

Cedar & Vernon County Missouri Genealogical Society

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September 2024 Newsletter©

Society Meeting: Wednesday, 18 Sep 2024.

The Cedar & Vernon Co MO Genealogical Society meeting will be held Wed, Sep 18, 2024, in the Nevada Library Annex, 200 W. Walnut St, Nevada, MO. The doors will open at 9:30 a.m.; the meeting will begin at 10 a.m.



10 a.m., Wednesday, 18 Sep 2024, Nevada Library Annex
Everyone Welcome

Monthly genealogy meeting & program ~ Cedar & Vernon Co Genealogical Society
Email: Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net
Website: <https://Vernon.MOGenWeb.org> For Adults

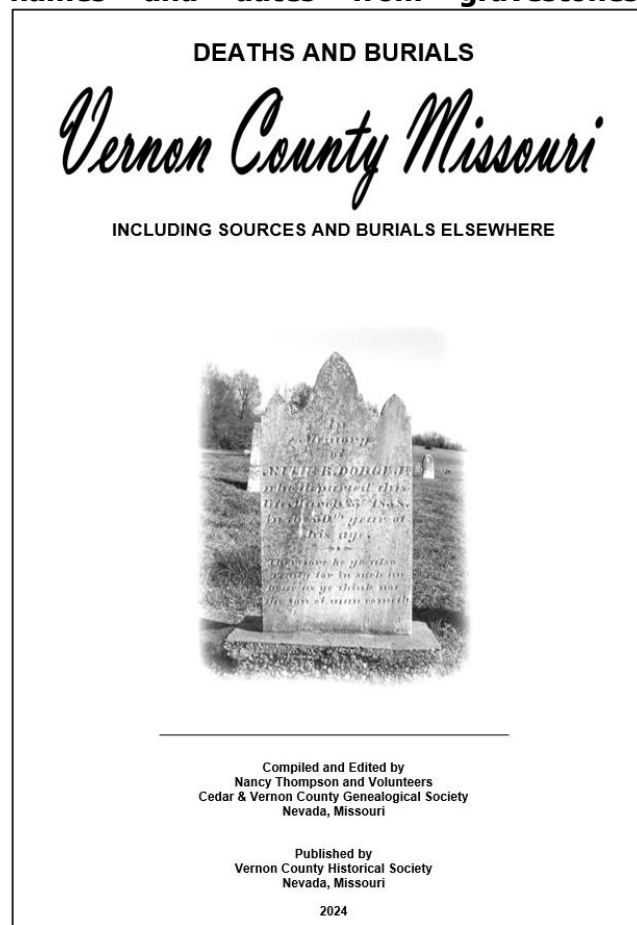
This program will highlight several of the many battles of the Revolutionary War, providing new perspective to your ancestors' support in the struggle for freedom.

There were several different kinds of support which Colonists provided in the war of independence. Did you have ancestors who provided **Military Service** in a state or local militia unit or the Continental Army? Many men provided **Civil Service** by conducting public business under the authority of the new federal, state, county or town governments and displayed evidence of loyalty to the cause of political separation from England. Perhaps your ancestor

provided **Patriotic Service** by demonstrating unflinching loyalty to the cause of American Independence from England by signing a pledge, etc. Whatever your ancestors' service, you can learn more about the individual battles during the Revolutionary War in this program. You may qualify for membership in the [Sons of the American Revolution](#) or the [Daughters of the American Revolution](#) and want to honor your lineage and ancestors in that way.

DEATHS AND BURIALS VERNON COUNTY MISSOURI

INCLUDING SOURCES AND BURIALS ELSEWHERE
The ALL-NEW Vernon County cemetery directory is being published! The 1,563-page, 3-volume set of books will include full names and dates from gravestones,



obituaries, death certificates, and other sources plus names of parents and spouses for many of the more than 72,000 deaths/burials included. Additionally, a source citation for the death/burial information will be included, such as the newspaper and publication date of an obituary and many additional sources. Active cemeteries were re-surveyed, and those listings are in map order to assist in locating specific stones in the cemetery. [A sample page can be seen here.](#)

Publication of this new work has been made possible in part by a 21st Century Fund Grant from the Missouri State Genealogical Association. The Vernon County Historical Society and the Cedar and Vernon County Genealogical Society partnered to update and expand this resource, and many volunteers helped complete this project ~ *Thank you!*

Sale/ordering information coming soon.

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As a follow-up to the August program, the following “simply disappeared” cases are provided by some of our members.

Charles Arlie Ellis Simply Disappeared.

Charles Arlie Ellis was the brother-in-law of the 1st great aunt of a society member. Additionally, he was the brother-in-law of a member's 1st cousin 3x removed. A nephew of Charles Arlie Ellis, now in his 80s, asked that we look for Charles because the family remaining in Missouri did not know what happened to him.

Charles Arlie Ellis was born 15 Nov 1888 in Vernon County, Missouri. His parents were William Ernest Ellis (1863-1933) who was born in Vernon County, Missouri; and his wife, Bertha Ann Grove, (1870-1921) born in Illinois. Charles was the oldest of seven children.

Charles was 11 years old in the 1900 Federal Census, and the family was living on E. Lee Street in Nevada, Missouri. His father was working as a baker.

In 1905 the family was living in Fort Scott, Kansas. Arlie was a 17-year-old student in his parents' household in the Kansas state census.

By 1910 the family has returned to Nevada, Missouri, but Charles was not listed in the

household. He would have been about 22 years old.

This may not be the correct person, but there is a Charles A. Ellis who was a farm laborer in the Chico, Butte County, California 1910 census. His state of birth and that of his parents are given as California. Charles is a lodger in this household, and the person providing information to the census enumerator may not have known the birth locations about a person living in the house.

The 5 Jun 1917 World War I Draft Registration Card for Charles Arlie Ellis, 28 years old, shows that he was born 15 Nov 1888 in Nevada, MO. He was working as a decorator and painter, and his employer was D. C. Huffine of Kansas City, MO. Charles had no dependents, was single, and Caucasian. He did not claim exemption and signed his name "Chas Arlie Ellis." He was medium height, slender build, had blue eyes and brown hair, not bald, and not disabled. His address was 16 Broadway.

No military record was found on www.fold3.com to indicate whether or not Charles Ellis served during WW 1.

A good possibility for Charles was found in the 1920 Denver, Colorado Federal Census where a 34-year-old oil salesman, Arley Ellis, was enumerated as a lodger, white male, single, born MO, parents born MO was listed. Charles Ellis' mother was born in Illinois, but Charles probably would not have been the one who provided information to the census enumerator.

As of this time, the last record found which does appear to be correct for Charles Arlie Ellis is the 1930 Los Angeles County, California Federal Census of the Los Angeles Olive View Sanitarium, a Tuberculosis hospital. This entry reads: ELLIS, Charles A., Lodger, 42 yr old white male, single, b. MO, father b. MO, mother b. IL. Each item is correct in this census for this Charles Arlie Ellis who simply disappeared.

There are Jackson County, Missouri marriage records which show a Charles A. Ellis married a Nettie R. Turner in Jackson County, MO on Jun 27, 1912 and also a Charles A. Ellis who married a Mayme Ewing in Jackson County, MO on Jan 2, 1916. Subsequent records for these two different Charles A. Ellis men prove that neither are the Charles Ellis who was born in Vernon County in 1888. Various other census records were found, and further research showed that they were not the correct Charles Ellis.

Searches in the [California Digital Newspaper Collection](#) provided interesting articles such as “Charles Ellis, Gunman’s Victim, Buried Yesterday In Inglewood” and “Forger Uses Name of Local Man to Swindle on Coast,” but none pertained to the correct Ellis.

Some online family trees have Charles Ellis listed as Arlie Vachard Ellis, born Jan. 20, 1888 in Horton, MO, but no source documents can be found for that second name or date of birth. Could “Arlie” be a nickname for Charles/Charlie rather than a middle name? It is presumed that if a young man was called “Arlie” all of his life, it would be logical he would have listed Arlie on his WW I Draft Registration Card.

Although the next typical step in this research would be to continue looking for a 1940 census and a death index, a small public family tree was uploaded to the internet in hopes of additional records or hints popping up to assist with additional research. As of this time, none have.

Born: Hugh Reed Lyons

Died: John Clarence “Jack” Ryan

Hugh Reed Lyons simply disappeared between 1920 and 1925. He then reappeared as John ‘Jack’ Clarence Ryan.

A timeline was used to track this individual through newspaper items and other records to narrow down both when his name changed and where he may have been at that time.

TIMELINE

- 1903 12 15 Hugh Reed Lyons born to Elmer Lyons and Amanda (Kane) Lyons in Neosho, KS.
- 1914 Elmer & Amanda Kane Lyons family moved to a ranch near Keys, CA.
- 1917 Abt Hugh Lyons sent to AZ for health reasons prior to the U.S. entering WW I in 1918.
- 1920 10 19 H. R. Lyons joined the Marines and was assigned to the USS Idaho
- 1920 11 28 Reed Lyons who has been in Alaska for the past season was home Thanksgiving; Modesto CA Morning Herald newspaper article. Is this Hugh Reed Lyons?
Newspaper article re Quantico Marine School.
- 1925 John Clarence “Jack” Ryan—new name**—worked as a farm hand for Enos Mason of Indian Creek neighborhood, father of Mary Mason whom he later married.

- 1925 11 20 John C. Ryan worked for a company building the railroad bridge east of the river; newspaper wedding announcement.
- 1925 11 17 Jack Ryan and Mary Mason were married in Woodward Co, OK.
- 1963 01 17 John Clarence “Jack” Ryan died and was buried in Turlock, California.

All of his children were born surname RYAN. It was several years later before his adult children learned of his birth name Hugh Reed Lyons.

Ryan descendants who have tested DNA, match known Lyons descendants. Additional research in DNA databases will be conducted after building out broader trees for the descendants of Hugh Reed Lyons aka John Clarence “Jack” Ryan.

Why did Hugh Reed Lyons change his name? Was he in trouble with law enforcement? Did he go AWOL from the Marines? What is the next logical research step in this mystery?

Please send details of your family member who disappeared to the newsletter editor for future publication Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net.

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Cedar County, Missouri Marriage Record Microfilm. The marriage record microfilm which the Genealogical Society purchased a few years ago and donated to the El Dorado Springs, MO public library has been returned to the Society. Published resources from the library were given to the Society earlier this year. An inquiry has been made regarding the local newspaper microfilm which the El Dorado Springs Library still retains. Neither the microfilm nor the microfilm machine are available at the El Do Library at this time for patron use. The Society may be interested in purchasing the film and film cabinet if they will be for sale. Our thanks to member Lynda B. for following up on this matter.

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Who Are YOU Researching? Would you like to share some of your family history research with society members? Members are invited to submit articles about their research for publication in a future issue of the newsletter. If you have an **Historic or Family Picture and Story** that you would like to share in a future newsletter, please email the picture and story to the society at Cedar.VernonCoMO@centurytel.net

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Newspaper Articles

FROM VERNON COUNTY.

NEVADA, Mo.,
July 6th, 1871.

Messrs. Editors:

By request of a mutual friend of ours we have been induced to give you and the readers of the TRIBUNE a few items from this section, which may prove acceptable to some, and the first of all we have to chronicle is, that the Glorious Old Fourth was duly celebrated in our place by an old-fashion barbecue. At an early hour on the Fourth the people commenced flocking in from the surrounding country by scores, and by 10 o'clock A.M. the Public square was literally alive with the beauty and chivalry of our county, flanked by the appearance of many stalwart forms of prairie yeomen. A procession was formed under the charge of C. O. Grave and Joseph Harding, Marshals of the day. The Nevada silver cornet band, heading the procession with their beautiful chariot, discoursed martial music; next came a noticeable feature, and the great Ku-klux Investigating Committee of Congress ought to have seen the same, for it might have quieted their nerves, for it was no less than that Col. D. C. Hunter, ex-rebel, who, under Old Pap and the gallant Joe Shelby with the gallantry of the chivalric Knights of old, carried the Southern Cross off into the hottest of the fray, carried the stars and stripes. In connection with this, we must give the Col's reasons for doing so, in his own words that it was his flag; the flag of his country, America, and that he was as loyal as any man; that he was taught in his youth to worship that flag, and that he had fought that flag with all the vim that partisan rancor could command and he surrendered to it, it became his flag, and that the 4th of July belonged to no one party or section, but to America, and that all have an equal right to the 4th of July and the grand old flag, which no true man can deny, or traduce the chivalry of either the living or the dead, it makes no difference on which side they fought as they were all sincere and all were Americans and all their acts were part and parcel of the history of the American people. The Colonel was followed by 38 young ladies and Misses, dressed in white, each representing a bright star in the galaxy of our glorious Union, then came the various public officers of the county and town followed by a large concourse of people on foot, horseback and in

carriages, wended their way to the new Fair Grounds where a stand and seats had been prepared for the occasion. After the audience was seated Judge Gray introduced elder W. I. Mountjoy, who addressed an impressive prayer to the throne of Grace. The reading of the Declaration of Independence was premised by a few brief and pertinent remarks from S. H. Claypool, Esq., who read the declaration, afterwards James B. Johnson, formerly of Louisiana, Mo., delivered a thrilling and eloquent oration. He was followed by W. I. Stone, another talented young member of our bar who premised his oration by humorous remarks of his boyish enthusiasm in delivering his first oration on a previous occasion which created considerable merriment. His oration, though not so eloquent in the declamatory style as Mr. Johnson's was a great effort and betrayed the clear thinker and deep reasoner. His theme was mostly on the evils of the individual worship of party, the blind zeal of faction arising from the same, and upon the duties of citizens. Both of these young gents favorably impressed the entire audience and made certainly their marks on this occasion.

A patriotic poem was delivered by mine host, John Dermott, of the Nevada House. The delivery of the poem was enthusiastically applauded; and whilst endeavoring to do justice to the orators of the day, we must not omit to mention the Nevada Glee Club, which alternately assisted the band in discoursing sweet notes of music. The Club is composed of musical amateurs, ladies and gents, who did fine singing indeed. It was quite a treat to all lovers of good music to hear the reverberations of the music by the Club echoed in silvery cadences beneath the o'er-hanging dome of oaken foliage, and lost as it were enchantingly in the mazes shades of the surrounding woods. In fact, without jesting, Nevada can boast of more musical talents and appreciation than any town of its size in the State. The audience then repaired to the table and did ample justice to the luscious barbecued meats, prepared under the superintendence of our eccentric friend, Maj. Craft.

The dinner was simple and plain, consisted of good meat, tender, juicy, well done and good bread, and plenty for all; after dinner the audience returned to the stand where Col. Davis, lately of Kirksville, Mo., but now a resident of our place,

was introduced to the audience. Col. D. was, we learn, a gallant ex-Reb., and followed the fortunes of Gen. Price in the late unpleasantness, made some eloquent and patriotic remarks, and the procession was reformed and marched back again to the public square, where a humorous race was gotten up by some wags; a wheelbarrow race, with the parties doing its honors securely blindfolded. Some seven or eight competitors entered in the list, and all started off in fine style at the taps of the drum, but soon the competitors described in their course every imaginable line ever known to the student of Geometry from the tangens, to the zig zag of a worm fence, and the ludicrous mistakes of the competitors created considerable merriment and laughter, and only two of the parties succeeded in reaching the place of starting, when the crowd dispersed for a while. At twilight 38 rounds were fired from a home-made cannon, which sent its thunders echoing far out o'er the prairies, which was followed by fire works and fire crackers, and a ball at the Court House, and a supper at Wade's Hall for the benefit of the Orphans' Home at Kansas City, which we believe was liberally patronized, wound up the day.

It was generally estimated that over 3,500 persons were upon the grounds, and we are happy to say, that no accident occurred, nor anything unpleasant to mar in the least the occasion the entire day.

Radicals, Democrats and stern ex-Rebs. all joined cordially in celebrating the day and to add zest to the festivities, forgetting in the enjoyments of the hour, all past differences and prejudices, burying all animosities, gathering fraternally, as it were, around the altar of Liberty, to renew as of yore, the vows of patriotism. To a true lover of his Country, such a scene as was presented on this occasion, this cordial union of all antagonistic parties in celebrating our national Jubilee, was cheering in its character; giving hope that the grand experiment of Republican Government, was not yet wholly a failure, as some wise one would gladly prophesy, and we hope that many such scenes will grace each returning Anniversary of our National Independence for centuries to come, North, East, South and West.

Our thriving town is still giving evidences of life and improvements. A large brick business house is being erected on the northeast corner of the public square, by some gentlemen late of Illinois. Several residences are also going up gradually

assuming shape and form. The Baptist denomination have the foundation wall of their church done, and will soon commence laying the brick. It will be a neat edifice when completed. The Southern Methodists have completed theirs, and it is quite large and spacious. The Episcopalians have also built a neat church though not quite finished, is still used for services. They have a neat and fine toned organ to add attraction to their service, and they will soon have a large bell to call their people to service. Our Christian Friends, who are the leading church in point of numbers, are making preparations to build a fine church, and it has been the wonder of many why they have not built before. Our Presbyterian friends of the old Missouri Synod, are also contemplating the erection of a house of worship. We have no less than eight religious organizations in our place, and we think our town will compare favorably with any other town of its size in the State in that respect.

The County Court at its last session did quite an amount of business in the way of substantial improvements, by letting out contracts for two bridges, one over Clear creek, and one over the Little Osage, also in addition let out the contract for the building of a new jail house and Sheriff's residence, at the cost of \$10,000 dollars, which will doubtless be soon under way.

Our people are quite jubilant over the prospect of the Laclede & Fort Scott Railroad being rapidly pushed to completion. This line, when built to its ultimate destination, reaching from Ocean to Ocean, will place us on a great thoroughfare which must enure considerably to our benefit, and in addition, the M. K. & T. Railway being already built, and reaching far down in the Indian Territory, and ere many months will be completed to the Queen City of the Lone Star, Galveston, also adds greatly to our prospects, and Nevada, being at the junction of these two great thoroughfares, must necessarily be a place of some importance. Also, we have every assurance that we will have another Road coming from Northward, and perhaps two, the Louisiana, Lexington and Gulf Road, and the Kansas City, Arkansas and Gulf Road. The latter Road has had its claims pressed very energetically upon our people of late, by its active President, Col. I. D. Williams of Kansas City, and whenever it becomes necessary to take hold our people will be on hand quite lively. So with all these thoroughfares concentrating here, as it were, can but make Nevada the Grand

Railroad centre of the glorious Southwest. It requires no visions of prophecy to foresee that by another decade Nevada will be a respectable city, looming up in the thousands. Our people are awakening up to the great importance of erecting some Manufacturing establishments of importance here, and it needs but some leading spirit to prompt the movement and give shape and action to the general desire, and we do not believe that any other town of its size offers more and better inducements for Capitalists, Merchants and Manufactories than Nevada, and it is an excellent point for either a Woolen Mill, Foundry or an Agricultural Implement factory on a large scale; and from the characteristic liberality of our citizens, we are fully convinced that any party having experience and capital desirous of establishing such in our place, will be ably seconded in their efforts by our citizens.

We have had so far this season an abundance of fine rains, and our crop prospects are most excellent, giving the lie to croaking prediction, that ours was a drouthy country. Wheat crops have turned out far better than generally anticipated, notwithstanding the partial drawbacks in some localities of chinch bugs and rust. In fact, we have an over average crop of wheat and a larger area sown by fifty per cent over any former year. New wheat has been coming in to market for some days past, some of which is purchased at our Merchant Mill, ably managed by its proprietors, Eddlemon & Co., a great deal is bought by various parties and shipped to St. Louis by Rail. Corn is looking fine, indeed it could scarce look better. Vegetables and potatoes are all doing fine. So with bountiful crops and our great Railroad prospects ahead, we can but expect a heavy emigration this fall.

More anon.

Yours,
B. B.

The People's Tribune, Jefferson City, MO; Wed 19 July 1871, page 2. Downloaded Feb 26, 2021. <https://shsmo.newspapers.com/image/666978190/>

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NINETY YEARS SEES

GREAT CHANGES IN LIFE

Many Friends Help Mrs. Wells Celebrate Birthday Friday.

More than a hundred friends gathered at the home of Mrs. B. J. Dickerson, 402 North Main street, Friday evening to honor the ninetieth birthday of her mother, Mrs. Susan Wells.

Many messages of congratulations were also received and the rooms were transformed into a veritable bower by the profusion of flowers sent by a multitude of friends.

Mrs. Wells, a most remarkable woman both physically and mentally, shows very little the passing of the years, and she has indeed learned the art of growing old gracefully.

She manifests a keen interest in all current affairs, both local and national.

Mrs. Wells came to Missouri with her husband in the fall of 1870, making the trip in a covered wagon, taking three weeks for the journey.

At that time there was no bridge across the Mississippi river, so they traveled from St. Louis to Boonville on a ferry boat.

They settled in Bates county on a timbered farm four miles from Butler.

The young husband built a one-room cabin from the sturdy oak land, and thus a home in almost a wilderness was established. Hardships and disappointments were bravely met by the young couple and in time their efforts were rewarded with a measure of prosperity.

Cattle raising was a great industry in that period of this section's history and each owner branded his stock with his initials to graze where they pleased.

Mr. Wells engaged in freighting, driving a big wagon and team from Butler, then a small trading point, to Pleasant Hill, the nearest railroad terminal.

During the night when the young wife was often alone while her husband was compelled to be away on one of his trips, stray cattle and coyotes coming close to the cabin struck terror to her heart.

The road to the county seat was as straight as the flight of a crow, no section corners to mark the distance.

An appalling experience Mrs. Wells relates was the coming of the grasshoppers in the fall of the early eighties. They came like a snow-storm and were in such numbers as to darken the sky, obscuring the sun, and when they descended upon a field they devoured every green thing. A field of wheat was left as bare as newly plowed ground after a visit of the grasshoppers. They left as suddenly and as mysteriously as they came.

A great grief to Mr. and Mrs. Wells came when they lost a little babe of two and a half years. In 1903 Mr. Wells passed away.

Mrs. Wells recalls her early life in Ohio, where in her parent's home on a farm, the spare bedroom was always kept in readiness for the circuit rider.

The Sabbath began at sundown Saturday evening and before that time preparations for the day had been made. Stacks of pies and cakes were baked and the "Sunday clothes" all made ready.

It is indeed interesting to note the changes that one sees in the span of ninety years. She has seen the covered wagon replaced by the automobile and aeroplane, all the wonders wrought by electricity, and the modern miracle home in contrast to the rude log cabin.

But in the early day there were many compensations and love and faith were just as strong, and characters fine and true builded from the many adversities endured.

The friends of Mrs. Wells find in her life a constant source of inspiration and it is their earnest wish that she may celebrate many more birthdays.

Southwest Mail and The Weekly Post, Nevada, Missouri; Friday 6 July 1934, page 2. Downloaded 22 May 2023.
<https://shsmo.newspapers.com/image/589222133/>

Editor's. Note: The Vernon County Missouri Death Certificate for Susan E. Wells shows that she was born 30 Jun 1844 and died 5 Jan 1940. Her husband was James M. Wells, and her parents were Gabriel Mose and Mary E. Earheart Mose. Burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Butler, Missouri.

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Wm. B. Hawkins, of Vernon Co., Mo., is visiting with his relatives, A. H. Brooking and family.

The Macomb Journal, Macomb, Illinois; Thursday 1 April 1880, page 5. Downloaded 30 Aug 2023.
<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/756205915>

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From Missouri.

Messrs. John A. Lefever and J. N. Madden, of Friends Creek township, who had just returned from a three weeks' trip to Southwestern Missouri, paid us a short call. The first named bought an improved farm near Nevada, Vernon county, to which he will remove. Both are loud in their praises of the country and its productions, among which they particularly mentioned the splendid

fruit, samples of which they brought with them. The peaches they left on our table are certainly finer than any we have seen this year.

The Decatur Weekly Republican, Decatur, Illinois; 12 and 17 Aug 1882. Downloaded 11 Aug 2023.
<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/7151892>

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"Bullet" Kimball was arrested on the south side of the square yesterday afternoon, for fighting with a young woman whose name the NOTICER reporter was unable to learn. He asked the woman to walk with him, which she refused to do, whereupon Kimball said he would make her and gave her a "chug" under the jaw. The woman got her "dukes" up and returned the blow. Just as the "scrap" began to get interesting Deputy Constable Lucas came along and marched Kimball off to the city bastille.

Nevada Noticer (Nevada, Missouri); Thu, Mar 27, 1890, page 3. Downloaded on Jul 6, 2024.
<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/587615431/>

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--Michael Pemberton and wife, of Nevada, Vernon county, Mo., have sold 160 acres in Arrowsmith [Illinois] to Alphaus H. Webber, of that town for \$8,000. Mr. Webber has also bought lot 1, block 4, in Arrowsmith, assuming a mortgage of \$140 on the same.

The Pantagraph (Bloomington, Illinois); Tue, Mar 21, 1882, page 1. Downloaded Aug 11, 2023.
<https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/69126483>

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This newsletter is published by the Cedar & Vernon County Missouri Genealogical Society, a 501(c)(3) organization. 2024 Society officers are

- President, Valo J.
- Vice President, Nancy T.
- Recording Secretary, Lynda B.
- Treasurer, Marty P.
- Newsletter Editor & Webmaster, Nancy T.

Calendar year Society Dues are \$10 per person (\$15 per couple in same household) and can be mailed to:

- Cedar & Vernon Co MO Gen Soc
- Attn: Membership
- 218 W. Walnut St.
- Nevada, MO 64772

Dues received Sep-Dec include the following year's membership. The monthly emailed newsletter and free lookups in the new cemetery database are benefits of membership.

Thank You for your membership in support of the work of the Genealogical Society