

#### Kansas historical quarterly

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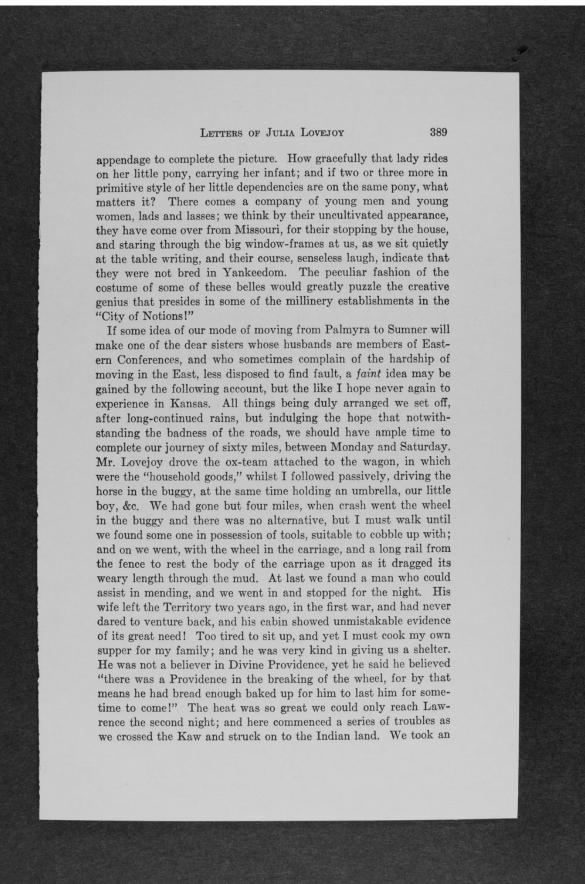
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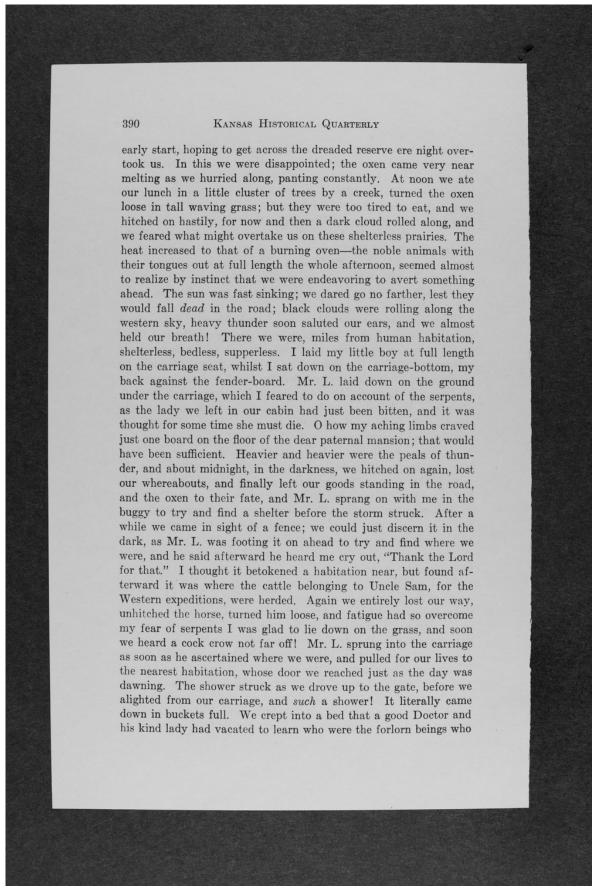
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# KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY







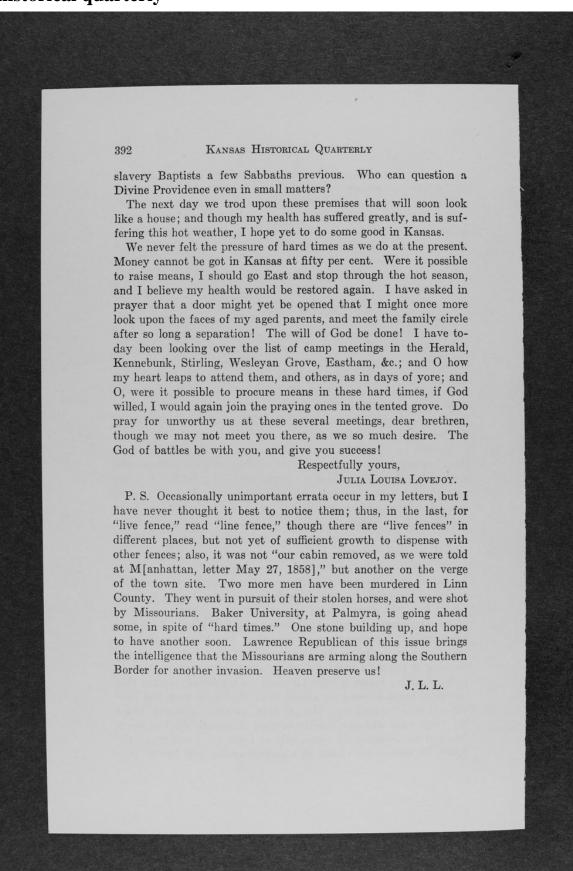






LETTERS OF JULIA LOVEJOY 391 sought their hospitality at that unreasonable hour! At a late hour in the forenoon we were awakened by a kindly voice, who told us a breakfast was in waiting for us, of which we thankfully partook. Mr. L. went in search of his team, which he found safe, but his goods were soaked through; but we could not unpack, and the beds, bedding, linen and clothing remained steaming and mildewing two days more till we reached Mt. Pleasant, the extreme verge of our circuit, Saturday, where our things had another soaking all night in the rain, and after it was passed we opened them to dry, and what a sight! My bonnet, one sent by the kind ladies in Manchester, N. H., two years ago, that had never been injured but a little, was entirely spoiled, so that even the materials were useless, and so with the other things. Mr. L.'s hat, my best clothing, and finally a looker on said there were \$50 worth ruined, and almost every article, more or less mildewed. I bore all with good courage till I came to the beautiful large family Bible, sent me all the way from New Hampshire, by my dear aged father, as his last gift to his daughter, and when I saw that soaked through, and coming out of the binding, I wept! How could I refrain from tears? We were now within six miles of Sumner, and the roads were almost impassible by the rains, and we would go a short distance and get (as the Westerners term it,) "stalled;" and then Mr. L. must post off after a team to haul him out of the mud. He got stuck so often that I passed him, and finally, as he could not find a team in one place, I concluded I would go on and find some one to assist him. I drove along, lost my way, and endeavoring to extricate myself from my trouble, broke the shaft of the carriage in the woods, and there I was alone, with my little boy. I accordingly unhitched from the carriage, fastened the horse by the wayside, and went in pursuit of help. I halloed enough to waken startling echoes from the grove around me, and found a cabin, but the inmates were all gone from home. Some soon heard me and came to my help, and I posted them off to inform Mr. L. of my disaster, that he might not be needlessly alarmed. A corn-dodger was soon smoking in the old Dutch oven in the ashes, and a cup of Western coffee steaming before the fire expressly for my benefit, and in that unsightly cabin I rested my aching head, that for a week had been exposed to a burning sun. An old lady, an entire stranger, heard my voice some distance, and recognized it, though she had never heard of me, or heard my name, only as I was led, I believe, by the Spirit, to witness for Christ at a grove meeting held by the pro-



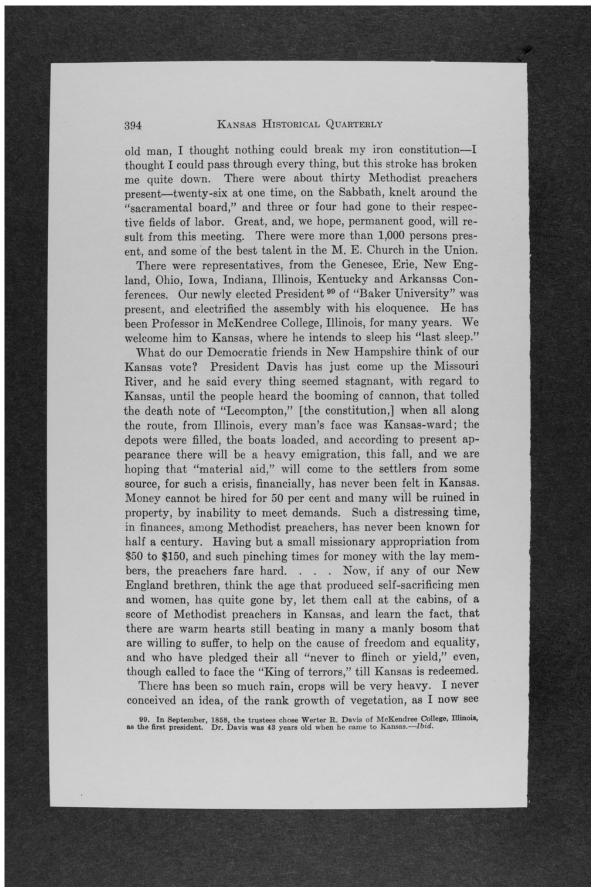




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LETTERS OF JULIA LOVEJOY 393 PALMYRA, KANSAS, Sept. 10, 1858. Messrs. Editors 96: Your readers are doubtless aware that, in June, we changed our residence, from Palmyra, to Sumner on the Missouri River. Since that time, numerous cares have prevented me from continuing correspondence with the Democrat. Two weeks since, we left our home in Sumner to attend the great camp-meeting, for the Territory in this place, where Mr. Lovejoy was violently seized with bilious intermittent fever, though now somewhat convalescent. "The pale horse, and his rider," has been making rapid strides through the Territory, and, for months past, scarcely a town or neighborhood where his noiseless, stealthy tread, has not spread dismay in families, and communities, sickness and death on every hand, caused no doubt, by the unparalleled amount of rain, and extreme hot weather. Fevers, of a bilious character, have almost universally prevailed, often terminating in sudden death, "congestive chills" have been of a very fatal character, and probably there have been more deaths in the Territory, within a few months past, than in the entire three years, previously. But my letter will be made up of "scraps," and "patch work," whilst I sit by the bed-side of my sick husband, so I will pen what first comes to hand, "religiously," "politically" and "financially." Our camp-meeting, just closed, was a "great time," in every respect. It was holden in a grove, included in the "College grounds," connected with Baker University, which grounds, have been christened "Baldwin City," in honor of an eccentric Mr. Baldwin, of Berea, Ohio, or the founder of Baldwin University, who is expected to give a bonus, of \$10,000, for the name.97 You should see the millionaire, (who has been staying here for months) bare-footed, with his old slouched hat, course cotton shirt-collar, and rusty clothes. But poor man, his heart was well nigh broken during our camp-meeting. His son, the head of a family, who had been here some time, and was expecting to take charge of the school connected with the University, as Principal, suddenly sickened, and died! 98 O! said the 96. The Independent Democrat, Concord, N. H. 97. "In 1858, the [Palmyra] town company purchased the section of land adjoining the town on the south, and donated it to the Kansas Educational Association, in consideration of which they agreed to locate an institution of learning on the said section. As the work on the university progressed, buildings were erected on the new town site, which was named Baldwin, in honor of John Baldwin, of Berea, Ohio, and soon, one by one, the business enterprises of Palmyra moved to the new town."—Andreas-Cutler, op. cit., p. 355. 98. Milton Baldwin died August 30, 1858, before the college opened.—Ceremonial Unveil-of Tablets Commemorating Historical Events at Baker University, . . . June 1, 1941.—







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#### LETTERS OF JULIA LOVEJOY

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it on every hand. I now write from the same little cabin, from which many a "missive," has been sent forth to friends, and an occasional talk with "friend Democrat," and but a few rods from the little window, near which I used to write, corn may be measured 15 feet high, and I dare not tell the mammoth size of some vegetables. There are weeds, that are by actual measurement, 15 or 20 feet high, and grass is three feet above the horse's back, on one part of this claim, and in some places on the road along which we came from Sumner.—"Charlie" will have from 1500 to 2000 bushels of corn, on this claim, as he owns 80 acres of it, and has all the crops raised on the 160 together. If it would not discourage the New Hampshire boys from migrating West, I would just say whilst I write, this moment, "Charlie" has forgotten all about his big crops and is "shaking" with the ague, at my left hand, but he loves Kansas, still, and I will venture if you approach him, as the bed on which he new reclines, is trembling with sundry "agitations" of its occupant, with chattering teeth, he will answer, "Let me stay in Kansas, this terrible shaking, notwithstanding." You among the Granite hills who have not seen or felt the effects of the "fever and ague" can hardly realize how much we dread its approach, and this year you find but few families who escape. Its subject usually takes his bed, every other day, and in violent cases, the "fits" come on every day and last for weeks, and in many cases for months. Thus much for the present.

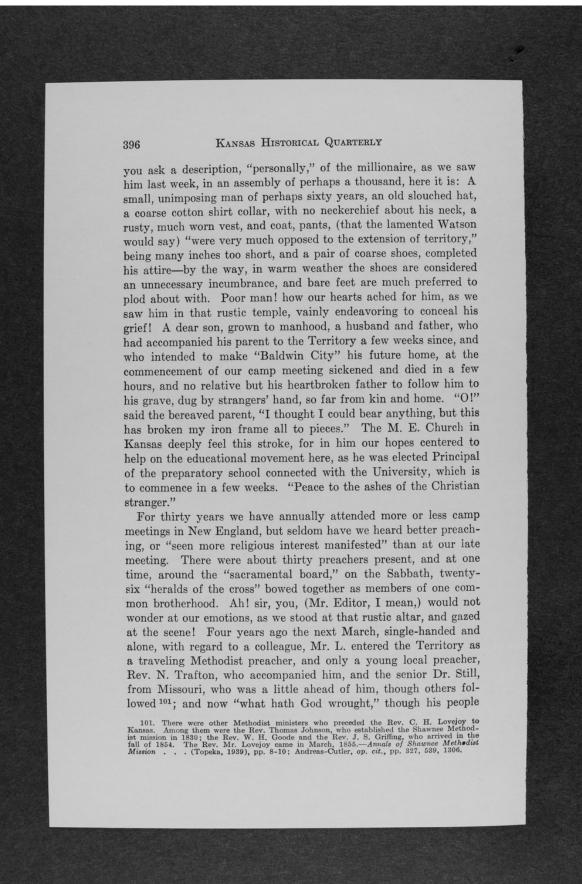
Yours respectfully,
Julia Louisa Lovejoy.

PALMYRA, K. T., Sept. 13, 1858.

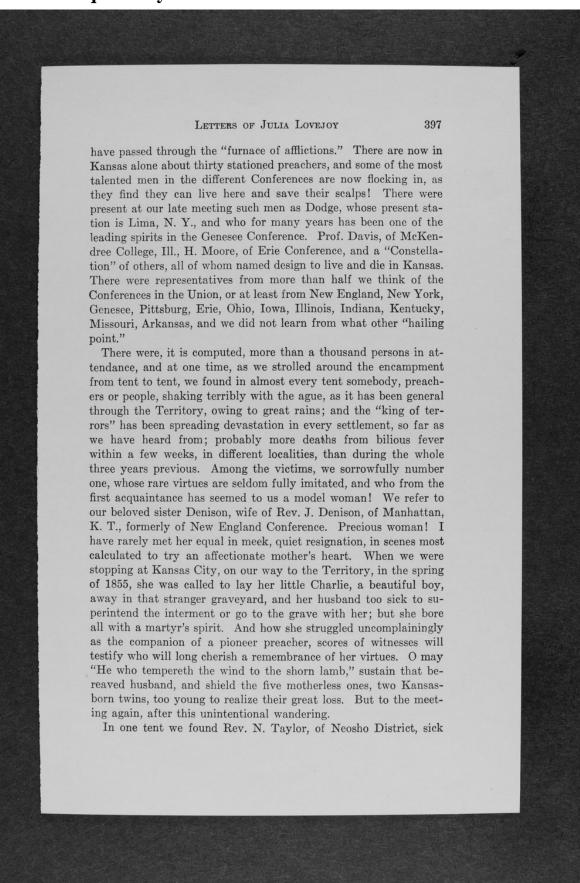
Dear Herald <sup>100</sup>:—We left our home in Sumner, two weeks ago tomorrow, to attend the great camp meeting for the Territory, which commenced in this place the 30th ult., where Mr. Lovejoy was seized with intermittent fever, though now somewhat convalescent; and as we are detained here in consequence thereof, whilst I watch by his bedside, I will tell thee, thou faithful chronicler, some facts in relation to this great and good "feast of tabernacles." It was holden in a beautiful grove, on the grounds connected with "Baker University," which have been duly christened, "Baldwin City;" and their eccentric "namesake" is the founder of "Baldwin University," also, of Berea, Ohio; it is expected that a bonus of \$10,000 will in due time be forthcoming as an "attache" to the name. If

100. Zion's Herald, Boston, Mass.

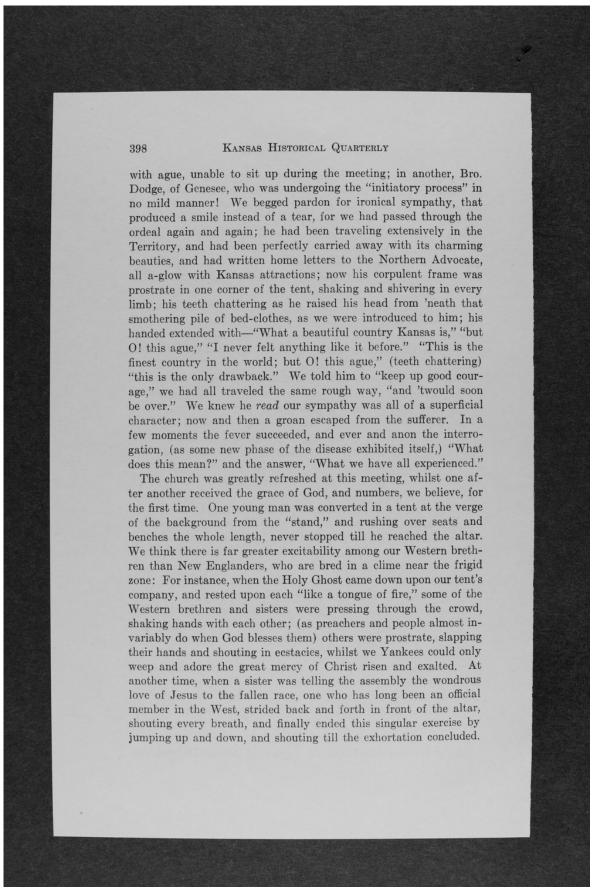




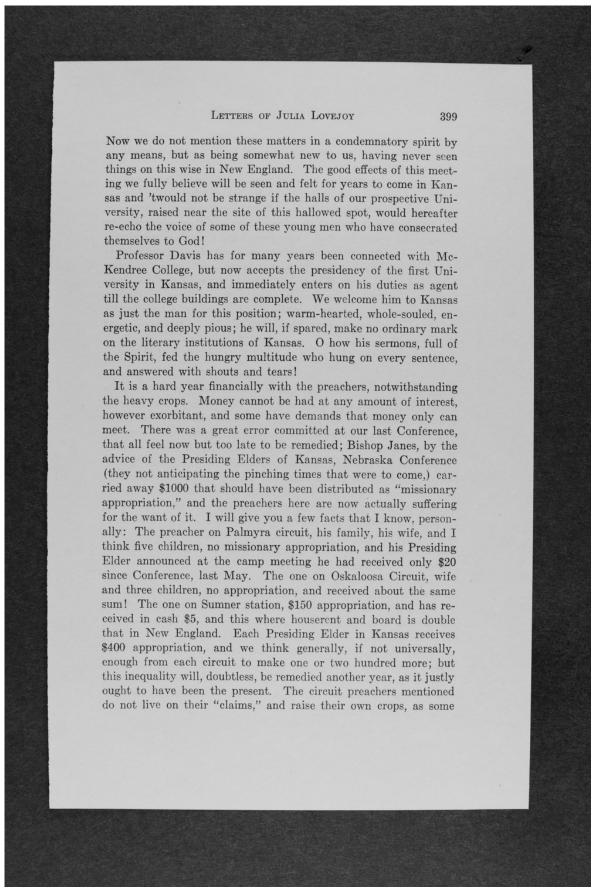












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may suppose, but devote their time to the work of the ministry only as they are obliged to take time to build them a house or cabin to shelter their families.

A more self-sacrificing body of men we do not believe can be found, than those who compose the Kansas Conference. Some of them have been through "war and flood," now shivering with cold, then pinched with hunger, fording dangerous streams, or wading through the water hip high; now swimming a swollen creek with horse and buggy, or grappling with the angry waves, that were bearing off its precious burden, (his box of books) and leaving one shoe in the bed of the creek, ne'er to be "fished up by hook and line," and thus drenched to the skin, riding miles in wet clothing! Now this is no fiction, but the actual experience of one whose aching head I have this hour been endeavoring to alleviate. For the present, dear Herald adieu.

JULIA L. LOVEJOY.

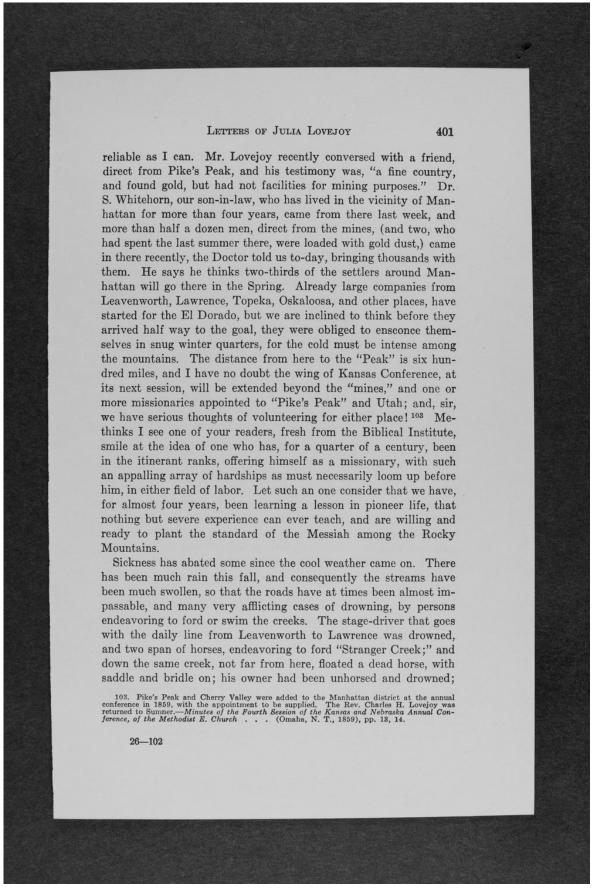
SUMNER, K. T., Nov. 23, 1858.

Mr. Editor 102:—There has not been such a dearth in the "news department" of Kansas, politically, for four years, as at present; and the universal cry of "hard times" in money matters has ceased long since to be talked of as news; and if a man meets his neighbor in the street, and passes him without a "dun," or if a man unlocks his door in the morning, and locks it again at night, with the exclamation, "I have not been dunned to-day," why that may be talked over as news! I ardently wish I could tell you such blessed news for your revival department, from this far-off land, as I read in the Herald last evening, from Sister Palmer's pen, giving a glowing account of the wonderful work of God in the British Provinces. Ah! that letter caused my poor heart to exult, and with tearful eye praise God; and for awhile I longed to be with her, but I checked the desire, and cried to God to come down in like manner among the people of Kansas. O, that this awful, death-like stupor might be shaken off the minds of the multitude whose all-absorbing idea, just now, is "hard times," and the untold treasures that are awaiting their search, at the "gold mines."

I see by the Eastern papers that you are already apprised of the "Pike's Peak" excitement here, and the accounts you get in New England are greatly exaggerated. Now if I can benefit any who design coming here in the Spring, I will give them information as

102. Zion's Herald, Boston, Mass.



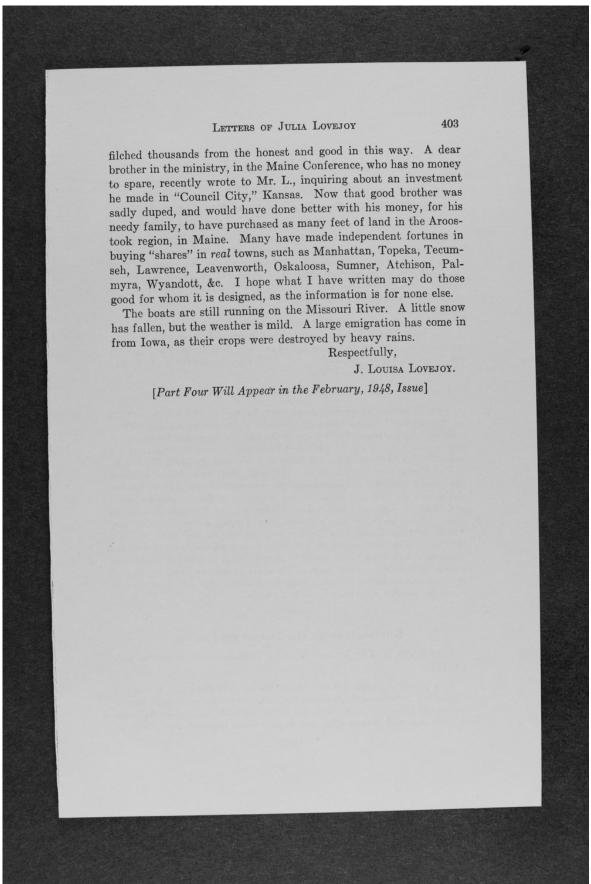




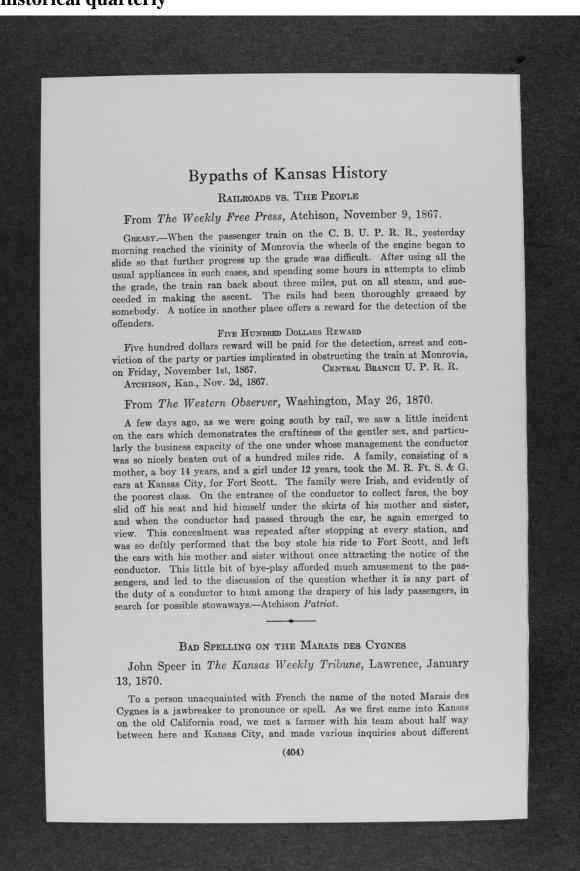
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KANSAS HISTORICAL QUARTERLY 402 and how many have lost their lives in that creek, within one year, I cannot tell. Your New England readers can form some idea how rapidly that stream rises, when I tell them I have repeatedly forded the stream at the very spot where, just before, it was twenty feet deep, and seething and foaming like a boiling cauldron! Mr. L. started for Lawrence, but could not cross the stream, and returned. and waited a week for the waters to subside, and pushed ahead, as he always does when difficulties are to be surmounted. Crossing the Wakarusa, he found the toll-bridge gone on his return, and the waters rolling like a sweeping flood; but his Quarterly Meeting was to commence the next day, at Sumner, fifty miles off, and the roads in a dreadful condition, and he must get home. The danger was appalling, and perhaps the attempt rash, but the horse he held by the bit was a spirited animal, and in he plunged, and swam across the stream, with the buggy, and all landed safe on the other shore, save the fender-board was broken, and a bag of potatoes (that Methodist preachers in Kansas are very glad to carry to their families) went down the stream! His clothes were well soaked with water, but a call at a Methodist inn soon set all right again, and he went on his way rejoicing. Not so with a man, not far from the same spot, and near that time. He started to carry home his hired girl, crossed the stream as it was rising, turned about to go home; in that time the stream had risen twelve feet; plunged in with his span of horses, but all were drowned, driver and horses. We felt sad as we stood on the banks of the Missouri, at the time of high water, and saw a noble animal, with a lariat attached to him, come floating by where we stood. We spoke of the melancholy history that might be connected with his fate, were it known; perhaps he and his rider were suddenly engulphed in a watery grave; or, peradventure, he had come all the way from Nebraska, or from near the Rocky Mountains. There is one matter connected with temporalities, (as my letter cannot be filled with anything of special interest, as I wish it might be, in matters pertaining to the prosperity of the church,) that I have long designed to mention in the Herald, to induce our New England friends to cease being duped as they have been, in buying "shares" or "lots," in paper towns in Kansas, where perhaps there are not three log cabins, to bear the name of town, or city, as the case may be, and probably never will be, or for some time to come, any more. There are towns on the Kaw and Missouri rivers, where a man may make a good investment; but ungodly speculators have

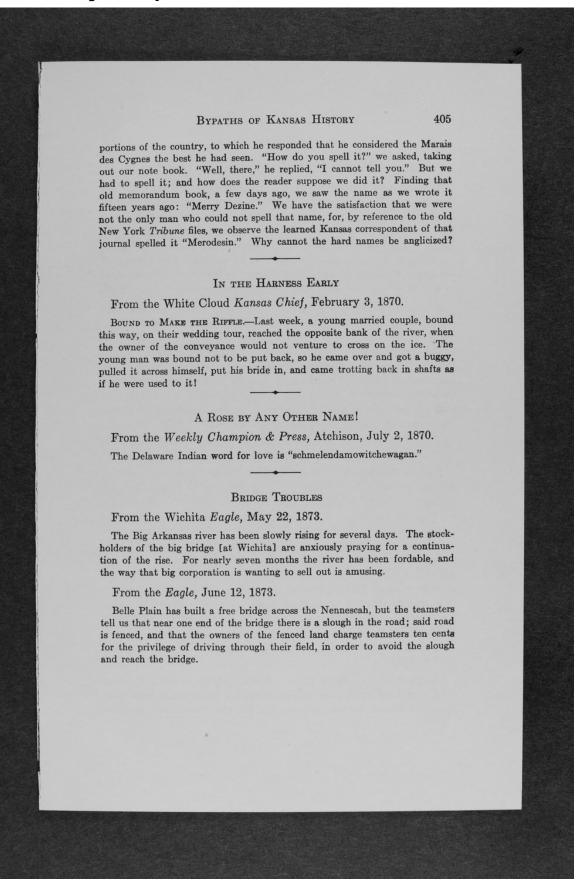




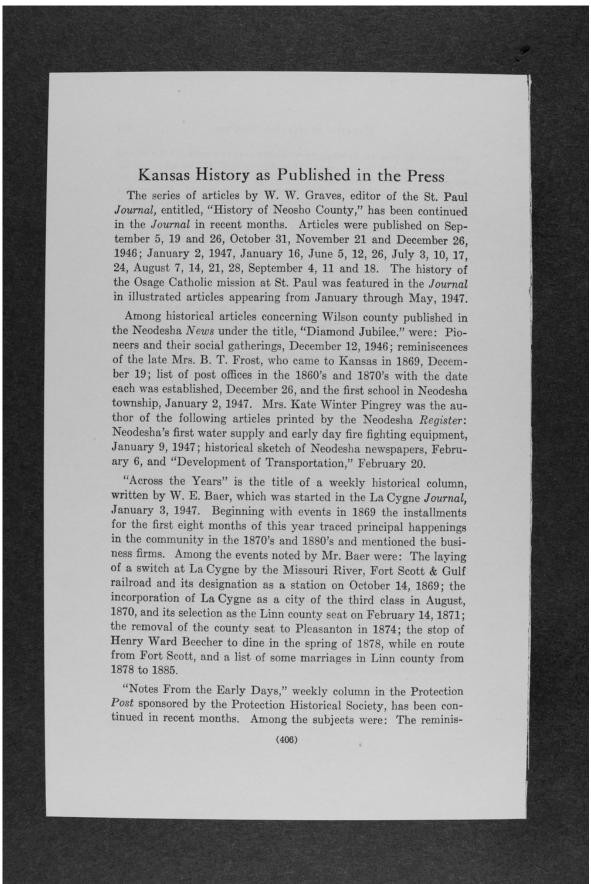




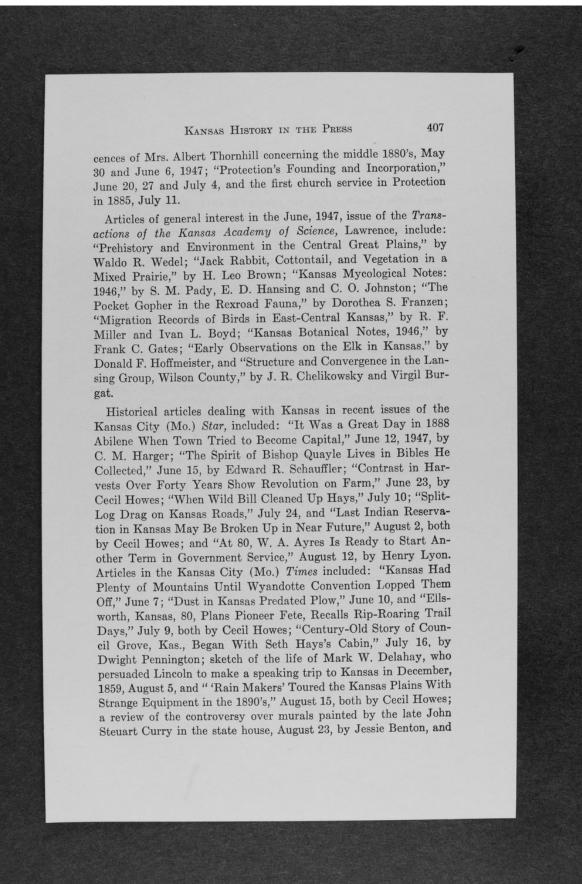






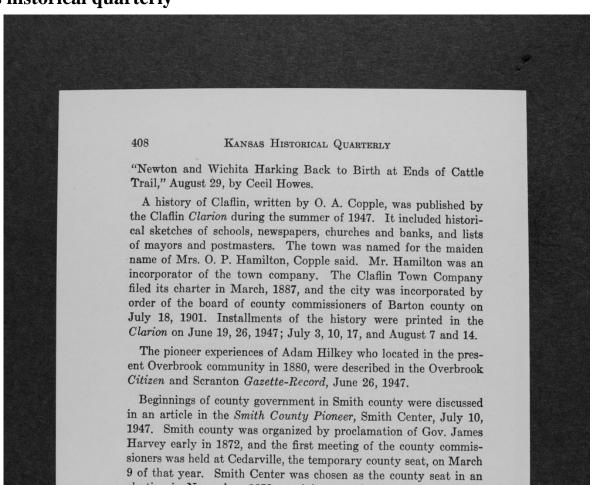








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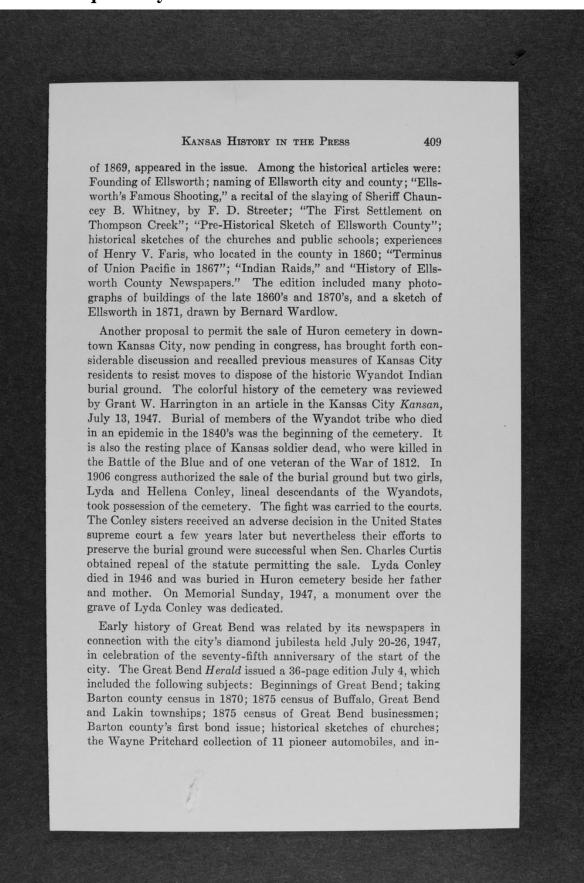


1947. Smith county was organized by proclamation of Gov. James Harvey early in 1872, and the first meeting of the county commissioners was held at Cedarville, the temporary county seat, on March 9 of that year. Smith Center was chosen as the county seat in an election in November, 1872, receiving a majority of all votes cast in a contest with Cedarville and Gaylord. The *Pioneer* on August 28 printed a photograph entitled, "Street Scene in Gaylord Sixtyone Years Ago." It was from a collection of the late Mrs. Jane Gedney.

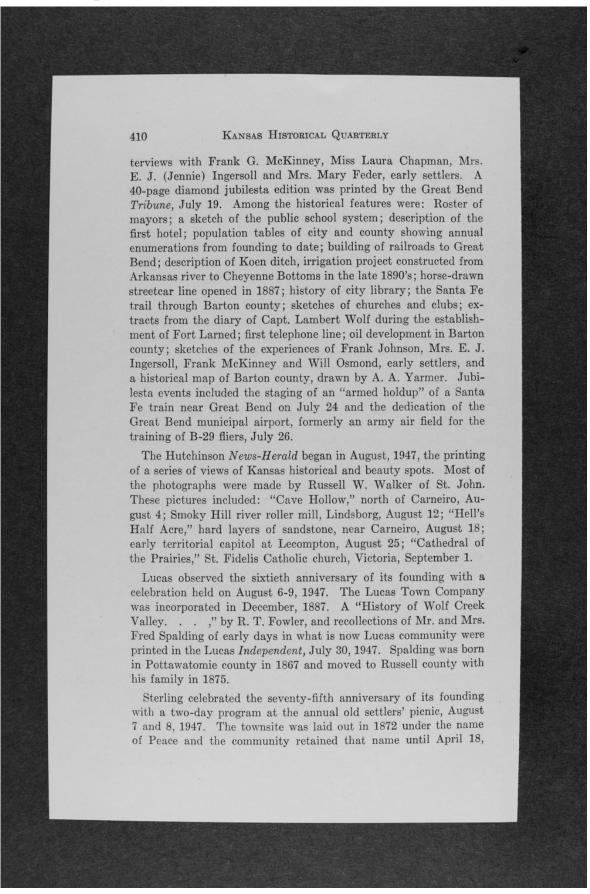
The eightieth anniversary of the founding of the city of Ellsworth and the organization of Elloworth and the organization of the organi

The eightieth anniversary of the founding of the city of Ellsworth and the organization of Ellsworth county was observed with a three-day celebration, July 10-12, 1947. The plat of the Ellsworth townsite was filed for record on July 18, 1867. A 34-page "Pioneer Day" edition issued by the Ellsworth Reporter, July 10, contained a chronological history of the community for the period of 1867 to 1930, inclusive. Biographical sketches included: James B. (Wild Bill) Hickok; Ben Thompson, notorious gunman; William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody; Capt. Eugene Millett; Maj. George E. Alden; George Seitz; Ira E. Lloyd; T. G. O'Donnell; E. W. Wellington; Arthur Larkin; W. E. Sherriff, and George Huycke. Rosters of Ellsworth mayors, postmasters, senatorial representation for Ellsworth county from 1867 to date, and the vigilante committee

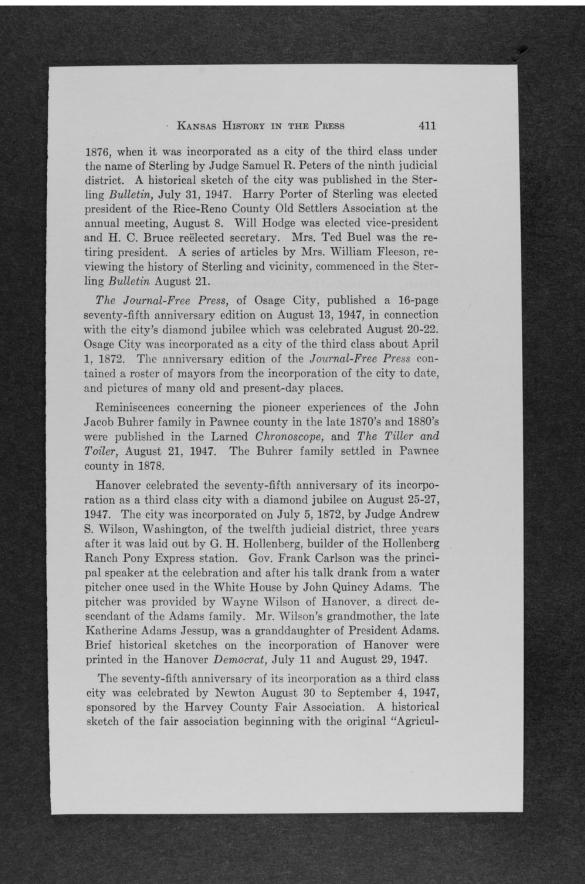




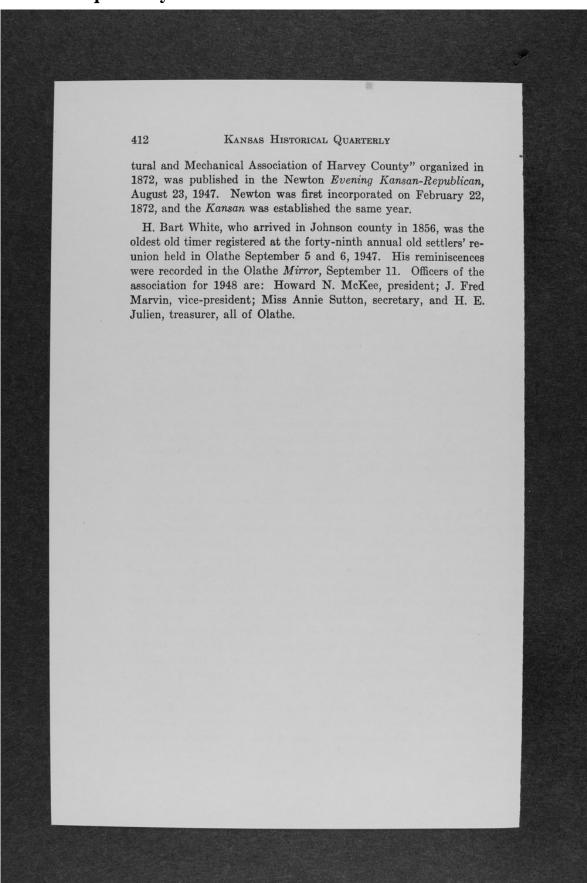




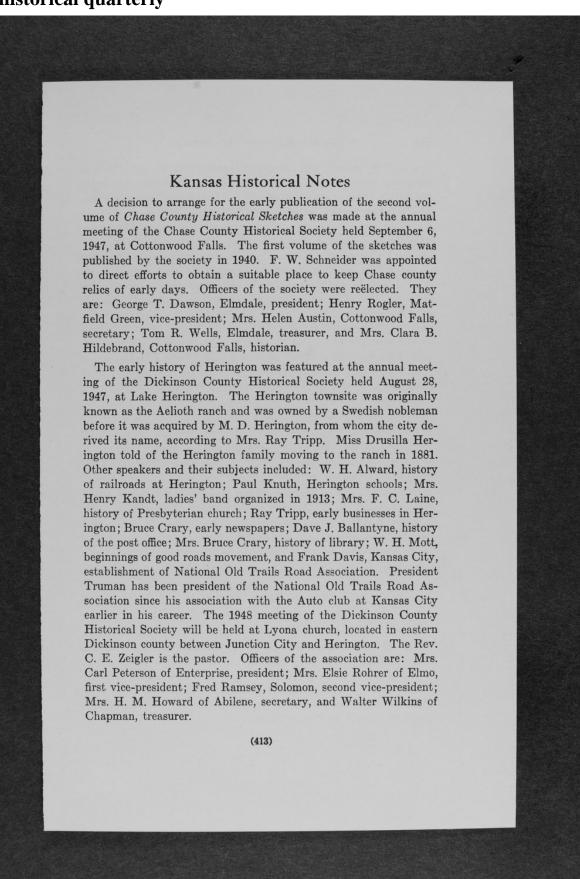




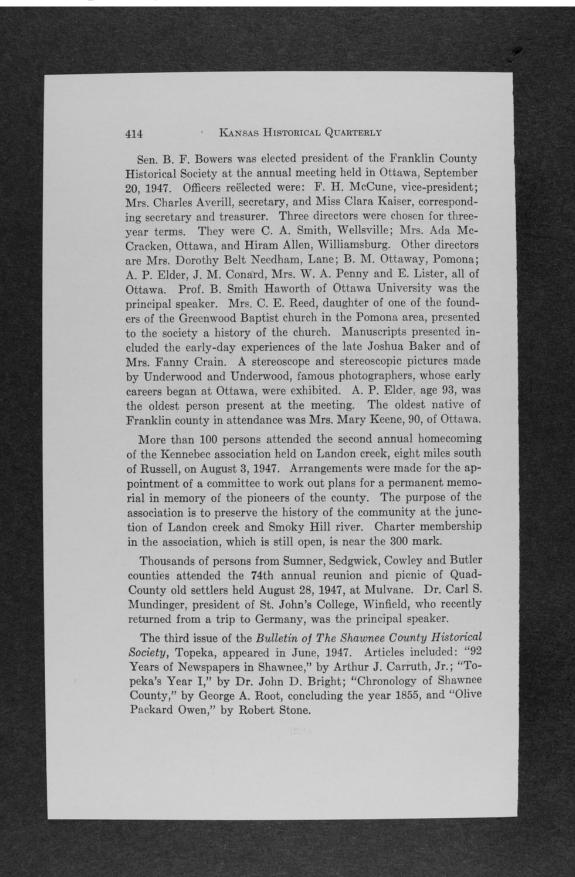




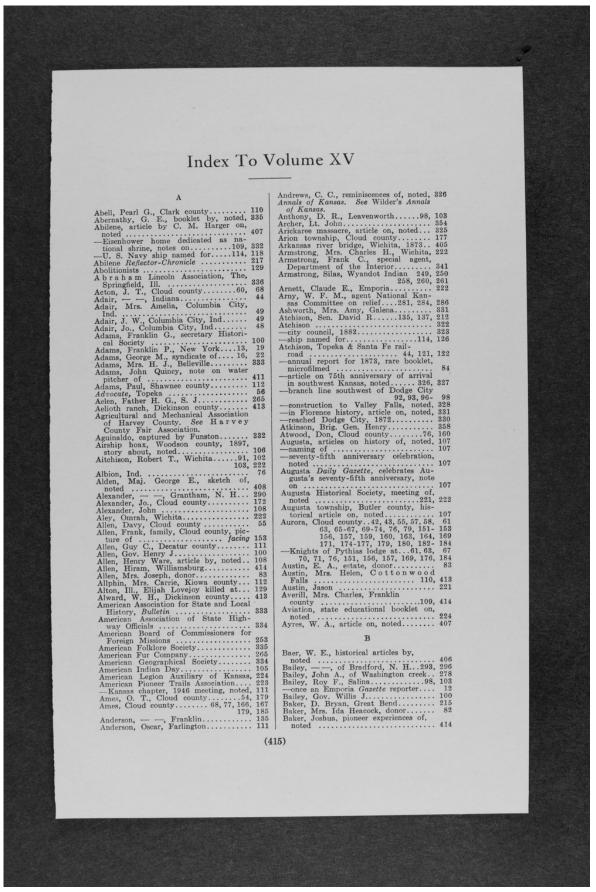














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