

George J. Smith was born in the county in 1874, admitted to the bar in 1907, located in Mt. Pulaski of which city he is City Attorney, and was associated in a law partnership with Frank L. Tomlinson to the time of Mr. Tomlinson's death.

Samuel L. Wallace is a native of Ohio and after teaching school several years in Logan county, was admitted to the bar in 1875. He first located in Mount

Pulaski and came to Lincoln in 1880.

Charles H. Curtis practiced law in Mt. Pulaski, having been admitted to the bar in 1882.

Joe A. Horn was a practitioner at Mt. Pulaski, being City Attorney at that place from 1891 to 1896. He was a member of the Legislature from 1896 to 1898. In 1902 he moved to Springfield.

Carl Bekemeyer graduated at

Ann Arbor in 1894, being admitted that same year and locating in Springfield. In 1898 he moved to Mt. Pulaski.

One of the leading lawyers at the Logan County Bar, whose strength as an advocate was in his unusual abilities as an orator, was Edmund Lynch, who was admitted to the bar in 1867. Mr. Lynch had few superiors in the state as a pleader before a jury.

LAWYERS NUMEROUS IN MOUNT PULASKI SINCE ITS FOUNDING

(By Paul E. Beidler)

Mount Pulaski, Logan county, located about 15 miles northwest of the exact geographical center of Illinois, on a hill that is over 700 feet above sea level, and higher than any place in this area of the state, was founded in 1836. This year of 1961 marks the 125th anniversary of the founding, to be observed in July by a monster Sil-Tennial celebration.

There are so many things to write about, but in this case it is concerning lawyers, who had some connection with Mount Pulaski through its history of 125 years.

Logan county was carved out of Sangamon county, and Postville (now a part of Lincoln) was the first county seat. But in a county-wide election lost the county seat to Mount Pulaski, this place being the seat of justice from 1848 to 1854.

Of course, the lawyers of those pioneer days saw much of Mount Pulaski. The list to follow will name as many as research will reveal.

One of the first lawyers to practice law in Logan county, was Horace G. Ballou, of Mt. Pulaski. He was referred to in the histories as "the senior member of the bar", and one of the first lawyers of the county. Mr. Ballou followed the county seat to Lincoln, where he died in 199, aged 35 years, 8 months and 1 day. His body was buried in Mt. Pulaski cemetery, along the main road, and on the east side, about half way of the length of the cemetery. His marker lies on the ground, but is easily found. Mr. Ballou was born Sept. 22, 1819.

Col. Nathaniel Whittaker

One of the best remembered men in legal matters in Mt. Pulaski was Colonel Nathaniel M. Whittaker. He located in Mount Pulaski in 1842, and for a time kept the Mount Pulaski House (hotel), where Abraham Lincoln often stayed. Mr. Whittaker for some years served as justice of the peace. As a judge of law and as a safe, sagacious counselor, he had few equal in those early days. Their home was the old two-story brick residence that stood on North Marion St., not far from the cemetery. Paintings of Mr. Whittaker and his wife are now hanging in the hallway in the old court house building in

the Mount Pulaski Public Square. **Courthouse Back to Lincoln**

The changing of the county seat from Postville (now a part of Lincoln) to Mount Pulaski in 1848, brought several lawyers to this city, some of whom were riding the Eighth Judicial Circuit Court. One of these men was Abraham Lincoln, who later became president of the United States. He was probably as well acquainted with the court house in Mount Pulaski as any building in the old circuit. This fine old church structure, standing today as it did in Lincoln's time, is maintained as one of Illinois' Memorials to its most outstanding citizen.

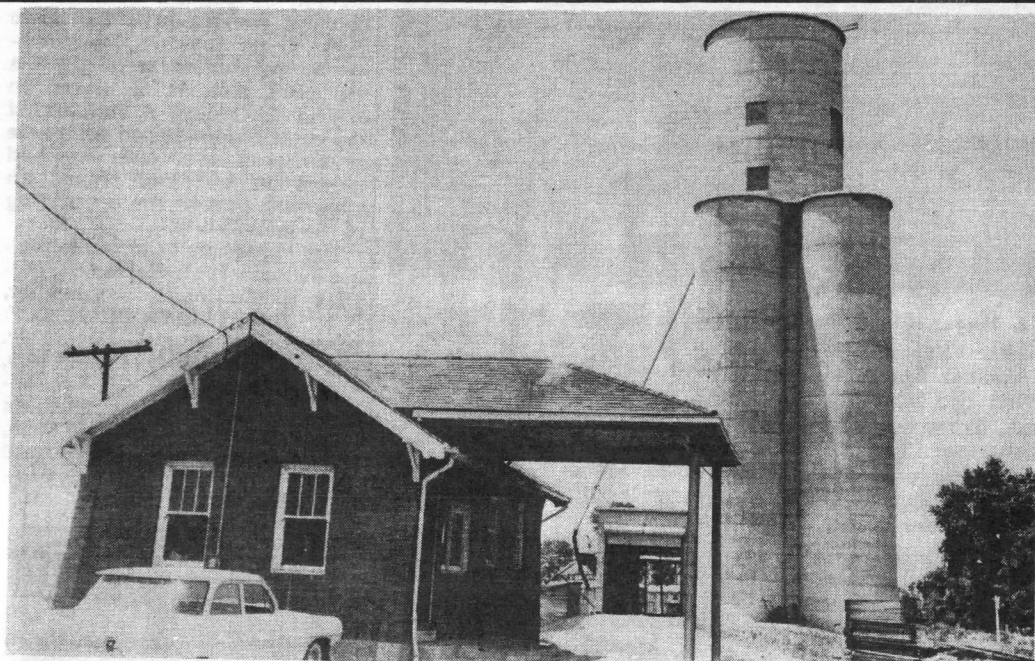
This court house is an excellent example of Greek revival architecture as found in Illinois. Prominent men associated with this historic building besides Abraham Lincoln, were Judge David Davis, of Bloomington, Robert G. Ingersoll, Stephen A. Douglas, John T. Stuart, Stephen T. Logan, William H. Herndon, James C. Conklin, Milton Hay, Leonard Sweet, Asahel Gridley, Lawrence Weldon, Benjamin S. Edwards, and a coterie of other brilliant lawyers.

Railroad Lost Us Courthouse

When Lincoln was founded about 1854, after the Chicago & Alton Railroad was built thru Logan county, in a county-wide election, Mount Pulaski lost to Lincoln as the seat of the county government, and some of the lawyers moved to Lincoln.

As near as can be found thru research, the attorneys following Horace H. Ballou and Nathaniel M. Whittaker in the practice of law in Mount Pulaski were the following:

L. P. Lacey
Samuel C. Sparks
W. H. Young
James F. Jones
W. B. Teft
Samuel L. Wallace
Albert G. Jones
Charles Landis
Charles H. Curtis
Joseph A. Horn
Frank L. Tomlinson
Carl Bekemeyer
Frank Willson
George J. Smith
Warren J. Lincoln
B. A. Tyler
Lloyd F. Arnold
Leland Simkins
John McCullough



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TO ALL OF OUR FRIENDS in the Mount Pulaski area we offer greetings and best wishes on the Celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the City.

C. C. RAGER & SON

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LATHAM, ILLINOIS

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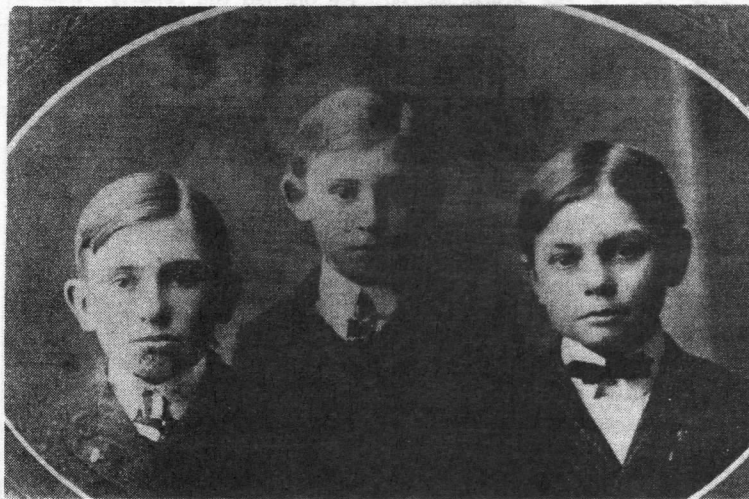
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Wesley A. Scroggin & Sons

ORIGINATORS OF BO-JAC HYBRIDS
PLANT 3 MILES SOUTHWEST OF MOUNT PULASKI



RECOGNIZE THESE THREE BOYS? They are three brothers—Henry, George and Elmer Meister, sons of Henry and Mary Starr Meister.

Sil-Tennial Greetings



We're mighty proud of our city and its 125 years. We offer our congratulations to each and every citizen, and also our best wishes that the Sil-Tennial may be the finest celebration ever held in Mount Pulaski!

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