

## Kansas historical collections

### Section 190, Pages 5671 - 5700

This seventeen volume series is the first serial published by the Kansas State Historical Society from 1875 until 1928. The publication of the Kansas Historical Quarterly followed in 1931. Volumes 1-10 were officially titled the "Transactions of the Kansas State Historical Society." The title changed to "Collections of the..." beginning with volume 11. The series contains addresses and papers delivered at the annual meetings, biographical sketches, compiled historical information, and transcriptions of select collections in the Historical Society's holdings. The first seven volumes contain biennial reports of the board of directors. Beginning with volume 8 the biennial reports were published separately. Searchable tables of contents and indexes for each volume are forthcoming.

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KANSAS  
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holm, C. J. Strömquist, the six Dahlsten brothers, C. N. Lundqvist, C. J. Håkanson, S. A. Palmqvist, A. P. Håkanson, J. M. Carlson, F. G. Håkanson and C. J. Sundgren. A church building was erected in 1870, which is yet in good condition, although long since too small for the congregation. This is the oldest house of worship in existence in central Kansas.

Salemsborg belongs to the same settlement as Fremont. Its history is therefore similar to Fremont's. One of the first houses built was the sod church, which was used for the first time September 29, 1869. Among the very first settlers we find C. J. Brodine, L. J. Larson, I. M. Danielson, August Frost, Capt. J. Ekholm, J. Sandberg, S. A. Appelqvist and John and Olof Thorstenberg.

Assaria is an outgrowth of Salemsborg. Mäns Peterson, B. P. Hessler, Svan Johnson, Sam. Peterson, Chas. Thorstenberg, John Trulson and John Johnson are some of the first settlers. The prosperous little village within the settlement has a population of about 350.

Falun is also an outgrowth of Salemsborg. Its oldest inhabitant is Eric Sundgren, who came from Dalarna, Sweden, in November, 1868. In the following spring L. J. Anderson, L. J. Larson, Jacob Malmgren, J. G. Hedberg and C. J. Sandberg arrived. It was also here that Eric Forsee, who was the leader of a colony from Bishop Hill, Ill., took up his abode in 1869. Major Forsee was a veteran of the Civil War. The settlement includes a thrifty little village of about 100 persons.

Smolan is another outgrowth of Salemsborg. Charles Frank, its first settler, came in the company of J. P. Strömquist in 1868, and took up his residence here sometime before Christmas that year. The settlement contains a village of about seventy inhabitants.

Marquette is a branch of Fremont. Andrew Erickson, the first settler, came in December, 1868, and was in Strömquist's company. He settled just where now is a flourishing village of about 800 persons.

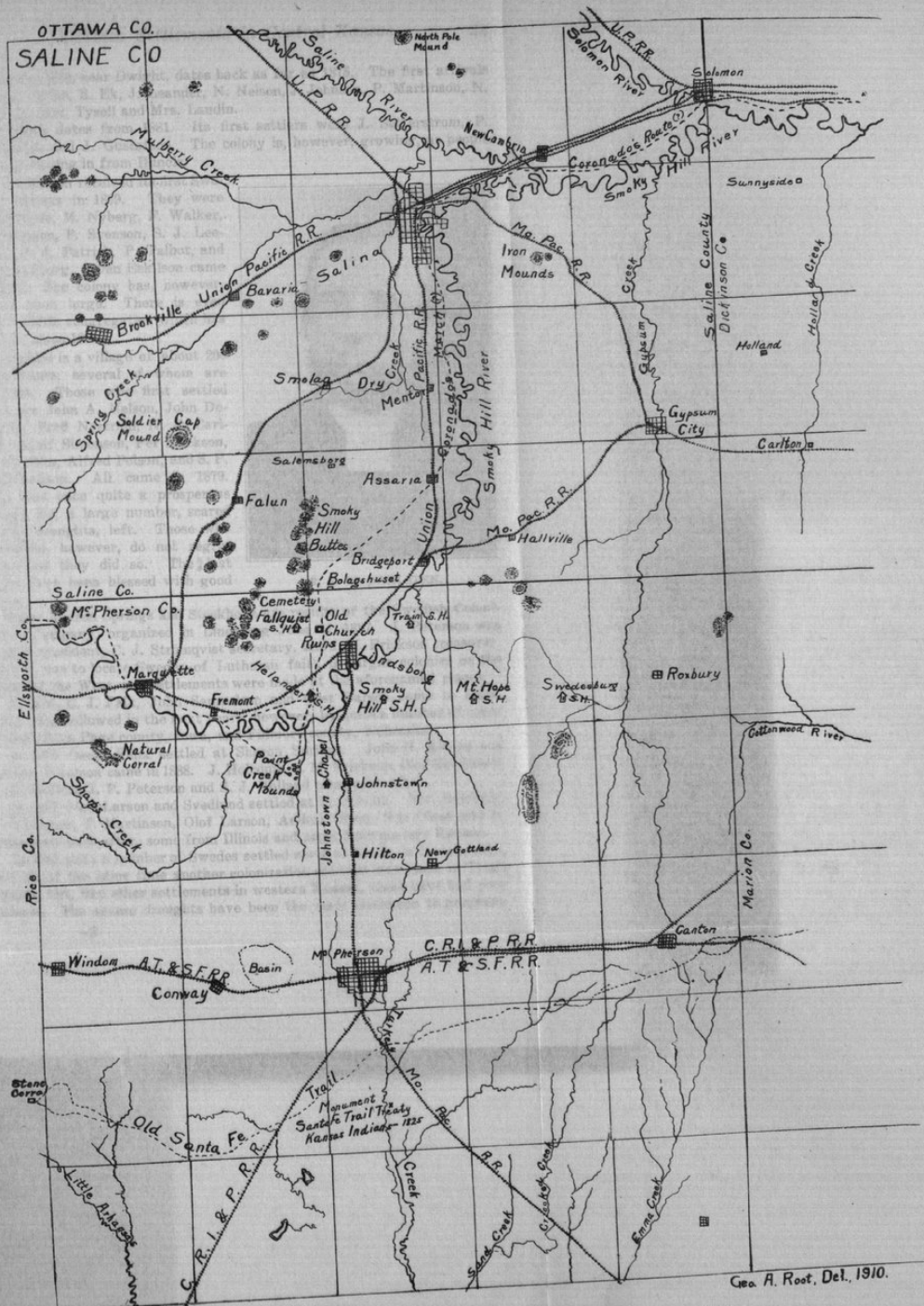
New Gottland is a settlement adjacent to Lindsborg and McPherson. Its first settler, C. J. Hanson, located in March, 1871. In April of the same year, Sven and Gust Burk, and in June A. T. and N. T. Olson and Hans Nelson arrived. Later, in the fall, there was a large influx of settlers. The first services here were held New Year's day, 1872, and Dr. Olof Olsson organized the congregation in July the same year.

McPherson has a population of about 4500 people, quite a number of whom are of Swedish descent. The Swedish settlement is, however, a branch of New Gottland. J. A. Swenson, H. A. Lindberg, John Post, G. A. Sohlberg, J. P. Löfgren, Gust Post, Carl Bengtson, A. J. Gustafson, J. A. Thulin, Alf. Rotsten, C. Anderson, C. A. Sellberg, N. N. Lincoln, Oscar Eklund and Nils Moden are some of the first citizens.

New Andover is, in a way, also an outgrowth of the Galesburg colony. It is in fact a part of the Fremont settlement. Among those who were first to settle here are Anders Bolin, August, Aron and J. P. Johnson, Erik Johnson, N. Nygren, John Carlson, Anders and Peter Swenson. The church building is situated a little east of the famous "stone corral," near the Santa Fe trail.

Enterprise received its first Swedish settler in 1858, when Swenson and Jäderborg selected their claims, and Jäderborg was especially instrumental in inducing his countrymen to come here. The colony is, however, not large.





THE SWEDISH SETTLEMENTS IN CENTRAL KANSAS.



*Swedish Settlements in Central Kansas.*

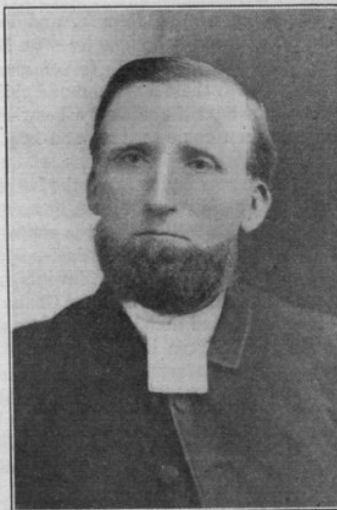
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Marion Hill, near Dwight, dates back as far as 1875. The first arrivals were J. Rolph, S. Ek, J. Leander, N. Nelson, J. Johnson, P. Martinson, N. Johnson, Mrs. Tysell and Mrs. Landin.

Burdick dates from 1881. Its first settlers were J. Setterstrom, P. Björkbäck and J. Gustafson. The colony is, however, growing, as people are yet moving in from Illinois.

Hutchinson received its first Swedish citizens in 1869. They were Fred Ryde, M. Nyberg, F. Walker, J. Swenson, P. Svenson, S. J. Leeberg, N. J. Patrick, P. Talbot, and Miss Leeberg. Sven Eskilson came in 1871. The colony has, however, never been large. There is even here a little congregation which has existed since 1886.

Garfield is a village of about 200 inhabitants, several of whom are Swedes. Those who first settled here are John A. Nelson, John Delander, Fred Nystrom, N. F. Carlson, Adolf Simonson, Per Erickson, O. W. Olin, Alfred Polson, and S. P. Abrahamson. All came in 1879. This was once quite a prosperous colony, but a large number, scared by the droughts, left. Those who remained, however, do not regret now that they did so. The last years have been blessed with good crops.



DR. A. W. DAHLSTEN.

Page, Sharon Springs and Stockholm are results of the Swedish Colonization Company, organized in Lindsborg June 11, 1897. J. Peterson was elected president, C. J. Strömquist secretary, and J. M. Erickson treasurer. Its aim was to locate Swedes of Lutheran faith in larger colonies on the plains of the West, and settlements were made at the aforementioned places.

In 1885, C. J. Falk, John Samuelson and Gust Larson came to Page. They were followed in the next years, however, by quite a number of countrymen from Page county, Iowa, and Fillmore county, Nebraska.

In 1887 Oscar Felix settled at Sharon Springs. John H. Edberg and Anders Peterson came in 1888. J. Holcomb, J. M. Erickson, Olof Engstrom, S. N. Nelson, J. P. Peterson and S. J. Holland came soon after.

In 1887, Nels Larson and Svedlund settled at Stockholm. Mat Holcomb, F. Videgren, T. Martinson, Olof Larson, Anders Olson, Nils Olson and S. Glad came soon after, some from Illinois and some from eastern Kansas.

In 1885 quite a number of Swedes settled north of Healy, in Gove county, and about the same time another colonization attempt was made in Trego county, but, like other settlements in western Kansas, these have had poor success. The severe droughts have been the main hindrance to progress.





Conditions have, however, been more favorable of late, and hope has again been kindled in the hearts of those who have remained.

In 1869 there was an effort made to establish a settlement on Spillman creek, Lincoln county, northwest of Salina, but the Indian massacre on May 30 of that year<sup>5</sup> put an end to this enterprise as far as the Swedes were concerned. Those that were not killed by the Indians left, and a few came to Lindsborg and have since lived here.

Among these are John T. and Peter M. Elmqvist, of Lindsborg, and Peter J. Johnson, who now lives at Marquette. Besides the raid on Spillman creek the old people tell of another, in 1867, by some of the Osages, who took with them a woman and child<sup>6</sup> from the vicinity of Sharp's creek. The Indians hurt the settlers otherwise in no way, but they would, of course, now and then come to them and beg, and, if chances were favorable, also steal.

We have now enumerated the larger gatherings of Swedes in central and western Kansas. Swedes are, however, found in most every city and county of the state, as well in the western as in the eastern part.

There are several large colonies along the Solomon, Republican<sup>7</sup> and Blue rivers, also at Osage City, Savonburg, Topeka, Kansas City (Kan.), St. Marys, Ottawa, Iola, Vilas and Chanute.

It is estimated that there are about 30,000 people of Swedish descent in central and western Kansas and about 50,000 in the whole state. This is considered a conservative estimate, but is nothing but an estimate, as there are no means by which the exact number can be ascertained.

Although they are not unfamiliar with the language of the land, the church language of the Swedes in Kansas has hitherto mainly been the Swedish, and the different denominations claim membership as follows: About 15,000 of the Swedes, gathered in sixty-six congregations in Kansas, belong to the Lutheran church, here represented mainly by the Augustana Synod of North America, which synod is one of the larger bodies that make up the general council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of North America.

NOTE 5.—See account of monument erected at Lincoln Center, in the article by the secretary, in this volume, on "Memorial Monuments and Tablets."

NOTE 6.—The captives were Mrs. Bassett and her infant of a few days. The mother being too weak to ride, they were left upon the prairie, and were found by Mr. Bassett and some neighbors, who were absent at the time of the capture. The infant died from exposure.—Cutler's History of Kansas, p. 811.

NOTE 7.—In 1868 the Scandinavian Agricultural Society of Chicago selected land for a colony in Republic county, and located fifteen Swedish settlers the first year near the present town of Scandia. During the years 1869 to 1871 a large immigration of their countrymen, both from the United States and Sweden, arrived, and the colony by 1883 numbered at least a thousand members. The sawmill sent out by the Chicago support of the colony did good service in furnishing native lumber from the timber along the Republican, and was later converted into a grist mill.—Cutler's History of Kansas, 1883, p. 1038. I. O. Savage, in his History of Republic County, 1901, mentions that at the election of 1869 for permanent location of the county seat, New Scandia received forty-two votes and the winning town, Belleville, fifty-nine. But five other votes were cast.

[Archives Department, No. 524, class 970.]

"To his Excellency, Governor of the State of Kansas: Undersigned actual settlers in the new Scandinavian settlement in the Republican valley, in the county of Republic, state of Kansas, hereby petition that a company of fifty soldiers may be sent to camp near this settlement, as safeguard against the Indians, of whom now and then a few are seen near this settlement, which is on the exposed border of this state. As several hundred Scandinavians intend to come here to settle by next spring, it is the only salvation to keep the Indians out this winter; if they are allowed to commit any depredations now it will prevent the further settling of this country by a good and hardy race of settlers.—New Scandinavia, December 4, 1868.

G. Petteson, A. E. Ostbery, Ferd Wessen, G. Asbjornsen, Tho Svendsen, J. R. Sandrett, Th. Wohlfort, A. J. Stodberg, J. A. Lundin, A. Enborn, A. Berggren, A. J. Brundbek, A. Larsson, J. Oleson, Carl Lysholm, B. J. Giersing, G. A. Ohafeldt, M. Johnsen, Carus Clase, A. Baikstrom, P. Larsen, Carl Fredrik Holmberg, P. E. Walin, C. E. Halmberg, Edward Carsten, G. F. Holm-



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These support Bethany College, at Lindsborg; the Orphanage, at Mariadahl; the Old People's Home, at Lindsborg, and give some aid to the Swedish Hospital at Kansas City, Mo. Besides, substantial aid is given to the Augustana College and Theological Seminary at Rock Island, Ill., and the Lutheran Deaconess Home at Omaha, Neb.

*Lindsborgs-Posten*, a Swedish weekly, *Bethany Messenger*, the college weekly, and the *Kansas Young Lutheran*, a bilingual monthly, all published at Lindsborg, serve as organs of the Swedish Lutheran Church within the state.

The Mission covenant counts 1600 members, gathered in twenty-six congregations within the state. These support an academy at McPherson attended by 142 students, and have as their church organ the *Kansas Missions Tidning*, a Swedish monthly published at Lindsborg.

The Swedish Baptists count 820 members, distributed in fourteen congregations within the state, and support a home for the aged in Clay Center, called Sunset Home.

The Swedish Methodists number 385 persons, distributed in seven congregations, and are planning to establish a home for the aged at Clay Center.

The Free mission has a congregation of about thirty members in Lindsborg.

What number of Swedes belong to the English-speaking denominations it is impossible to say.

The influence of the Swedes in politics has been considerable. Dr. Olof Olsson was instrumental in passing some of the good laws of our state, and Dr. Carl Swensson was for years one of the leaders, not only within the state, but within the nation. Here are the names of those who have held political offices within McPherson and Saline counties:

*McPherson County.*

County commissioners: John H. Johnson (special commissioner), March 1, 1870 to May 9, 1870; John Ferm, first district, May 9, 1870, to January, 1874. John P. Strömquist, Lindsborg, first district, January, 1874, to January,

berg, L. C. Hanson, C. H. Brunsilius, P. A. Brunsilius, T. Sjöström, N. Hansen, C. Bergman, P. Janson, J. P. Holmström, J. P. Borgesson, Henrik Olsson, C. Aug. Holmström, Erik Olsen, August Haakonson, John Erikson, M. Snedahl, A. G. Andersen, K. E. Johnsen. John Breaton, agent for the colony."

On the margin is this description: "Section 17, township 3, range 4 west." The present town of Scandia is located in a portion of section 17.

From manuscripts found in the Archives Department of the Historical Society it is learned that John Breaton, agent for this colony, returned to Chicago, and in February, 1869, was interested in the publication of a "Scandinavian-English newspaper of Agriculture and Economy."

Christian Anderson, of Scandia, was agent of the Scandinavian Agricultural Society in 1872, and John Engstrom, of Lawrence, was its agent in 1873.

B. J. Giering, a member of the Scandia colony, returned to Chicago, becoming secretary of the society in 1872. He wrote several letters to Secretary of State Smallwood, which disclosed the fact that the Scandinavian Agricultural Society of Chicago held a patent dated November 23, 1869, for about 7083 acres of railroad land, for which Englehart H. Hansen, of Republic county, had paid \$3,854.82, to be held in trust for the Scandinavian Agricultural Society. Mr. Giering complained that two sections of their lands in Cloud county had been sold by a railroad company to D. Steeler and J. F. Jay. From further correspondence it seems that the government paid back the purchase money for these two sections to Steeler and Jay.

In the correspondence of Geo. W. Veale, state agent for railroad lands, there were found many applications from Swedes and Norwegians for lands in Cloud, Republic, Riley and Pottawatomie counties.

Niels Christensen wrote from Randolph post office, February 28, 1868, inquiring for lands in his locality, stating: "We have a settlement of Swedes here, and we wish to locate as many of our countrymen as near here as possible, for better to maintain our churches and schools."

S. D. Houston, of Junction City, wrote to Mr. Veale, October 26, 1868, recalling his application for section 18, township 2, range 4 west, near present Shadahl, stating that many Swedes had settled near by and he would give way to them.

See, Andreas, p. 967, for mention of this Scandinavian colony, some of whose members went to Jewell county. John Dahl, killed by Indians, 1869.





1878; John P. Grant, second district, January, 1880, to January, 1886; C. J. Strömquist, first district, January, 1891, to December 16, 1892, (resigned).

County clerk: John Rundstrom, special county clerk, March 1, 1870, to May 9, 1870; O. E. Hawkinson, two terms, January, 1892, to January, 1896; J. O. Strömquist (first officer born within the county), two terms, January, 1905, to January, 1909; Gust Nyquist, January, 1909, to January, 1911.

County treasurer: Anton Hogwall, two terms, August 7, 1876, to October 13, 1880; P. J. Lindholm, two terms, October, 1886, to December, 1890; Andrew Goodholm (appointed), February 18, 1890, to October, 1890; John P. Grant, two terms, October, 1894, to October, 1898; C. J. Strömquist, two terms (five years), October, 1898, to October, 1903.

County attorney: Charles Fern, January, 1877, to January, 1879; F. O. Johnson, two terms, January, 1898, to January, 1902.

Clerk of district court: S. J. Swenson, May 9, 1870, to January, 1873.

Coroner: John Runstrom, May 9, 1870, to January, 1872.

Sheriff: Hans Wickstrom, January, 1872, to January, 1874; Emil Gustafson, two terms, January, 1907, to January, 1911.

Register of deeds: Eben Carlsson, two terms (five years) January, 1900, to January, 1905.

Probate judge: S. A. Sward, four terms, January, 1903, to January, 1911.

County superintendent: Olof Olsson, one term, May 9, 1870, to September 18, 1871.

Representative: Olof Olsson, one term, November 11, 1870, to January, 1873; C. A. Swensson, one term, January, 1889, to January, 1891; C. J. Strömquist, two terms, January, 1893, to January, 1897; Charles Lander, three terms, January, 1905, to January, 1911.

County assessor: D. H. Grant, January, 1908, to January, 1909.

State superintendent of public instruction: Frank Nelson, two terms, January 1899, to January, 1903.

*Saline County.*

Commissioners: Olof Forsee, 1880-1882, 1908; Peter Svedlund, 1888-1889, 1897-1898; N. O. Carlson, 1892-1893; Wm. O. Benson, 1904-1908.

County clerk: John Anderson, 1875-1876.

Clerks of district court: N. Petersen, 1874-1878; N. Ferlen, 1882-1884; C. J. Fredrickson, 1884-1890; F. O. Ostenberg, 1890-1894; Aug. Svedenborg, 1894-1898; J. E. Rydberg, 1898-1902; Alex. Hederstedt, 1902-1906; Aug. V. Anderson, 1906.

Sheriffs: Olof Forsee, 1883-1891, 1897-1898; E. M. Anderson, 1891-1895; J. Malmgren, 1895-1897; Aug. Svedenborg, 1899-1904.

Register of deeds: Chas. Sandeen, 1875-1877.

Representatives: Eric Forsee, 1872-1874; Nels Peterson, 1880-1882.

Railroad assessor: M. M. Danielson, 1871-1873.

*BUSINESS LIFE IN LINDSBORG PRIOR TO 1900.*

As early as the year 1866 a trading point was established in this community on the banks of the Smoky Hill river, on section 9 (Rostad), and conducted by Sam Shields. The merchandise was hauled from Leavenworth by team. Most of the trading done here was with the Indians, from whom buffalo hides were taken in exchange for merchandise. These hides were then taken to Topeka and exchanged for the actual cash. This store was abandoned in 1868.

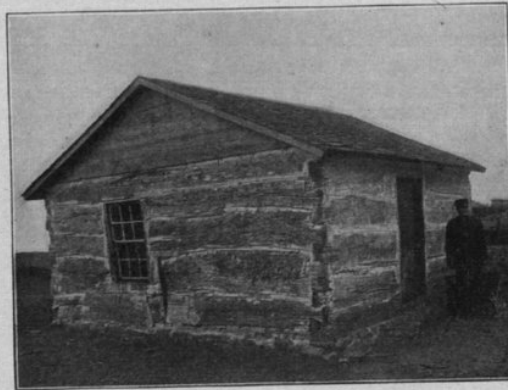


DR. CARL SWENSSON.

The early trading point for the Swedish people in this part of the valley was Salina. It was to this point that they must go when they wished to provision themselves or to dispose of their grain. A journey to Salina meant an absence of two days in most cases, as the slow moving ox teams, which were the beasts of burden in those days, could not make the journey in less time. Those who were fortunate enough to have a team of horses could make the journey heavily loaded in one day, but this day was extended far into the night. Often one of the settlers would make the trip and purchase provisions for himself and many of his neighbors, and this arrangement saved the individual many trips, except when he wished to market his products. Salina was even the general trading point for several years after a point had been established in this vicinity, as the stock carried was small



and not complete enough to satisfy the simple wants of the settlers. The Swedish Agricultural Society store, owned by people in the East, was a place usually patronized by our people.



Oldest house in McPherson county. Built by  
C. F. Norstrom, June, 1868.

The first store in the Swedish colony was established in the spring of 1869, by John Henry Johnson. It was located in a log house on C. F. Norstrom's farm, just west of Lindsborg. Of course, the supply carried was very small, consisting of coffee, sugar, flour, pork and tobacco. This store was continued for several years on Mr. Norstrom's farm and then moved to the town site and merged with the store known as the Swedish Agricultural Society store. J. H. Johnson was appointed Lindsborg's first postmaster, December 1, 1896. In the fall of 1869 a similar trading place was begun on the south half of the southeast quarter of section 30, by Maj. L. Holmberg.<sup>8</sup> The supplies carried here were also very small. This place was called Sveadal, and Mr. Holmberg was appointed postmaster, mail being hauled from Salina by wagon once a week. The business was continued for several years, but finally the stock was moved to the town site and closed out.

In the spring of 1870 we have the first business venture on the town site of Lindsborg. This was a stock company, owned by the Swedish Agricultural Society of Chicago, and farmers of this vicinity. S. P. Lindgren was the manager, and the name of the company was the Swedish Agricultural Society. A two-story, thirty by forty frame building was erected on the corner now occupied by J. O. Sundstrom, and called the Colony building. The store was conducted on the ground floor, while the upper floor was used for the various gatherings of the colony. The upstairs was also used for a courthouse and offices for the county officers. Religious services were held here, and it is related that at times the Indians came and disturbed the worshipers. In 1871 the post office was discontinued at Sveadal and the

NOTE 8.—In the spring of 1870 a military company was organized for protection from the Indians, L. N. Holmberg, captain.—Cutler's History of Kansas, p. 811.

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merchandise moved to the Colony building. The business was carried on under the above management until 1871, when the stock was purchased by C. R. Carlson, and he in turn conducted it until 1872, when Daniel Johnson purchased an interest. Of course, even at this time the stock of merchandise was very small, occupying a room sixteen by thirty feet. It is related that the boot and shoe department of this store consisted of six pairs of boots hauled from Salina. The dry goods department consisted of a few bolts of pink calico, also taken from the same place. The firm known as Carlson & Johnson continued the business in the Colony building until 1875, when a small stone building was erected on the present site of D. Johnson & Co.'s store and the stock moved to that place. Both gentlemen continued in business until 1891, when Mr. Carlson retired and Mr. Johnson alone took charge of the business and has conducted the same to the present day.



SVEADAL, 1869.

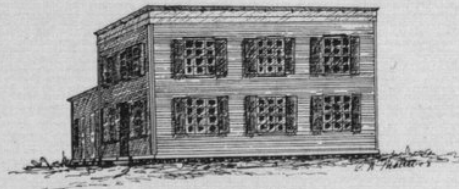
Doctor Rundstrom was the first practicing physician in the colony. He never moved to the town site, but held his office at his farm, two miles west of town. Doctor Rundstrom came to the colony in 1869, and continued his profession here until 1883. Doctor Axelsson came in 1871 and located at Rose Hill, and had his office on his farm north of the above-named place. Dr. J. B. Curtis in 1872 located on the town site and continued to practice here until he moved to Denver.

In October, 1871, N. P. Nelson and L. G. Schanche established a general merchandise store in the frame building now owned by the Lindsborg Hardware, Seed and Implement Company. The building erected at this time was used until 1907, when it was moved back on the present site, where it serves as a warehouse. In the year 1872 John Fern was appointed postmaster and the post office was moved from the Colony building to the store named above. In 1873 J. Henry was appointed postmaster. This same year Mr. Nelson retired from the firm and Mr. Schanche conducted the store, with Mr. Haglund as partner, until 1882. In this year the store was sold to Peter Felling, who continued as sole proprietor until 1884, when C. Cederholm entered as partner and the business was carried on by the above gentlemen until 1877,



when Mr. Felling sold his interest to Hans Wickstrom, who conducted the business until 1889, when the stock was sold.

In 1872, J. B. Curtis established a drug store on the site now occupied by the Farmer's State Bank. Doctor Curtis continued this business until the spring of 1881, when it was sold to Doctors Murphy and Day, who after a short time sold to Doctor Curtis and George Carbaugh. In 1884 this stock was purchased by Eben Carlsson, who conducted the business until 1892. This business was moved in 1887, when the new building was erected. In 1892 Mr. Carlsson sold to Frank Lewin and John Gustafson. In 1896 Mr. Lewin retired, and the business was held by Mr. Gustafson until 1900, when John Stockenberg entered as partner. Their present quarters were erected and occupied in 1902.



The Colony Building.  
See Note 13.

A. G. Holm and Mr. Fallquist started a harness and shoemaking shop in 1872. In 1874 Mr. Fallquist sold his interest to Mr. Holm, who has continued his business on the same site for the past thirty-six years.

With the growing of the colony also came the necessity for tools with which to till the soil and harvest the crops. In 1873 an exclusive hardware and implement store was erected on the site of the First National Bank building. The building as it stands to-day was erected the same year. The members of this firm were N. P. Swenson and John A. Swenson. N. P. Swenson previous to this time had conducted a blacksmith shop. The business was carried on until 1880, when the stock was sold.

Charles Johnson, in 1872, procured a charter allowing him to build a dam in the Smoky Hill river for power purposes. The same year a small mill was built on the river bank. As the crops were not large nor the demand very great, little attention was paid to the flour mill for some years, and a sawmill was erected south of the mill and the power used mainly for sawing timber. But as the country became more densely populated there was a demand for the products of the mill. In 1882 J. G. Bergsten purchased the power and built a new and larger mill, called the Smoky Valley Roller Mills. The dam was also at this time rebuilt. From this time on the mill was run to its full capacity. In 1880 Mr. Theodore Teichgraeber purchased the mill and power dam and retained ownership until his death, in December, 1907. In 1897 the mill burned to the ground and the present mill was erected. During the years various additions, such as the new dam, elevator and ware-rooms, have been added. The business is continued by the sons of Mr. Teichgraeber.

In 1874 John Welin built a blacksmith shop on the site now occupied by the Bethany Book and Printing Company. In the same year he purchased



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the shop owned by N. P. Swenson, located on the corner now occupied by B. G. Gröndal, and continued his work until 1885.

In 1874 Jacob Christian started a blacksmith shop on the east side of Main street, which he kept up for several years. Peter Granquist was later accepted as a partner. In 1885 Mr. Granquist purchased the shop, and was succeeded by O. Berglund a short time afterward. He owned it until 1902, when it was purchased by Janne Johnson and Oscar Holmberg, who still retain the business.

In 1874 the furniture business was begun in Lindsborg by L. F. Anderson, on the site now occupied by Erickson Bros. A small building was erected at first, and in 1883 the present brick building was erected. Mr. Anderson continued the business until 1899, when he sold it to Frank Lindberg, who had possession for four years, and in turn sold to Emil Anderson, who in turn sold to Erickson Bros., the present owners of the business.

During the years 1871 to 1874 other businesses were begun, but they were not of a permanent kind. In the fall of 1872 Mr. La Boyteaux started a hotel and boarding house on the present site of the Brunswick Hotel. Mr. Nix in 1873 built a blacksmith shop on the present site of the Rosberg furniture store. In 1873 William J. Henry built the Union Hotel, which has since that time been occupied by various hotel men. In 1874 a general merchandise store was established on the lot south of the Farmers' State Bank building by G. Nelson and Olof Swedlund. This building was burned out after a short time and the business was never resumed.

The coming of the Union Pacific railroad in 1879 marks a new era in the history of the community. Up to this time there had been no market for the grain and products of the farm. When a farmer wished to dispose of his grain he must haul it twenty miles or more to Salina, thereby losing time and subjecting himself to much inconvenience. Naturally, when he had received his money at Salina, he would do a great deal of trading at that place. This was a hindrance to the struggling business of the Lindsborg community. We find, however, that in a few years after the building of this road many business houses of a permanent nature, such as elevators, lumber yards, coal yards and banks, came into existence. We also find the people cementing themselves closer together, for on July 8, 1879, the city of Lindsborg was incorporated and John A. Swenson elected mayor.

When, in the fall of 1887, the Missouri Pacific railroad also laid its main line through the city the commercial facilities were greatly improved.

J. O. Sundstrom, in the fall of 1879, and in company with J. G. Bergsten, started a store on the present site. The Colony building at that time occupied the lot, but this was moved and used for a dwelling house. Messrs. Sundstrom and Bergsten erected on the corner a building fifty by fifty feet. In 1881 J. Hasselquist entered as a partner and remained a member of the firm until 1882. In 1884 James G. Bergsten sold his interest to Mr. Sundstrom. Mr. Sundstrom still owns the store, and as the years have gone by and the business expanded various additions have been built.

In 1879 John Anderson erected an elevator west of the Union Pacific track. He also handled broom corn. In 1880 Charles Gunnerson erected an elevator east of the Union Pacific tracks, called the Farmers' Elevator. These two additions to the city gave the farmers a market for their grain and products and necessarily were a help to the other business of the town.





The brickyard was established in 1879 by J. A. Swanson, on the banks of the Smoky Hill river, south of the city. The yard was continued at that point until 1901, when, as the supply of clay was limited, the yard was moved and now occupies the corner of Francis Johnson's farm. Since the removal the yard has been enlarged and modernized.

The press made its appearance in 1873 when Dr. O. Olsson published *Nytt och Gammalt*, a Swedish monthly. The first English paper was called the *Localist*, and was published by Wm. McClintock in 1879. The following year it was published by Walter Younger for six months, and then by J. H. Hyde for six months. In 1880 the paper was purchased by John McPhail. For several years it was published under lease by other papers. It was finally absorbed by the *Smoky Valley News*, which was established in 1881 by August Ringwall, who continued to publish the same until 1891. During the time the name of the paper was changed to the *Lindsborg News*. In 1891 and 1892 the paper was published by G. E. Eberhardt. In 1893 it was sold to Frank Nelson and J. B. Nelson, who owned it until 1900, when it was bought by Miss Anna M. Carlson and Martin T. Blomgren. Miss Carlson and Mr. Blomgren continue the paper to the present day, and now occupy a new building erected in 1906. *Kansas Stats Tidning* was moved from Salina to Lindsborg by Mr. Ernst Skarstedt in 1880. In 1882 *Kansas Posten* was established by Dr. Carl Swensson. The associate editors were J. A. Udden and A. Nelander. It was discontinued after two years. A Swedish paper called *Pedagogen* was published in 1884 in alternate editions of English and Swedish. The name was later changed to *Framat*, when it was moved to Kansas City, and finally from there to Chicago, where it was published under the name of *Fosterlandet* up to 1907. The present name is *Fylgia*.

In 1879 Arthur & Allen established a hardware store on the site now occupied by J. M. Nelson & Co. These people continued the business for one year and then sold out to Gibbs & Gebbard, from Salina, who conducted a branch store here. J. M. Nelson and Chas. Lander in 1883 bought this stock. This store had been moved, so that when Lander & Nelson began business the stock was in the Crathy building, on the east side of Main street. In 1884 W. W. Shirwin was taken as partner but remained in the firm only one year. Lander & Nelson continued in the Crathy building for two years, and then moved to what is now known as the grocery department of J. O. Sundstrom's store. The business was continued at this place up to 1890, when they moved to their present quarters. In 1902 A. A. Abercrombie and Fred Anderson purchased Mr. Lander's interest. Mr. Nelson still retains his share.

A lumber yard was established in 1879 by Eberhardt & Sudendorf. It has since been owned and operated by the Eberhardt Lumber Company, G. A. Anderson, and John V. Johnson & Co. Mr. Johnson in 1906 sold the yard again to the Eberhardt Lumber Company, who still retain the interest.

In August, 1879, a book store was established in the Union Hotel by John Ekblad. After continuing some time in this location he entered partnership with O. Hamberg, who in the same year had established a jewelry store on the site now occupied by Gustafson & Stockenberg. In 1883 Mr. Ekblad sold his interest to H. V. Nelson. Messrs. Nelson and Hamberg continued the business for a short time, when the stock was divided. Mr.



*Swedish Settlements in Central Kansas.*

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Eberhardt purchased an interest with Mr. Nelson and the building now occupied by the Goodholm book store was erected. In 1885 Fred Goodholm and John Ekblad, who had been absent for a couple of years, purchased Mr. Nelson's interest. This firm conducted business until 1898, when Mr. Goodholm purchased Mr. Ekblad's share, and in 1902 purchased Mr. Eberhardt's share. Mr. Goodholm has associated with him Ruben Goodholm as jeweler and optician.

In 1879 C. Lundquist came to Lindsborg, and to this day still conducts his tailor shop on the east side of Main street. In the same year Ober & Co. established a general merchandise business on the site north of the Brunswick Hotel. This business was closed out in 1884. Also this year William Schwenson established a grocery business on the site now occupied by O. B. Runbeck. This business was sold out in 1886. A. C. Pearson established a coal yard this year. This yard was owned afterward in succession by N. P. Swenson and E. Jerrett.

In 1882 John A. Swenson organized the Bank of Lindsborg. In 1886 it was changed to a national bank, and is at present the only national bank in the county. The bank is capitalized at \$50,000. The present officers are: John A. Swenson, president; C. F. Norstrom, vice president; C. M. Norstrom, cashier.

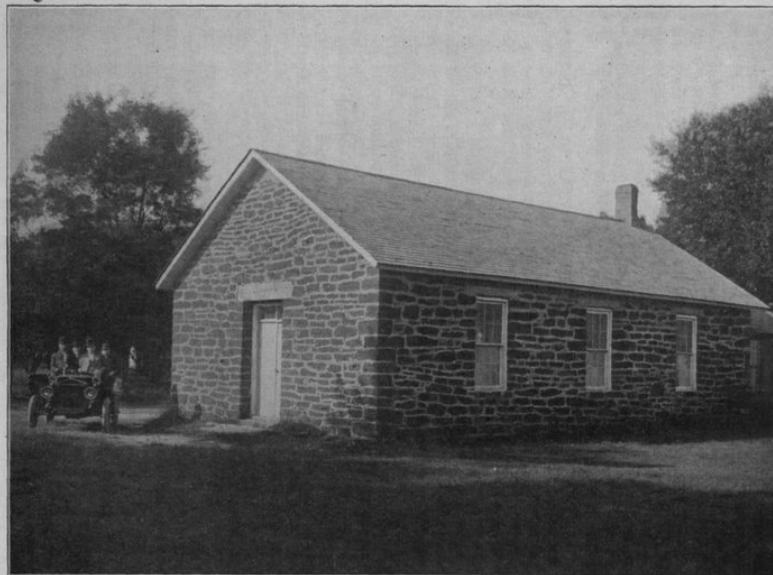
In 1881 Britian & Wheeler established a hardware store on the site now occupied by J. M. Nelson & Co.'s warerooms, on the east side of Main street. In 1885 Oscar Johnson and John Pihlblad purchased the business. Mr. Pihlblad after a short time retired from the firm, Mr. Johnson continuing the business to 1883. The store then occupied the building held by J. M. Nelson & Co. In this year J. W. Bengston, John Swenson and Luther Swenson purchased the stock from Oscar Johnson. In 1889 the stock was moved to the present site. In 1896 Luther Swenson and John Swenson severed their connection with the firm, and J. W. Bengston conducted the business until 1898, when Frank Lewin purchased an interest and remained an active partner until 1906. In 1902 C. A. Lundstrom entered the firm, and in 1906 purchased Mr. Lewin's interest. The present building was erected in 1906-'07. The present name of the firm is The Lindsborg Hardware, Seed and Implement Company.

John Gibson and A. Lincoln established a lumber yard in 1881. Mr. Lincoln and Henry Johnson, for the four years previous to this, had run a livery stable on the site now occupied by the Commercial State Bank. Gibson & Lincoln remained partners until 1886, when John Gibson retired from the firm and J. Duncan purchased his interest. Mr. Duncan remained a member of the firm until 1891, when Mr. Lincoln purchased his interest and continued the business until 1896.

The "Steam Mill" was built and operated in 1882 by S. P. Carlton. Since that time in the line of succession Messrs. Jerrett, Ginder and G. E. Eberhardt have operated the mill. In 1892 the plant was purchased by G. I. Toevs and Mr. Kohfeld. Since then it has been enlarged by new buildings, such as warerooms and elevators. The firm, which is now a stock company, has just completed a five-story mill, with a capacity of 700 barrels daily. This is the largest mill in McPherson county.

Edw. Rosengren established a broom factory in 1880. Mr. Rosengren has been engaged in the manufacture of brooms in Lindsborg for twenty-eight years.





OLD SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH, FREMONT, KAN., 1870.

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In 1882 Dr. G. E. Berquist came to Lindsborg and located. Doctor Berquist has practiced medicine in this county for thirty-six years, and is the oldest physician in the county. In December of the same year N. P. Nelson and Doctor Berquist started a drug store on the site now occupied by Rosberg's furniture store. In 1884 Mr. Nelson retired and Doctor Berquist continued the business until 1889, when the business was sold to August Ekstrand. Mr. Ekstrand continued the business for eleven years, and in 1900 sold to Oscar Berglund, the present owner.

A furniture store was established in 1884 by C. V. Rosberg, on the site now occupied by Mr. Lewin. The business was conducted there for one year and then moved to the present location. In 1897 the building and stock were destroyed by fire and a new building was erected. Mr. Rosberg was the first licensed embalmer of the city.

The Swedish American Insurance Company was organized February 14, 1885. C. J. Störmqvist was its president from 1885 until 1893. Since then Francis Johnson has held that office. F. G. Hawkinson, F. Goodholm, and C. J. Störmqvist have served as secretaries. S. L. Linderholm and C. F. Norström have served as treasurers. The company insures property against fire, lightning, windstorms and cyclones. The insurance now exceeds \$5,000,000. It erected its own building in 1905.

In 1886 the Farmers' State Bank was organized by A. E. Agrelius. The present bank building was erected in 1887. This bank is capitalized at \$30,000. The present officers are George Shields, president, A. E. Agrelius, cashier.

In 1887 the Brunswick Hotel was built by a stock company, and in line of succession up to 1897 was under lease by C. J. Clausen, Mrs. McCarty, Peter Schulz, A. B. Jenkins and J. D. Nelson. In 1897 Mr. Weddle became the proprietor and has continued the management to the present time. This building was given to Bethany College in 1894, and disposed of by the College to S. H. and G. Shields, the present owners.

B. G. Gröndal, the photographer, came to Lindsborg in 1887, and has continued in his profession up to the present time. In 1908 he erected a new gallery of the most modern type.

Oscar Anderson established in 1888 an exclusive shoe business on the east side of Main street, on the lot north of A. G. Holm's harness shop. Mr. Anderson continued this line up to 1904, when he sold a half interest to N. J. Thorstenberg. At this time a large building was erected on the west side of Main street into which they moved, and a line of gents' furnishings was added. On May 20, 1906, Mr. Anderson died at Excelsior Springs, Mo. Messrs. Thorstenberg, Gustafson and Lind, now own the business.

In 1888 Emil Anderson opened a laundry on College street, and continued this until 1907, when the plant was purchased by Thomas Johnson. Mr. Johnson erected a building on Main street and moved the plant.

In 1890 N. J. Thorstenberg purchased the Farmer's Elevator, which was erected in 1882 by a stock company formed by the farmers of this community. In 1896 Amos Thorstenberg entered the business with him. In 1898 the large elevator along the Missouri Pacific track was built. This firm did an extensive business, operating along the line of the Missouri Pacific to the Colorado line. In 1904 Thorstenberg Bros. sold to the Hall-Baker Grain Co., who in turn have sold to Ludvig Nelson. He has changed the elevator to an alfalfa mill. William Lillian now owns it.





G. N. Malm came to Lindsborg in 1894 and started a painting and decorating business, entered in partnership with his brother, E. E., in 1898, and with another brother, C. G., in 1907, and is at present at the head of the well-known decoration firm, Malm Bros.

The Bethany Book and Printing Company had its beginning in 1895, when A. Ringwald began to publish the *Lindsborg Record*. In 1896 Doctor Swensson started *Lindsborgs-Posten*, and in 1900 its present place of business was erected. Here is found not only the Munter & Carlson Jewelry Store, a well furnished book and music store, but also a printing establishment, where *Lindsborgs-Posten*, the *Lindsborg Record*, the *Kansas Young Lutheran*, *The Bethany Messenger*, *The Bethany Bulletin* and *Vingardsarbetaren* are published.

Andrew Beckstrom in 1898 purchased the grocery stock of C. Lundquist, who for the preceding ten years had conducted a grocery store on the site now occupied by the Peterson millinery store. The store was continued on this site up to 1901, when the new building south of the Bethany Book and Printing Company was erected, and a general merchandise line was put in. The firm A. Beckstrom & Co., as it was then known, continued to 1908, when the business was incorporated under the title of the Lindsborg Mercantile Company.

Since 1900 many business enterprises have been started, among which are: Train Bros. Hardware Company; The Commercial State Bank; Wilber & Davis Grocery Company; O. B. Runbech Grocery Company; Ericson Bros., furniture; Jacob Peterson, millinery; Carlson & Anderson Lumber Company; John A. Holmberg, plumbing; J. A. Lysell, harness shop; E. S. Orndoff, feed store; Olson & Johnson, blacksmith shop; Gunnerson & Lysell, painters; Gibson & Tudor, bakery; Anderson, coal yard; Lundgren & Johnson, coal yard; the telephone company, and, most important, perhaps, of all, The Hagstrom Bros. Manufacturing Company, already famous all over the country for their "Blowout" patch, electric cord adjuster, spark plug, porcelain tube cutters, automobile tire sleeves, etc.



*The Wyandotte Convention.*

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## THE WYANDOTTE CONVENTION.

### FIFTY YEARS OF THE WYANDOTTE CONSTITUTION.

An address by Capt. JOSEPH G. WATERS,<sup>1</sup> of Topeka, before the Kansas State Historical Society at its thirty-fourth annual meeting, December 7, 1909.

THE Missouri compromise, by its restrictive terms, led the people of the North to believe that slavery was in process of ultimate extinction. The organic act establishing the territory of Kansas was directly an invasion and repudiation of the settlement which had been agreed to in the compromise act, and was the result of the dominance in Congress of the slave oligarchy then controlling the national government. The organic act left it to the people of the territories to vote slavery up or down. Everybody North and South knew that this meant a conflict waged on the soil of Kansas. The territory of Nebraska, coming into the Union on the same terms with Kansas, was separated from the field by the 200 miles of Kansas territory intervening, Kansas being the buffer to ward off all conflict so far as it affected Nebraska. Nebraska organized its territory without turmoil, and its history since then as a state has been respectable, quiet and without feature. It is a good state—nothing in its annals to quicken the pulse, and nothing to rouse the blood to high endeavor; nothing in its history to remember, other than it is full of good people and has been and will be prosperous and great in a conservative and presbyterian way.

After the Kansas organic act had been passed, adherents of slavery, animated by the entire solid South, hastened to the territory to aid in fashioning a slave state in harmony with the then government and according to the Dred Scott decision. The opposing free-state force, coming from the North, largely from the new western states, was possessed of as high a purpose as a people could have—"free homes," "free speech" and "free

NOTE 1.—JOSEPH GROFF WATERS was born October 18, 1837, in Campbell county, Kentucky. With his parents and family went to Fort Madison, Iowa, in the spring of 1838, Iowa then consisting of its lands, sky, some Indians, and the garrisoned fort at Fort Madison. The family changed residence to Keokuk, Iowa, in 1849, the father dying there. The mother and children moved to Macomb, Ill., in 1855. Studied law and was admitted December 25, 1857. Went into the war as private, carrying a gun until the summer of 1862; was made lieutenant in company C, Eighty-fourth Illinois volunteer infantry. Had been private in company A in that regiment, and as such was wounded at Stone river, December 31, 1862. At the battle of Franklin brought up to the field and helped distribute the ammunition, 300,000 rounds, or twenty wagon loads, with which the battle was fought; was wounded while serving this ammunition; recommended for promotion to the regular service; was wounded at battle of Nashville; was hurt in the head at Atlanta; was breveted captain for the Franklin fight; was on the firing line every time a gun went off in the army of the Cumberland. On the staff of Gen. Nathan Kimball, commanding a division in the Fourth Army Corps as aide, assistant adjutant-general and judge advocate. Mustered into the United States service as lieutenant in Fifteenth, then Twenty-fourth, then Thirty-third infantry, and was honorably mustered out in August, 1869. Came to Topeka and has lived here since, and expects and hopes to end his days here. Has been somewhat extensively engaged in the practice of the law. Has defended a hundred or more murder cases—thirty-six in one batch at Paris, Tex.—and never had a man hung; has been fairly successful in the practice; has written something, and made some addresses. If the people retain their patriotism he would like to have some of them read hereafter; and if this government shall go down with commercialism and corrupt ways, he wants to have all the recollection of himself lost, too; has never held office nor drank whisky, and does not believe there is a man living who can point to any of his public addresses in which there is a sentence or paragraph that was not intended to pump cheer into those who heard it, to give them heart, and to speak well as clear an utterance as he could for patriotism and the very highest ideals of life and citizenship. This day, as these lines are written, in full health, he has great pleasure that he was born when he was, lived through a heroic period, humbly shared in its stirring and manly events, and surviving all came at last down into the Canaan and lived, loved and died in its pastures, supremely blest and happy, with a regret that he left so many good people behind him.





men," were words to paint on any high banner of crusade, and they meant enough to fill the soul with heroic action.

The story has been often told of the conflict here. It embraced the highest emotions and the most brutal passions. The times demanded sacrifice, self-denial and poverty. For over three years such a warfare was fought on Kansas soil before the convention met at Wyandotte to formulate a constitution. It may impress one that under such circumstances the inspiration and high purpose of those years of frontier strife would glow throughout the provisions of that instrument; that there would be somewhere in its terms the flash of blades for freedom, and the strong first utterance of a giant who had torn the shackles from his fettered limbs. The truth is it is a commonplace document. The great warriors of the territorial battles, who wore the unsheathed swords, whose apparel showed plainly the crease and wear of their holstered belts, long-haired, unkempt, and who had done picket duty on the skirmish line, were not delegates to that convention. Eighteen lawyers were members of that high convocation and they dominated the entire instrument.<sup>2</sup> There were many able men, and throughout their deliberations they gave their best thought, judgment and wisdom in the preparation of a constitution for the new state. There

NOTE 2.—

MEMBERS WYANDOTTE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

James M. Arthur, Centreville, Linn county; farmer; was born in Indiana about 1817 and died prior to 1882.

John T. Barton, Olathe, Johnson county; physician; was born in Albemarle county, Virginia, about 1831, and died in Missouri several years ago.

James Blood, Lawrence, Douglas county; merchant; was born in Vermont, March 25, 1819, and died in Lawrence, February 4, 1891.

N. C. Blood, Baldwin, Douglas county; merchant; was born in Bolton, Vermont about 1817, and died in Lawrence, October 21, 1870. N. C. and James Blood were brothers.

James G. Blunt, Walker, Anderson county; physician; was born in Hancock county, Maine, July 21, 1826, and died in Washington, D. C., July 25, 1881.

Frederick Brown, Leavenworth, Leavenworth county; manufacturer; was born in Germany about 1826, and died in St. Joseph, Mo., prior to 1882.

Jonathan Coleman Burnett, Mapleton, Bourbon county; farmer; was born in Morristown, Vt., March 19, 1825, and died at Wichita, Kan., July 2, 1899.

John Taylor Burris, Olathe, Johnson county; lawyer; was born in Butler county, Ohio, December 22, 1828, and still lives at Olathe.

Allen Crocker, Burlington, Coffey county; farmer; was born in Bloomington, Ind., February 27, 1825, and died near Burlington, Coffey county, Kansas, February 13, 1874.

William Parker Dutton, Stanton, Lykins (now Miami) county; farmer; was born in Charlestown, N. H., October 1, 1817.

John W. Forman, Doniphan, Doniphan county; merchant; was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, October 18, 1818, and died near Canton, Mo., September 19, 1898.

Robert Cole Foster, Delaware, Leavenworth county; lawyer; was born in Logan county, Kentucky, September 10, 1834, and died at Dennison, Tex., January 6, 1910.

Robert Graham, Atchison, Atchison county; merchant; was born in Ireland about 1804, and died in Atchison county in 1868.

John P. Greer, Topeka, Shawnee county; lawyer; was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, October 21, 1812, and died at Topeka, November 28, 1889.

William Riley Griffith, Marmaton, Bourbon county; farmer; was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, May 8, 1820, and died at Topeka, February 12, 1862.

James Hanway, Shermanville, Franklin county; farmer; was born in London, England, September 4, 1809, and died at Lane, Kan., May 9, 1882.

Samuel Hipple, Leavenworth, Leavenworth county; land agent; was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, in 1815, and died in Atchison county, January 21, 1875.

Samuel E. Hoffman, Neosho, Woodson county; lawyer; was born in Pennsylvania about 1835, and now lives in St. Louis, where he has been engaged in the banking business.

Samuel Dexter Houston, Manhattan, Riley county; farmer; was born in Columbus, Ohio, June 11, 1818, and died at Salina, February 28, 1910.

E. M. Hubbard, Highland, Doniphan county; merchant; was born in Green county, Kentucky, May 15, 1823, and died prior to 1884.

William Hutchinson, Lawrence, Douglas county; farmer; was born at Randolph, Vt., January 24, 1823, and died in Washington, D. C., May 18, 1904.

John James Ingalls, Sumner, Atchison county; lawyer; was born in Middletown, Mass., December 29, 1833, and died at Las Vegas, N. M., August 16, 1900.

Samuel Austin Kingman, Hiawatha, Brown county; lawyer; was born in Worthington, Mass., June 26, 1818, and died at Topeka, September 9, 1904. (See Kan. Hist. Coll., vol. 9, pp. 55-66.)

Joeliah Lamb, Mound City, Linn county; mechanic; was born in Indiana about 1817, and died prior to July 30, 1882.

George H. Lillie, Emporia, Madison (now Lyon) county; lawyer; was born in Ohio about 1824, and died prior to July 30, 1884.



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is no sentence anywhere written into the instrument as passed, however, that seems to have been written by some free-state lance, in which he gave return shot for those fired at liberty during that long, heroic warfare.

During all the years preceding, in the settlement of the territory, the slave escaping from his master sought the camps of the free-state men, who divided their meager fare with him and shared their plaids, and then took him a Sabbath day's journey nearer the north star. After all such thrilling experiences they wrote the word "white" in the constitution and left the slave with broken shackles out in the cold, marveling in his dusky soul for a privilege of freedom denied him—a man in posture but deprived of a potency that made him desire without hope, and yearn without heart.

The strongest allies of the free-state forces were their woman folk, who gave them all the material help they demanded, bound up wounds, gave them higher courage, the utmost devotion, and, above all, their prayers. Sharing their fortunes, both of defeat and victory, why had not the psychological moment arrived to make her a voter, the convention having chivalrously given her the homestead? But it did not do so.

These are only queries that beset me in thinking over those magnificent days when freedom was being fought for, and then reading the prosaic in-

C. B. McClellan, Oskaloosa, Jefferson county; merchant; was born in Wayne county, Ohio, May 7, 1823, and is still living at Oskaloosa.

William McCullough, Council Grove, Morris county; farmer; was born in Scotland about 1815.

A. D. McCune, Leavenworth, Leavenworth county; lawyer; was born in Ohio about 1828, and died prior to July 30, 1884.

William C. McDowell, Leavenworth, Leavenworth county; lawyer; was born in Ohio about 1828, and died in St. Louis, July 16, 1867.

Caleb May, Pardee, Atchison county; farmer; was born in Madison county, Kentucky, January 19, 1816, and died at Eustis, Fla., August 27, 1888.

John A. Middleton, Nottingham, Marshall county; lawyer; was born in Pennsylvania about 1834. He removed from Kansas to Montana in 1864.

Ephraim Moore, Holton, Jackson county; manufacturer; was born in Ohio about 1821.

Luther R. Palmer, Louisville, Pottawatomie county; physician; was born in Chatham, Columbia county, New York, January 9, 1819, and died at St. Mary's, Kan., in April, 1883.

Paschal S. Parks, Kickapoo, Leavenworth county; lawyer; was born in Indiana about 1833. After passing some years in Kansas he returned to his native state, where he died about 1879.

William Perry, Leavenworth, Leavenworth county; lawyer; was born in New York state about 1831, and died in Colorado prior to 1882.

Robert J. Porter, Troy, Doniphan county; merchant; was born in Pennsylvania about 1831, and died prior to 1882.

Hiram D. Preston, Burlingame, Shawnee (now Osage) county; farmer; was born in New Hampshire about 1831. He died prior to July 30, 1884.

John Ritchey, Topeka, Shawnee county; farmer; was born at Uniontown, Ohio, July 17, 1817, and died at Topeka, August 31, 1887.

Edmund Gibson Ross, Glenross, Wabaunsee county; printer; was born in Ashland, Ohio, December 7, 1826, and died at Albuquerque, N. M., May 8, 1907.

James A. Signor, Humboldt, Allen county; surveyor; was born in New York state about 1834.

Benjamin Franklin Simpson, Paola, Lykins (now Miami) county; lawyer; was born in Belmont county, Ohio, October 24, 1836. He still lives at Paola.

John P. Slough, Leavenworth, Leavenworth county; lawyer; was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1829, and died in Santa Fe, N. M., December 16, 1867.

John Stiarwalt, Palermo, Doniphan county; farmer; was born in Ohio, about 1814, and died prior to 1882.

Samuel Adams Stinson, Leavenworth, Leavenworth county; lawyer; was born at Wiscasset, Me., November 24, 1831, and after a residence of some years in Kansas returned to his native town, where he died, February 20, 1866.

Edwin Stokes, Clinton, Douglas county; manufacturer; was born in Pennsylvania, about 1824.

Solon Otis Thacher, Lawrence, Douglas county; lawyer; was born in Hornellsville, N. Y., August 31, 1830, and died at Lawrence, Kan., August 11, 1895.

P. H. Townsend, Big Springs, Douglas county; lawyer; was born in Salisbury, New Hampshire, in 1825, and died prior to July 30, 1884.

R. L. Williams, Franklin, Douglas county; merchant; was born in Kentucky about 1817.

James M. Winchell, Superior, Osage county; farmer; was born in Avon, Livingston county, New York, in 1823, and died at Hyde Park, N. Y., February 2, 1877.

John Wright, Leavenworth, Leavenworth county; farmer; was born near Greencastle, Ind., June 4, 1827, and died at Fort Scott in December, 1870.

Thomas S. Wright, Granada, Nemaha county; lawyer; was born in Pennsylvania about 1809, and died some time prior to 1882.

Benjamin Wrigley, Troy, Doniphan county; lawyer; was born in Ohio about 1880, and died prior to 1882.





strument that bore but little of the flower of its battles. John Brown at the time this convention was in session had formulated a plan of attack on slavery—a pigmy challenging the government, a mouse attacking the mountain—and within three months thereafter had vented his pentup soul in open, victorious battle. The delegates to this convention had seen the same bitter experiences that John Brown had felt, and no ruffle of a border war, no marque or reprisal appeared in its provisions, no mighty utterance of a people who had fought the last and greatest battle for the freedom of the territories.

The constitution<sup>3</sup> was the thought of many, for like instruments from other states were drawn on for its provisions. The school system was provided for in the wisest manner. It will be the heritage of all children in our border. Every sanctity and bulwark has been thrown around its funds. There is no illiteracy in Kansas, and the more the intelligence of a people, the more the need of a great school fund and system that rots not, like granite, but protected as a sacred trust flourishes forever in the hearts of the people. In a population of 1,700,000, we spend over \$12,000,000 annually on our schools. The school is the apple of the Kansas eye. The constitution provides for a homestead that is as benignant as the home could desire. It is wholly within the wife's grasp, and so long as she says "No," the roof will shelter her brood and no adversity, calamity or husband can destroy it. Compared to somewhat similar provisions in other states, that of our commonwealth is by far the best of all. The supreme court, with a wisdom wide horizoned, has interpreted every provision of the homestead in favor of the wife and children. Every proffered amendment to the constitution is viewed with concern for fear that in some way a meddlesome hand and a blind eye may repeal this provision. I think it apt to say that the laws of Kansas have been kindly to women; they have made her an equal heir with

NOTE 3.—The Wyandotte constitution, our fourth, was made in the month of July, 1859, and signed on the 29th. It was adopted by the people of the territory October 4, 1859, by a vote of 10,421 for and 5530 against. A year and four months elapsed before the admission of the state into the Union, January 29, 1861, when the constitution became operative. This was the fourth attempt at a constitution. The convention met at Wyandotte (now Kansas City, Kan.). October 18, 1909, the Commercial Club and the city of Kansas City, Kan., gave a banquet in honor of the body which met in their city and formed the constitution. It was a brilliant gathering, characterized by wit, eloquence, and much good cheer. Three members of the convention of fifty years ago, John T. Burris, Samuel E. Hoffman and Robert C. Foster, were present. There were six survivors at the end of fifty years. In addition to the three named there are: S. D. Houston, Salina; C. B. McClellan, Oskaloosa, and B. F. Simpson, of Paola.

October 9, 1855, forty-seven delegates were elected to make a constitution, by a vote of 2710. They met in Topeka October 23, 1855. An election was held December 15, 1855, and 1778 votes were cast for the constitution. This was called the Topeka movement, and was a protest against the proslavery territorial government. It had no legislative authority, and was denounced as revolutionary. The legislature which assembled under it was dispersed by federal troops July 4, 1856. July 3, 1856, the house of representatives at Washington, by a vote of 99 to 97, passed a bill admitting the territory under this Topeka constitution. The bill was introduced by Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania. It was never considered in the senate.

The territorial legislature, February 10, 1857, created the Lecompton constitutional convention. Delegates were elected June 5, 1857, and the convention met September 4, 1857. The constitution formed by them received 6226 votes at an election December 21, 1857, only proslavery men voting. In the meantime the free-state men secured control of the territorial legislature. This body met in Lecompton and submitted the Lecompton constitution to another vote, when 10,226 votes were cast against it. Notwithstanding this complication, the senate at Washington, by a vote of 33 to 25, passed a bill to admit Kansas under this constitution. The house adopted a substitute by a vote of 120 to 112, and the result was the English bill, which ordered another vote on August 2, 1858, when the Lecompton constitution was overwhelmingly beaten.

The legislature of 1858, also free-state, authorized the Leavenworth constitutional convention. This body formed a constitution May 18, 1858. It was presented to Congress January 5, 1859, but no action was taken on it.

April 11, 1860, the United States house of representatives voted, 134 to 73, to admit Kansas under the Wyandotte constitution, the bill being introduced by Galusha A. Grow. Twice during the next eight months the senate defeated a motion to consider the Kansas bill, when Mr. Seward finally raised it January 21, 1861, and it passed by a vote of 36 for and 16 against, and was signed by the President on the 29th.



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her husband and given her a restricted suffrage—a wedge and maul to rive the log.

The bill of rights is like that of any other state. Beyond any ordinary constitution the people may adopt is the power of the courts to interpret its provisions. In many cases the courts have given us judge-made law, limiting the meaning or enlarging it. Even with the best men of the land on the bench, that will be the way of it until the end of time, provided judges are permitted to do so. The parliament is its own expounder, probably; but when great events possess a people, or the huge power of business and commerce, or of patriotism, urge the courts to find a new meaning or drop an old one, it will be done in such neat, cogent and instructive opinions, that the wonder grows on us why it was not always thus. The dictionary is a great reservoir with which to make respectable logic and sage conclusions. Oklahoma has attempted to put every thing in its constitution—hedging against the judiciary, protecting themselves against themselves, curbing the legislature and preventing the due and onward course of public opinion from change in interpretation. Her constitution has been criticized by two Presidents of the United States, and no doubt they had a right to criticize, yet as a private citizen I dare not take this privilege with a people, or with the ideas they have crystallized into law.

In our constitution suffrage has not yet been given to woman, except in a diluted way, and she is still classed with idiots, felons, Indians, Chinese and the like. The time is coming when she will be given the full electoral right. From then on it will be easy sailing into the millenium. The general good will then count on a majority. The mercenary, coarse and corrupt will be in decadence. The right of a mother to vote will be exercised for the protection of her children. It was a mistake that the Wyandotte convention did not make her a full elector.

We have a prohibitory amendment that is accepted as the settled and forever policy of the state. It is absolutely glorious. No one understands the quality of breathing pure ozone milked from the cool sunrise air so much as the man who steps down and out of an overcrowded immigrant car in which he has taken in the composite odors of many countries. It is wonderful how nice and sweet and clean a state is without saloons. Business houses, great railways, the daily newspaper, and applied personal intelligence and experience, as much as the repressive law, have accomplished this unmitigated blessing for Kansas.

The conservatism of other states in their constitutions had much to do with the conventional form of ours. Moderation and an obedience to the long recognized provisions of other states held the Wyandotte convention in leash.<sup>4</sup> After fifty years of wear and tear it would be hard to suggest a more excellent constitution. I do not mind me that any one of its provisions is unworthy of the state, and the whole instrument is a good one to build to. I have this to say—that the freed negro, without knowledge and fairly ignorant, should have stood back and waited until the women of Kan-

NOTE 4.—It may be well to recall while reading this paper that Kansas had already framed three constitutions, two free-state and one proslavery, in which the partisan sentiments of the authors were too apparent. In voting down the Lecompton constitution the people of Kansas had virtually won the battle for the free state, and in 1859 were anxious to secure through the Wyandotte convention the machinery for a stable state government that would have to receive its final sanction from a Congress and President still in the hands of their political enemies. The members of the convention could not afford to risk their goal by the expression of unnecessary sentiment.





sas had been given the right to vote, not because of color, but because one should have had it and the other should have waited.

The salient features of our constitution are the system of schools, the comprehensive, enlightened and humane provisions for the care of the helpless classes, the homestead, the advancement of women, and the prohibitory amendment.

In other matters, we are abreast of our sister states. The real constitution in Kansas is the people themselves. Theirs is the sovereign will. No paper provision can suppress a conscience or perpetuate a wrong. We will always have in Kansas a people alive to their own progress and advancement along every high, chivalric and manly line and the fervent champion of every phase of morals. Kansas is great and wealthy. If her people will it, as they surely will, her grand future is beyond the domain of speculative prophecy. The weakness or vagueness of a written constitution is not important with such a people.

Students of history may well mark the path of the people over the obstructions of their own constitution when they remember that, while the constitution of the United States protected the master in his slave property, the slave nevertheless was bearing arms as a free man before that provision was changed ending slavery here and, by its example, ending slavery over the whole surface of the globe. The king of Belgium was the last surviving relic of slave piracy and slavery. It took a war to do it, but the higher law found its abode in the hearts of our people beyond the limitation of any instrument that could be fashioned by the brain of man. When a people look upward to the stars, there is no obstruction of the earth that can hide their glitter. Kansas in her laws, under her constitution, is much; but her soul, her tremendous history, her hopes and expectations, are beyond the purview and provision of any constitution.

I prophesy, as I have always prophesied, that this is and always will be the grandest state in the Union; the highest exposition of civilization on the earth, and the greatest people the Lord has ever created; and this regardless of the present constitution.



*The Boundary Lines of Kansas.*

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## THE BOUNDARY LINES OF KANSAS.

An address by GEO. W. MARTIN, Secretary of the State Historical Society, before the Old Settlers' Association at Alma, September 28, Independence, October 16, and at the Banquet at Kansas City, Kan., October 18, 1909, in honor of the Wyandotte Convention.

A REVIEW of all that happened leading to the establishment of the boundary lines of Kansas takes us back to the very beginning, and shows with absorbing interest how everything concerning negro slavery focused toward a conclusion upon this rectangle of beautiful prairie now called Kansas. The Jefferson proviso of 1784 and the ordinance of 1787 indicated a settled policy against the extension of slavery. Notwithstanding this Louisiana was admitted into the Union with slavery in 1812. There was no particular occasion or demand, so history tells us, for this, especially as the language of the treaty under which the territory had been acquired from France was also plainly against it. In 1818, six years later, Missouri applied for admission into the Union. There were, in 1820, 1,469,061 slaves in the whole country, outside of Louisiana. In the case of Missouri it was proposed to incorporate into the bill a clause requiring that the constitution of the new state should contain an article prohibiting the further introduction of slaves, and gradually abolishing existing slavery. There was violent opposition. The provision prevailed in the house, and was rejected in the senate.

In the next Congress the controversy was renewed with increased violence. And here the famous Missouri compromise was born. Missouri was allowed to come into the Union with slavery, but a section was incorporated in the act excluding slavery forever from all the territory acquired from France, not included in Missouri, lying north of 36° 30' north latitude. The constitutionality of this provision was submitted by President Monroe to his cabinet. Four of them, being from the South, gave written affirmative opinions, and so the President, also from a slave state, signed the bill.

Missouri could not have been admitted as a slave state had not certain members from the free states been reconciled by the incorporation of this prohibition in the act of admission. However, it is not the purpose of this paper to pursue the wearisome question of slavery, but rather look up the boundary lines of Kansas, which cannot be done and ignore this significant line of 36° 30' north. There can be no history of Kansas without reference to this line; nor can we follow this line without some slight reference to the institution of slavery, and how the *ante bellum* statesmen straddled the line in 1850, and again in 1854.

Slavery was permitted in Missouri by a vote, March 2, 1820, of 27 to 15 in the United States senate, and 90 to 87 in the house. Missouri was admitted March 2, 1821, but the conditions were not complied with until August 10, 1821, when the President proclaimed the state in the Union. The compromise line of 36° 30' is the south line of Missouri, "west, along the same, to a point where the said parallel is intersected by a meridian line passing through the middle of the mouth of the Kansas river, where the same empties into the Missouri river." This is the first mention of the east line of Kansas. But June 7, 1836, Congress changed the west line of Missouri





north of the Kansas river from the meridian to the Missouri river, by adding to that state the Platte purchase. This was the first violation of the compromise of 1820, thus adding free-soil to slave territory. And so we have the east line of the territory and state of Kansas following the Missouri river from Kansas City northward. If it had not been for this change Kansas would have been a perfect oblong, including the Missouri river and five of the best counties in that state.

The admission of Missouri, the annexation of Texas, the creation of Oregon territory, the compromise act of 1850, and the Nebraska-Kansas bill, form a chain of historic incidents not surpassed.

Texas was admitted as a state March 1, 1845. The Missouri compromise was reaffirmed in the bill thus: "And such states as may be formed out of that portion of the said territory lying south of 36° and 30' north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted into the Union, with or without slavery, as the people of each state asking admission may desire; and in such state or states as shall be formed out of said territory north of said Missouri compromise line, slavery or involuntary servitude (except for crime) shall be prohibited."

The bill creating the territory of Oregon became a law August 14, 1848. It reaffirmed the ordinance of 1787, excluding slavery from all the Northwest territory.

This line of 36° 30' north latitude runs parallel with the south line of Kansas, about thirty miles distant, through Oklahoma. So that Kansas was surely pledged to free soil. In the early discussions of the slavery question the Mason and Dixon line was frequently referred to as the dividing line between freedom and slavery. This was the boundary line between Pennsylvania and Maryland, established in 1763-67, by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon. It ran due west from the Delaware river 244 miles, in north latitude 39° 43' 26". It was resurveyed in 1849, and found to be correct. It was a mere trifle in importance as compared with the line of 36° 30' which led up to the Kansas controversy.

Trouble again arose in 1850, and another compromise was made renewing the line of 36° 30'. The territories of New Mexico and Utah were created, to be admitted as states when ready, with or without slavery, as the people might determine (New Mexico being south and Utah north of 36° 30', Utah being pledged to freedom by the original act), California admitted with a constitution prohibiting slavery, the passage of the fugitive slave law, and abolishing the slave trade in the District of Columbia. These five acts are known as the compromise of 1850.

But in 1854 Senator Douglas was the champion of a bill practically repealing the Missouri compromise of 1820. He proposed in the Nebraska bill "to leave the people of the territories perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States." This opened the ball, the Free-soilers of the North asserting that this revived and reestablished slavery north of the line of 36° 30'. Everybody, I take it, knows all about the effort of the South to establish slavery in Kansas, from which territory it had been excluded, and the wonderful history which followed.<sup>1</sup>

NOTE 1.—The Kansas-Nebraska bill was the act of Congress by which the territories of Kansas and Nebraska were organized, 1854. It turned out to be one of the most important acts in the legislative history of the United States. It precipitated the final phases of the slavery



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The original title read "An act to organize the territories of Nebraska and Kansas," and the movement was then referred to as the Nebraska question. But the violence of the controversy in the attempt to force slavery into Kansas overshadowed Nebraska, and so it has ever since been known as the "Kansas-Nebraska act." As originally organized the territory of Nebraska extended from the fortieth parallel (the present south line of the state of Nebraska) to British America, and from the Missouri river to the Rocky Mountains. A portion of Colorado, that part of North Dakota and South Dakota lying west of the Missouri river, and all of what is now Montana and Wyoming east of the summit of the Rockies, were taken from Nebraska. Nebraska was admitted into the Union as the thirty-seventh state, in its present shape, March 1, 1867.

The territory of Kansas was formed as follows: "Beginning at a point on the western boundary of the state of Missouri, where the thirty-seventh parallel of north latitude crosses the same (about thirty miles north of the southwest corner of Missouri, or 36° 30' parallel of north latitude); thence west on said parallel to the eastern boundary of New Mexico; thence north on said boundary to latitude thirty-eight; thence following said boundary westward to the east boundary of the territory of Utah, on the summit of the Rocky Mountains; thence northward on said summit to the fortieth parallel of latitude; thence east on said parallel to the western boundary of the state of Missouri; thence south with the western boundary of said state (being a meridian line passing through the middle of the mouth of the Kansas river) to the place of beginning."

The following letter concerning the southern boundary line explains itself:

"WASHINGTON, March 24, 1910.

"Geo. W. Martin, Esq., Secretary Historical Society:

"MY DEAR MR. MARTIN—I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 21, 1910, requesting information as to the reasons for the choice of the thirty-seventh degree of north latitude for the southern boundary line of the state of Kansas, and asking whether there was a fraction of Osage land lying south of this parallel of latitude. You invite attention also to what appears to be a narrow strip of the Osage Reservation lying in the Indian Territory north of the Cherokee lands, as shown by plates CXXIX and CXXX, Eighteenth Annual Report, Bureau of Ethnology.

"An examination of the plates to which you refer indicates that the strip of land mentioned was formed by a correction line, or auxiliary base line, which extends across the entire northern part of Oklahoma and is located some six or seven miles south of the northern boundary of that state.

"The thirty-seventh parallel of north latitude appears to have been fixed as the southern boundary of the territory of Kansas by section 19 of the Act of Congress organizing the territories of Nebraska and Kansas, approved May 30, 1854 (10 Stat. L., 277, 283), and there is nothing in this office to show the reasons for its choice as such southern boundary.

"This parallel did not, however, form the dividing line between the Cherokee and Osage Nations, the lands belonging to the former which were located in Kansas being a narrow strip approximately 2½ miles wide and lying just north of the thirty-seventh degree.

"By the act approved January 29, 1861 (12 Stat. L., 126), admitting Kansas into the Union as a state, the thirty-seventh degree of north lati-

struggle, which resulted in the Civil War. It led to the reorganization of political parties. It started a renewal of the contest between the North and the South over a question which had been regarded as settled for many years, at least by the compromise measures of 1820 and 1850. It stirred the passions of the people of both sections, gave rise to bitter and protracted controversies, both in and out of Congress, and doubtless considerably hastened a resort to arms. This bill sealed the doom of the Whig party; it led to the formation of the Republican party; it raised Lincoln and gave a vent to his great political ambition.—*St. Louis Republic*, January 23, 1910.



tude was again fixed as the southern boundary of the state; but by a subsequent provision in section 1 thereof the lands of all Indian tribes located within the limits or jurisdiction of the territory were expressly 'excepted out of the boundaries, and constituted no part of the state of Kansas until such tribes shall signify their assent to the President of the United States to be included within said state, or to affect the authority of the government of the United States to make any regulation respecting such Indians, their lands, property or other rights, by treaty, law or otherwise, which it would have been competent to make if this act had never passed.'

"Congress thus in effect moved the boundary line of the state so far northward as to exclude the so-called Cherokee Strip and the lands of all other Indian tribes which had not theretofore ceded their lands to the United States, until such time as the said Indian tribes should comply with the requirements of the act.

"By the treaty of July 19, 1866, ratified and confirmed by the act approved July 31, 1866 (14 Stat. L., 799, 804), the Cherokee Nation (see article XVII) ceded in trust to the United States the tract of land in Kansas which was sold to the Cherokees by the United States under article II of the treaty of 1835; also, the strip of land ceded to the Nation by the fourth article of said treaty, which was located in Kansas, and gave its consent for the said lands to be included within the limits and jurisdiction of the state of Kansas.

"Subsequent to the treaty with the Cherokees the rights of the other tribes who had lands in Kansas, with the exception of the Quapaws, were ceded to the United States, and by the treaty of February 23, 1867 (15 Stat. L., 513, 514), the Quapaws ceded all their right, title and claim to lands in Kansas; thereby virtually restoring the thirty-seventh degree of north latitude as the southern boundary of the state.

Very respectfully,

JOHN FRANCIS, JR.,  
*Acting Chief Land Division."*

It is safe to say on a very superficial examination of the volumes and volumes of debates on the Kansas question from 1854 to 1861 that there was no controversy whatever as to these lines. Nor is there anywhere to be found an explanation of why or how these lines were chosen.<sup>2</sup> It just happened so. Nature laid out this beautiful piece of territory and an overruling Providence spared its dismemberment. And what was Kansas originally?

NOTE 2.—As early as 1848 an effort was made to organize a territorial government in the Indian territory west of the Missouri river. In 1844 the Secretary of War recommended an organization. On the 12th of October, 1852, an election for a delegate was held at the Wyandotte council house, and Abelard Guthrie received all the votes cast. There was much opposition to the opening of the territory. Another election was held at Fort Leavenworth and Guthrie defeated a man named Banow by a vote of 54 to 16. Guthrie started for Washington on the 20th of November, 1852. He did very effective work in forcing a consideration of the question of the organization of Nebraska territory. October 11, 1853, Rev. Thomas Johnson was elected delegate to Congress. A bitter fight prevailed between Abelard Guthrie and Thomas Johnson. But several precincts further up the river voted for Hadley D. Johnson, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, the returns from which seem to have been ignored. But our purpose relates only to the origin of the boundary line. For many interesting details of those days, see Connelley's *Provisional Government of Nebraska Territory*. Hadley D. Johnson arrived in Washington early in January, 1854. The following is from a statement by Mr. Johnson in the *Nebraska Historical Report*, vol. 2, p. 80:

"I also found, seated at a desk, in the house of representatives, a portly, dignified, elderly gentleman, who was introduced to me as the Rev. Thomas Johnson. He was an old Virginian, a slaveholder, and a Methodist preacher. . . .

On being introduced to Mr. Johnson, who seemed somewhat stiff and reserved, I alluded to the manner of my appointment to the present mission, which, like his own, was without legal sanction, but was for a purpose; told him there was no occasion for a contest between us for a seat to which neither of us had a claim; that I came there to suggest and work for the organization of the two territories instead of one; that if he saw proper to second my efforts, I believed that we could succeed in the objects for which we each had come. . . .

"The fates decreed, however, that we were not to hold our seats a great while, for one day the principal doorkeeper approached me as I sat in my seat, and politely inquired who I was, and by what right I occupied the seat; and being by me answered according to the facts, he informed me that a complaint had been made to the speaker; he was under the necessity of respectfully asking me to vacate the seat, as such was the order of the speaker. I replied to him that of course I would do so; but, I added, as my neighbor on my left occupied his seat by a right similar to my own, I felt it to be my privilege to inquire why I should be ousted while he was permitted to remain. On this the doorkeeper turned to Mr. Johnson, who corroborated my statement.



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Rev. John G. Pratt, missionary to the Delaware Indians, in comparing Kansas then and to-day, thinks the white man has desecrated nature. He says:<sup>3</sup>

"My first introduction to Kansas was in 1837. Leaving Boston in April with my wife we reached the then territory May 14, being about four weeks in slow but uninterrupted travel. The territory at that time was in perfect quiet, and a most beautiful country it was. Coming from the Atlantic, my first look at a green open prairie on a sunny day seemed to be a look at the ocean, with which I was so familiar, but this was also Flora in her gayest attire: the eye was too limited in its capacity to take in such wide and far-extended area of beauty—the like will never be seen again in Kansas. The coming of dwellers has spoiled all this. Though still the Sunflower state, the earlier dress of nature was more comely—it was nature's beauty."

In 1853, Percival G. Lowe, of Leavenworth, went out with Major E. A. Ogden when Fort Riley was located, and here is his first impression:<sup>4</sup>

"Of all charming and fascinating portions of our country, probably there is none where nature has been so lavish as within a radius of 150 miles, taking Fort Riley as the center. In rich soil, building material, in beauty of landscape, wooded streams and bubbling springs, in animal life, in everything to charm the eye, gladden the heart, yield to the industry of man—here was the climax of the most extravagant dream, perfect in all its wild beauty and productiveness; perfect in all that nature's God could hand down to man for his improvement and happiness."

Rev. Charles Brandon Boynton made an exploration in the fall of 1854, which was published under the title "Journey through Kansas."<sup>5</sup> He says:

"But the first hour's ride over the prairies of Kansas spread before us such a picture, varying every moment and beautiful in every change, as we had no previous conception of, and drew from us continued expressions of a delight that would not be suppressed. One can form no correct idea of the prairies of Kansas by a previous knowledge of those of Indiana and Illinois; and residents in Iowa add the same remark of theirs. How, without the majesty of mountains or lakes, or broad rivers, and with so few colors as here are seen, such an effect can be produced, is worthy the study of artists. It is a magnificent picture of God, that stirs irresistibly and inexplicably the soul of every beholder. Young and old, the educated and the unlearned, alike feel the influence of its spell, and each in his own language gives utterance to his delight and wonder, or stands breathless and mute. There are many scenes in Kansas that can scarcely be remembered even with-

whereupon the "two Johnsons," as we were called, were incontinently bounced and relegated to the galleries.

"I never learned, nor did I care to know, whether I was removed at the instance of the friend of Mr. Johnson, or whether a Mr. Guthrie, who had also been a candidate for delegate, had fired a shot at his adversary, the Rev. Thomas. If the latter was the case, in firing he hit two birds. I did not feel hurt by this event, but believe that the dignity of the other Johnson was seriously touched, and himself mortified.

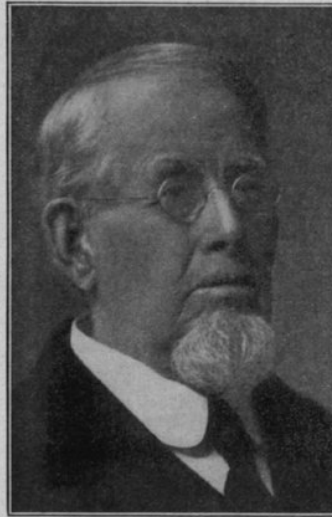
"I ought, perhaps, to mention the fact that, in our negotiations as to the dividing line between Kansas and Nebraska, a good deal of trouble was encountered; Mr. Johnson and his Missouri friends being very anxious that the Platte river should constitute the line, which obviously would not suit the people of Iowa, especially as I believe it was a plan of the American Company to colonize the Indians north of the Platte river. As this plan did not meet with the approbation of my friends or myself, I firmly resolved that this line should not be adopted. Judge Douglas was kind enough to leave that question to me, and I offered to Mr. Johnson the choice of two lines—first, the present line, or second, an imaginary line traversing the divide between the Platte and the Kaw. After considerable parleying, and Mr. Johnson not being willing to accept either line, I finally offered the two alternatives—the fortieth degree of north latitude, or the fortieth degree of the whole bill, for that session at least. After consulting with his friends, I presume, Mr. Johnson very reluctantly consented to the fortieth degree as the dividing line between the two territories, whereupon Judge Douglas prepared and introduced the substitute in a report as chairman of the committee on territories, and immediately probably the hardest war of words known in American history commenced."

NOTE 3.—Letter to Franklin G. Adams, January 12, 1889.

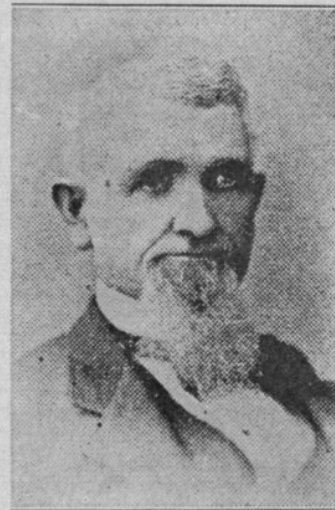
NOTE 4.—Kan. Hist. Coll., vol. 7, p. 101.

NOTE 5.—Page 45.





SAMUEL DEXTER HOUSTON,  
Salina, Kan.  
Wyandotte Constitutional Convention, 1859  
Died February 28, 1910.



C. B. McCLELLAN,  
Oskaloosa, Kan.  
Wyandotte Constitutional Convention, 1859

out tears. The soul melts in the presence of the wonderful beauty of the workmanship of God."

Max Greene was another early-day explorer in 1855. He also published a book,<sup>6</sup> in which he says:

"Here through the exhilarating crystal air, on every hand, are scenes of natural glory, the sublime of loveliness, whose only appropriate description would be a passionate lyric to flicker along the nerves like solemn harmonies of mighty bards."

The east boundary of Utah, "the summit of the Rocky Mountains" according to what was known at that time, is a very vague and indefinite expression. Another statement of the western line says: "Westward to the summit of highlands dividing the waters flowing into the Colorado of the West or Green river, from the waters flowing into the great basin." It is usually understood that the territory of Kansas extended nearly to the present eastern line of Utah. At that time probably no one knew. A topographical map of the United States, issued in 1907, shows the summit of the Rocky Mountains, called the "Continental Divide," to be a trifle west of Leadville. West of this point the waters flow into the Gulf of California, and east the waters flow into the Gulf of Mexico. The east line of Utah is very near the one hundred and ninth meridian west, but the summit of the mountains is shown to be so irregular as not to be stated by lines. Several of the old maps show the west line of Kansas territory following the

NOTE 6.—The Kansas Region, p. 14.



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continental divide. Undoubtedly, therefore, the territory of Kansas did not include the whole of Colorado, but say about two-thirds of it, or a few miles west of Leadville.

The western line of Missouri, "a meridian line passing through the middle of the mouth of the Kansas river," is the eastern line of Kansas. Thus is designated one of the most conspicuous points on the continent. Here the line is a street cutting in almost equal parts the most interesting and promising city in the land. This street is lined with untold millions of wealth in railroads, packing houses, stockyards, and general manufactures. The mouth of the Kansas river was accurately determined by astronomical observation in 1804 by Lewis and Clark, the explorers, to be latitude  $38^{\circ} 31' 13''$ .<sup>7</sup> There has always been some controversy as to whether or not the mouth of the Kansas has changed. I see no way of determining whether it changed between the date of the location given by Lewis and Clark in 1804 and the date of the settlement of the boundary line in 1821. The report of the Geodetic Survey in 1902 gives the latitude and longitude of the Second Presbyterian church spire (northwest corner of Thirteenth and Central, Kansas City, Mo.) to be latitude  $39^{\circ} 05' 55.813''$  and longitude  $94^{\circ} 35' 13.448''$ .<sup>8</sup> In 1899 Mr. W. E. Connelley made a careful study of this matter, and concluded that the line is where it always was.<sup>9</sup> Mr. C. I. McClung,<sup>10</sup> who has had much experience in the engineering department of Kansas City, Kan., tells me that the distance between the mouth of the Kansas river and Thirteenth and Central, Kansas City, Mo., is 7392 feet, or one and four-tenths miles.

The fortieth parallel of north latitude was made the boundary line between the territories of Nebraska and Kansas by Congress in the act of May 30, 1854. It seems that in the beginning the Missourians wanted the Platte river, but Hadley D. Johnson, representing more northerly interests, insisted upon the fortieth parallel.<sup>11</sup> There were no surveys then, and there was no controversy in Congress about any portion of the lines. Neither was there any hundred-dollar-an-acre land, and so Congress acted like the fellow who sold a quarter section, and while the buyer was not looking slipped in the deed another quarter to get rid of it. Nebraska was extended north to the British line, and Kansas extended to the summit of the Rocky Mountains, a few miles beyond the present city of Leadville. Immediately upon the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska act John Calhoun was made surveyor-general of Nebraska and Kansas. A contract was made

NOTE 7.—Original Journals of Lewis and Clark, vol. 6, p. 239.

NOTE 8.—Coast and Geodetic Survey, 1902, p. 247.

NOTE 9.—See Mr. Connelley's paper on the "Western Boundary of Missouri," which follows as an addenda to this article.

NOTE 10.—Letter of C. I. McClung to Secretary Geo. W. Martin, dated October 5, 1909.

NOTE 11.—Connelley's Provisional Government of Nebraska Territory, p. 31: "Another factor was entering into the movement for territorial government for Nebraska. This was the fixing of the location of the line of railroad soon to be built between the Pacific ocean and the Missouri river. Iowa wanted the initial point of this road on her western border, and Missouri contended that the valley of the Kansas river was the logical, most central, and most practicable route. Ever since the enormous and phenomenal emigration to California, the initial point of this 'great national highway,' as it had been called by Colonel Benton, had been a matter of contention between the people of Iowa and Missouri, and, to a certain extent, to the country at large. The North, generally, favored Council Bluffs as the starting point, and insisted that the valley of the Platte was the route of greatest utility, from a national standpoint. The South contended that the mouth of the Kansas river was a better location from which to start. The controversy followed the old line drawn between the North and South by the question of the extension of slavery, and was the one matter upon which the factions of the Missouri Democracy could unite."





with John P. Johnson<sup>12</sup> to establish the northern boundary line. It was concluded to make it the principal base line whereupon to start the survey, both on the north in Nebraska and on the south in Kansas. The fortieth parallel was astronomically established in 1854 by Capt. T. J. Lee,<sup>13</sup> topographical engineer, U. S. A. The survey was started on the 18th of November, 1854. The party were eighteen days running west 108 miles. When the Missouri river was closed to northern immigration, in 1856, Nebraska City was a port of entry for Kansas.

At a banquet tendered him January 19, 1910, by the Commercial Club of Lincoln, Neb., Hon. Eugene F. Ware said: "In 1895 I was the attorney of J. P. Johnson, who was a banker at Highland, Kan. One evening he began telling some of his early history, and among other things said that he was a graduate of Harvard College, being a classmate of Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts. He said that they had had or would soon have a celebration of their fiftieth year after graduation. He said that, after graduation, he came to Illinois and got a position in a college, his specialty being mathematics, and that having made the acquaintance of Senator Stephen A. Douglas he became desirous of getting an appointment from the Interior Department to survey or assist in surveying the boundary line between what was to be Kansas and Nebraska. He received the appointment, and came up the Missouri river with a complete outfit, sixteen men, horses and mules, wagons and surveying instruments. They were told to make earthen mounds every few miles in good locations, easy to observe, on the line, and were instructed to go west until they struck the desert, and when they had got fully on the desert line they were to halt and put up a mound, and then they were to go one full day's march into the desert and establish the sixth principal meridian running north and south. Mr. Johnson said they went west until they had fully come to the desert line, and then they went a long day's journey into the desert. From his recollection, he thought it was about thirty-six miles. There, on the Kansas-Nebraska line, they raised a mound establishing the sixth principal meridian, and went to a dry swale some distance off and got rocks and capped the mound. He says a full report was made to the surveyor-general's office on their return to the Missouri river, where the party was disbanded and government property sent to Fort Leavenworth and turned in. When he was telling me this, he said the sixth principal meridian as thus established still remained, and that he had several farms west of it in Jewell and Mitchell counties, which produced fine corn." Such towns as Clyde, Solomon, Newton, Wichita and Wellington now mark the sixth principal meridian.

The southern boundary line of Kansas, the thirty-seventh parallel, was surveyed by Lieut.-col. J. E. Johnston, First cavalry, and finished September 10, 1857. The astronomical determinations were by J. H. Clark and H. Campbell, the survey by J. E. Weyss. The southern boundary of the Osage Nation formed the northern boundary of the Cherokee Nation by treaties with the United States of 1828 and 1833.<sup>14</sup> A map of Kansas and Nebraska, indorsed August 5, 1854, by George W. Manypenny, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, shows the thirty-seventh parallel as the boundary line between the

NOTE 12.—Kan. Hist. Coll., vol. 7, p. 318: "Survey of the Northern Boundary Line," by C. W. Johnson.

NOTE 13.—Gov. Samuel J. Crawford, message, 1865.

NOTE 14.—Indian Affairs, Laws and Treaties, vol. 2, pp. 289, 387.