

## CAMPBELL COUNTY.

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Campbell county, Kentucky, was cut off of Mason county in 1795, and embraced the area of the present county and all of Kenton and remained so until 1840, when Kenton was carved off of Campbell.

After vainly trying to settle upon a county seat location, Newport was made the county seat and remained so until 1840, at which time Alexandria became the county seat and has remained so until the present time. Newport is the seat of justice for the special court house district, which extends to about six miles back of Newport, embracing about one-third in area of the county and containing nine-tenths of the population and that proportion of the wealth.

The city of Newport was laid off in 1790, a number of lots sold and then became a town by act of the General Assembly in 1795, a city in 1845, and is now a city of the second class in Kentucky with a population of 31,000. It is, perhaps, the largest city in the United States within a boundary of a mile square, being hemmed in by rivers and other cities.

The city of Newport, as is the city of Bellevue and part of the city of Dayton, is built upon land patented to the original proprietor for services in the "Old French and Indian War," being one of those land grants of King George, and afterwards confirmed and patented by the state of Virginia when the Colonies had gained their independence.

Newport was the site of a block house in early days and the rendezvous of the Kentucky pioneers when led by George Rogers Clarke against the Indians at the time Old Chillicothe was burned. In 1804, an army post was instituted at Newport, known as Newport Barracks, remaining an army post until 1894. Fort Thomas, in the Highlands, about four miles south of Newport, having been instituted, Newport barracks was abandoned and the ground conveyed to the city for park purposes only, and for no other.

Though Newport is principally a residence city for persons engaged in Cincinnati, yet it has many industries and commercial houses which are of some importance and were it not for the proximity to Cincinnati, it would be considered a city of much more importance along manufacturing lines.

Newport has eight public and three large parochial schools, and graduates from either are received in the colleges and university of Cincinnati without examination, and if they go to institutions at other places, always make good.

Many distinguished men have been born and reared in Newport, distinguished in music, art, literature, mechanics, science and war. Many of these persons, however, have been accredited to Cincinnati instead of Newport.

The city of Bellevue lies next east of Newport and has the distinction of being a city of 8,000 inhabitants, with beautiful streets and residences and good schools, the city having no very rich and no very poor people in its borders. It has no poor fund and no indigent poor in its city. It is said, and it is probably true, that more people own the houses in which they live in Bellevue than in any other city in this country.

Dayton lies next east of Bellevue and has about 8,000 inhabitants, and is in many respects the counterpart of Bellevue, though some few years older. The most of these people work or do business in Cincinnati.

Fort Thomas, which has a population of about 5,000, lies to the south and southeast of Newport and is a residence city for Newport and Cincinnati business men and women. It has beautiful views, residences and roads, and is considered an ideal place for homes. The High School building is considered a model for the purpose and size of the city.

There are a number of hamlets and cross roads settlements in the county, varying in inhabitants from fifty to five hundred, but no other place of much importance, except Alexandria, which became the county seat in 1840, and is the seat of justice for all that part of the county south of a line drawn from the Licking to the Ohio river, about six miles out from Newport.

Alexandria has one of the best State banks in the state and with an exceptionally large deposit the stock is rated so high that it is impossible to buy any.

Market gardening, small fruit growing and alfalfa raising are the features of the farming of the county. The soil being especially adapted to alfalfa many of the farmers are cultivating it, raising dairy cattle and producing milk, which finds a ready market at Cincinnati.