

with stringent penalties for neglect, came into operation.

Meanwhile the agitation of the record matter and the continued efforts of individual members led to the re-establishment of a board of health in place of the one which had fallen into desuetude. During the administration of Mayor Rowland, which began in 1870, an efficient board was provided for, consisting of five members of which three were regular physicians, with one layman, like them appointed by the Mayor, who was himself a member ex-officio. The high character and demonstrated efficiency of the board was maintained for only a few years; it soon became an asylum for lay politicians, wholly losing its professional character, and then giving way to the present organization in which there is no provision for the participation of medical men. Within the past year (1904) the medical society has again taken action looking to the restoration of the professional character of the board, but no visible progress has been made. The society now has about seventy members.

The present officers of the, society are as follows: President, John A. Koch ; first vice-president, G. M. Grimes; second vice-president, Henry Hart; secretary, George E. Rosenthal ; treasurer, R. J. Christie, Jr., censors, Joseph Robbins, L. B. Ashton, and E. B. Montgomery.

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CHAPTER LXVI.  
THE COUNTY POOR FARM COUNTY AND DISTRICT  
OFFICERS. BY D. L. HAIR.

Very early in the history of Adams County, the benevolence of its pioneer citizens began to be manifest in the provisions made for the indigent and deserving poor within its borders. At first, and for a number of years, the paupers were provided for in the several localities where they resided. But in the year 1847, the Board of Commissioners deemed it advisable, as a matter of economy to the county, and for the better provision for these unfortunate objects of public charity, to purchase a farm to be devoted to their support, to which they could be removed and cared for in a body, and where those not entirely disabled might be furnished some employment, and thus in a measure, became self-supporting. Consequently, after some investigation, the board bought the eighty acre farm owned by H. T. Ellis, parts of the Northwest and Northeast quarter of Section 16, of township 1 north and 7 west, lying near the center of Honey Creek, the transfer bearing date March 16, 1847, and the

consideration being \$700. The farm was under a fair state of improvement, and had a frame house containing several rooms and a shed kitchen. A barn and other outbuildings, and a blacksmith shop were on the premises.

The farm was under the supervision of a competent man, and the paupers were removed to it, and sustained there until May, 1855, when by order of the Board of Supervisors--the county having gone into township organization in 1849 --the county poor farm was sold to John White, for \$800, the board reserving the use of the farm until the next year.

At a session of the County Board of Supervisors held January, 5, 1856, it was resolved to purchase 200 acres for a poor farm, and a committee consisting of Wm. Laughlin, A. H. Doan, and Baptist Hardy, were appointed to select and make the purchase. On June 10, the committee reported that they had bought of John F. Battell 160 acres, the northeast quarter of Section 11, in Gilmer township, for \$5,000. The committee also reported, at the same meeting, the purchase of 50,000 brick and other material with which to erect buildings thereon. The following year, 1857, the farm was rented out and the paupers were hired, kept by contract, at a specified price per capita per week. Upon the completion of the buildings the paupers were removed to the county farm, where they have been provided for since.

This county house then consisted of a building 24 feet by 40 feet, two stories high, with a basement, and it is estimated cost about \$2,500. In 1857, when the new home was entered, there were about fifteen persons brought from the old farm. In 1860, we find twenty-five members, and to make room for the increase of paupers in 1863, the county built an addition to the first building, 30x30 feet, two stories high and basement, at a cost of about \$3,000. Osborne & Son did the brick work, and Ligget & Bachey, the carpenter work.

In 1861, the first barn was built at a cost of \$300 by Ben Wegle. In 1862, the old building for the insane was built, at a cost of \$1,000. This building, however, has been taken down, since it did not give satisfaction as a place to confine the insane.

In 1867, the county built a pest house at a cost of about \$500. This building is still standing.

In 1868, because of the increasing numbers, another building was erected, 24x48 feet, two stories high; costing \$6,000.

In 1874 the city of Quincy went into township organization, prior to which time the paupers of the city had been under the charge of municipal officers, one alderman from each ward constituting the pauper committee, to which was

added an overseer of the poor. Since 1874, the county has had charge of its pauper expenses, the same as the other townships of the county. The adoption of Quincy poor so increased the number of county dependents that the building on the farm became insufficient, and it became necessary to provide for them elsewhere. Accordingly, an agreement was made with the Charitable Aid and Hospital Association of Quincy, to keep them during the ten months, from July 1; 1874, to May 1, 1875, for \$8,000 and 200 cords of wood; and for a year, beginning May 1, 1875, for a sum not to exceed \$12,000, the sum actually being expended was \$10,400. During the latter year, there were on the book of the Association an average of 314 persons per month, representing 226 families.

A committee of the Board of Supervisors was then authorized to examine and make a report of plans for a new building to be erected on the County Poor Farm. This committee recommended that a building three stories high, 32x43 feet area, be built at a cost of \$8,000. It was finished in 1875, at a cost of \$7,968. The building committee consisted of Thomas Bailey, Wm. Winkelman, E. H. Turner, David Sheer and J. B. Weaver. A steam heater was afterward put in the building at a cost of \$1,290.

Again, in 1897, because of the great increase in insanity, a new building 24x40 feet, was put up. This cost the county about \$10,000. About the same time a barn scales and other outbuildings were erected at a cost of about \$2,500. These are all now in good repair. A new heating apparatus has also been put in, in late years by Best, the Quincy plumber.

At first the paupers were put under the custody of some one man, who boarded them for a certain price per week. Later, the Board of Supervisors concluded to manage the house and farm themselves, and furnish everything for the poor. Accordingly they appointed a superintendent. Under the old regime, Mr. Henderson had charge of the paupers two years, and Mr. Curtis one year. The first superintendent appointed was D. L. Hair in 1860, serving six years; second, A. L. Shiphard, seven years; third, Asbury Elliott, six years; fourth, Mr. Doren, one year; fifth, W. Beecott, one year; sixth, M. Doren, two years; Mrs. Doren, six years after her husband's death; eighth, William Bates, six years; ninth, Dave L. Hair, six years; and tenth and last, Jacob Wolfe, the present superintendent.

At present there are between eighty and eighty-five inmates at the farm, and this number, it is said, is smaller than it has been for many years. The reason for this, we presume, is because of the very recent removal of sixty patients to the asylum at Bartonville. Of course, the greater number of pauper expenses are incurred for the

city poor, but a great deal of expense is brought about by the feeding of transient paupers and for railroad passes. The average cost per head, for keeping the paupers, less the income from the farm, was at one time 86 cents per week, but this expense later came down as low as 67 cents per week.

The Adams County Poor Farm is well located --the land is rolling, and the drainage good. There is plenty of water, of the very best quality. It is said that there is not a better managed poor farm in the state, for the management has always been good. The poor are liberally provided for, and at the same time the management has been so economical that the County Poor Farm is a credit to the Adams county tax payers.

#### COUNTY OFFICERS.

The following is a list of county and district officials from the organization of the county in 1825, to the present time:

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| James Black, recorder.....        | July 8, 1825   |
| Levi Headley, sheriff .....       | Aug. 30, 1825  |
| Asa Tyrer, coroner .....          | Aug. 30, 1825  |
| Henry H. Snow, judge probate..... | Sept. 15, 1825 |
| Henry H. Snow, judge probate..... | Jan 23, 1826   |
| Henry H. Snow, recorder.....      | Jan. 23, 1826  |
| Hugh White, surveyor.....         | Jan. 23, 1826  |
| Earl Pierce, sheriff.....         | Sept. 6, 1826  |
| Asa Tyrer, coroner.....           | Sept. 6, 1826  |
| Herman Wallace, coroner.....      | Sept. 6, 1828  |
| Earl Pierce, sheriff.....         | Dec. 5, 1828   |
| Earl Pierce, sheriff.....         | Nov. 27, 1830  |
| Thomas Moon, coroner .....        | Nov. 27, 1830  |
| Earl Pierce, sheriff .....        | Sept. 5, 1832  |
| William P. Reader, coroner.....   | Sept. 5, 1832  |
| H. Patton, surveyor.....          | April 28, 1834 |
| Harris Patton, surveyor .....     | June 2, 1834   |
| J. M. Whiting, coroner.....       | Aug. 22, 1834  |
| Earl Pierce, sheriff.....         | Aug. 29, 1834  |
| Harris Patton, surveyor.....      | Dec. 24, 1834  |
| C. M. Billington, recorder.....   | Aug. 22, 1835  |
| Harris Patton, surveyor.....      | Aug. 22, 1835  |
| Thomas C. King, coroner.....      | Aug. 24, 1836  |
| Earl Pierce, sheriff .....        | Aug. 24, 1836  |
| Wm. G. Flood, probate judge.....  | Feb. 17, 1837  |
| Win. H. Tandy, sheriff .....      | Nov. 29, 1837  |
| Wm. H. Tandy, sheriff.....        | Aug. 21, 1838  |
| Jas. M. Hattan, coroner .....     | Aug. 23, 1838  |
| Jno. H. Holton, recorder .....    | Aug. 17, 1839  |
| Joel G. Williams, surveyor.....   | Aug. 17, 1839  |
| Thomas Jasper, sheriff .....      | Aug. 12, 1840  |
| John T. Gilmer, coroner.....      | Aug. 12, 1840  |
| Jonas Grubb, coroner .....        | Aug. 12, 1842  |
| Wm. H. Tandy, sheriff .....       | Aug. 13, 1842  |
| John H. Holton, recorder.....     | Aug. 29, 1843  |
| Thomas H. Williams, surveyor..... | Aug. 29, 1843  |
| James M. Pittman, sheriff .....   | Aug. 12, 1844  |
| L. Frazer, coroner .....          | Aug. 16, 1844  |