

Madison, Indiana

*October 16, 1851**

"Madison on the Ohio Side of the river. It [is] the County Seat of Jefferson Co. contains a population of about 12,000. It is one of the largest Commercial towns on the River and for enterprise on business facilities has but few equals. The trade of Madison is large and the Manufacturies important. It is an immense shipping point for the products of the State which are brought forward by the Madison & Indianapolis Railway, which extends through the richest and most productive part of the State. The leading products of this part of the State, are Wheat, Corn & Pork.

"Madison has 15 churches of the normal denominations, excellent schools, a Bank, the usual County buildings, various kinds of factories, foundries, Mills, Store[s] of all Kinds Some of which do a large wholesale business.

"The Situation of the town is beautiful, on a bend in the river, in the midst of a valley three fourths of a Mile wide and three Miles long, Surrounded by rugged and precipitous hills rising to the height of five to Six hundred feet."

* From the unpublished Journal of Charles B. Cotten in the possession of the Indiana University Library, Bloomington, Indiana.