



**JONATHAN P. MARTIN (1799-1854)**

Pioneer official of Cole and Moniteau Counties. Through the courtesy of his grandson, N. C. Hickeox, we have made this reproduction of an original painting by George Caleb Bingham.

# A History of Moniteau County

Missouri

By J. E. Ford

ILLUSTRATED

( See index and table of contents back pages )

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daughter of Don Cook, a leading citizen of his community, the son of Nelson Cook.

Nelson Cook, a native of North Carolina came to Louisville, Kentucky in early life, graduated at Louisville University, taught, married there, and came to Missouri after the birth of his first child, being one of the pioneer settlers of western Moniteau county, and a county judge prior to the Civil War. (See E. G. Crawford, Chapter XVI) Nelson Cook died in 1861. Don Diego Columbus Cook was born in this county March 19, 1838. He lived on the farm until thirty years old when he moved to Tipton where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a Union soldier, a leader in the Republican party. He was married in 1865, (December 30,) to Martha E. Sousley to whom three children were born; Melissa Ann, (February 19, 1867), William Shockey and Walter Scott Cook. Dr. Robertson's full name is his grandfather's, Don Diego Columbus Cook Robertson.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Robertson's other children are Pearl Louise, now deceased, married Harry Henritz, and Lora Ellen who married Estel G. Crawford, (Chapter XVI).

William Robertson, paternal grandfather of Dr. Robertson, was born at Charleston, West Virginia, February 15, 1818. After graduating at Virginia University he came to Missouri with his parents who brought with them twenty-five slaves, and bought a section of land. He taught school for a time, was a merchant in the city of California, then moved to a farm near Clarksburg. He became a Baptist minister, following the ministry until his death in 1896. He married Rhoda Stephens, who died in 1889.

When Dr. Robertson was a year and a half old his parents moved to Tipton where his boyhood years were spent. He graduated in high school in 1923 and that fall entered the state university to pursue the study of medicine. He was laboratory assistant in botany 1925-6, entering the department of medicine in 1926. He became a member of the Alpha Kappa Kappa medical fraternity in 1927 and that year received the Bachelor of Arts degree and was

awarded the Jackson fellowship in anatomy. He was research assistant and assistant instructor in anatomy in the state university from 1927 to 1929, receiving the A. M. degree and scholastic honors in 1929. He entered Washington University medical school at St. Louis in that year, where he was assistant in surgery at the medical school and was in 1930-31 externed at Shriners Hospital. He became an interne in the Henry Ford hospital, Detroit, in 1931. In 1932 he was assistant resident in medicine. He became assistant resident surgeon in 1933 and chief resident surgeon in 1936.

#### Dr. J. M. Robertson

J. M. Robertson was born on a farm three miles southeast of Latham on November 10, 1853. After a long life devoted to the service of his neighbors he died in that town, widely known and well beloved, December 11, 1935.

John Madison Robertson was the son of James Robertson who was born in this county in 1826 and died in 1880. He was a farmer and stock grower. His wife was Martha C. Belche of Miller County, Mo., born 1832, died 1858. James was the son of William Robertson and brother of Judge N. J. Robertson (Chapter XIV). William Robertson was a leader among the pioneer citizens, and a colonel in the state militia; an elder in the Christian church, and a Democrat. He was a native of Kentucky, and died in 1885. William was a son of David Robertson who emigrated from Scotland when fourteen years old and located in Kentucky. He lived to the age of one hundred and five years.

Dr. Robertson was married July 8, 1879, to Miss Martha Miriam Latham, daughter of Francis A. and Sarah Ann Dunlap Latham. (See sketch of Dr. L. L. Latham). She was born April 14, 1859. Doctor and Mrs. Robertson have had five daughters; Virginia, Amanda Grace and Mattie, deceased; Matilda a graduate of Bunceton High School, a student at William Woods College, now X-ray technician

and office assistant at Latham Sanitarium; Mildred John, now Mrs. Herman Garnett graduated from Bunceton High School, William Woods College and Michael Reese Training School for nurses. She did private and institutional nursing and the six years prior to her marriage were spent at the Latham Sanitarium.

In his boyhood J. M. Robertson attended a subscription school taught by William Clark in a crude log house with backless, split log seats, where marks in front of the door indicated the time as the shadows moved with sun. Tuition was five cents a day. He afterwards attended the old Elliott school. He assisted on the farm until his twenty-fourth year. In 1877 he entered the office of Dr. Henry Latham, at Latham, whose sister he afterwards married, to take up the study of medicine. That fall he entered the St. Louis Medical College, graduating in 1879 when he began the practice of medicine which he continued for fifty-six years.

He moved from Latham to Decatur, Cole County, in 1881 then back to Latham in 1882 where he remained until 1906 when he located at Bunceton where he practiced until 1914. From Bunceton he went back to Latham where he remained until his death. Doctor Robertson responded to calls for his services to within a few weeks of the end of his life. When feebleness due to age made it impossible for him to make calls, people in the vicinity of Latham would come to his home and take him to their own where he would attend the patient.

### Judge J. S. Robertson

Joseph Savage Robertson, presiding judge of the county court, lives on Highway 87 two miles south from the court house. He was born in this county September 7, 1866, the son of Newton Jasper and Catherine Russell Robertson. N. J. was the son of William Robertson. (See sketch of Dr. J. M. Robertson). N. J. Robertson was born east of Rus-

sellville September 7, 1840. He lived for considerable time on a farm northwest of High Point, and later moved to Clarksburg where he went into the mercantile business in 1884. This he ran eleven years, then moved to a farm west of Enon, on which he died, June 5, 1912. He was a charter member of the Union Christian Church, organized in 1866. He served four years as district judge and four years as presiding judge of the county court. He was a friend of education and of temperance, once remarking while in office that he never missed an opportunity to open a school or close a saloon.

N. J. Robertson was married in 1862 to Catherine Russell, born in Cole County in 1844, daughter of Joseph and Jane Russell. The town of Russellville was named for Joseph Russell who was its first merchant. Mrs. Robertson died at her home at Enon in her ninetieth year.

May 22, 1880, J. S. Robertson was married to Miss Ruth L. Stewart, daughter of Doctor and Mrs. J. D. Stewart of Clarksburg. Dr. Stewart, born in Ohio in 1838, served through the Civil War with the First Ohio Cavalry. He came to Clarksburg in 1867 where he engaged in the practice of medicine. He died March 17, 1911. He was married in 1866 to Elizabeth Fordyce, also a native of Ohio. She was born in 1841 and died in 1915.

Judge and Mrs. Robertson have ten children and fourteen grandchildren. The children are Mrs. Alma (Roy) Reavis of Otterville; Mrs. Ada (Wm.) Howard of Nevada; Mrs. Blanche (F. H.) Keck of Okmulgee, Okla.; Mrs. Mary (Howard) Gist of California; Mrs. Paul Hoffstetter of Chicago; Mrs. Mildred (John) Bayne of Chicago; John J. of Kissimee, Florida; Mrs. Ruth (George) Fulks of Latham; Lank S on a farm south of California and Willard R. at home.

Save for assisting his father in the store at Clarksburg Judge Robertson has farmed all his life. He is a member of the old Union Christian Church in which he has been an elder since the death of his father. He is interested in all

civic activities, and is a Republican in politics. He has served two years as district judge of the county court and at the conclusion of his present term will have served twelve years as presiding judge, a record unique in Moniteau County.

#### **Rev. W. H. Schwab**

Walter Henry Schwab, pastor of California Lutheran Church is a native of Jackson, Missouri, where he was born August 5, 1901. His father, R. R. Schwab, died in 1909. His mother, who before her marriage was Miss Ida Beetling, is yet living. Mr. Schwab's wife was formerly Miss Hulda Bender of Sedalia. They have one child, Jerome Tobias, aged six.

Mr. Schwab attended the Lutheran parochial school at Cape Girardeau. Deciding to study for the Lutheran ministry, he entered St. Paul's College in 1914, completing the course in 1920. He entered Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1920, and after devoting two years to practice work in Wichita Falls, Texas, completed the seminary course in 1925. On graduating he was given a call to become missionary in India but found it necessary to decline. He then accepted a charge at Slater where he served eight years, coming to the church at California in 1933.

#### **Oscar J. Schmidt**

Peter Joseph and Elizabeth Koechner Schmidt settled on a farm three miles west of the present site of Tipton in about 1848 or 1850. They were the paternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch.

One of their sons, William C. Schmidt, was born on this farm in 1859. In 1892 Mr. Schmidt was married to Miss Christina Sommerhauser, who came with her parents from Cologne Germany in 1881.

These, then, were the parents of Oscar J. Schmidt. He



REV. W. H. SCHWAB