

PLAN A LONE JACK PICNIC

REVIVAL OF EVENT, ABANDONED
THREE YEARS, FINDS FRIENDS.

Shaded Grove Where Civil War Battle
Was Fought Over Was Bom-
barded by Political Ora-
tory for Years.

The annual Lone Jack picnic, almost an institution in Jackson County until three years ago when it was abandoned, may be revived this year.

Many persons in the city and county desire the annual picnic. William T. Overton, owner of the grounds, has told friends and those making inquiry that he was willing the grove should be reopened and would do what he could to assist in renewing the event.

BASKETS AND TUBS OF FOOD.

The picnic until three years ago was on August 16, the anniversary of the battle of Lone Jack. Persons attended from miles around, going from cities and adjoining counties for the day's outing. Baskets and even tubs were filled with food, such as fried chicken and cakes. The blue grass, under sixty acres of walnut and elm trees, formed a natural table for the picnickers. Cold water was piped from nearby springs. The fountains still are there and ready for use.

In recent years the annual picnic became somewhat of a political institution. Candidates for state and county office bombarded the woods with oratory.

The annual event was in commemoration of the battle of Lone Jack, between Confederates and Federal Forces, with about one thousand men on each side. The encounter was one of the fiercest that took place on Missouri soil. After the battle about three hundred dead were on the field. Many of them were buried under the big trees.

GEORGE BOND WOULD AID AGAIN.

Among those interested in reviving the events is George A. Bond, who formerly lived near Oak Grove. Mr. Bond attended the picnic for fifteen years.

The Overton farm, which includes the grove, is two miles west of Lone Jack and ten miles east of Lees Summit. It is the idea of Mr. Overton and others that reopening the grounds will give farmers and their families a place to meet at any time as well as renewing the annual picnic.