

Jasper County

# The Democratic Sentinel.

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## THE DEMOCRATIC SENTINEL.

DEMOCRATIC NEWSPAPER.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY,

BY JAS. W. MC EWEN

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.

1 year \$1.50  
6 months .75  
3 months .50

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We pay particular attention to paying tax-  
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REEDSDALE, INDIANA.  
Money to loan on long time at low interest.  
Sept. 10, 1886.

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EDWIN P. HAMMOND. WILLIAM B. AUSTIN,  
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ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
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Office on second floor of Leopold's Block, corner  
of Washington and Van Rensselaer streets.  
William B. Austin purchases, sells and leases  
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WM. W. WATSON,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
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W. W. HARTSELL, M. D.  
HOMEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN & SURGEON.  
RENSSELAER, INDIANA.  
Chronic Diseases a Specialty.  
OFFICE, in Makeever's New Block. Resi-  
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Calls promptly attended. Will give special atten-  
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R. S. DWIGGINS, F. J. SEARS, VAL. SEIR,  
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Certificates bearing interest issued. Ex-  
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at lowest rates and on most favorable terms.  
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Famous "Belle of Bourbon"

IS DEATH TO  
Malaria,  
hills and Fever,  
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10 Years Old.  
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### The Great Appetizer.

This will certify that I have examined the Sample of BELLE OF BOURBON WHISKY received from LAWRENCE, OSTROM & CO., and found the same to be perfectly free from Fusel Oil and all other deleterious substances, and strictly pure. I cheerfully recommend the same for Family and Medicinal purposes.

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FOR SALE BY DRUGGISTS, WINE MERCHANTS, AND GROCERS EVERYWHERE.

PRICE, \$1.25 PER BOTTLE.

If not found at the above, half-dozen bottles in plain boxes will be sent to any address in the United States on receipt of six dollars. Express paid to all points east of Missouri river.

Lawrence, Ostrom & Co.,  
LOUISVILLE, KY.

### ONE TO BE REMEMBERED.

James Madison, the Father of the Constitution And the Union.

Written for the Indianapolis Sen-

nel by Judge Lewis Jordan.

The readers of the Sunday Sentinel may remember that in May I gave them a short history of the struggle to form a Federal Union. The historical dates in that article will bear repetition, now that the attention of the whole country is called to the centennial celebration of the adoption of the constitution at Philadelphia.

The first formal Congress of the colonies met at Philadelphia, September 5th, 1774, and prior to that time there was no concert of action among the colonies. The object of this Congress was to oppose British innovations, without losing sight of reconciliation with Great Britain, but the dissuasive measures adopted by it had no effect upon the conduct of the mother country.

The next Congress met in 1775, and was the Congress that adopted the declaration in 1775. It also on the 12th of July, 1776, received a report of a committee providing for articles of confederation and perpetual union of the colonies. It is interesting to note that, although the report was made eight days after the declaration, the word "colonies" instead of "states," is used. These articles of confederation were not agreed to by Congress until November 17, 1777, thus showing how reluctant some of the "colonies" or "states" were to part with any of their rights as independent sovereignties. After their adoption by Congress they were referred to the States, and these were slow in ratifying, Maryland being the last to ratify, in March, 1781.

The first Congress under the articles of confederation met March 2, 1781. After the close of the war it became apparent that some other form of government must be adopted. January 21, 1786, Virginia passed a resolution inviting a meeting of deputies from all the states to take into consideration the trade of the United States. This led to the meeting at Annapolis, Md., in September, 1786. Only four states responded to this call of Virginia, viz: Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. The Annapolis meeting recommended Congress to call a convention to revise the articles of confederation. Congress referred the matter to a committee of one from each state, and this committee by only one majority recommended the calling of a convention and this was not done until February, 1787. Before any action was taken by Congress, Virginia, on the 23d of November, 1786, passed a law authorizing the appointment of delegates to a convention, and George Washington, James Madison and Edmund Randolph were three of the seven delegates appointed.

The day appointed for the meeting of the convention was May 14, 1787, but deputies from seven states did not appear until Friday, the 25th of May, when the convention organized by electing George Washington as its presiding officer. The convention sat with closed doors until September 17, 1787, when the constitution was signed by thirty-nine of the fifty-five members of the convention. Three members present refused to sign. Immediately after the publication of the constitution there commenced a violent, bitter and long continued political war of words over its adoption by the several states. The contest in some states was so fierce that its friends and enemies came to blows. It is difficult to realize how furious the opponents of the constitution were in their language and conduct. I know it has been the general impression that as the people were a unit, almost, in the war, there was the same unanimity in adopting the constitution and union. History does not sustain the impression,

which could only have been formed by ignorance or the facts.

Nine states were to ratify before the constitution became operative. Before the close of 1788 eleven states had adopted it, several of them by very small majorities of their conventions. North Carolina and Rhode Island held out longer. Washington was elected President in January, 1789, and inaugurated April 30th, following.

The history of the struggle to form a constitution and union is intensely interesting. It continued longer than the revolutionary war. This being the centennial year of the adoption of the constitution, the lives of the great and good men who were prominent in securing constitutional government and a permanent union of the states, are being reviewed. Some of them are scarcely remembered, and their services have not been fully appreciated. In the debates of the convention the name of Mr. Wilson, of Pennsylvania, occurs frequently. He was one of the ablest members of the convention, and did more to mould and shape the constitution than Alexander Hamilton. He was the colleague of Benjamin Franklin, who often deferred to his judgment. The ratification of the constitution by Pennsylvania is largely due to his efforts. The services of Edmund Randolph have recently been discussed by articles in the magazines.

He was one of the three who were present and refused to sign the constitution. His refusal to sign in the then critical stage of the effort being made to form a union was unfortunate, and might have proved disastrous, had he not afterwards given the constitution a qualified support. There are other members of the convention who deserve to be remembered by a grateful people. If the battle they fought was bloodless the results obtained were as glorious as those achieved by war. Without their work the war had been fought in vain.

But the man who stands out prominently as the father of the Constitution and the Union is James Madison. A kind Providence permitted him to live until the 28th of June, 1836, and he was the last survivor of the members who signed the Constitution on the 17th day of September, 1787. He was permitted to see the glory of his works, and there are not a few who ascribe this directly to Providence.

Mr. Madison became a member of Congress in March, 1780. This was before the articles of confederation had been adopted by the States. He had long favored a closer union of the States and hoped the articles would bring the desired result. But he soon saw they were inadequate and that some other form of government with more power must be adopted. He left Congress and accepted a seat as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates. This action is a key to his character and is the best evidence of the patriotism of the man. Here he labored to have Virginia consent to enlarge the powers of Congress and through his efforts mainly the Legislature appointed delegates to the Annapolis meeting, which meeting I have already noted, led the way to calling the Constitutional convention. He was one of five delegates from Virginia to the Annapolis meeting. To Virginia must be accorded the honor of having taken the lead in the movement which resulted in the Constitution and Union, and this was done at a time when other States, some of them in the North, were bitterly opposing it. Virginia even appointed delegates to the constitutional convention before Congress authorized it, and this action was secured largely by the zeal and efforts of Mr. Madison. He was recognized in Virginia as the leader and able advocate of the movement for a more perfect union of the States under a form of government with more enlarged powers than were conferred by the articles of Confederation, and he was (Continued on page 4.)

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Wood or Coal;

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Walter A. Wood Reapers, Mowers and Binders,  
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South Side Washington Street.  
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