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**Remembers The Grant Episode:**

W. O. L. Jewett, after reading the address made by Judge Drain before the Kirksville students' historical expedition, write to Mr. Drain some added information with regard to the time when General U. S. Grant was stationed in Shelby County.

"You quote what Gen. U. S. Grant said to Russell Moss;" Mrs. Jewett heard him say to her mother, Mrs. John Cox. "If we thought this was was to free the niggers, I and every man in my regiment would go to the other side." This shows how rapidly opinions change, especially in war times. No doubt such was then the honest opinion of Grant and many other soldiers, but before the fight was over, they were for emancipation, and Grand and other were for giving them the ballot.

I have seen that block house and been in it many times. At the beginning of the conflict in '61, some rough, drunken soldiers were there to defend the bridge. One Sunday they shot three young men, good citizens of Monroe County, southeast of the bridge. Those soldiers were taken away, and Col. Grant and his regiment was sent from Quincy to guard the bridge. Some of the drunken soldiers had threatened to burn every house within ten miles of the railroad. This alarmed the citizens and they fled south into Monroe County. Mr. Cox took his family away. Grant sent word for all to come back as he was there to protect them. He sent a special invitation to Mr. Cox to come to the camp to see him. Mr. and Mrs. Cox took Ella, (Mrs. Jewett) then about 10 and went down there. Ella sat beside Col. Grant as he talked and heard the statement quoted.

In Grant's Memoirs, he tells about being at the bridge and being ordered to break up a rebel camp near Florida. Says he obeyed orders with fear and trembling as he had no knowledge of the strength or preparedness of the enemy. He crept carefully up to the camp, but the rebs, like the Arab, had silently folded their tents and departed. He said this helped him through the war to realize the enemy was as much afraid of him as he was of them.

Yours Truly,  
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