louis Court of Appeals.

We also sincerely commend the candidacy of Hon. Reuben F. Roy as congressman from the 9th Congressional District of Missouri, recognizing in Judge Roy one eminently qualified to represent the district, and hereby pledge him our support.

## MISSIONARY RALLY.

## A Great Day at the Mexco Christian Church Last Thursday.

The Foreign Missionary Rally was held at the Christian Church February 13, when a large crowd of interested workers assembled to hear the report of the work done by those in the foreign fields.

Dr. Royal J. Dye, from that wonderful mission at Balenge, Africa, gave a very interesting talk at the morning session on, "The Beginning of Missionary work in Africa." At the afternoon session he spoke of the manners and customs of the Africans, illustrated with his large collection of curious, maps and charts.

Stephens J. Corey, of Cincinnati, O., also spoke at the morning session on the "Missionary Progress in the field."

F. E. Hagao, returned missionary from Japan, gave a good talk on the great progress in that land.

The remainder of the program was as follows:

J. D. Greer, Laddonia, "Missions Indispensable."

J. B. Corwin, New London, "Work on the Field Last Year."

Frank W. Allen, Paris, "A Little Sermon on Coin."

C. W. Comstock, Huntsville, "The Missionary Spirit How Promoted."

W. B. Taylor, Moberly, "Missionary Knowledge."

E. G. Merrill, Moberly, "The Universality of Jesus."

C. H. Swift, Auxvasse, "The New Testament a Missionary Volume."

W. A. Fite, Fulton, "Missions the Main Work of the Church."

E. J. Lampion, Louisiana, "The Double Danger of Inaction."

## From California.

J. D. Lott, formerly of this county, writing to this paper from Holtville, Cal., under date of Feb. 9th, says:

Bright and sunny this morning; birds singing, as in the beautiful spring time back in Missouri. Crops looking well and our country on the boom. This town has thrived itself in population since I came here back from Audrain county last fall.

They claim this section is going to make one of the greatest garden and fruit countries in the world. A company here putting in 320 acres of grapes in one tract. A man and four mules get \$7 a day for 9 hours work. So you see the panic didn't hurt us so bad after all.

I don't get the MESSAGE regularly. What's the matter? Can't do without the paper. Knocks us all out when we fail to get it.

[Goes regularly every week brother. Can't understand why you do not get it.—Editor]

Misses Blanche and Edna Cauthorn, of near Mollino, have been afflicted with chickenpox.

## SURROUNDING AUDRAIN

R. A. Moore of Fulton has a new automobile.

Mrs. Isom Rector of near Madison sold a total of \$237.50 worth of eggs and butter last year.

Corn sold at 55 cents a bushel at a public sale near Guthrie, in Callaway county, last week.

Centralia will hold a big poultry show the 26th and 27th of this month. The merchants are offering cash prizes from a \$1.00 up.

Mrs. E. B. Dry of Tulip sold \$103.61 worth of eggs last year and Mrs. Ben Carter of the same neighborhood sold \$133.20 worth of eggs and \$21.85 worth of butter.

Chester Atterburg at Madison has sold a half interest in his hardware store to Walter Williams of Mexico. Mr. Williams has been traveling for several years for a hardware company.

The Auxvasse Review says: Charles Cannell, over near Mexico, is rejoicing over the recent arrival of a bouncing baby boy in his family. The mother was formerly Miss Epperson, daughter of V. W. Epperson of near Hatton.

Former Attorney General E. C. Crow, of St. Louis, was in Columbia, the other day, making a legal examination of the proceedings in the local option election. It is said he was there as the representative of St. Louis brewers, who are interested in the matter.

Mrs. Thomas Allison of Frankford seems doomed to misfortune. She fell last winter and broke her hip and has been on crutches ever since. Last Tuesday she fell against the heating stove and burned her left arm and hand and broke her left leg above the knee.

W. H. Martin, a resident of Pike county and a relative of N. S. Myers of Mexico, died last week while visiting his daughter in Hannibal. He was quite old. Saw service in the Mexican war and was an ex-confederate, the last member of his company to die.

A resident of Clark, says the Chronicle, promised to contribute two dollars toward the preacher's salary as soon as he sold his calf, but failed to keep his word. He went to church a few nights later and the choir sang the beautiful song, "The Half Has Never Yet Been Told." He was a little hard of hearing and went home boiling with rage. He told his wife the choir had insulted him by singing "The Calf Has Never Yet Been Sold."

## Brewers Get Busy.

The Farber Forum prints the following statement:

As soon as the announcement was made that a local option election was to be held in Audrain the brewers commenced to flood the county with literature. The Forum got its first baeth in Saturday's mail. Printed in bold black letters was the statement that prohibition encourages intemperance. It is about the biggest lie they ever told. If that were so, they would want prohibition in every State. The people of Audrain County are too intelligent to be fooled by such stuff.

## Machin Turns Philosopher.

The Farber Forum tells the following on one of its readers:

Will Machin has discovered that a kiss is very much like creation, because it is made of nothing and is awful good. Some-body's going to give Will a cross examination when she reads this.

Mrs. Arthur Irick, south of this city, entertained her father and mother recently. Mr. and Mrs. Hicklin, of near Perry.

**Mexico Savings Bank**  
Capital and Surplus, \$150,000.00  
40th Year in Business  
W. W. Fry, Pres.  
Sam Locke, Cashier.