

# THE BATTLE OF LONE JACK.

## The Preparations for the Twenty-Sixth Celebration on August 16.

The Lone Jack Battle Anniversary Celebration association met yesterday at Lone Jack for the purpose of making arrangements for the celebration of the twenty-sixth anniversary of the battle. A. S. Shepard, secretary of the executive committee, submitted a financial statement. It showed a balance of \$282, of which the committee had given \$50 each to the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Christian churches of Lone Jack and \$50 to Erasmus Allen, a blind man of Lone Jack. This left a balance of \$232 in the hands of the treasurer, David Thompson. This is to be used as a sinking fund and the annual interest to be applied in taking care of the soldiers' cemetery of which Mr. Thomson was appointed sexton.

The old executive committee then resigned and a new committee was appointed of which Hugh Shepard was made chairman. D. B. Thomson, George H. Sawhan and A. S. Shepard were appointed a committee on arrangements. The committee on music is composed of Joseph Krieger, Louis Long and Mack Trimble. W. A. Noel, P. S. Alexander and L. K. Skinner are the committee on invitation. William Maxwell was appointed marshal of the day with Joseph Nixon and John Koger as deputies.

The battle of Lone Jack was the bloodiest of the several encounters on Jackson county soil during the civil war, fought on August 16, 1862. Major Emory Foster, with whom the late John N. Edwards fought a duel, commanded the federal, and Colonels Jackson and Cockrell the confederate soldiers. Each side numbered about 50 men. The ground was stubbornly contested and the battle raged for hours. The confederates were armed principally with squirrel rifles but they fought with desperation and were victorious. The artillery they captured there was carried south and never retaken until after the final surrender at Appomattox. At one time in this battle many of the federal soldiers were driven into the large hotel at Lone Jack and the hotel was fired by the confederates and many of the Union soldiers slain.

A white marble monument now marks the battle field.

Lone Jack is a village in the southeastern part of the county about thirty-five miles from Kansas City. It is not on any line of railway. The nearest railroad point is Pleasant Hill, on the Missouri Pacific, six miles distant.