

Husband's angry ad graces Post's pages

"An Intelligent People Want No Dictators" was the motto of the Bloomington Post published by Marcus L. Deal in the 1830s. The publisher's earlier attempt at keeping a newspaper going in Bloomington was called *The Far West* and proclaimed the motto: "Willing to Praise, But Not Afraid to Blame."

The Post, which edified Monroe Countians for some eight years, contained some curious items that shed a little light on life in those days. Take for example, the angry ad, which excused Abel Sarjent from responsibility for his AWOL wife's debts. It began conventionally enough, but the tone and the language deteriorated rapidly.

"... she has stripped and robbed my house of all the goods I left in it, say to the amount of at least \$150 worth of valuable property; and placed the same in possession of her dishonest



Looking back

By Rose McIlveen

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neighbor, (the greatest enemy I ever had on earth), for her children; and whereas, under the influence and vile directions of her ungodly connexions she has, in her second childhood and old age, become an enemy and traitor to her husband (having loved her children and especially her beloved Daniel Esq. more than her husband) . . . This is only the beginning; other particulars in detail will shortly be published in pamphlet form."

Actually, the Post contained few local news, but there are see **Looking back**, Back page