

Cherokee County organization records

In order for an unorganized county to be recognized by the state of Kansas, a certain number of householders/legal electors had to petition the governor. The governor would appoint a census taker. Initially, unorganized counties were required to document that they had at least 600 inhabitants in order to be recognized as a county by the state legislature. Over time the number of residents needed to organize a county changed to 1500 and later to 2500 residents. The census was submitted to the governor who then issued a proclamation indicating that the requirements had been met, appointing county commissioners and a county clerk, and naming a county seat. Not all of these documents are available for each county.

Included in this file are letters about the population of Cherokee County, issues on where the county seat should be located, and boundary line issues between Labette County and Cherokee County.

Creator: Kansas. Secretary of State

Date: 1866-1912

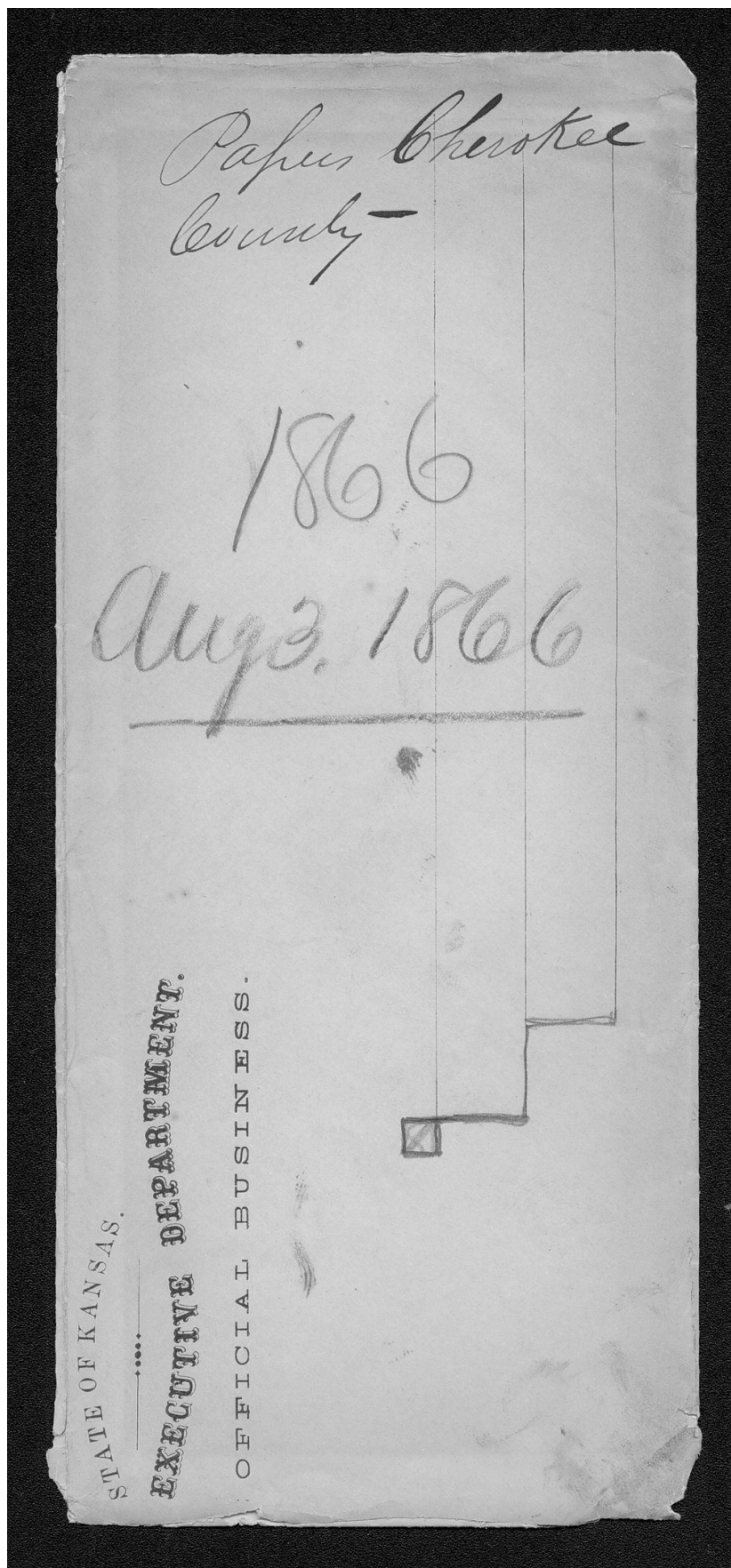
Callnumber: Kansas. Secretary of State's Office, County Organization Files, ca. 1861-1912

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 216622

Item Identifier: 216622

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY





*Election for County
Seat of Cherokee
County Kansas*

*Miscellaneous
Papers Box "B"*

Filed Feb'y 19th 1868.

Cherokee County organization records

Pleasant View Mo July 21st 1866
Hon Saml. J Crawford
Governor of Kansas
Dear Sir

I sent you
the Petition of 184 Residents Free Holders
of the Unorganized County of Cherokee Praying
for the immediate Organization of said
County Cherokee and for the appointment
of Rev Leada Walder A. V. Peters and
J. W. Wallace as Special County Commis-
sioners and Julius C Petit as Special
County Clerk and that Pleasant View
may be named as a Temporary County
Seat

I took the matter in hand
and have forwarded you the Petition
of 2/3 of the Residents Free Holders
living South of the line claimed
claimed by Bourbon County on the
Central Lands within the Boundaries
of Cherokee County

Cherokee County organization records

There is not a name on the
4 Petitions I sent you of any Person
living north of the line claimed
by Bourbon County

On account of returning
Rebels and Bushwhackers in Missouri
I have had my Residence in Kansas
since last October and have
been doing Business in Missouri
and now I am Located at
Pleasant View Cherokee Co. Mo

Rees Cadawalders was a
Lieut in the 12 Ill. Cavalry a man
of Integrity and well qualified to
fill the Position ask for he lives
on Cow Creek near Spring River

A. V. Peters was a Captain
of the 18th Ohio Infantry and well
Calculated to fill the Position ask
for he resides near Barton
Springs

Dr. J. W. Wallace late assistant
Surgeon of 113th Ill Infantry is spoken
of in high terms by those who

Cherokee County organization records

are acquainted with him

Jules C Petit was a
Hospital Steward in the 1st Kansas
is a Practicing Physician at Pleasant
view

You will please write
me and post me up as far
as you can in reference to
Political Operations of the coming
Campaign

I shall take a decided
Anti Andrew Johnson Position

Tray Yours
D C Fein

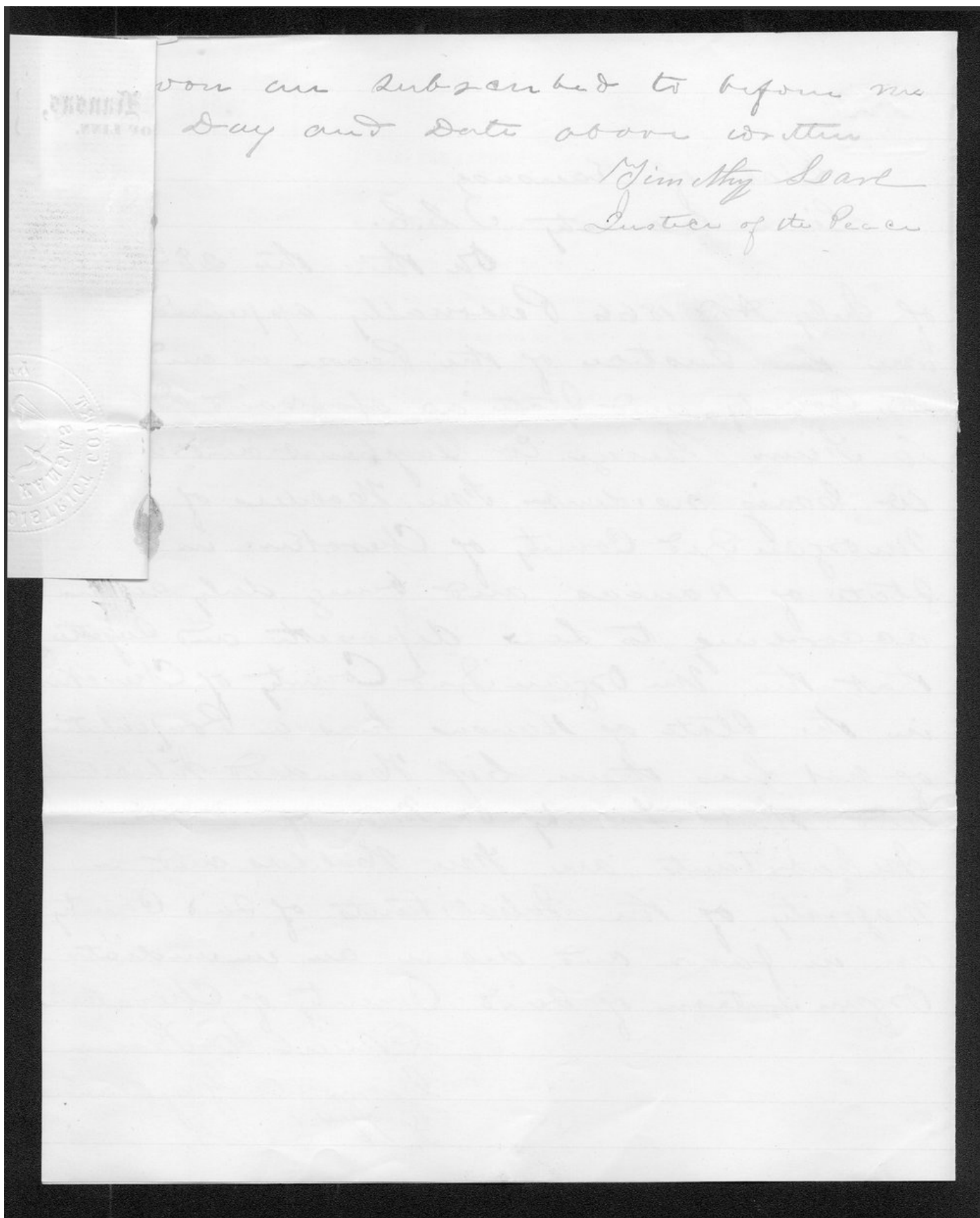
Cherokee County organization records

State of Kansas
Lincoln County I.B.S.

On this the 28th Day
of July AD 1866 Personally appeared before
me the Justice of the Peace in and for
the County and State as aforesaid Daniel
to Him George W Gayheart and John
W Craig resident Free Holders of the
Unorganized County of Cherokee in the
State of Kansas and being duly sworn
according to Law depose and say that
that the Unorganized County of Cherokee
in the State of Kansas has a Population
of not less than Six Hundred Inhabitants
and that Twenty or more of such
Inhabitants are Free Holders and a
Majority of the Inhabitants of said County
are in favor and desire an immediate
Organization of said County of Cherokee.

Daniel to Him
George W Gayheart
J W Craig

Cherokee County organization records



Cherokee County organization records

State of Kansas, } S. S.
COUNTY OF LINN.



I, J. R. VAN ZANDT, Clerk of the District Court in and for said County,
do hereby certify that Timothy Searl
before whom the annexed instrument in writing was proved or acknowledged,
was at the time of taking the same a Justice of the Peace
in and for said County, duly authorized to take the same; and I certify that
I am well acquainted with his hand-writing, and verily believe the signature
to said certificate is genuine, and the annexed instrument is executed and ac-
knowledgeed according to the laws of the State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I hereunto set my hand and affix my official
seal at Manhattan in said County, on the
5th day of July 1866.

J. R. Van Zandt Clerk.


Cherokee County organization records

Now L. J. Crawford
Governor of Kansas

We the undersigned
Residents of the unorganized County of
Cherokee ask for an immediate organization
of said County of Cherokee that A. V. Peters
Rus Loadwalader and J. W. Watake may
be appointed Special County Commissioners
and that Delmar Petite may be appointed
Special County Clerk and that Pleasant
View may be named as a Temporary County
Seat and Town of Pleasant View being as
near a central location as any other place

A. P. Pugh	J. Pearson
R. B. Prather	David Rodley
N. W. Drivell	John Musfield
W. S. Fleming	Leitch Williams
H. C. Hatcher	J. G. Roy
J. W. Shaw	J. S. Waneys
A. Smith	Amariah Sutton
W. H. Harvorth	Thomas Barber
William Barnett	Wm. Roy
W. John S. Harlock	S. O. Swope
J. M. Hamilton	G. P. Kilborn
John Mackey	Henry Potte
Horatio Johnson	L. W. Sturdevant
Harvey Maple	Wm. Barry
Sawyer and S. Chadwick	Stevenson Bentley
William S. Harvorth	J. L. Silkwood
Leonidas L. H. Cherington	Jagges Bond
Leroy H. Cherington	William Helark
Benjamin Muter	S. M. Clark
George W. Tinkerson	U. Welch
	Thomas Little

Cherokee County organization records


 Hon S. J. Crawford
 Governor of Kansas
 We the undersigned
 Residents of the Undersigned County of
 Cherokee ask for the immediate organization
 of said County of Cherokee that A. V. Peters
 Rees Badwalader and J. W. Wallace may
 be appointed Special County Commissioners
 and that Julius Petitt may be appointed
 Special County Clerk and that Pleasant
 View may be named as a Temporary County
 Seat and Town of Pleasant View being as
 near a central location as any other place
 Oscar A. Clark
 E. H. Kirk
 Benjamin Lee
 J. L. Granger
 Saml. M. Garland
 W. H. Sayre
 W. A. Holman
 S. R. Ellis
 A. Adams
 H. Coalman
 Thomas E. Clark
 Enbrose Day
 Minon S. Day
 George A. Day
 J. D. LeBo
 M. P. Bobo
 S. C. Davis
 Robert Fulton
 J. M. Armstrong
 W. H. Peters
 D. H. Clark
 E. C. Allen
 C. M. Shover
 W. F. McConer
 Jacob Wheeler
 John R. Burrows
 S. C. Hays
 George Sutherland
 J. H. Clemen
 Jefferson Carback
 W. H. Murray
 J. Deje
 Joseph Day
 M. Ward
 James F. Foreman
 A. Chandler
 M. Linder
 S. C. Hattell
 B. T. Hines

Cherokee County organization records

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Hon. S. J. Crawford
Governor of Kansas

We the undersigned
Residents of the Unorganized County of
Cherokee ask for an immediate organization
of said County of Cherokee and that S. J. Peters
Rees Cadwalader and J. W. Wallace
may be appointed Special County
Commissioners and that Julius Pelte may
be appointed Special County Clerk and
that Pleasant View may be named as the
Temporary County Seat & said place being
Centrally Located

N. B. Martin
J. Shepard
J. R. R. R.
James H. Dyer
A. V. Williams
Rees Cadwalader
James Lewis
Joseph Hensler
Squire Roberts
Wm. Baring
A. B. Gault
Randolph Mobley
W. A. Hamman
Julius Sherwood
William Admell
Eugene Davis
A. W. Elliott
A. J. Frazer

William Wilcox
B. F. Wilcox
W. A. Wilcox
Ziba Millage
Shenry Millage
G. W. Mothers
Thomas Smith
George Price
W. M. Coffin
Isaac J. Campbell
J. B. Harting
Perry Millsaps
J. G. Wash
L. Mc Bride
M. M. Goforth
Lery Goforth
James Goforth
W. M. Estes
G. Keith
Ansel Piser
Daniel S. Doughty

Cherokee County organization records

Hon. S. J. Crawford
 Governor of Kansas
 We the Undersigned
 Residents ^{Free Holders} of the Unorganized County of
 Cherokee ask for an immediate Organization
 of said County of Cherokee and that Res-
 pectively, A. T. Peters and J. W.
 Wallace may be appointed Special County
 Commissioners and that Julius Petete may
 be appointed Special County Clerk and
 that Pleasant View may be named as the
 Temporary County Seat said place being centrally located
 Daniel C. Quinn
 J. H. Hall
 J. C. Park
 Jacob Kline
 George Fegen
 John Thomas
 B. W. Cantwell
 Henry Kline
 A. C. Webb
 Wm Thornburgh
 L. N. Thornburgh
 James Thornburgh
 P. H. Ostermann
 R. D. Heall
 R. H. Heall
 John B. Webb
 J. H. Taylor
 J. J. G. G. G.
 G. W. Smith
 J. M. Smith
 W. S. Smith
 James Maxwell
 William Price
 David Smith
 Henry G. Arms
 Peter King
 A. Sturgeon
 William Newberry
 W. R. Nicholas
 P. Rensick
 A. Roach
 William Schurr
 Thomas & Wornia
 P. B. Burr

Cherokee County organization records

W. W. Rice,
 Christopher Davis
 Wm. A. Lewis
 H. C. Lumb
 J. H. Dyer
 H. H. Hall
 Wm. H. Williams
 S. A. Keen
 J. W. Richards
 Wm. N. Strong
 A. Richardson
 Jeremiah Anderson
 David Cooper
 J. H. Wilson
 N. Smith
 H. H. Burr
 Thomas Bloop
 John Marbury
 J. J. B. Burr
 A. P. Hall
 John J. Burr
 Jeremiah Everett
 L. H. Brownwood
 Allen Newbury
 W. J. Hutchinson

Perry M. Routh
 Joseph G. Sullivan
 James M. Lacy
 J. W. Rightenour
 William Sullivan

Cherokee County organization records

Pleasant View Kansas February 15th 1868

N. M. Barker
Dear Sir Secretary of State

By a writ of Mandamus
Issued from the Supreme Court of this State
Requiring the County Commissioners of this
County to show cause why they did not
canvass the vote on the County Seat of one
half a Township at the last General Election
November 5th 1867

As the County Commissioners met on the 6th
day of Feb'y 1868 and canvassed the vote

the vote one County Seat is to wit

For County Seat Baxter Springs	136	Votes
Cherokee Center	3	Votes

State of Kansas
Cherokee County

I Wm Little County Clerk do hereby certify
that the above vote was canvassed on the 6th day of
Feb'y 1868 & I further certify that the above is true & correct
Witness my hand & official seal this 15th day of Feb'y 1868
Wm Little County Clerk of Cherokee



Cherokee County organization records

This vote was cast without any
order or call. So I do not think it
necessary to canvass it. But as they
have canvassed the vote I will send
you the Return. You can do as you see
it was only a part of a Township that
voted on the County seat.

Respectfully Yours

Wm Little
Co Clerk

Cherokee County organization records

CHAS. H. SESSIONS, SECRETARY

J. T. BOTKIN, ASST. SECRETARY

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE
TOPEKA

Sept. 25, 1912.

Mr. P. O. Wood, Soil Surveyor,
Columbus, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 17th relative to discrepancies in the Cherokee and Labette County lines and asking for data concerning the boundary lines between these counties.

In reply I beg to advise that this department has no official data concerning these counties except such as is contained in the various legislative acts describing the same and I fear these will not aid you very much in solving the problem. There should be in the files of this office the proclamation of the Governor organizing the county but such proclamation is not to be found in our files. Neither has the Governor's force been able to locate the same or any record of it in the Governor's office. The only paper on file in this office concerning the organization of Cherokee county are the petitions for organization, the designation of the county seat and the appointment of the County Commissioners. These papers were filed in this office on August 3, 1866, but they do not define the boundaries of the county.

Cherokee county was originally called McGee County. Its boundaries were defined by act of the Territorial legislature of 1855. These boundaries were slightly changed by act of the Territorial legislature of 1857, but the boundaries as defined by these acts do not seem to have much bearing on the present boundaries of Cherokee County.

In 1860 the Territorial legislature changed the name from McGee to that of Cherokee county and section 1 of chapter 31, Session Laws of 1860 fixes the western boundary of the county as follows: "The western boundary of Cherokee county shall be the township line between Range 21 and 22, East." Section 2 of the same acts makes the same line the east boundary of Neosho county, which at that time extended south to the state line.

Section 1, Chapter 27, Laws of 1866, approved February 26th, 1866, fixes the northeast corner of Neosho county at a point on the north line of the "Osage Lands" as established by George VanZandt in the year 1859 to correspond with the southeast corner of Allen County, extending the east line of the county due south to the state line. I am unable to find any record of the line established by Mr. VanZandt but records in the State Historical Society show that on September 15th, 1865 Governor Crawford directed one G. J. Endicott to survey the "Cherokee Neutral Lands" to the "Osage Lands" and fix the boundaries. Mr. Endicott reported the

Cherokee County organization records

CHAS. H. SESSIONS, SECRETARY

J. T. BOTKIN, ASST. SECRETARY

STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE
TOPEKA

Sept. 25, 1912.

P. O. W.
#2.

north boundary of the "Osage Lands" as beginning at a point 41 1/2 miles north from the southwest corner of the state of Missouri and running due west to the "Original Old White Hair" village which is situated on the right or west bank of the Neosho river; thence south to the state line.

Section 2, Chapter 32, Laws of 1867 located the southeast corner of Crawford county as the corner of section 13, township 31, range 25; thence west to the east line of Neosho county. Section 3 of the same act bounds Cherokee county as follows: Commencing at the southeast corner of the county of Crawford; thence south on the east line of the state of Kansas to the southeast corner of the state; then west along the southern bounds of the state of Kansas to the southeast corner of the county of Neosho as defined in an act approved February 26, 1866; then north to the southwest corner of the county of Crawford; then east to the point of beginning.

Chapter 29, Laws of 1867 fixes the north east corner of Labette county as a point on the Sixth Standard Parallel where the west lines of the "Cherokee Neutral Lands" cross said Sixth Standard Parallel and extends to east line of the county along said line to the south boundary of the state. Chapter 30, Laws of 1867 fixes the west line of the "Cherokee Neutral Lands" as the east line of Labette county.

In 1868 the legislature again changed the boundaries of Cherokee county (Section 12, Chapter 24, General Statutes, 1868) but this change was made subject to ratification by the voters on the strip between the west line of Cherokee county as described by the act, and the west line of the "Cherokee Neutral Lands." There is no record in this or the Governor's office showing that an election for the purpose of ratifying this change was ever held. The records of the State Historical Society are to the effect that no such election was held. Consequently it seems certain that the boundaries were not effected by the act of 1868.

The above are all the acts I am able to find effecting the boundary line between Cherokee and Labette counties. It seems that this boundary line depends somewhat upon the location of the "Osage Lands" and the Cherokee Neutral Lands" and I know of no department of state government that has an official record or information concerning these lands. I suppose this information can be obtained from the Interior Department at Washington. Regretting my inability to furnish you more definite information concerning this matter, I am

Yours very truly,

Se

Cherokee County
Organization

Filed 19

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