

Benjamin Story

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connected to a bell in the kitchen, to summons the servants. In order to determine the location of the ringer, there were separate bells for each room. One of the interesting stories told by Mr. Jones concerns these bells. It seems that the several grandchildren of the Carmichaels would go into a separate room and simultaneously ring the bell for that room. This was calculated to drive their grandmother to distraction.

The woodwork throughout the entire house is of solid walnut. Even in the basement, where the floors are dirt, one finds these thick solid walnut door facings.

The water system of the house was very elaborate. There were two wells, one on the northwest corner of the house and the other on the southwest corner. The water was pumped to the third floor into a lead-lined tank. Then the water was piped to the various rooms and bathrooms. It might be noted here that the house had both out-

door and in-door toilet facilities. Incidentally, the lead-lined water storage tank, which was a rather large affair, made a good swimming pool.

The light fixtures were carved brass. They hung from the ceiling of each room by long chains. Around the location where the light chains attached to the ceiling are ornate plaster designs.

The Out-Buildings

There were several out-buildings. A barn, a chicken house, a smoke house, a greenhouse and an out-door toilet. All these out-buildings were of the same architectural style as the main house, square with a cupola atop.

The greenhouse was on the south side of the house and the smoke house and the chicken house were to the west, although their location isn't definite. These buildings were frame.

The barn was located on the northwest of the house. This building, as was also the out-door toilet, was constructed of brick. It contained not only stables for the horses and a loft, in which to store hay, but also living quarters for a groom.

The out-door toilet was a small building, of course, but had the ever present cupola. The toilet seats were walnut with solid walnut covers. It contained three seats for adults and one seat, about one-half as high, for a child. On one occasion a colored woman came to work for Mrs. Carmichael and knowing that the Colonel had been buried in the yard, supposed that the brick edifice, which was the toilet, was a monument to the Colonel. She felt called upon to say, "Thar lies the Ol' Culnel." Mrs. Carmichael hastened to inform her that the "Ol' Culnel" never lay there.

This house, perhaps not the largest of southern mansion style homes, none the less suggestive of cordial hospitality and gracious living, while still maintaining its dignity and pomp.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CITY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual election for the City of Shelbina, Missouri, will be held on

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 1956

Mayor — to serve for the regular term of two years.

Marshal and ex-officio collector for the regular term of two years.

Police Judge — for the regular term of two years.

One Alderman from Ward No. 1 or West Ward to serve for the regular term of two years.

One Alderman from Ward No. 2 or East Ward to serve for the regular term of two years.

One Alderman from Ward No. 2 or East Ward to fill the unexpired term of one year for Alderman Frank Erwin.

The voting place in each of the wards of said city on said

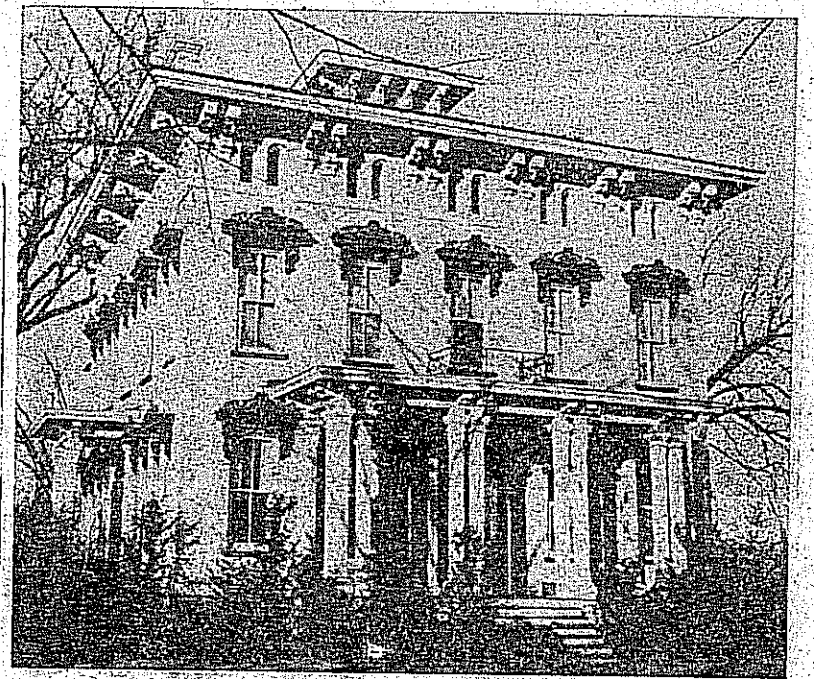
as follows:

Outdoor Toilet Is Mistaken for Monument to Dead

(Editor's note: This is the last installment of a series of articles on the Benjamin house written by Noel Clark of Tipton, as part of a history course at Central College at Fayette.)

Inside the house the floor was carpeted from wall to wall. There was not an uncarpeted floor on the first or second floors. This original carpeting was cream with a rose design in it.

In every room is a fireplace. These fireplaces are not constructed of identical materials, for example, the fireplace in the parlor is of White Italian Marble, and the fireplace in the dining room is of black marble. Some have huge mirrors over the mantle, and each one had a clock on the mantle, the case of which was constructed of the same material as the mantle. Every bedroom in the house,



plus a few other rooms, has its own wash basin. These wash basins are made of marble to match the fireplace in the particular room. The plumbing fixtures are sterling silver.

Throughout the house were numerous oil paintings. These paintings, although not great masters, were expensive and very beautiful. In each room was a knob that

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