

#### Kansas historical collections

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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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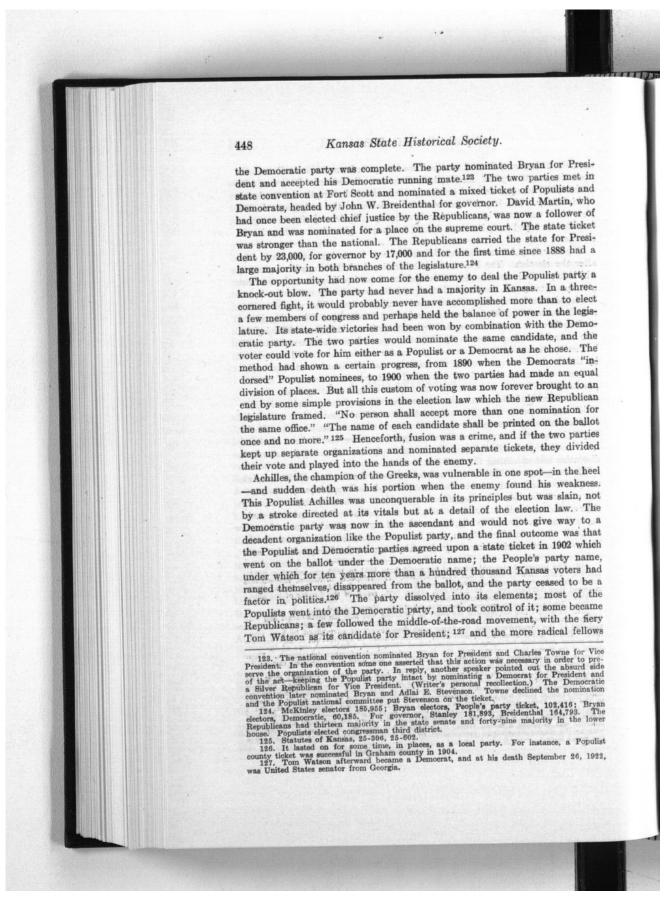
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# KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY











Populist Party in Kansas.

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went into the Socialist party in numbers sufficient to make that organization at once the leading third party in the state.128

#### XI. POST MORTEM.

At the national convention at Sioux Falls, S.D., in 1900, Gov. Andrew D. Lee, of South Dakota, said: "The Populist party is not a revolutionary party; it is a last attempt to make present conditions tolerable." The convention cheered the sentiment and seemed quite satisfied with itself because it was not revolutionary. 129 But perhaps in this incident we can get a glimpse of the reason why the People's party did not endure. If a political party is to be permanent, displace its rivals, and win its place in the sun, it must be revolutionary; but the People's party had little in its platform which other and older parties could not take up without violating the law of their being.

The Populists were looking backward rather than forward; to them silver was "the dollar of our daddies," and the greenback was the money which had won the Civil War and saved the Union; the fight on monopolies harked back to a time before monopolies existed, when the road was free to all and Uncle Sam was rich enough to give us all a farm. The subtreasury and government loans to farmers were a bit more radical, but it is to be noticed that they were soft pedaled and practically dropped after the first campaign.

The party intended to become less radical every year. It was not a young man's party; it was noticeable that in its conventions gray heads and bearded faces predominated; the young men went elsewhere and, to their grief, Populist fathers found their sons being stolen away by other parties. A party which cannot attract and hold the young men cannot last. If the Whig party in the fifties could or would have taken up the abolition doctrine, the Republican party would never have been born. Perhaps the Socialist party or the Labor party will be revolutionary, and its time will come when the country is ready for it.

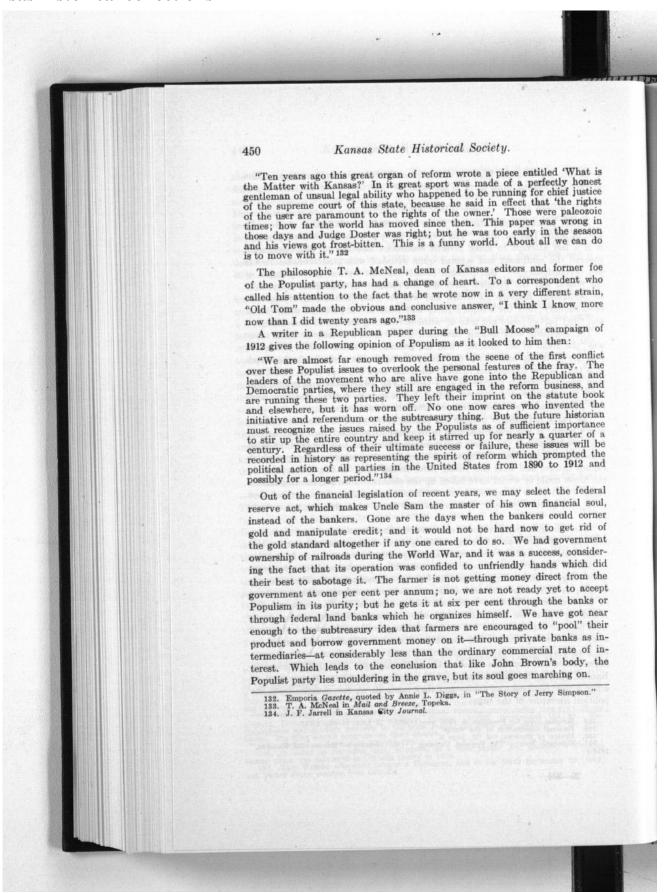
"The strongest positive force exercised by the Populist party was a 'permeating' influence--an effect upon the policy of the two old parties." 130 "Populism educated the grass roots and bequeathed to posterity a knowledge of politics and government such as has probably never been in the possession of so large a mass of people in the history of civilization." The above is written by a friendly critic who enumerates some twenty measures or policies of importance which have been enacted into law in recent years and "all found the will of the political Samson who slew more Philistines at his death than he ever did in his life." 131 A decade after the Populist party had passed away came an explosion in the Republican party and Theodore Roosevelt ran for President and polled several million of votes on a platform that was more populistic than Populism itself. His following was especially strong in Kansas, among the Philistines who had persecuted Samson. It was time to make a new confession of faith-and they made it. A few samples from the political literature of the time:

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Socialist vote for President in 1904 was 15,869. In 1900, it was 2,742. Personal observation of the writer. Review of Reviews, vol. 10, page 8. Elizabeth Barr: "The Populist Uprising." (In Connelley's "Kansas and Kansans,"











Raid on the Upper Neosho.

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### THE EARLY SETTLEMENT AND RAID ON THE "UPPER NEOSHO."

Written by Flora Rosenquist Gedsey,1 for the Kansas State Historical Society.

IN 1854, at the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, Illinois, in and about Galesburg and Knoxville, became a great political arena, with some of the country's most wonderful oratorical gladiators in the field. The little balcony of the old courthouse at Knoxville and the streets about it, was the stage for many a show that would doubtless now furnish thrills to movie managers.

It was at this place one afternoon, while Stephen A. Douglas, the "Little Giant," was going through his characteristic movements of throwing his tie to one attendant and his collar to another, that one young man in the crowd was rapidly learning what the United States of America was really like.



MRS. T. B. GODSEY, Emporia, Kan.

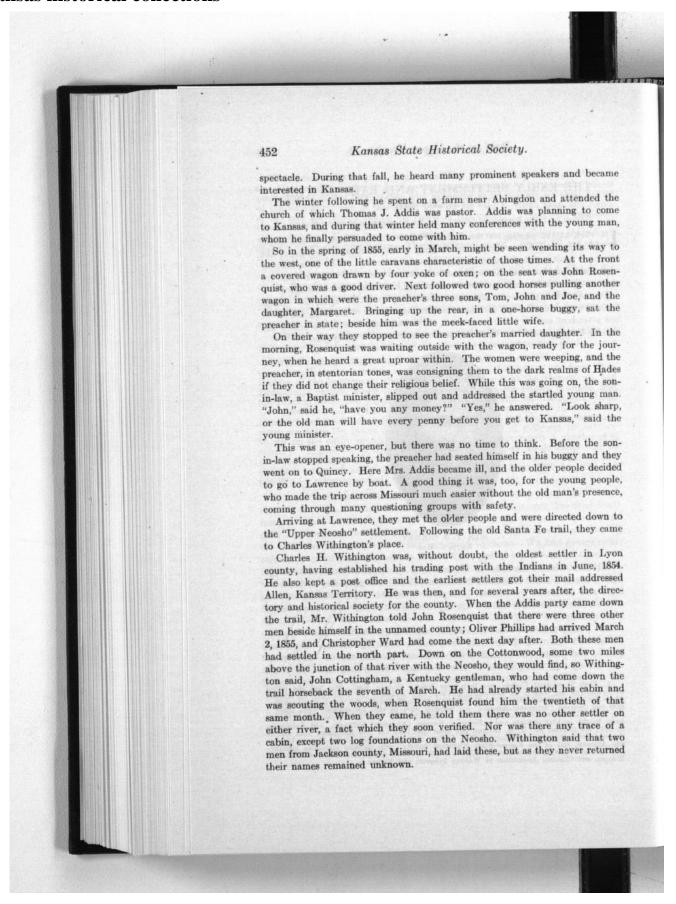
All about him on the edges of the crowd, as the speaker advanced his arguments, began a series of smaller discussions; these soon gave way to hand-to-hand and fist-to-jaw encounters. No police were able to handle that crowd, whose outskirts soon became a wriggling mass of arms, legs and human forms,

The young man was John Rosenquist, whose ancestors had been with Napoleon and had come away from their native country, Holland, when that general had placed one of their relatives on the Swedish throne. Perhaps it was the fighting blood of his forbears that made the young man enjoy the

<sup>1.</sup> Flora Rosenquist Godsey was born near Neosho Rapids, Kan. She had the school advantages of her locality in her childhood and later attended the University of Kansas, where she was graduated with the class of 1897. At the University she won a Latin scholarship and received "honorable mention" for research work in that department. She spent a year in the University of Chicago, 1993-'04, in research work. For twelve years Miss Rosenquist taught in high schools and colleges in Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and California. In 1911 she married Mr. T. B. Godsey, and since that time has been associated with him in the real-estate business in Emporia. Mrs. Godsey is a life member of the Kansas University Adunna, and of the Kansas State Historical Society. She likewise maintains membership in the following organizations: Kansas State Author's club, Association of University Women, and Classical Association of Western Missouri and Kansas.

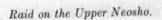












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Rosenquist soon picked out a claim a little below the "Junction," as this part is now called, on the Neosho, and began building a cabin. This gives him the distinction of being the first settler on the Neosho, in this county. The claim was rich in walnut and oak timber.

The older man scouted around awhile, but soon located in the bend across the river. Rosenquist, who was always good in woodcraft, turned in and helped him complete his cabin first that the family might have shelter. A little after this, finding a good ford near, he blazed a wagon trail to it, on both sides of the river, so they could cross from one cabin to the other. This was the first wagon ford in the county, off the Santa Fe trail. There were numerous fords along the river, but they were Indian trails and single file.





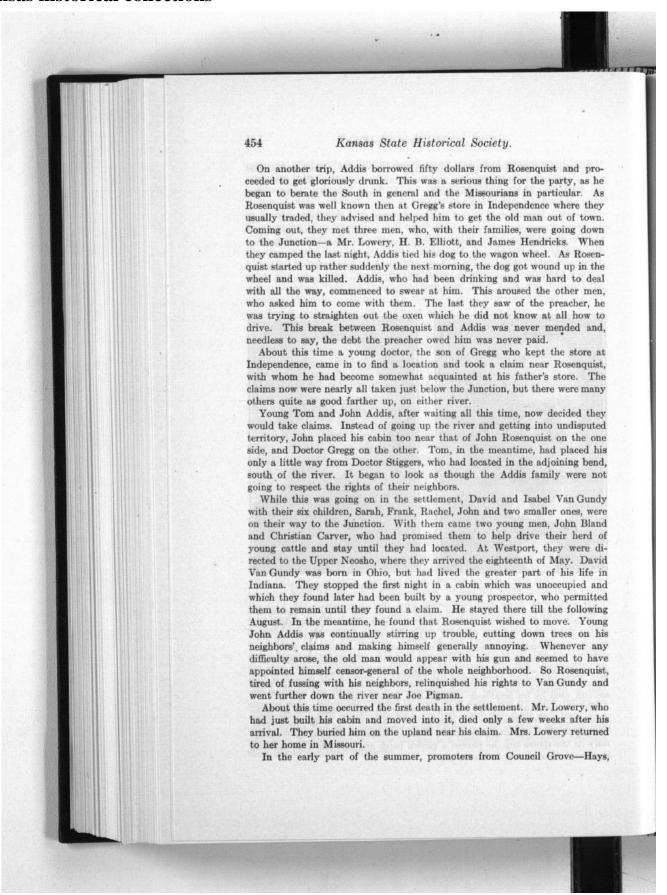


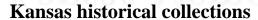
MRS. JOHN ROSENQUIST.

In a few days, two bright young free-state men, Joe and Jeff Pigman, arrived and picked out claims, the one about four miles above the Junction, and the other the same distance below it. Thus the little colony began with four free-state men and one southern gentleman, who, by his dignity and good comradeship, soon became one of the best loved in the neighborhood. He was a young widower who had left a little daughter in Westport and had come out to find a home for her. He was a real frontiersman and his funnel fish traps are still used by his neighbors' children and grandchildren.

The time was now divided between working on their claims and an occasional trip to Independence for supplies. On such a trip, John Rosenquist brought the first breaking plow to the county. When he stopped at Withington's on the return trip, he plowed a garden patch and was told that this was the first furrow plowed in the county.







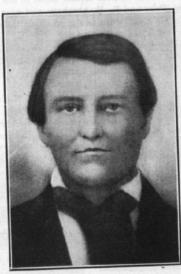


Raid on the Upper Neosho.

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Huffaker, Simcock and Columbia—started the town of Columbia, southeast of the present town of Emporia, on the Cottonwood. This became the meeting point for the settlers at the Junction and those who came in later south and west of the present Emporia townsite. The store was built and Seth Hays looked after it. Before August David Van Gundy had hauled the goods for the first store in the settlement. A little later Hays sold out to Dr. Stiggers.

A little later on, in the summer of '55, Jeff Pigman and a man by the name of Cobine tried to lay out a townsite, which later became Neosho Rapids. They called it Florence, and before September Carver had hauled the goods to this store, but in a short time Cobine fell sick and was taken to Addis'

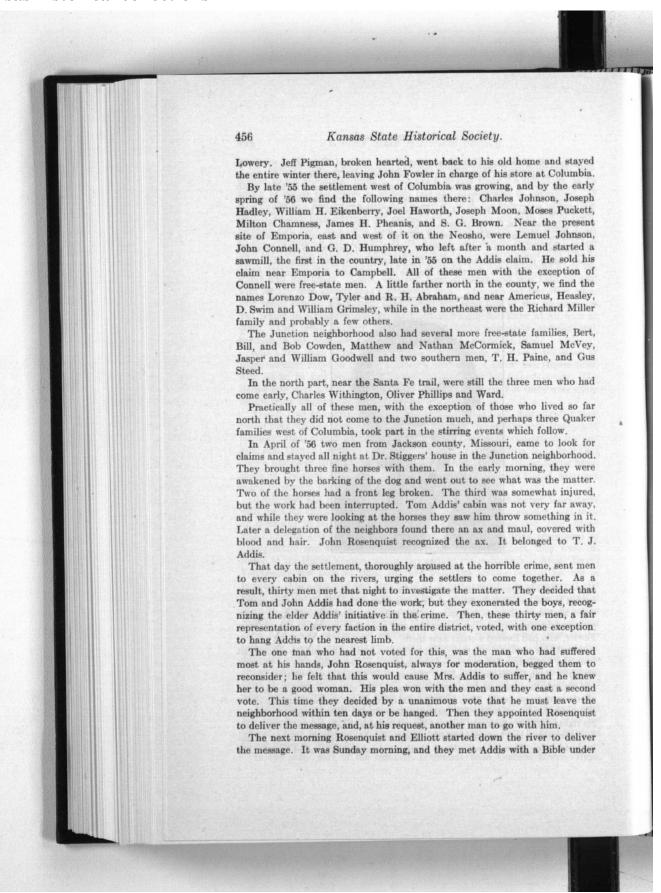


JOHN COTTINGHAM.

house. Here he grew rapidly worse and died soon after. Addis had the goods hauled to his house, and there were rumors when Mrs. Cobine left the settlement that she had much less money than she should have received. Pigman now bought Stiggers out at Columbia, and placed it in the hands of John Fowler, who had located a claim near there.

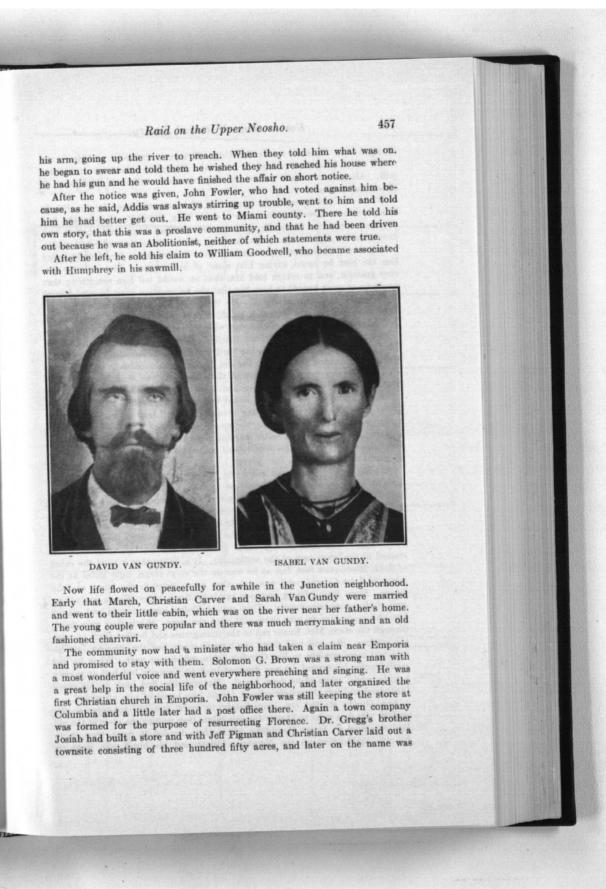
About this time, two of the young men who had been with the settlement from the beginning, fell victims of the malaria, so prevalent then in the new country. John Cottingham and Joe Pigman were both stricken with the fever, and though they were nursed and cared for by the entire neighborhood, their efforts were to no avail. They buried John Cottingham on the claim, which he had given his life to hold. His little daughter, Emily, came on later to secure his rights, but her claim was jumped by an undesirable citizen and lost to her. No other thing had happened which caused so much indignation in the neighborhood. Joe Pigman was placed in the upland burial ground beside Mr.



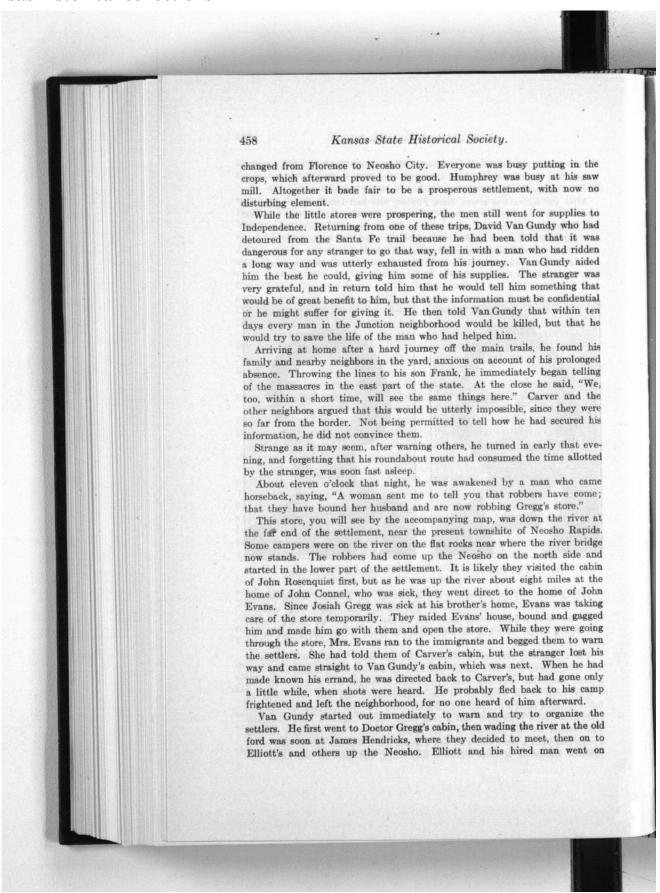




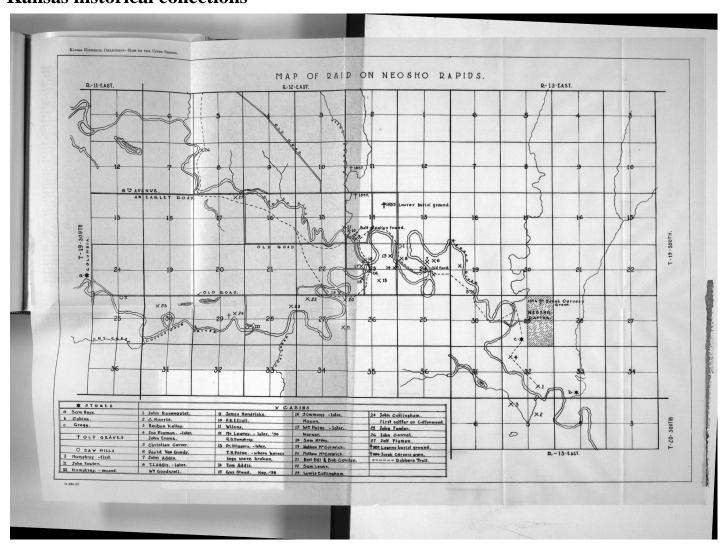






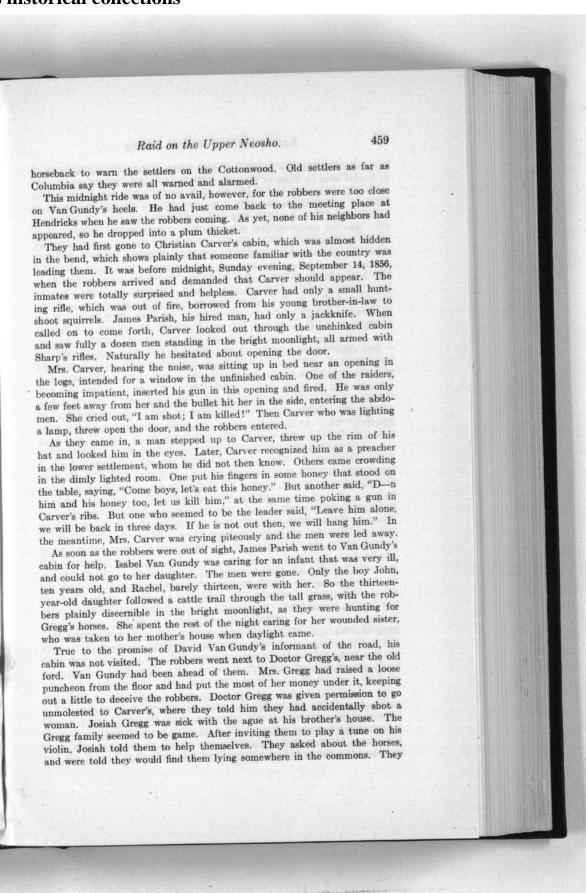






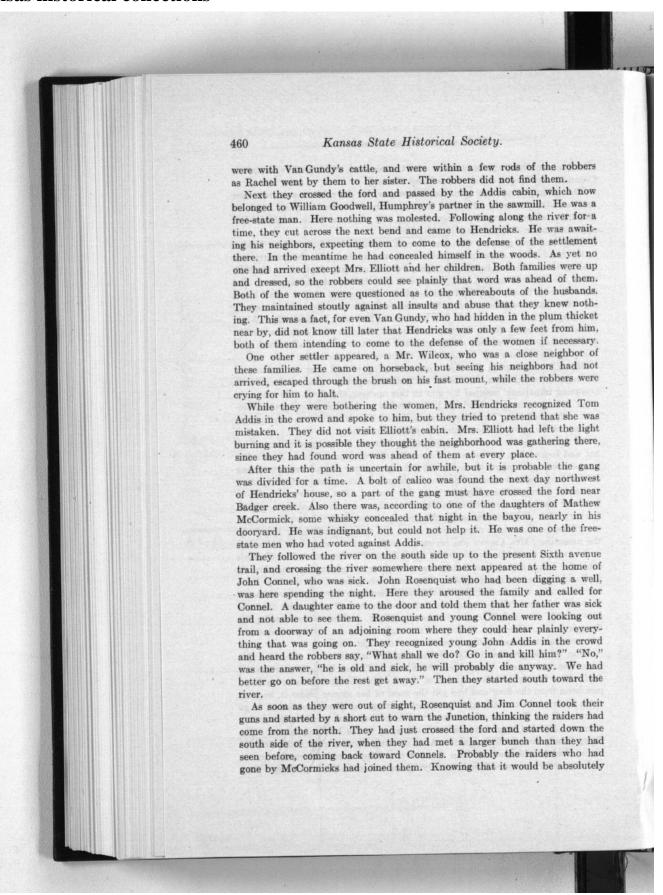






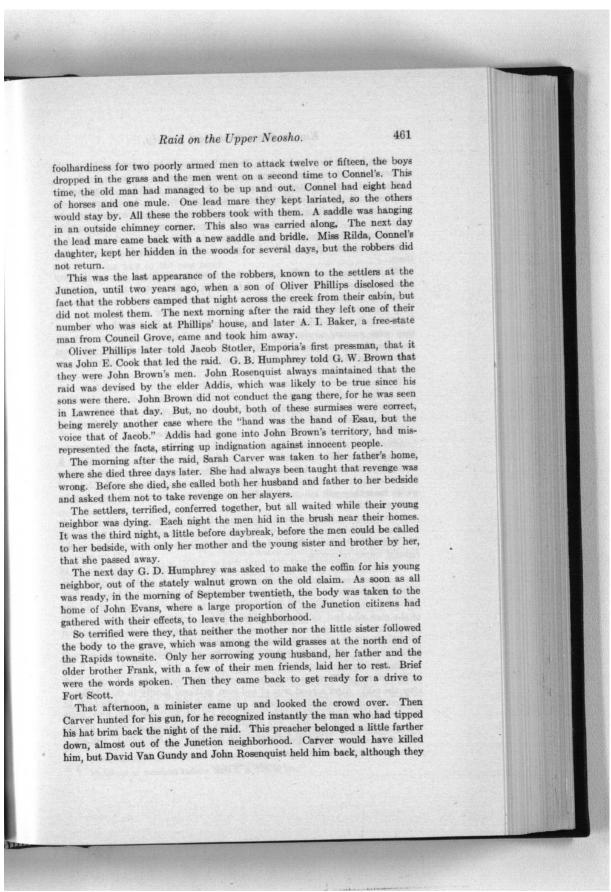






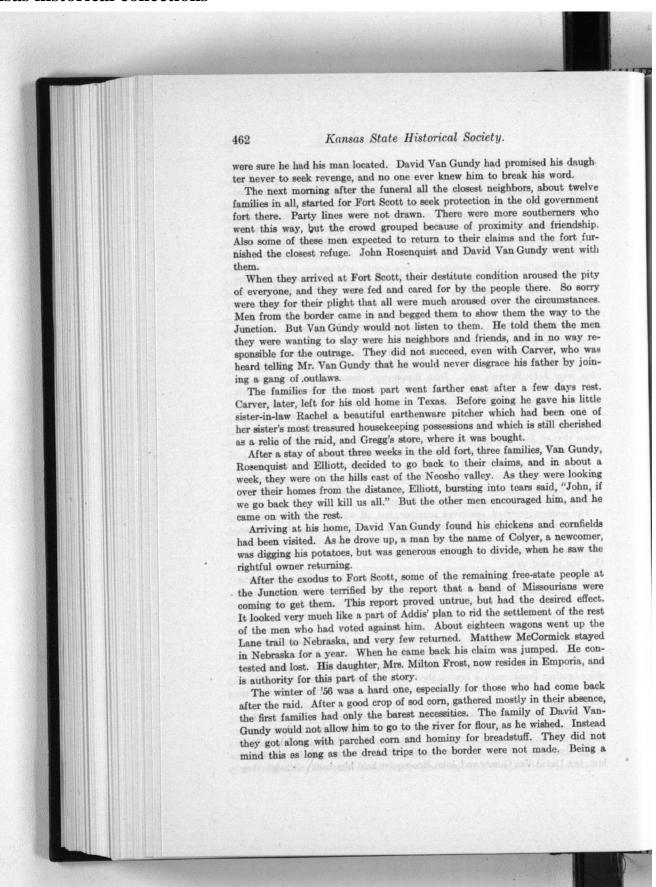
















The Pawnee Americans.

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true pioneer and a good shot, David Van Gundy saw to it that his family had many a wild turkey and fine roast of venison.

From that time on the worst struggles of the colony were over. Later on, when the government survey was made, Neosho City was again laid out by G. J. Tallman, Forest Hill and Hiram Sleeper. Its name, which had at first been Florence, was now changed to Italia, and was called that for several years, until it finally received its present name of Neosho Rapids. A little after this Emporia's townsite was laid out, Columbia's postmaster, John Fowler, giving way to the new town.

Of these early settlers of the Junction district, David Van Gundy, John Rosenquist, John Fowler and Jeff Pigman were residents for half a century on their old claims. All of these good men and true have passed on to the invisible realms.

The boy, John Van Gundy, who for years has owned a part of the Addis' claim at the Junction, and the girl Rachel, then thirteen, but now in her eighty-first year, are the only eyewitnesses of the raid still living. Though old in years, they are young in spirit, and still keep fresh in mind the joys and terrors of pioneer life on the "Upper Neosho."

#### THE PAWNEE AMERICANS.

Written for the Kansas State Historical Society, by Mark E. Zimmerman, of White Cloud.

IT WILL be our aim in this paper to present to the public the archæological history of the Pawnee who built the stone cists, mounds, and the largest of the ground houses in northeastern Kansas, and southeastern Nebraska.

This tribe of the Pawnee confederacy were not of the common Mongoloid Indian stock, but were "long heads" of either the white, or Negroid races. They were the so-called "Nebraska loess men."

The Pawnee: "A confederacy belonging to the Caddoan family. . . . The people call themselves Chahiksichahiks, 'men of men.' In the general northeastwardly movement of the Caddoan tribes the Pawnee seem to have brought up the rear. . . The Pawnee tribes finally established themselves in the valley of Platter., Nebr., which territory, their traditions say, was acquired by conquest, but the people who were driven out are not named. . . . The earliest historic mention of a Pawnee is that of the socalled 'Turk,' . . . who by his tales concerning the riches of Quivira . . allured and finally led Coronado, in 1541, from New Mexico over the plains as far as Kansas, where some Pawnee . . visited him. The permanent villages of the tribes lay to the n. of Quivira, and it is improbable that Coronado actually entered any of them during his visit to Quivira, a name given to the Wichita territory. . . Nor is it likely that the early French explorers visited the Pawnee villages, although they heard of them, and their locality was indicated by Tonti, La Harpe, and others. . . How the term Pani, . . or Pawnee, as applied to Indian slaves, came into use is not definitely known." 2

The above extract from Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 30 refers to the Pawnee of the Platte and Loup rivers in Nebraska, who were Caddoan stock, and does not refer to the Pawnee of northeastern Kansas and southeastern Nebraska, who were the remnant of the Tallegwi of Ohio.

In this "Handbook of American Indians," is a linguistic map made by Dr.

For biographical sketch of Mr. Zimmerman, see Kansas Historical Collections, vol. 14, p. 471.
Handbook of American Indians, Part 2, p. 213, et seq.





