

**THE CENTENARY OF KENTUCKY.  
PROCEEDINGS AT THE CELEBRATION BY THE  
FILSON CLUB, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1892, OF  
THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
ADMISSION OF  
KENTUCKY AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE INTO  
THE FEDERAL UNION**

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# **FILSON CLUB**

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OF  
KENTUCKY,

Wednesday, June 1, 1892.

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By  
The Filson Club.

The Centenary of Kentucky

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PROCEEDINGS

AT THE CELEBRATION BY THE

FILSON CLUB

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1892

OF THE

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE ADMISSION OF

KENTUCKY

As an Independent State into the Federal Union

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## THE CENTENARY OF KENTUCKY.

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**T**HE FILSON CLUB, at its meeting in June, 1891, determined to celebrate Wednesday, June 1, 1892, as the one hundredth anniversary of the separation of Kentucky from Virginia, and its admission into the Union as an independent state. An executive committee consisting of twelve members of the club was appointed, and to them was given full authority to arrange for such a celebration as they might think proper. This committee consisted of—

REUBEN T. DURRETT, . . .	Chairman.
THOMAS SPEED, . . . .	Secretary.
E. T. HALSEY, . . . .	On Finances.
J. STODDARD JOHNSTON, . . .	Addresses.
RICHARD W. KNOTT, . . . .	Toasts.
HORATIO W. BRUCE, . . . .	Invitations.
JOHN B. CASTLEMAN, . . . .	Reception.
BASIL W. DUKE, . . . .	Banquet.
ANDREW COWAN, . . . .	Transportation.
WILLIAM H. WHITSETT, . . .	Correspondence.
WILLIAM J. DAVIS, . . . .	Music.
JAMES S. PIRTLE, . . . .	Publication.



The committee at first contemplated the building of a pioneer fort in one of the Louisville parks, and placing in it for exhibition such mementoes of the time at which Kentucky became an independent state as could be procured for this purpose by gift, loan, or purchase. It was found, however, that such an exhibition would be attended by heavier costs than it was deemed prudent to impose upon the members of the club, and it was abandoned. It was finally determined to limit the celebration to a historical address, a poem, and a banquet, at which selected toasts should be responded to by chosen speakers.

In accordance with this simple programme, a goodly number of the members of the club and of citizens who were not members assembled at Macauley's Theater, at ten o'clock in the morning. The stage was occupied by venerable citizens who had passed or approached the seventieth mile-stone in life's journey, and some of whose long lives dated back almost to the birth of the state.

Among these old citizens were Isaac R. Green (the Nestor of the band, aged ninety-three), Jas. S. Lithgow, Robt. J. Elliott, Americus Symmes, Dr. Thomas Bohannon, Dr. John Thruston, Isaac L. Hyatt, Hamilton Pope, Chas. S. Snead, Edwin Fullion, Patrick Bannon, L. D. Pearson, Frank Carter, Neville Bullitt, Rev. J. H. Heywood, Rev. E. T. Perkins, Rev. R. H. Rivers, Wm. D. Gallagher,

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H. C. Caruth, Geo. W. Morris, Dr. E. A. Grant, Hon. Chas. Anderson, Theodore Brown, etc.

In front of the stage was placed Eichorn's orchestra, with music selected and arranged for the occasion. After a number of appropriate airs had been played during the assembling of the audience, Colonel J. Stoddard Johnston, the vice-president of the club, called upon Rev. R. H. Rivers, a descendant by the mother's side from Samuel Henderson, one of the founders of Boonsborough, to open the proceedings with prayer.

Dr. Rivers was assisted from his chair to the front of the stage, and offered the following prayer:

PRAYER OF DR. RIVERS.

"O, Lord, our Heavenly Father! we thank Thee for this privilege of celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of our existence as a state. We bless Thee that the Filson Club, prompted by patriotism and especially by love for the great State of Kentucky, has determined to celebrate in a proper manner this great anniversary. We thank Thee for the number of young people assembled with us on this occasion, so precious to every Kentuckian and so inviting to all Christian people. We pray that every thing may be conducted to Thy honor and glory.

We pray that the deeds of our ancestors may be so presented as to fire our hearts with the loftiest patriotism. For such ancestors, so self-denying, so devoted to the Dark and Bloody Ground, we adore Thee. For the Boones, the Calloways, the Hendersons, the Clarks, and all the rest, reaching back one hundred years, we most humbly and sincerely thank Thee. May we imitate their virtues, honor their memories, and profit by their example. Bless our great and growing state and all the other states belonging to this great Union. Bless this occasion. Be with Thy servant who shall carry us back to the historic past. May the characters presented, the deeds described, and the scenes pictured by him be a blessing to the young, a joy to the aged, and a profit to all. May the poetry written and which shall be spoken on this great occasion be full of imagination and glow with the grandest and most patriotic thoughts. We beg Thee, our Father, to hear our prayer, bless our anniversary, prosper our state, and increase the glory of this great occasion. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen."

After the opening prayer by Dr. Rivers, and "Home, Sweet Home" by the orchestra, Vice-President Johnston, in introducing Reuben T. Durrett, the president of the