

ferry license," which seems to have been one of the popular jokes of that early day. Rathwell, it seems, had bought Stokeley's ferry.

## FIRST MARRIAGE.

The first marriage record in the county is a curiosity, and we copy it "*verbatim et spellatin*," etc:

Missouri State

Lillard county no ye to home it may concern that this 8 day of February 1821 was joined together in the holy estate of marimony James Keeney and Anney Ramsey by me

[“G. M.” stands for gospel minister.] JONATHAN KEENEY, G. M.

During the same year, 1821, the following additional marriages occurred: February 23, George Shelby to Margaret Tunage, by Rev. Martin Trapp; March 15, Wm. Cox to Sary Cantrel, by Rev. Martin Trapp; March 23, Wm. Furgusson to Polly Heard, by Samuel Weston, J. P.; March 15, Robert McAfee to Mary Gladden, by John Heard, J. P.; March 15, Wallace McAfee to Susanna Givens, by John J. Heard, J. P.; April 23, Walter Burrell to Lydia Cox, by J. J. Heard, J. P. This was all in that year.

A total of sixty-one marriages occurred in Lillard county, from the first one, February 8, 1821, till August 5, 1825. But the first marriage recorded as occurring in Lafayette county, after the change from Lillard to Lafayette, was that of Nicholas Turner to Keziah McClure, by Abel Owens, J. P., July 19, 1825. There is some confusion in the records during the period of the change of name from Lillard to Lafayette county. The last marriage, as above noted, is given as occurring in Lafayette county, and yet on November 2, 1825, nearly four months later, Young Ewing signs his name on the record as Clerk of Lillard circuit court. The July term of the circuit court was recorded as in Lillard county, but the November term is recorded as in Lafayette county. No record was made to explain this change of name.

The actual *first* marriage within the present bounds of the county, was that of John Lovelady and Mary Cox, in 1818, before the county was organized, and hence does not appear on the record. [See article headed “History of Dover township.”]

## PREHISTORIC MAN IN LAFAYETTE COUNTY.

Commencing on page 20 of this volume will be found a chapter on the general subject of the prehistoric or Moundbuilder race in Missouri. That chapter rambles all over the state for its data. This article is confined to such relics of those ancient people as we have been able to get knowledge of in Lafayette county.

The writer hereof has identified the site of an ancient or Moundbuilder village near Lexington. It is on the north half of southeast quarter of

section 27, township 51, range 27; the land is known as the old Cromwell place, and is just across a ravine north from Judge A. S. Tutt's place. It was formerly cultivated as a corn field, but has lain fallow for three years past, the old house upon it being decayed and uninhabitable. There is a small orchard near the old house ruins. The ground here for five or six acres is dotted over with flint chips, bits of ancient pottery, and other relics of the Moundbuilder folks. The *Lexington Intelligencer* of June 25, 1881, contained the following local item:

Relics of the prehistoric people or Moundbuilders, who inhabited Missouri before our modern Indians occupied it as their hunting grounds, have been found and published in about twenty different counties of Missouri, but Lafayette county has not received her share of celebrity in this line.

Two of the *Intelligencer* office boys, Frank Lamborn and Ethan Allen, Jr., have specimens of flint arrow-heads and other curious things which they showed to Prof. Reid, of the Missouri historical company, and he listed and named them thus:

Ethan's list: 1 flint drill, 3½ inches long—was used by the ancient people to drill their soapstone and pipestone pipes; also to make holes in other trinkets so as to string them; 4 flint arrow-heads of different sizes, shapes and colors; 1 flesher—an implement made of green-stone, and which was used as a hand wedge or peeler in the process of skinning animals, then as a flesher and rubber in preparing the skins so they would be soft and pliable. This tool weighs just a pound. It was also used to peel bark from trees.

Frank's list consists of 25 arrow and javelin heads, varying from 1½ to 5 inches in length. Five implements which archæologists call shovels; these range from 3¼ to 6½ inches long; 1 flesher; 1 stone ax—a very beautiful specimen, made of a kind of rock called syenite, a species of granite.

Last Monday evening the boys went with Prof. Reid out to a place they called “Indian Hill,” east of the old Masonic college, and there they found great quantities of flint chips, broken arrow heads, fragments of ancient pottery with different styles of ornamentation represented on different pieces; and lastly a part of a tiny copper ax. \* This last is supposed to have been the emblem of authority, kept or worn by the chief. The boys say they used to find pocketsfull of arrow-heads and such things there. The abundance of flint chips, broken pottery, etc., on the ground is said to show that a village was located there, and a manufactory of arrow-heads, flint knives, shovels, stone axes and pottery must have been kept there for some time.

\* On page 20 of this volume it is stated that “they had no knowledge of iron, or any art of smelting copper,” etc. But in Switzler's history of Missouri, page 108, we find this passage: “It has been stated, and often repeated, that they had no knowledge of smelting or casting metals, yet the recent discoveries in Wisconsin of implements of copper cast in molds—as well as the molds themselves, of various patterns, and wrought with much skill—prove that the age of metallurgical arts had dawned in that region, at least.” This was written by A. J. Conant, of the St. Louis Academy of Sciences. The copper specimen found by Prof. Reid at Lexington looks as if it may have been molded, instead of hammered out from the virgin ore.