



- This document concerns a 'speech' my grandfather, James Ware Broaddus, presented to the members of the Bar in Clay County, Missouri. An 8 by 14 draft of the speech was left to me by my mother, a xerox copy, not included below.
- I am uncertain of the purpose of the event, the Flag donation. The timing I can estimate, below.
- Regarding purpose, JWB states toward the bottom of page three that the flag is being donated on behalf of the members of the Clay County bar. To whom, I do not understand. There was no enhancement to the flag. Did something happen to the Missouri State Flag in Liberty, MO, seat of Clay County, at some point, and a new one was needed at the court house?
- Regarding the date of this event, I am guessing around 1952. My grandfather looks about my age, to me. According to this draft, a Mrs. Withers would have provided some preliminary remarks. Alice Ethel (Massie) Withers, widow of Judge Garrett Lee Withers, passed away in 1953. Missouri Circuit Judge James S. Rooney was on the bench there in Clay County in 1952.
- Regarding the content, it's wily, draws deeply on Missouri and south post war history, Clay County judges, fills time and finishes with a flourish. My grandfather was indeed an old time Missouri guy. State affiliation was preeminent—a republic.
- Regarding the writing, of course it is meant to be spoken, clear and precise. Something Hemingway was advised to do at The Star. If my grandfather did this in one sitting, I am deeply impressed. And his cursive was textbook.

Philip Broaddus

Proud grandson of James Ware Broaddus

Address by James Ware Broaddus to the Members of the Bar in Clay County Missouri (Liberty)
regarding a new flag for the State of Missouri, circa 1952.

Mr. Chairman, Judge Rooney, members of the Bar, ladies, and gentlemen,
I wish to thank you, Mr. Withers, for your very kind remarks. I also wish to thank you, gentlemen of the Bar of Clay County for your kind invitation to be present today to act as your spokesman.

We have come here today to take part in a plain and simple ceremony—to present and accept a new flag—our State Flag.

I know of no better setting for such an occasion than here in Clay County—Clay County—what a part her people have played in the history of the State we love so much. Here is the Cemetery in (which) Liberty (meaning Liberty, MO) Col. Alexander W. Doniphan was buried (Fairview Cemetery)—soldier, patriot, lawyer, and orator. Many years ago I saw a paper which the late D.C. Allen read before the Jackson County Bar Association on the life of Col. Doniphan. One thing I remember in it that I remember well. He quoted Gen. David R. Atchison, who, as you all know well was for many years United States Senator from Missouri. Senator Atchison knew Col. Doniphan intimately. He said: “I have presided over the United States Senate many times. I knew all of the great men of our country. I have many times heard Clay, Webster, and Calhoun. And I tell you, Sir, I have heard Alex Doniphan rise to greater heights than any of them.”

I could dwell at length up Clay County and her fine people, but that is not my mission here. Our purpose here today centers around our State Flag.

But I see you have a new American Flag. There (JWB must have pointed to the new flag), it started in simple and majestic dignity. It is proper that the Standard of the Republic—The Stars and Stripes—should be in this courtroom. It should be in every public building—not only in Missouri—but throughout the land. It is the Flag of the Union—The United States of America. It represents the country where liberty, under the law, has reached the greatest height in the history of human races. To the patriotic citizen it represents all for which this country stands—her institutions—her achievements—the long roster of her heroic dead—the story of her past—the hope and promise of her future. It stands for liberty and law. They walk hand in hand. Cicero was right when he said centuries ago: “We are slaves to the law in order that we may be free.”

But we must remember that ours is a dual system of government. Into this Union have come 48 states—free and independent states. Into that Union 130 years ago came the sovereign State of Missouri as the 24th State. Her entry attracted wide attention and was said to pave the way for peace and harmony in the Union. But this was not to be and, soon, contending armies upon our soil.

Missouri, situated in the heart of America—midway between the two great oceans—Midway between Canada and the Gulf of Mexico—Bounded by the two great rivers. Rich in natural resources—rich in tradition—filled with intelligent and patriotic peoples. Our State—

whether we were born here or whether we have come by choice. It is our State and we are all proud that we are Missourians.

Missouri has adopted an official flag. Other states in the Union have their State Flags— emblems of State loyalty, of state pride, of state sovereignty. The best know of these flags is the famous Home Star Flag of the State of Texas. It adorns the walls and flies from the dome of every building in the state of Texas. None of these flags that I have seen are as beautiful as ours.

There it is! I am sure that some of you have never seen it before. (note by PCB: must have been a joke, and laughter no doubt) Let's hold it out, Bob (note by PCB: a queue). You see one red, one white and one under blue horizontal strips of equal length. The red at the top – the blue at the bottom—the white in the middle. In the center is a band of blue and within that band is the Great Seal of Missouri, bearing that famous motto of common sense, said to have been taken from George P. Morris' poem "The Flag of our Union"—"United we stand, divided we fall." Within this band of blue you see 24 five pointed stars symbolic of the fact that Missouri was the 24th State to be admitted in the Union.

This is the State's Flag. This is the State's Court—the Circuit Court is the only court of general jurisdictions in the state. It is the court which comes closer to the people than any other. It is their court. Many have said it is the most important Court of them all. I give you the opinion of a distinguished man. (Note by PCB: not sure what my grandfather meant by this. Was the next thing he said off-the-cuff. Something he didn't put on this draft?)

You know that following the civil war some men in the South became very unpopular. North Carolina had Zebulon B. Vance, South Carolina its Wade Hampton, Georgia its John B. Gordon and Arkansas its James H. Berry. As a young man, James H. Berry entered the Confederate Army and lost his leg upon the battlefield. By virtue of his gallant war record, his ability, and his charming personality he became the idol of the people of Arkansas and held practically all the offices within their gift. He became a member of the legislature, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Circuit Judges, three times Governor of the State and for many years United States Senator. In his farewell address in the Senate, Senator Berry reviewed the various offices that he had held at the hands of the people of Arkansas and then said that, in his opinion, the most important office(s) he had ever held, was that of Circuit Judges.

Proud are we that all down through the years no breath of suspension has touched this court. Men of ability and integrity have been called to this bench. They sought to carry out the mandate of the People's Constitution that the Courts of Justice shall be open to every person and certain remedy afforded for every inquiry to person, property or character, and that right and justice shall be administered without sale, denial or delay. How happy mankind would be if that condition prevailed in other parts of the world today!

Upon this bench sat James W. Sandusky, E.J. Broadus, J.W. Alexander, Francis H. Trumble, Frank P. Develbiss, Ralph Hughes, Harris L. Moore, Ralph Losier. And now sits your Judge—James S. Rooney.

And now the Bar of Clay County through the Judges of the County Court have donated this State Flag. I think it is a beautiful thing for them to do. It speaks more eloquently than any

words than any words of mine of this our deep affection for that State of Missouri, and her people.

And so, Judge Rooney, in your official capacity as Judge of the Circuit Court of Clay County, Missouri, it is my proud privilege to present to you, on behalf of the Bar of Clay County this beautiful banner of a great state and a brave people—the Official Flag of the State of Missouri.