

SKETCH OF ST. LOUIS

The site on which St. Louis stands was selected, as far back as 1763, by Mons. LACLEDE, and in the following year the town was laid out and named St. Louis, in honor of Louis XV, the reigning monarch of France, who claimed the whole territory then designated by the name of Louisiana. The advantages of its situation soon attracted attention, and in the year after its settlement the French commandant, St. Ange, arrived at St. Louis, and the town became the capital of Louisiana, and so continued until the transfer of that territory to the U. States.

Up to the time when steam boats were used in the navigation of the western waters, St. Louis, although the most important point on the Mississippi river above the mouth of the Ohio, was comparatively an inconsiderable town. Before that time navigation was carried on by means of keel boats and barges, and great delays in intercommunication by water necessarily took place. In 1817 the first steam boat, was seen at St. Louis, the General Pike. From that time the progress of St. Louis has been steady and uniform. No city in the west has advanced more surely, although some have been more rapid in their development. Her commercial and mercantile operations have been based on the solid capital, and not less solid integrity of her citizens; and have received an impulse from the unquestionable fact, that there is on the Mississippi, above the mouth of the Ohio, no spot where a city could be located with so many advantages in its favor, as St. Louis. It is consequently, now, and must continue to be, the most important point in the vast region which surrounds it. To it Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, a large part of Illinois, and a portion of Arkansas, already look for a market, and there is no reason to suppose that its claims, in that respect, can be superceded to any extent by any place which may hereafter spring up.

The growth of St. Louis until within the last seven years was comparatively slow. In 1810, forty-six years after its establishment, its population was only 700. In 1820 it was about 2,000; at 1830, 6,252. But little increase upon this took place until 1834, when a flow of emigration commenced, which has steadily continued to this time. Its population, within the corporate limits, (which are very confined) is 16,291. The suburbs, which are in fact a part of the city, have a population of 6,349, making a total of 22,640, and an increase in ten years of 16,288, or more than 250 per cent. It is not unreasonable to suppose, that, at the end of another ten years, the city will number between 40,000 and 50,000 inhabitants, and will take rank among the first cities of the Union.

St. Louis is peculiarly a commercial city. The attention of her people has been but partially directed to manufactures until recently, when the public mind seems to be turned towards them. The commercial relations of the city are extended over the entire west, and it will not be considered exaggerative, or more than what is admitted by all who visit it, that St. Louis must, at no distant day, be the commercial emporium of the valley of the Mississippi. In the year 1839 there were 1,476 steamboat arrivals at St. Louis, and the amount of tonnage was 213,103. In 1840 the arrivals were 1721, and the tonnage 244,185. The increase has taken place in spite of the unfortunate state of moneyed affairs over the whole country.

St. Louis has two Iron Foundries, conducted on a large scale, which annually turn out a very large amount of castings, both for home consumption and for export. There are, besides, two White Lead Mills, a Type Foundry, a Sugar Refinery, two Planing Machines, nine Saw Mills, which annually produce lumber to the amount of about \$170,000, and two steam and one water Flouring Mills, which annually consume about 175,000 bushels of wheat, producing about

35,000 barrels of flour. In addition to these, there is about to be established a Bagging and Bale Rope Factory. The advantages of St. Louis for an establishment of this kind are very great, and the concern, if prudently managed, cannot fail to be profitable. The manufactures of St. Louis are, however, on a limited scale, and some years will be required to increase and extend them in any very considerable degree.

The literary institutions of St. Louis are the St. Louis University, under the charge of Jesuits; Kemper College (Episcopal); the St. Louis Lyceum, and the Mechanics' Institute. The first named has been established for some years, and is in a highly-flourishing condition. Kemper College was more recently established, but has been very successful. The two others are actively useful, and present each during the winter a course of lectures on literary subjects, by gentlemen of ability.

In addition to these, there has been established during the past year a Medical College which bids fair to be permanent. It is a branch of Kemper College, and has a faculty of able professors, who seem very solicitous for the welfare of the institution. By the individual efforts of Professor McDowell, from whom the project for the establishment of the school proceeded, a hall, for the use of the Faculty, was erected during the past year in a conspicuous and advantageous position. The amphitheatre for lectures will contain four hundred persons. Great credit is due to Professor McDowell, for the energy and perseverance displayed by him in carrying out this laudable undertaking.

The Western Academy of Natural Sciences is an institution which was established in 1837, by a few scientific gentlemen. It has been and is likely to be sustained by their praiseworthy efforts, and to give an impulse to the cause of science in the city.

During the last few years, the cause of education has received more attention than formerly. Schools have been multiplied, under the care of competent teachers. The Directors of the Public Schools have erected two capacious and substantial school houses, in which between two and three hundred scholars are taught by respectable and efficient teachers. It is in contemplation soon to put up additional school houses, and to increase the number as the means of the board of directors will enable them to do so.

There are thirteen Churches in the city, some of which are of considerable architectural beauty. There are two Roman Catholic, two Episcopal, two Presbyterian, one Associate Reformed Presbyterian, one Methodist, one Unitarian, one Baptist, one German Lutheran, and two African Churches.

St. Louis supports six daily papers and one weekly paper. Of the daily papers five are political, and one neutral in politics. They are all edited with ability, and all well supported.

Much complaint has been heretofore made against the hotels of St. Louis. All cause of complaint on this point will soon be removed. A new and splendid hotel, surpassed by few in the country in dimensions and convenience, and to be called Lucas House, is about to be finished and leased to two enterprising gentlemen, who will doubtless afford every comfort which the traveller can desire.

The public and private buildings of St. Louis, which have been erected within the last few years, give evidence of much taste and munificence. The Roman Catholic Cathedral, the Episcopal and Second Presbyterian Churches, and the Hotel, are beautiful and imposing specimens of architecture. The new Courthouse, now in progress of erection, will be a splendid building, which would be creditable to any city in the country. In addition to these ornamental

public works, the city is interspersed with private residences and warehouses, which present striking specimens of costly, handsome and durable architecture.

There is much in the steady, onward progress of St. Louis to gratify all who feel an interest in her prosperity. Her advance in population, wealth, and importance, has been somewhat retarded by the commercial difficulties under which the whole country has labored for some years past, but has not been stopped. It is indeed difficult to imagine a state of things which could arrest it. A city, situated as St. Louis is, when once it has attained the station of the principal mart of a great territory, must become, in spite of all adverse circumstances, a great emporium. That St. Louis will, in no very great while, assume that rank and station, no one, who contemplates her present condition and her exhaustless resources, feels a doubt.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE DIRECTORY

n - North	e - East	r - Residence
s - South	w - West	c - Corner
	b - Between	

The names of the streets, and the numbers of the houses are given, without the superfluous repetition of the words Street and number.

BOUNDARIES OF THE WARDS

First Ward commences at the southern limits of the city, and extends north to Elm street.

Second Ward, commences at Elm, and extends north to Pine street.

Third Ward commences at Pine, and extends north to Vine street.

Fourth Ward commences at Vine street, and extends to the northern limits of the city.

The wards extend east and west, from the Mississippi river to the western limits of the city.