

WHEN THE PRESIDENT'S BROTHER

VISITED CRYSTAL HILL

The following account of the visit to Arkansas of the brother of President James Monroe, was taken from the ARKANSAS GAZETTE of December 24, 1822, copied from the Jackson, Missouri PATRIOT.

Jackson, (Missouri) Nov. 30

Joseph Jones Monroe, Esq. (brother of the president of the United States) rejoined his family at Judge Thomas's of this place, on Sunday the 24th instant, after an absence of upwards of six weeks, during which he examined the land offices at Batesville, and Little Rock, in the territory of Arkansas. We have ample evidence before us, that the affability, and simplicity of this gentleman's manners -- the plainness of his deportment, and above all, his attachment to republican principles, rendered him a very acceptable guest to our hospitable neighbors.

We understand that colonel Monroe speaks in the highest terms of the population, climate, soil, and local advantages of the Arkansas, derived from some of the most beautiful navigable streams in the world. We learn also from him, that the sugar cane can be cultivated with effect, in many parts of the territory, as he saw it flourishing in full luxuriance, in the garden at Crystal Hill, the residence of Governor Miller, and brought from thence a stalk, which had attained to perfection, presented to him by that gentleman, the joints of which he has distributed among his friends of this place.

The joint with which he has been so polite as to present us, we receive as a mark of his distinguished civility, and will endeavor to cherish and preserve it, as an ornament to our garden in summer, and our house in the winter, but we do not even hope, that it can ever be cultivated here, to any degree of perfection.

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In listing the county historical societies in our last issue, we omitted the Newton County Historical Society. This is a very active organization, and its most outstanding accomplishment to date is the erection of a handsome marker at Marble Falls, the spot from which the block of Arkansas marble was taken for the Washington monument. This society does not have a publication, but the 432-page HISTORY OF NEWTON COUNTY, published in 1950, ranks among the best of Arkansas county histories. It was written by Walter F. Lackey, who is president of the Newton County Historical Society.

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After the stencils for Part I. of "Squatters Rights" were cut, a deed was discovered which identified Martin Imbeau as the grandson, and not the son as stated, of John Baptiste Imbeau. An affidavit attached to this deed was signed by Francis Imbeau, father of Martin Imbeau, in which he relinquished all claim to the land conveyed by Martin Imbeau. This probably means that Martin Imbeau's claim was on the same quarter section with the land claimed by his father, Francis Imbeau.