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KANSAS
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Douglas county; Charles Henry Lease, whose mother, Mary Ellen Lease, is a famous orator and now president of the Kansas State Board of Charities; and many other fine young men compose this company. No partisan consideration marked the action of the members of this company in joining it, because six members are Prohibitionists; twenty-four are Republicans; and twenty-six are Democrats. Good citizenship always rises above party considerations or factions. I am proud of the loyalty and good discipline exhibited by the members of this company, and I wish to say to Governor Robinson that we will preserve this muster roll as a roll of honor."

Headed by a band, I marched my company up town from the station, followed by a vast procession of citizens from Douglas, Jefferson, Leavenworth and Johnson counties. The sidewalks were packed with people and many were on the roof tops and at the windows. We marched into Jeffersonian Hall, and there I dismissed the company.

While we were absent from the city I was subject to abusive statements in the daily papers of the town, and for a time I suffered a social and business boycott. To counteract this I wrote a brief story in which I set forth the constitution and the military laws of the state; the telegraphic order from the governor to organize the company, and the commission I received from the governor as captain. The law and the facts were with me, absolutely, and when this story was published in the *Lawrence Journal* my old friends began to come back to me, and many of them apologized for refusing to recognize me or speak to me on the streets.

In recognition of my conduct in the Topeka legislative war, Governor Lewelling appointed me brigadier general of the Kansas National Guard, and before my term of service ended I was promoted to senior brigadier in command of the National Guard of the state.

I had grown up in the National Guard, had commanded two school companies and the "Robinson Rifles" in the Business College, and was also drill master of the Indian regiment at Haskell Institute for two years. While in command of the National Guard I was given a free hand by Governor Lewelling and put into effect the following reforms:

1. I established a system of target practice; provided the non-commissioned officers with target manuals and the commissioned officers with copies of "Blunt's Target Practice." A great quantity

of fixed ammunition had accumulated in the arsenal at Topeka, and I shipped most of this out to the companies. Sharpshooter and marksman badges were distributed to the men for efficiency at the rifle ranges.

2. When I took command there were four regiments of infantry in the state. I disbanded half of the companies and reorganized the balance into two regiments. The allotment of military supplies from the federal government was then sufficient to provide these two regiments with everything they needed, including overcoats, blankets and tents.

3. I organized a troop of cavalry, one platoon being at Lawrence, and the other at Baldwin, and they met for drill, part of the time at Lawrence, and part of the time at Baldwin, and when the weather was good and the ground fit, the two platoons met at Vinland for drill. The men furnished their own horses, for which a small allowance was made to them.

4. I established engineer, hospital and signal corps, and when these organizations were perfected the National Guard of Kansas was a complete, independent military force, comprising all arms of the service; for we had a battery of artillery with machine guns, one section being at Wichita, and the other section at Topeka.

5. I organized a school for the officers, numbering 125 men, and sent them to Fort Leavenworth with their tentage, blankets, fatigue uniforms and arms, and there they were drilled by regular army officers in the daytime and attended lectures given by army officers, in Old Sherman Hall, at night. Seven army officers, who were instructors in the post-graduate school at Fort Leavenworth, were our instructors. We found at this school the largest military library in the world, and we considered our instructors the best in the world. Before we left this school, through the solicitation of army officers, nearly every National Guard officer had subscribed to some military magazine and had purchased important books on military science. Some years later, while private secretary to Clara Barton, of the Red Cross, and at that time a member of her family, it came to me to entertain Lieut. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, and during our nearly two hours conversation I told him about the school for National Guard officers I had organized at Fort Leavenworth; whereupon General Miles said, "General Sears, I didn't know you were the man that organized that officer's school; but I made the details of the officers for your instructors. The regular army had been holding its right hand out to the National Guard for many years in vain, and you



were the first one to start a movement to bring us together." The *Army and Navy Journal* gave us a long story about the organization of this school, and immediately I received letters from nearly every adjutant general of the United States asking me for details about the school, with the result that in a short time there were National Guard officer schools organized in every state of the Union, except Nevada.

6. There had been no encampments of the National Guard in Kansas for seven years. The legislature had refused to appropriate money for camps. But I found the money and reestablished them. Each of the thirty-two companies in the National Guard were receiving annually \$300 for contingent company expenses. The company at Hill City paid only one dollar per month for an armory, and the captain had accumulated over \$600 in the bank, which he later returned to the state military fund. Other companies, that paid little for armory rent, blew in the surplus on balls and parties. I issued an order providing that each company would be paid the actual cost for armories and other necessary expenses. In a short time there was saved about \$6,000, and to this was added some \$3,000 more from a military fund, and these funds were used for reestablishing encampments. The officers and men served without pay at the encampments, and the city that secured an encampment furnished the wood for campfires, straw for the tents and, in one case, the bread and beef also.

In recognition of my work for the National Guard I have been accorded the honor of invitations to West Point commencements ever since 1926 and have attended five of them.

The officer's school that I organized at Fort Leavenworth was continued for four years prior to the war with Spain, with the result that the Twentieth Kansas, in the Spanish American War, which was composed largely of the officers and men of the two regiments of the National Guard of Kansas, made a fine record in the Philippines under the leadership of Gen. Wilder S. Metcalf and Gen. Frederick Funston.



Kansas History as Published in the State Press

Biographical sketches of Salina citizens have been published from time to time in the *Salina Journal* under the heading, "Why I came to Salina."

A Mennonite immigration in 1876 and the settlement established in Harvey county were described by C. C. Regier in an article entitled, "An Immigrant Family of 1876," which appeared in *Social Science*, Winfield, for July, 1932.

Short paragraphs on historical events of local and world-wide interest are prepared by Dr. Edward Bumgardner, of Lawrence, for regular publication in several newspapers of the Midwest under the heading, "Homeopathic Doses of History." The Lawrence *Daily Journal-World*, Iola *Daily Register*, Holton *Recorder* and the Valley Falls *Vindicator* are among the Kansas newspapers publishing the series which started August 1, 1932.

A story of the pioneers of Lookout valley was published serially in the Cedar Vale *Messenger* from November 8, 1932, to February 17, 1933. Pioneer reminiscences in this series were edited by O. D. Sartin.

Harvey county historical manuscripts, preserved by John C. Nicholson, have been published from time to time in the *Harvey County News*, Newton. Stories included in this series and their authors, if known, are: "Early History of the Formation of the County and Difficulties Encountered," Judge R. W. P. Muse, January 5, 1933; "Farming in the Early Seventies," John C. Johnston, January 12; "Early Days of Harvey County and Newton," February 2; "Burrton Township," W. L. D. Daily, February 9, and "Taking Claims, Improving Land and Other Happenings in Highland Township History," John C. Johnston, March 2.

"Wheat—the Crop of Early Centuries—Its Part in the County and State Development," by Mary H. Wires, was published in the *Harvey County News*, Newton, January 12, 1933.

A story of the founding of Victoria, Ellis county, and the introduction of black Angus cattle into this country, written by Alvin H. Sander, former editor of the *Breeder's Gazette*, was printed in the *Russell Record*, January 19 and 26, 1933.

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Mrs. Margaret Steig, pioneer of Marshall county, was interviewed by Byron E. Guise for the *Marshall County News*, Marysville, January 20, 1933. Mrs. Steig came to Kansas in 1866 and settled northeast of Oketo. Other articles of Kansas historical interest appearing in this newspaper include a brief history of Blue Rapids, March 10; the experiences of William Campbell, a pony express rider, March 17; a history of the Marietta Grain Co., reputed to be the oldest coöperative grain organization in the state, March 24; the experiences of Hiram Lillibridge, Waterville pioneer, April 14; an interview with Mrs. A. J. Travelute, who has lived in Marysville since 1860, April 28; the experiences of Ed Lally, June 2, and a picture of the county sixty-six years ago as recalled by Mrs. Fred Brucker, June 16.

A "History of Waldo M. E. Church," by Mary A. Jain, was published in the *Waldo Advocate*, January 23 to February 6, 1933. S. P. Lantz was superintendent of the first Sunday school.

The story of the naming of Wagon Bed Springs was related by India H. Simmons in the *Dodge City Daily Globe*, January 25, 1933. "When the Rails Pushed West," naming many early-day characters and places figuring in the history of the Dodge City area, was another of Mrs. Simmons' contributions to the *Globe*. It was published in the issues of January 26 to 30.

Pioneers of Trego county were guests of the Wakeeney Locust club at a Kansas Day program January 20, 1933. Names of a few of these early-day settlers were published in the *Western Kansas World*, January 26. Brief biographical sketches of pioneers who still live in Trego county were printed in the issues of February 2 to March 9, and on February 23 over two columns were devoted to the experiences of O. A. Cortright.

The reminiscences of Mrs. E. O. Brooks (Sarah White), telling of her capture by Indians in 1868, were published in *The Kansas Optimist*, Jamestown, January 26, 1933. The article was written by Mrs. Carl Flitch, a daughter of Mrs. E. O. Brooks, and was read at a Jamestown Kansas Day program.

"Abram Brantley Holt, Nearly 86, Is Oldest Living Resident of Leon," was the title of a feature article appearing in the *Leon News*, January 27, 1933. Mr. Holt settled on Hickory creek in 1870.



"Kansas Day, 1861-1933," was the subject of A. H. Harris' recollections published in the *Yates Center News*, January 27, 1933.

Early-day experiences of B. S. Head were recounted in the *Cedar Vale Messenger*, January 27, 1933. Mr. Head's father settled in northeastern Kansas in the spring of 1855.

Cunningham's tornado of 1900 was described in the *Cunningham Clipper*, in a special article appearing in its issues of January 27 to February 17, 1933.

"Through the Years With Site of Old Wyandotte County Courthouse," was the title of an illustrated historical article featured in the "Yearly Progress Edition" of the *Kansas City Kansan*, January 29, 1933.

Riley county in retrospect was the keynote of a pageant presented as part of the Riley County Historical Society's Kansas Day program, January 28, 1933. A list of the early settlers attending the meeting was published in the *Manhattan Morning Chronicle*, January 29, and the *Manhattan Republic*, February 2.

A brief historical sketch of Omio, once a busy Jewell county city, was published in the *Topeka Daily Capital*, January 30, 1933. Omio was situated three miles south of Formoso.

The battle of Black Jack, which was described by Milton Tabor in his "The Story of Kansas," printed in the *Topeka Daily Capital*, January 30, 1933, led Asa F. Converse, in the *Wellsville Globe*, February 23, to publish eye-witness accounts by Robert Pearson and G. W. E. Griffith, participants in the battle.

John Starr Barnum, one of the three men who named Wichita, died in California January 29, 1933. According to the *Wichita Eagle* of January 31, Barnum, David Munger, the first postmaster, and a harness maker by the name of Vigus, gave the city its name.

Biographical sketches of Wilson county pioneers are being published from time to time in the *Wilson County Citizen*, Fredonia. The articles, which have been prepared by Mrs. Belle C. Lyon, mention the following citizens: Luther E. Greathouse, January 31, 1933; L. C. Collins, March 14; J. E. Daniel, April 4; J. W. Koonce, April 14, and Mrs. Annie Barrett, May 19.

Horse thieves operating in southern Kansas and the Indian territory over a half century ago were recalled by Judge T. J. Dyer in



the Alva (Okla.) *Daily Record*, January 31, February 1 and 2, 1933. Judge Dyer with his family settled near Elgin in April, 1870.

A brief history of the Santa Fe railroad was published in *The Tiller and Toiler*, Larned, February 2, 1933. The city's early-day fires were briefly reviewed also in this issue.

Sedgwick Congregational Church history was briefly sketched in the *Sedgwick Pantagraph*, February 2, 1933.

"Kansas," an address by J. H. Andrews, given at a meeting of the Humboldt Rotary Club, January 30, 1933, was published in the *Humboldt Union*, February 2. Mr. Andrews, who came to Allen county in 1867, related many of his early-day experiences.

"George Bunker Writes of Original Survey of Topeka and Southwestern," was the title of a front-page feature printed in the *Eskridge Independent*, February 2, 1933. Two surveys for the railroad from Topeka to Council Grove were made.

Names of old settlers of Kansas, and particularly of Reno county, who registered at the fourth annual Farm and Home Week held in Hutchinson February 1 to 4, 1933, were published in the *Hutchinson News* and *Herald* in their issues of February 2, 3 and 4. The four days of festivities are regularly sponsored by the Hutchinson daily newspapers.

"Col. Asa Kinney and the Wisconsin Colony," by Margaret Eastland-Ruppenthal, was published in *The Russell County News*, Russell, February 2, 9 and 23, 1933.

Pioneer days along White Rock creek were described by Mrs. Ellen M. Warren, of Courtland, in a series of articles printed in the *Belleville Telescope*, February 2 and 23, March 9 and 23, 1933. Andrew Glenn, a pioneer and member of the Excelsior colony, reviewed the history of that settlement for the *Telescope*, February 9 and 16.

A sixteen-page "Booster Edition" of the *Leon News* was edited by the Leon Methodist Episcopal Church, February 3, 1933. Histories of the various inter-societies of the church and letters from former pastors and pioneers were featured.

A copy of the first issue of the *Kansas Free State*, which was published in Lawrence in January, 1855, led a reporter to reminisce of early-day Lawrence in the *Daily Journal-World*, February 4, 1933.



Names of the known former students of Central Normal College, which flourished at Great Bend until 1902, were listed in the *Hoisington Dispatch*, February 9, 1933. Preceding a reunion of these former students, which was held at Great Bend June 10, a history of the college, by Rev. W. A. Sharp, of Topeka, was published in the *Great Bend Tribune*.

A letter from Wendell P. Hogue to Judge J. T. Cooper, of Fredonia, relating how the city looked to the writer in 1887 and 1888, was published in the *Wilson County Citizen*, February 10, 1933.

The robbery of the Medicine Lodge bank, May 1, 1884, and the part played by Caldwell "peace" officers were described in the *Caldwell Daily Messenger*, February 16, 1933.

A letter from Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Brown to Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Black of Summerfield, on the occasion of the Blacks' fiftieth wedding anniversary, was published in the *Summerfield Sun*, February 16, 1933. The letter revealed many names and places of historical interest in Marshall county.

Two members of the student body of eighteen which met for the opening assembly exercises of the Emporia Kansas State Teachers College (Kansas State Normal School) sixty-eight years ago are still living, according to information brought out at the Founders' day dinner, February 15, 1933. The *Emporia Gazette* of February 16, and the college *Bulletin* of February 17, printed historical notes on the college brought out at the dinner.

Reminiscences of pioneer Washington county residents who attended the courthouse corner-stone laying in 1886 appeared in the *Washington County Register*, Washington, in its issues of February 24 to March 17, 1933, in conjunction with ceremonies held when the corner stone for the new courthouse was laid March 11.

Panhandle cattle trails and their relation to Dodge City were discussed in two articles by A. W. Thompson, of Denver, Colo., published in the *Dodge City Daily Globe*, February 25 and 27, by courtesy of *The Cattleman* (Texas) and the *Clayton (N. M.) News*. A map showing cattle ranches on the old Tascosa trail accompanied the article.

"He helped to Haul the Guns to Defend Woodsdale From Attack," is the title of an article in the *Hutchinson Herald* of February 26, 1933, describing the activities of Arthur B. Campbell, of near Moscow, in the Stevens county seat warfare.



"Some Personal Glimpses of Early Kansas Editors," by William Allen White, was a feature of the March, 1933, issue of *The Kansas Editor*, published by the department of journalism of the University of Kansas, at Lawrence.

French settlers were the first to locate in the vicinity of present-day Burrton, according to historical records left by the late Judge W. L. Daily, of Burrton. He found that a French colony of ten families located on Turkey creek, in Alta township, in 1869. The *Hutchinson Herald* printed a brief account of this settlement in its issue of March 1, 1933.

"Pioneer Scraps," a column depicting the history of the founding of Wichita, appeared serially in the Wichita (evening) *Eagle* from March 1, to May 6, 1933. Mrs. George Whitney was the contributor.

Under the column heading "Early Day Recollections of Smith County Pioneers," the Athol-Gaylord-Cedar *Review* commenced a series of historical articles in its issue of March 1, 1933. Among the pioneers contributing were: C. E. Walker, in the issues of March 1, 15, 29, April 19, May 24; C. A. Cowan, March 8, 22, April 26; J. S. McDonald, April 5; Mrs. M. A. Gregg, May 10, and George L. Burr, Sr., May 17.

Philip Budenbender's experiences as one of the earliest residents of Spring Creek township, Pottawatomie county, were told in the *Westmoreland Recorder*, March 2, 1933.

Cawker City newspaper history was reviewed by the Cawker City *Ledger*, March 2, 1933. The *Sentinel*, founded in March, 1872, was the city's first newspaper.

Early-day life in the Greenleaf community was described by Anton Peterson in the Greenleaf *Sentinel*, March 2 to 16, 1933. Mr. Peterson settled in Washington county in 1869.

The sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the Christian Church in Jewell was observed February 26, 1933. A brief history of the church, which was read at the meeting by Mrs. Mary Rowe, a charter member, was published in *The Jewell County Republican*, March 3.

An interview with Judge W. P. Campbell, pioneer Wichitan, was published in the Wichita *Beacon*, March 5, 1933. Judge Campbell, who came to Kansas in 1869, compared the hardships of yesteryear with those of to-day.



"Comanche County Was Organized in a Fraud," was the title of a story appearing in the Dodge City *Daily Globe*, March 7, 1933. The article was inspired by an interview with F. A. Hobble.

A six-column history of Independence was featured in the sixty-second anniversary edition of the *South Kansas Tribune*, Independence, issued March 8, 1933. Walter Krone, W. S. Sickels, Lyman U. Humphrey, W. R. Pratt, and Samuel Broughton, were among the pioneers who contributed reminiscent letters commemorating the occasion.

Newspaper history of Almena was reviewed by the Almena *Plaindealer*, March 9, 1933, commemorating its forty-sixth birthday.

Filings of declaratory statements of intention to claim government land for homesteads near Russell were discussed by Judge J. C. Ruppenthal in *The Russell County News*, Russell, March 9, 23 and 30, 1933. The first filing recorded near Russell was made in what is now Grant township in May, 1871.

Reminiscences of Sarah L. Jent as told to H. C. Jent were published in the Cedar Vale *Messenger*, March 10, 1933. Mrs. Jent settled near Elgin in 1878.

An old school-district treasurer's book for district 59, Washington county, formed the basis for a historical review in the Linn-Palmer *Record*, March 10, 1933. Names of former officers, teachers, and builders of school buildings were listed in the twenty-eight year record. The first entry was that of February 24, 1872.

The history of McPherson county's oil and gas fields was published by the McPherson *Daily Republican* in a special oil and gas edition March 13, 1933. The discovery well was brought in September 9, 1926. A brief historical sketch of the county was also featured in the edition.

"A Story of the Bender Tragedy," as written years ago by Charles Yoe, was published in the *South Kansas Tribune*, Independence, March 15, 1933.

Francis Henry Roberts' "Early Days in Oskaloosa" column in the Oskaloosa *Independent* recalled the city's first remembered earthquake, in the issue of March 16, 1933. No special damage was done except to chimneys.

Sketches of the lives of Republic county pioneers, events in the early history of Republic City and county, history of the city's



newspapers with letters from former editors, and write-ups of the churches and schools, were features of the sixteen-page fiftieth anniversary edition of the *Republic City News*, March 16, 1933. The *News* was founded in March, 1883, by Charles H. Wolfe.

The establishment of Lawndale, southwest of the present town of Cunningham, and an Indian scare of 1885, were described by Ed Stone in the *Cunningham Clipper* through the issues of March 17 to April 21, 1933.

A history of the First Presbyterian church of Fairport was reviewed in the *Paradise Farmer*, March 20, 1933. The church edifice, which was destroyed by lightning July 9, 1932, has been rebuilt, and the new building was dedicated March 12. Rev. S. S. Wallen organized the church September 18, 1887.

Biographical sketches of Mr. and Mrs. David Greep, Kansas pioneers, were published in the *Longford Leader*, March 23, 1933.

"Some Early History About Tribune and Its First Church Organization," by Mrs. Sidney Simpson, was printed in the *Greeley County Republican*, Tribune, March 23, 1933. Also, in its issues of April 20 and 27, the *Republican* continued the church history of the county with a detailed account written by T. P. Tucker, a pioneer.

A history of the Soldier Christian Church as read at the fiftieth anniversary meeting March 26, 1933, was published in the *Soldier Clipper*, March 29. The church was organized March 28, 1883, with fourteen charter members.

History of the clock in Topeka's old post-office tower, by Dwight Thacher Harris, appeared in the *Topeka State Journal*, March 27, 1933. It was installed February 28, 1884.

A column review of the activities of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Kansas territory was published in the *Lawrence Daily Journal-World*, March 29, 1933. Rev. William A. Goode preached the first sermon to the white settlers of the territory at Hickory Point July 9, 1854, according to Dr. Edward Bumgardner, the contributor.

The fifty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Ash Rock Congregational Church, Woodston, was observed March 26, 1933. The *Woodston Argus* of March 30, printed a history of the organization.

Names of Pawnee county cattlemen who have registered cattle brands with the county clerk were published in *The Tiller and*

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Toiler, Larned, March 30, 1933. V. F. Wyman registered the first brand in the county, October 29, 1873.

The death of Mrs. Mary Durfey, widow of Jeff Durfey, March 23, 1933, was recorded by the *Osborne County Farmer*, Osborne, March 30. The Durfeys, according to the *Farmer*, were the first persons to be married in Osborne county.

"A Gawdy Picture Painted of Arkansas City in 1889," by D. F. MacMartin, was the title of an article published in the *Arkansas City Daily Traveler*, March 30, 1933. Mr. MacMartin made the run into Old Oklahoma from Arkansas City in April, 1889.

The reminiscences of Charles H. Barber, as told to Charles Rose, have appeared from time to time in the *Almena Plaindealer*. Mr. Barber, who was a former government Indian scout, told of a buffalo hunt with European nobility, in the issue of March 30, 1933; of an Indian ambush near present Atwood in which he was wounded by an arrow, in the April 20 number, and of the Pawnee Indian massacre near present Trenton, Neb., in the June 22 issue.

"Some History of Early Jewell City Cemeteries," by Lillian Forrest, was published in *The Jewell County Republican*, Jewell, March 31, 1933.

"Santa Fe's Early History a Story of Development," was the title of an address given by W. E. Greene, chief clerk of the railroad's Western division office, at Dodge City, recently. The address, which was printed in the *Dodge City Daily Globe*, April 1, 1933, told of the hurried construction through southwest Kansas to fulfill the land grant stipulation and the later development to California and to Chicago.

A history of the Grand Centre school, District No. 67, Osborne county, from 1878 to 1888, by H. P. Tripp, was published in the *Waldo Advocate*, April 3, 1933, and the *Luray Herald*, April 6. The school district was organized in May, 1878. Ida Calkins was the first teacher. The building of the log schoolhouse in this district was described by Mr. Tripp in the *Advocate*, May 15, and the *Herald*, May 18.

Topeka's oldest business firms were named by G. D. McClaskey in the *Topeka Daily Capital*, April 4, 1933.

Early Clay county history was briefly reviewed in *The Economist*, Clay Center, April 5, 1933.



Biographies of Tom Lovewell, government scout, and E. D. Haney, by Ella Morlan Warren, were published in the Belleville *Telescope*, recently. The sketch of Mr. Lovewell appeared April 6 and 13, 1933, and that of Mr. Haney, May 4. Other pioneer sketches printed in the *Telescope*, author not known, include: Sam Fisher, May 18, and the Family of William Osborne, June 15.

Historical sketches of Glen Elder and Mitchell county in the early 1870's have been published in the Glen Elder *Sentinel* during the past few months. The series of articles, written by Alonzo Pruitt, appeared under the following titles: "Ancient Glen Elder History," April 6, 1933; "Glen Elder's Early Schools," April 20; "Early Day Doctors in This Community," April 27; "Our Churches," May 18 and 25; "Personal Recollections of My Early Neighbors," May 25; "When Kansas Was Young," June 1 and "Cereals and Fruits," June 15.

A historical sketch of Harmony Church, by Mrs. Marion Bolin, was printed in the *Leon News*, April 7, 1933.

The history of the *Kingman Journal* was reviewed by the *Journal* April 7, 1933, commemorating the start of its forty-fourth year. The first issue appeared in April, 1890, with John A. Maxey as editor.

A brief history of the Methodist Southwest Kansas conference, by Rev. S. M. Van Cleve, was published in the Wichita *Sunday Eagle*, April 9, 1933. Biographies of C. E. Williams, W. R. Rolingson, Francis M. Romine, Samuel McKibben and Dudley D. Akin, five pastors who were members of the conference at its inception and who are still living, were included in this résumé.

Maplehill's history was reviewed in the Kansas City (Mo.) *Star*, April 9, 1933. The townsite was opened for settlement by George A. Fowler in 1887.

Cowley county history was sketched by L. A. Millspaugh before a meeting of the Cowley County Historical Society April 10, 1933. A résumé of his speech was published in the Winfield *Daily Courier*, April 11.

A biography of "Mother" Bickerdyke, for whom the state institution at Ellsworth was named, was printed in the Ellsworth *Messenger*, April 13, 1933. The Hays *Daily News* reprinted the article in its April 21 issue.



John H. DeVault, a pioneer Kansan, was the subject of a biographical sketch in *The Scott County Record*, Scott City, April 13 and 20, 1933. Martha Brock was the contributor.

"Back Trailing With Our Pioneer Women" was the title of a two-column story appearing in the *Cedar Vale Messenger*, April 14, 1933, in which the experiences of several Chautauqua county settlers were recounted.

"Rolla Will Celebrate Town's Twentieth Anniversary This Year," was the title of a brief historical sketch of the city published in *The Morton County Farmer*, Rolla, April 14, 1933.

A. P. Elder, a resident of Franklin county for seventy-five years, was interviewed by W. E. Gilliland for the *Ottawa Herald*, April 15, 1933. In the *Kansas City (Mo.) Star*, of April 16, Mr. Elder recalled Quantrill's raid on Lawrence, in 1863, which he witnessed from a nearby hill.

A triple lynching in Anthony forty-seven years ago was recalled by the *Anthony Times*, April 18, 1933.

A history of the Ladies Reading Club of Girard, by Mrs. Nora Vincent, was published in the *Girard Press*, April 20, 1933. The club was organized April 21, 1883. Mrs. Anna M. Leonard was the founder.

The reminiscences of E. W. Voorhis, of Columbia, Mo., and J. L. C. Wilson, of Washington, D. C., two Russell county pioneers, are appearing serially in the *Russell Record*. Mr. Voorhis' sketches entitled "Those Golden Days When Russell Was Made," began with the issue of April 20, 1933. "Way Back When," by Mr. Wilson, commenced June 22.

Biographical sketches of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Sheeran, as told by a relative, were published in the *Chapman Advertiser*, April 20, 1933.

The genealogy of the Gove family, a member of which was Capt. Grenville L. Gove for whom Gove county was named, was reviewed in the *Republican-Gazette*, Gove City, April 20, 1933.

"Still Register Cattle Brands in Ford County," the *Dodge City Daily Globe* headlined in its issue of April 21, 1933. There are 455 different brands on record to date, says the *Globe*, with the first registered in 1878 by Fulton and Stevens.

A discussion of the Hamilton county-seat troubles was continued by C. W. Noell in the *Syracuse Journal* in its issues of April 21 and June 23, 1933. Special significance was placed on the Coomes precinct election fraud in the issue of April 21.

"The story of a Real Pioneer of Southern Kansas," was the title of an article by Rev. Wm. Schaefer relating the reminiscences of William Mies in the *Wichita Sunday Eagle*, April 23, 1933. Mr. Mies came to Kansas in 1874, settling near Wichita.

Elkhart history was briefly reviewed in the *Elkhart Tri-State News*, April 27, 1933. Elkhart was founded in the spring of 1913.

School history of Leon was traced in a twenty-page edition of the *Leon News* published April 28, 1933. The newspaper was edited by a high-school English class.

"The Story of the Old Home Town, Jewell City, Kansas," a detailed history compiled by Everett Palmer, is running serially in *The Jewell County Republican*, starting with the issue of April 28, 1933. The Jewell City Town Co. was organized May 28, 1870.

"Carrying Old Glory to Kansas," a column relating the life of Gen. Philip St. George Cooke, is appearing serially in the *Wichita (evening) Eagle*, commencing with the issue of May 1, 1933.

"A Little History of the Early Days of Kansas," by J. L. Garrett, of Dorrance, was printed in the *Grainfield Cap Sheaf*, May 5, 1933. Mr. Garrett's family settled west of Wilson in 1872.

Dedicatory services for Walnut's new Methodist Episcopal church building were held April 30, 1933. A history of the organization was sketched in the *Walnut Eagle*, May 5, commemorating the event.

Early Toronto history was told in a letter from J. T. Cooper published in the *Toronto Republican*, May 11, 1933. Mr. Cooper was principal of the city's schools in 1892.

Dedicatory services for the rebuilt Presbyterian church in Lincoln was held May 7, 1933. Both the *Lincoln Sentinel-Republican* and *The Lincoln County News*, in their issues of May 11, printed histories of the church in commemoration of the event. The Lincoln congregation was organized in 1873.

"Kansas History and Horses," was the title of an article appearing in the *Beloit Gazette*, May 17, 1933, extolling Kansas equines famous in turf history.



Historical facts about Norcatur were printed in the *Norcatur Dispatch*, May 18, 1933. The city was incorporated in October, 1901.

The sixtieth anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church of Hays was observed May 27, 1933. The church was organized by Rev. Timothy Hill and the first building was erected in 1879. Ministers who have served the church since its founding were named in the *Hays Daily News*, May 23.

A biographical sketch of Henry Sides, Civil War veteran and pioneer of Alma, was published in the *Alma Plaindealer*, May 25, 1933.

"Harvey County Pioneer Tells of Visit by the Notorious Jesse James in Early Days," was the title of an article relating the experiences of Nellie M. Young, of Halstead, printed in the *Harvey County News*, Newton, May 25, 1933. The visit to the home of the Youngs occurred in August, 1875.

Ferries operating across the Kansas river at Lawrence were discussed by Dr. Edward Bumgardner in the *Lawrence Daily Journal-World*, May 30, 1933. Gustave A. Graeber operated the latest ferry in the city as an emergency service during the flood of 1903.

Special historical articles commemorating the sixty-fifth anniversary of the organization of Girard Town Co. by Dr. C. H. Strong appeared in the *Girard Press*, June 1, 1933. Brief biographical sketches of Dr. Strong, J. H. McCoy, W. S. Hitch, W. C. Veatch, Dr. L. P. Adamson and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Eldridge were features of the edition.

Russell Congregational Church history was reviewed by Mrs. Frances Dawson for a recent state church meeting and was published in the *Russell Record*, June 1, 1933.

The Lewis High School commencement address delivered by Dr. James C. Malin, May 24, 1933, ran serially in the *Lewis Press*, in its issues of June 1 to July 6, inclusive. Dr. Malin's subject was "The Evolution of a Rural Community—an Introduction to the History of Wayne Township, Edwards County."

Early day postmasters in Mitchell county were named by A. B. Adamson in the *Beloit Daily Call*, June 2, 1933.

A brief history of Iowa Point, important Kansas town during territorial days, was published in the *Kansas City (Mo.) Times*, June 7, 1933.



"Newspaper Files Reveal Interesting Story of Burlingame High School Graduates," was the title of a feature article by Mrs. W. G. Beale, appearing in *The Enterprise-Chronicle*, Burlingame, June 8, 1933. The first class was graduated in 1887.

"Early Wallace County, General Custer, and the Seventh Cavalry," from the reminiscences of Lewis C. Gandy, was the title of an article published in *The Western Times*, Sharon Springs, June 8, July 6 and 13, 1933.

"Local Man Bore Custer From Field at Little Big Horn," writes *The Tiller and Toiler*, Larned, June 8, 1933, in a feature story relating the experiences of Charles W. Guernsey, who visited the Custer battlefield the morning after the fight.

"Missouri River Really the Kaw From Kansas City to St. Louis," was the report of a Kansas City (Mo.) *Star* representative after interviewing U. S. army engineers. The story, which appeared June 9, 1933, stated that the Kaw is "the true river between Kansas City and the Mississippi," and that "the Missouri, from a point in North Dakota to Kansas City, probably is the 'newest' river in the United States."

A brief illustrated history of St. John's Military Academy, of Salina, was printed in the Wichita *Sunday Eagle*, June 11, 1933. The academy was founded in 1887, largely through the efforts of Bishop E. S. Thomas.

The sixtieth anniversary of the settlement of Sellens creek, near Russell, was observed June 14, 1933. A brief description of the caravan which left Kankakee, Ill., in three wagons sixty years ago. was published in the Russell *Record*, June 15, 1933.

A few of the pioneers settling in the vicinity of Geuda Springs were named by George M. Bigger in his reminiscences published in the Geuda Springs *News*, June 15, 1933.

The recent visit of J. J. Johnson to the Beloit *Gazette's* office led the *Gazette* to reminisce on its early history in the issue of June 21, 1933. Mr. Johnson with A. B. Chaffee founded the *Gazette* in 1872.

A short history of Ionia, oldest God-child of Ionia, Mich., was published in the Ionia *Booster*, June 23, 1933. The article was a reprint from the Ionia (Mich.) *Sentinel*.

A column history of the Walnut Christian Church appeared in the *Walnut Eagle*, June 23, 1933. The church was organized in 1882 by J. Hennesy.

"Recall 1893 Rain Experiment," was the title of a brief article discussing the simultaneous firing-off of gunpowder in May, 1893, in several southern Kansas cities in an effort to break the drouth, which was published in the *Wichita Sunday Eagle*, June 25, 1933. Rain came within a few hours, but meteorologists scoffed at the gunpowder theory. Similar attempts at rainmaking in Pawnee county were related by E. E. Frizell in *The Tiller and Toiler*, Larned, April 6.

To Rev. Isaac McCoy, early Baptist missionary, goes the credit of launching and making a success of the movement that resulted in the segregation of the Indians west of Missouri and Arkansas, according to Maj. William W. Harris, writing in the *Kansas City (Mo.) Star*, June 25, 1933. The movement resulted in the congressional "Act of May 26, 1830," establishing what at that time was believed to be the future, permanent abode of all North American Indians then residing within our national boundaries.

Burial grounds near Waldo were described by H. P. Tripp in the *Waldo Advocate*, June 26, 1933.

Kansas Historical Notes

A memorial tablet to Rev. Thomas Johnson, founder of the Methodist Shawnee mission, was unveiled April 16, 1933, in Thomas Johnson hall at the mission. Mrs. Edna Anderson, daughter of Rev. Johnson, gave the tablet, and Thomas Amory Lee, president of the Kansas State Historical Society, represented the state. The meeting was conducted by the Shawnee Mission Indian Historical Society.

"The Relation of the Local Historical Society to the State Historical Society," was discussed by Kirke Mechem, secretary of the Kansas State Historical Society, at a meeting of the Wyandotte County Historical Society held at Kansas City, April 20, 1933. Grant W. Harrington, of Kansas City, another speaker, read a paper entitled "Before the Bridges Came," in which the evolution of river crossing in Wyandotte county was reviewed.

Dudley T. Horton has compiled and published a booklet entitled *A History of Hopewell School* (1932). Hopewell school is District No. 114, Plevna, in Reno county.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of Highland University was observed this year. Trustees were appointed and a charter was secured from the territorial legislature of 1857-1858. Chief White Cloud, a student of the Highland mission school from 1854 to 1857, was a featured speaker during special commencement festivities commemorating the event.

Pioneer History of Kansas, 365 pages with illustrations, was recently published by its author, Adolph Roenigk, of Lincoln. Much of the book is concerned with the settlements along the Smoky, Solomon, Saline and Republican rivers. The history was begun by John C. Baird in 1908, who collected data for the first hundred pages, but died before the work could be concluded. Mr. Roenigk, who had contributed to Mr. Baird's researches, continued and finished the book. W. K. Cone, Dr. N. C. Fancher, Theophilus Little, J. W. Hopkins, Guy W. Von Shriltz, D. B. Long, Luther R. Johnson, Martin Hendrickson, Hercules H. Price, Ferdinand Erhardt, Clarence Reckmeyer and Henry Benien were among the narrators.

The diary of Mark S. Davis, who made an overland journey from Wabash, Ind., to Missouri and Kansas in 1868, was published in the *Indiana Magazine of History* for March, 1933. Land claims were located in Cherokee county by members of the party.



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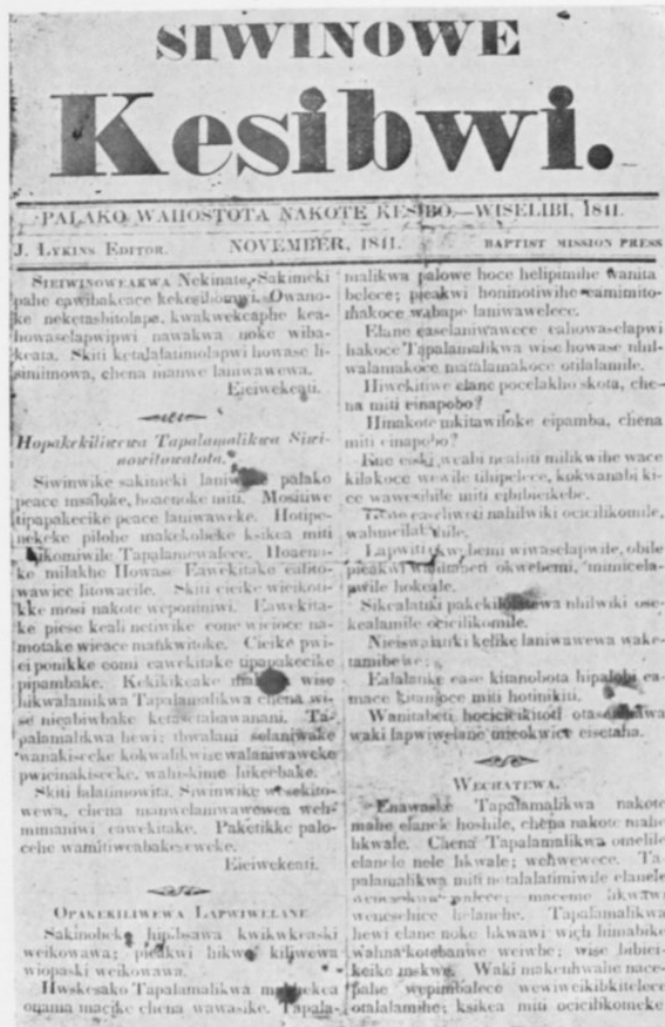
DOUGLAS C. McMURTRIE, of Chicago, is an authority on typography and the history of printing.

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NOTE.—Articles in the *Quarterly* appear in chronological order without regard to their importance.



THE SHAWNEE SUN

The first newspaper published exclusively in an Indian language in the present boundaries of the United States.



The Shawnee Sun

The First Indian-language Periodical Published in the United States

DOUGLAS C. MCMURTRIE

AFTER Jotham Meeker had set up his press at the Shawanoe Baptist mission in 1834, one of the most interesting things he undertook to print was a small "newspaper" in the language of the Shawnee Indians. This *Shawnee Sun*, to name it by the translation of its Indian title, was the first periodical publication to be printed in what is now Kansas, and the first in all the land to be printed wholly in an Indian language.¹

In his journal, which is preserved in the valuable collections of the Kansas State Historical Society, Meeker recorded that he began "setting types on the 1st No. of the *Shawanoe Sun*" on February 18, 1835.² Composition continued on the two days following and was finished on the 21st, when the pages were made up and proofs taken. On the 23d the proof was read and the corrections made, and on the 24th the type was put in the press and printed. Thus we know exactly the date of the erection of this rather interesting typographic landmark.

This little paper began with monthly issues, the first being for March, 1835. Meeker's journal records the issues of April, May and June, after which there was a pause until October. Thereafter the issues were rather irregular until April, 1837, which is the last of which Meeker makes mention.³ In the summer of 1837, Meeker moved from the Shawanoe mission to his new mission for the Ottawa Indians, near the present city of Ottawa, Kan. The printing office at Shawanoe was then turned over to John G. Pratt, who was sent out from Massachusetts to continue the Shawanoe printing.

Pratt continued the *Shawnee Sun*, probably at irregular intervals. However, it was suspended entirely for a little over a year in 1839-1840, while Pratt was absent from Shawanoe on sick leave. It was resumed again by 1841 (Pratt returned to the mission in November, 1840), and the *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, organ of the Board of Foreign Missions, mentions its continued publication up to 1844.

1. Isaac McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions* (Washington, New York, and Utica, 1840), p. 486, says: "This was the first newspaper ever published exclusively in an Indian language." The *Cherokee Phoenix*, begun at New Echota, Ga., in February, 1828, was partly in Cherokee and partly in English.

2. Douglas C. McMurtrie and Albert H. Allen, *Jotham Meeker, Pioneer Printer of Kansas* (Chicago, 1930), p. 59; and see, also, under "Siwinowe Kesibwi," on p. 140.

3. The Meeker journal records issues of the *Sun* (in addition to those mentioned) for December, 1835, January, February, July, August and November, 1836, January, February and April, 1837. In view of the care with which Meeker made a note of almost everything he did, it is hardly possible that there were also other issues not mentioned in the journal.



The editor of the *Shawnee Sun* throughout its life was Johnston Lykins, another of the Baptist missionaries at Shawanoe, whose special field of labor was with the Shawnees. Lykins, however, was absent on sick leave in 1836 and did not return to duty until May, 1837,⁴ and during this interval it would appear that Meeker was the editor as well as the printer of the little sheet. In fact, Meeker made numerous entries in his journal which show that he devoted considerable time to writing or translating articles for the *Sun*, either alone, or with the help of Joseph Deshane, an interpreter, or with an Indian named Blackfeather, who, on at least two occasions, is mentioned as a contributor to the paper. But Meeker was not only the editor and the printer—he was also the inventor of a method by which the sounds of the Shawnee language (and of several other Indian languages) might be represented by the letters of the English alphabet.

As a creator of orthographies for the languages of the natives, Meeker was diligent and ingenious. He simply took the letters for sounds that did not occur in the given Indian tongue and arbitrarily assigned to them sounds that needed to be expressed.⁵ Thus, for the Shawnee, he gave to *b* the sound of *th* in *thin*, and to *i* the sound of *a* in *far*. As printed, the Indian title of the *Shawnee Sun* read *Siwino-we Kesibwi*, which Isaac McCoy, in his account of the paper, transliterated *Shau-wau-nowe Kesauthwau*—an approximation to the sounds of the words. Crude as this system of "writing Indian" may seem, it was practical, as the Indians, even adults, learned to read by it, and even in some individual instances to write by it in their own language.

The *Shawnee Sun* "circulated" among the Indians at and near the mission settlement. On January 11, 1837, Meeker noted in his journal that he had "distributed 100 copies of the *Shawano-e Sun* among the Shawanoes." Presumably, copies were sent to the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, at Boston,⁶ and presumably copies were given to the local Indian agent for forwarding to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, at Washington. But the little paper must have been printed in a quite limited edition, possibly not more than one hundred and fifty or two hundred copies to an issue.

4. McCoy, *op. cit.*, p. 504.

5. For a more extended account of the Meeker orthographies, see McMurtrie and Allen, *op. cit.*, pp. 25-30, and McCoy, *op. cit.*, pp. 471-476.

6. By 1837 the Board of Foreign Missions had adopted a rule that at least one copy of everything printed at any of its missionary stations should be sent to the Board (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, v. 21, 1841, pp. 208-209). But the Board seems to have made no provision that the material thus collected should be preserved.



It is easy to understand why copies of the *Shawnee Sun* have disappeared. Indians in the days of the Shawnee mission did not preserve files of newspapers. If copies were sent to the Board of Foreign Missions or to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, no importance was attached to them; at least, no record of such copies can now be found. Meeker himself made up two partial files; an entry in his journal on December 12, 1836, reads "Examine all the old Nos. of the *Sun* and bind two volumes of it." By that date, the journal had recorded the printing of eleven issues of the paper. But these two files seem not to have survived the vicissitudes of flood and storm to which Meeker's few earthly possessions were subjected. We do not even know how many issues appeared. Meeker mentions fourteen up to April, 1837, the last which he printed, and in a memorandum book kept by Johnston Lykins⁷ there is mention of an issue in May, 1842. Of all the copies that were printed, one single, solitary copy is known to have survived, and even that copy is not yet securely rescued from oblivion.

The surviving copy of the *Shawnee Sun* is one of the issue for November, 1841. At the time of the publication of our book on Jotham Meeker, in the spring of 1930, Mr. Allen and I had tried in vain to locate this copy. A reproduction of the first page had been printed in the *Kansas City (Kansas) Sun* of Friday, February 18, 1898; the original had then just been presented to Mr. Emanuel F. Heisler by Charles Bluejacket, a Shawnee chief then living in the Indian territory. After that, the original vanished so far as available knowledge of it was concerned. The search was continued, with the invaluable assistance of Mr. Purd B. Wright, librarian of the public library of Kansas City, Mo., who finally found the long-sought copy in March, 1930. This was unfortunately too late for including a reproduction of it in the Meeker book, which was then printed and in the bindery. But as no reproduction of this elusive rarity has been published since thirty-five years ago, and as the newspaper reproduction of it in 1898 is practically inaccessible,⁸ it seems quite in order to present it again, in order that the record of this strange little paper may be preserved for at least another generation.

The original of the copy, dated November, 1841, is now in the possession of a member of the Heisler family, in Kansas City, Kan. It consists of but two pages (one leaf), but a divided word at the

7. Preserved in the collections of the Kansas State Historical Society.

8. The Kansas State Historical Society has two clippings of the newspaper reproduction, but they are yellowing and becoming frail with age.



end of the second page makes it seem likely that there were four pages in the paper as printed. The pages were numbered, the second page of the existing copy being page 70. If this issue originally consisted of four pages, it ran to page 72. If the pages were numbered consecutively from the beginning of publication in 1836, and if each issue consisted of four pages, the issue of November, 1841, would have been the eighteenth issue. There is no volume number or serial number on this issue.

The only English words in the two pages of the existing copy are in the combined date line and imprint, which reads: "J. Lykins, Editor. November, 1841. Baptist Mission Press." Not being familiar with the Shawnee language, I am unable to give any account of the subject matter of the four principal articles on the two pages, but my guess is that much of it consisted of didactic Baptist theology. The page measures about $6\frac{3}{4}$ by $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches, with the text in two $8\frac{1}{2}$ -inch columns containing 52 lines of pica type to the full column. The printer, whose name does not appear, was undoubtedly John G. Pratt.

Attached to the unique copy of the *Shawnee Sun* here described is a printed note which may be presented, by way of conclusion, because of its testimony to the difficulties under which the Baptist Mission Press was conducted. It reads: "In the year 1838 there were shipped from Boston via New Orleans to the Shawnee Baptist mission in Kansas (about five miles west of Westport, Mo.) several boxes of paper and printing material. These goods were addressed to Westport Landing, which had not yet appeared upon the maps, and as the forwarding agent at New Orleans did not know where Westport Landing was located, he sent the goods to Fort Gibson, on the Arkansas, in the Indian territory. The goods were returned to New Orleans, and then sent up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, being more than a year on the way before Mr. Pratt received them. This certificate is printed upon a part of the paper then and there received. The paper is a coarse book paper, and was used in printing books in eight [?] different dialects, for the Indians, viz., the Otoe, Kaw, Potawatomie, Ottawa, Shawnee, Delaware and Miami languages. A newspaper was also printed, the *Sau-wa-noe Ke-saw-thwa*, 'the *Shawnee Sun*,' (the first paper ever printed in the territory . . . printed here from 1836 to 1842)." With this note is attached a certificate, dated in June, 1897, signed by John G. Pratt, to the effect that certificates of membership for the Wyandotte County Historical Society were printed on sheets from that shipment of paper made in 1838.



Ferries in Kansas

PART II—KANSAS RIVER—Continued

GEORGE A. ROOT

THE next ferry up river was at a point called "Bald Eagle," opposite present Lecompton and about two miles distant from Douglas. At this point William K. Simmons, an old frontiersman who had crossed the plains in 1852, returned and took up a claim and started a ferry. His location had been named "Bald Eagle" on account of a number of bald eagles which nested in the tall sycamores that grew on either side of the river at this point. He was the first settler in the vicinity and made a living by fishing and operating his ferry.¹⁴⁹ This was the second ferry in operation within the limits of present Douglas county.

Ely Moore, for many years a resident of Lecompton, in "The Story of Lecompton," describes this early ferry. Arriving in that vicinity in the early fifties and wishing to cross the river, he approached a wagon and made his wants known.

"The wagon boss pointed to a huge sycamore log some twenty feet long, five feet in diameter with an excavation in the center five feet in length, three feet wide and two feet deep, with a 4 x 6-inch scantling for a keel, remarking, 'That's the ferry and hyars the ferryman.' As I looked my doubts about crossing on that log, he answered my looks by saying: 'Don't feel skeery, mister, for she's as dry as a Missourian's throat and as safe as the American flag.'"

Simmons was a member of Lane's regiment in the Mexican War, and had two honorable wounds in that struggle. Mr. Moore pays him this tribute: "In many respects he was a remarkable man. Even in the babyhood days of this city [Lecompton] when water-and-milk was an expensive luxury and whiskey subject to call, he refrained from its use, and no man ever heard him utter a profane word. Poor Bill may be dead, but if he is, many a worse man is living."¹⁵⁰

Just how long Simmons operated his ferry at Bald Eagle has not been learned. However, it probably was not later than 1857. The following reference is from the *Kansas Weekly Herald*, Leavenworth, August 9, 1856. It was written by a member of the "twenty-seven hundred" who came over from Missouri to assist in wiping out Lawrence and is part of one of a series of articles describing his

149. Andrews, *History of Kansas*, p. 351.

150. *Kansas Historical Collections*, v. 11, pp. 466, 467.



experiences on the expedition. In "Notes to and from the Siege of Lawrence," under date of May 18, 1856, this writer says:

"To-day we are to cross the Kaw river, and to get to Lecompton. An enormous flatboat, seemingly large enough for another Noah's Ark, receives us on board, bag and baggage. The baggage being packed on board upon our shoulders, we are further convinced, to use rather a stale phrase, that 'Jordan is a hard road to travel.' To get to the other side is now the difficulty. We all work our passage, hauling ourselves along by an old rope and making about half mile per hour. After keeping up this process until we are far above the capitol, we strike out, and at the imminent risk of several of our men, strike terra firma."

In 1857 Joseph Haddox laid out a town called Rising Sun, which was located close to the ferry landing on Simmons' claim. This was directly opposite Lecompton, the territorial capital. At the new town, in 1857, Jerome Kunkel¹⁵¹ established a ferry.¹⁵² He received a charter for his ferry in 1858 and also became a member of the town company the same year. Rising Sun grew into a lively little village and was the business point for the township for several years. Upon the building of the Union Pacific Railroad up the Kaw valley in 1865 and the establishment of Medina, a short distance away, its business was soon taken away by the new town. Decline was slow but steady, and by 1883 every vestige of Rising Sun had disappeared, and the site is now a cultivated field.¹⁵³

In 1861 a state road was established from Rising Sun to Grasshopper Falls, on the west side of Grasshopper (now Delaware) river. In 1863 this road was changed from a point where the road crossed what was known as Spring branch, thence in a northwesterly direction past the east line of Ephraim Bainter's land, thence northwesterly and north, running through the center of sections 24 and 25, T. 9, R. 17, to intersect the original survey at Tillotson's ford.¹⁵⁴

Lecompton was located opposite Simmons' claim and was platted in 1855, being named for Judge Samuel D. Lecompte, territorial chief justice and president of the town company. Other members of the Lecompton town company were: John A. Halderman, secretary; Daniel Woodson, territorial secretary and several times acting governor of the territory, who was treasurer; George W. Clarke, Chauncey B. Donaldson and William K. Simmons.¹⁵⁵ In 1855

151. The census of Jefferson county, Kentucky township, 1870, p. 12, lists Jerome Kunkel, 43, farmer, native of Pennsylvania, owner of real estate worth \$3,000, personal property, \$1,000; wife Christina, born Pennsylvania, and three children, 9, 7, and an infant, all born in Kansas.

152. *Private Laws, Kansas*, 1858, pp. 56, 57.

153. *Andress, History of Kansas*, p. 521. Personal interview with J. A. Brown, of Lecompton, a resident of the town in 1857, and residing within the county most of the time since.

154. *Laws, Kansas*, 1863, p. 87. 155. *Andress, History of Kansas*, p. 351.



William K. Simmons, Wesley Garrett and Evan Todhunter were granted a charter by the legislature to operate a ferry at the new town of Lecompton. The act granted exclusive privileges up and down the river for a mile each side of the landing, for a five year period, but was in no wise to affect the rights and privileges granted the Lecompton Bridge Company.¹⁵⁶ This company never built a bridge at Lecompton, but a bridge was built at this point by the county during the nineties.

By 1860 Lecompton was without ferry accommodations. That year Robert C. Bishop was authorized by the legislature to operate a ferry across the Kansas river and have exclusive rights of landing within the corporate limits of the city, and for one mile below the eastern limit of the city on the south bank of the river and one mile from and below the west bank of the Grasshopper river on the north bank of the Kansas river.¹⁵⁷ No further history of this ferry has been located.

Owen Baughman is said to have operated a ferry at Lecompton for a time shortly before the building of the bridge in the late 1890's.

J. A. Brown, of Lecompton, in an interview in May, 1932, said:

"Lecompton never had more than one ferry running at a time, from the time of my arrival there in 1857. Jerome Kunkel was operating it at that date. The next year his cousin, Charles Kunkel, was in charge. Jerome Kunkel had been a captain in the army. William McKinney operated the ferry for Kunkel for several years. A. K. Lowe and boys also had charge for awhile. The first ferry was a rope ferry. Later a wire cable was stretched across the river. A wheel ran on this cable, and the boat was so attached to the wheel that the current of the river propelled the boat from one side of the river to the other, with little or no effort on the part of the ferryman. The landing place on the north side of the river was at a point just below the present wagon bridge across the Kaw. On that side of the river, riprapping and other means had been employed to confine the river channel, and there was a network of sunken logs, brush, stone, etc., that limited the channel the ferryboat could operate in. When the ferryboat reached that obstruction it was made fast and the cargo discharged."

Kunkle's ferry operated until about 1876.

According to E. J. Hill, long a resident of Lecompton, William M. McKinney operated the Lecompton ferry from about 1868 to 1870. About 1870 a company built a pontoon bridge to take the place of the ferry. This pontoon was not a success, on account of the swift current of the river, and in less than a year was discontinued.

¹⁵⁶. *General Statutes, Kansas, 1855*, pp. 780, 879.

¹⁵⁷. *Private Laws, Kansas, 1860*, p. 267.



The late Albert R. Greene, a former resident of Lecompton, operated the ferry there for about a year during the early 1890's. The Greene home in Lecompton was about half a mile from the river. A wire was strung from the ferry to the house, and when a patron on the opposite side of the river wished to call the boat, the wire was pulled, ringing a bell at the other end and summoning the ferryman. Mr. Greene employed a man to run the ferry, who operated the boat during the day, but was averse to running it after dark, there being practically no business after dark. On several occasions, however, Mr. Greene was routed out of bed along about midnight to take the boat to the opposite side of the river to bring back some belated individual. This happened once or twice too often, so Mr. Greene retired from the ferrying business.¹⁵⁸

Lecompton, probably because it was made the territorial seat of government, was the starting point or terminus of more roads than any other town in Kansas of its size. Two were authorized by the legislature of 1855, one starting from a point above the town of Franklin, on the California road, via the (Horseshoe) lake and the shore of the Kansas river to Lecompton; the other started from Atchison, via Mount Pleasant and Hickory Point, to a point opposite Lecompton.¹⁵⁹ The legislature of 1857 was lavish authorizing no less than ten roads, as follows: One from Lecompton to St. Bernard, thence to the county seat of Franklin county, thence to Pierce in Anderson county, thence to Cofachique, Allen county.¹⁶⁰ Another ran from Wyandotte, by way of Secondine to Lecompton;¹⁶¹ another ran from Kickapoo to Lecompton;¹⁶² another ran from Lecompton to Roseport, Doniphan county;¹⁶³ another ran from Leavenworth to Lecompton, with a branch to Lawrence;¹⁶⁴ another from Atchison, via Mount Pleasant, to a point on the Kansas river opposite Lecompton;¹⁶⁵ another started from Lecompton, via Paola, Paris and Miami to Barnesville on the Little Osage to intersect the Fort Leavenworth-Fort Scott military road;¹⁶⁶ another ran from Atchison, via Wigglesworth's ford on Stranger creek, to Lecompton;¹⁶⁷ another ran from Prairie City to Lecompton,¹⁶⁸

158. Statement of Mrs. Lucy Greene (Henry F.) Mason.

159. *General Statutes, Kansas, 1855*, pp. 952, 953, 962.

160. *Laws, Kansas, 1857*, p. 172.

161. *Ibid.*, p. 176. 162. *Ibid.*, p. 178.

163. *Ibid.*, p. 181. 164. *Ibid.*, pp. 181, 182.

165. *Ibid.*, p. 182. 166. *Ibid.*, p. 183.

167. *Ibid.*, pp. 184, 185. 168. *Ibid.*, pp. 185, 186.