

Kansas Memory



The Capital City Topeka Picturesque and Descriptive

Section 2, Pages 31 - 57

This is a book containing photographs of buildings, bridges, Kansas capitol under construction, parks, houses, College of the Sisters of Bethany, street scenes, Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe shops, Union Pacific depot, industries, banks, greenhouses, newspaper offices, hotels, opera houses, churches, water works, machine shops and foundries, library, county jail, lumber yard, elevators, Rock Island depot, Washburn College, cotton factory, and bird's-eye views of Topeka. Also, included in the book are histories and information about Topeka's founding, Washburn University, College of the Sisters of Bethany, newspapers, public libraries, churches, and board of trade.

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INTERIOR OF FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF TOPEKA.

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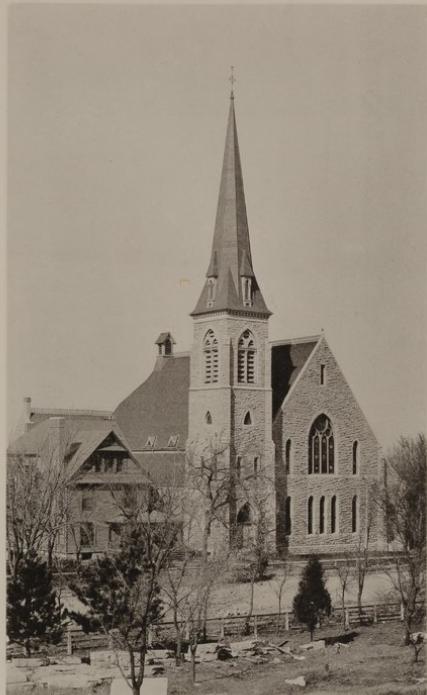
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CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND PARSONAGE.

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VIEW ON MONROE STREET.



TOPEKA WATER WORKS.

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AT ATCHISON, TOPEKA AND SANTA FE SHOPS.



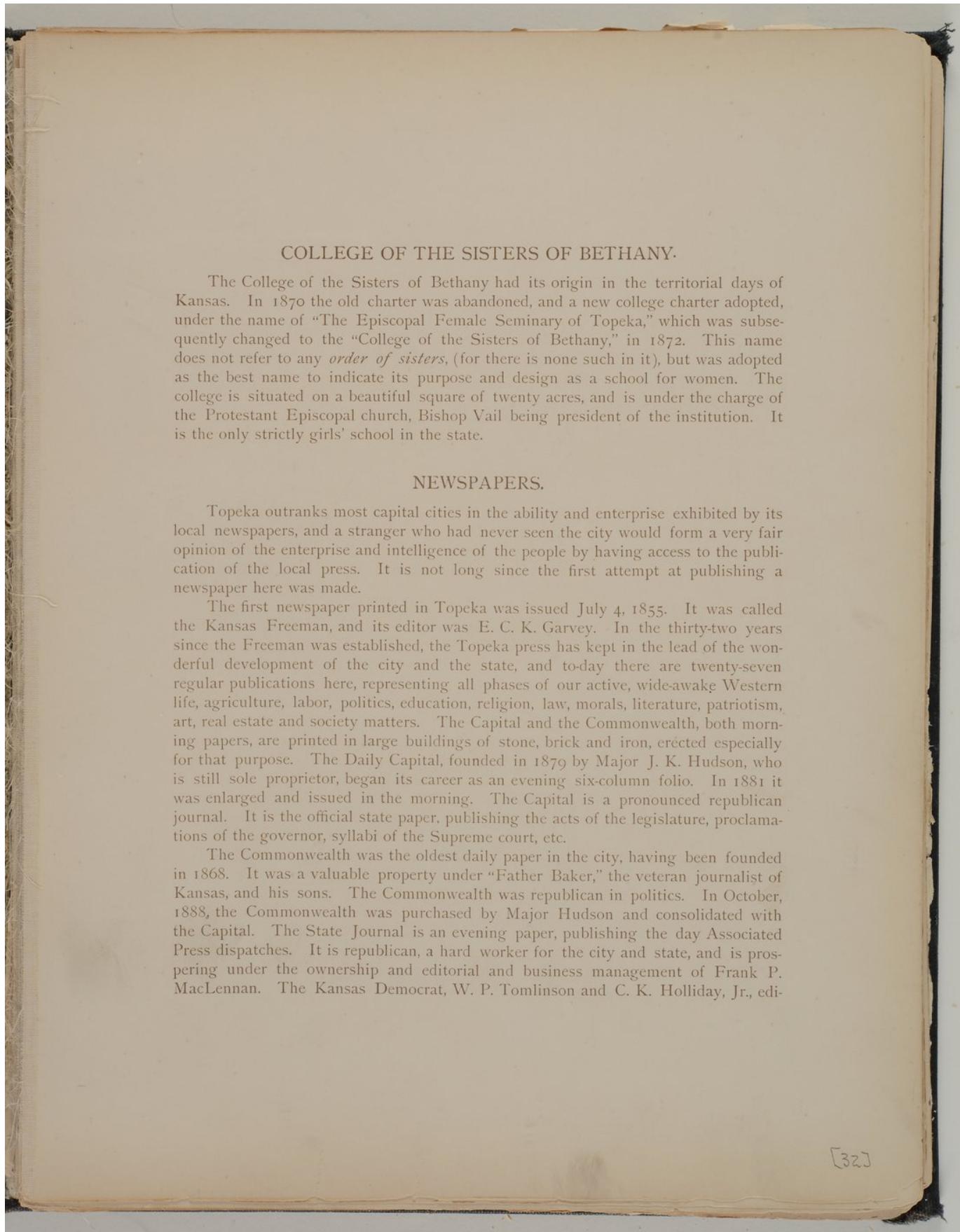
TOPEKA MACHINE SHOP AND FOUNDRY.

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COLLEGE OF THE SISTERS OF BETHANY.

The College of the Sisters of Bethany had its origin in the territorial days of Kansas. In 1870 the old charter was abandoned, and a new college charter adopted, under the name of "The Episcopal Female Seminary of Topeka," which was subsequently changed to the "College of the Sisters of Bethany," in 1872. This name does not refer to any *order of sisters*, (for there is none such in it), but was adopted as the best name to indicate its purpose and design as a school for women. The college is situated on a beautiful square of twenty acres, and is under the charge of the Protestant Episcopal church, Bishop Vail being president of the institution. It is the only strictly girls' school in the state.

NEWSPAPERS.

Topeka outranks most capital cities in the ability and enterprise exhibited by its local newspapers, and a stranger who had never seen the city would form a very fair opinion of the enterprise and intelligence of the people by having access to the publication of the local press. It is not long since the first attempt at publishing a newspaper here was made.

The first newspaper printed in Topeka was issued July 4, 1855. It was called the Kansas Freeman, and its editor was E. C. K. Garvey. In the thirty-two years since the Freeman was established, the Topeka press has kept in the lead of the wonderful development of the city and the state, and to-day there are twenty-seven regular publications here, representing all phases of our active, wide-awake Western life, agriculture, labor, politics, education, religion, law, morals, literature, patriotism, art, real estate and society matters. The Capital and the Commonwealth, both morning papers, are printed in large buildings of stone, brick and iron, erected especially for that purpose. The Daily Capital, founded in 1879 by Major J. K. Hudson, who is still sole proprietor, began its career as an evening six-column folio. In 1881 it was enlarged and issued in the morning. The Capital is a pronounced republican journal. It is the official state paper, publishing the acts of the legislature, proclamations of the governor, syllabi of the Supreme court, etc.

The Commonwealth was the oldest daily paper in the city, having been founded in 1868. It was a valuable property under "Father Baker," the veteran journalist of Kansas, and his sons. The Commonwealth was republican in politics. In October, 1888, the Commonwealth was purchased by Major Hudson and consolidated with the Capital. The State Journal is an evening paper, publishing the day Associated Press dispatches. It is republican, a hard worker for the city and state, and is prospering under the ownership and editorial and business management of Frank P. MacLennan. The Kansas Democrat, W. P. Tomlinson and C. K. Holliday, Jr., edi-

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CITY LIBRARY BUILDING.

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SHAWNEE COUNTY JAIL.

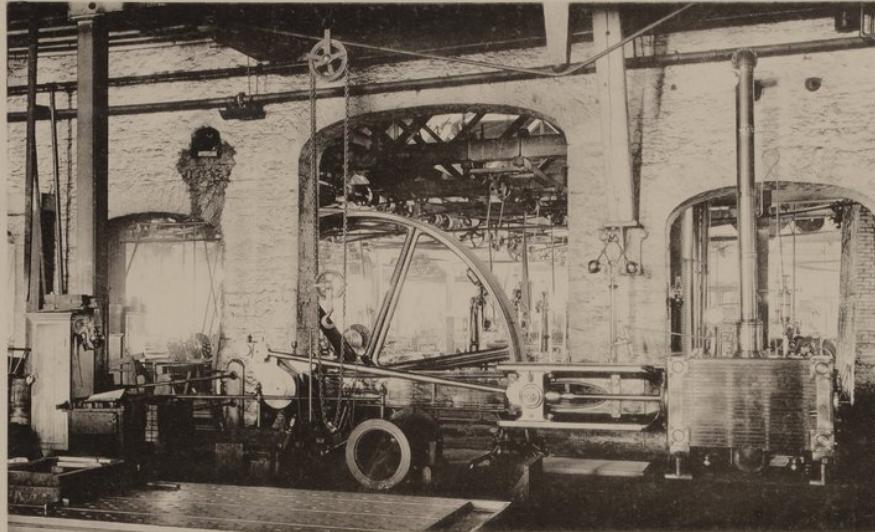
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ATCHISON, TOPEKA & SANTA FE SHOPS.—VIEW IN THE MACHINERY ROOM.



ATCHISON, TOPEKA & SANTA FE SHOPS.—WOOD WORKING MACHINERY BUILDING.

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VEALE & THOMPSON BLOCK, J. G. HASKELL, ARCHITECT.

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KNOX BUILDING.

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VIEW ON SIXTH STREET.



VIEW IN A. H. CONNELLY'S LUMBER YARD.

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THE BLACK BUILDING.
HADLEY & COOPER, ARCHITECTS.



THACHER BUILDING.
J. G. HASKELL, ARCHITECT.

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BIRD'S-EYE FROM BELL VIEW ADDITION.



RESIDENCE OF E. BENNETT.

SEYMOUR DAVIS, ARCHITECT.

Topeka Capital.
Oct 5 1886 under construction.

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SELLS BUILDING.



CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.
SEYMOUR DAVIS, ARCHITECT.

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THE CRAWFORD BUILDING.
SEYMOUR DAVIS, ARCHITECT.



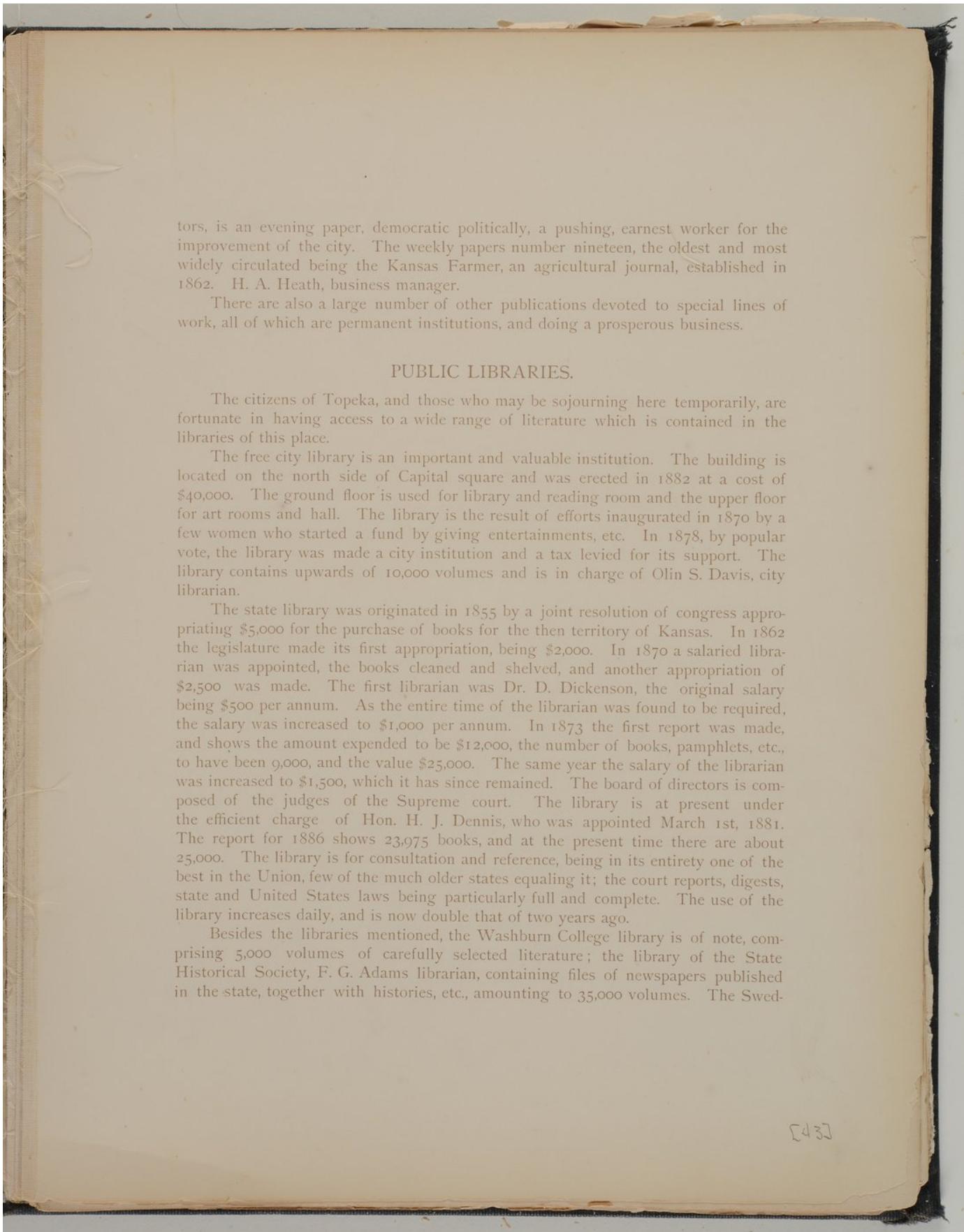
RESIDENCE OF HENRY W. ROBY, M. D.

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tors, is an evening paper, democratic politically, a pushing, earnest worker for the improvement of the city. The weekly papers number nineteen, the oldest and most widely circulated being the Kansas Farmer, an agricultural journal, established in 1862. H. A. Heath, business manager.

There are also a large number of other publications devoted to special lines of work, all of which are permanent institutions, and doing a prosperous business.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The citizens of Topeka, and those who may be sojourning here temporarily, are fortunate in having access to a wide range of literature which is contained in the libraries of this place.

The free city library is an important and valuable institution. The building is located on the north side of Capital square and was erected in 1882 at a cost of \$40,000. The ground floor is used for library and reading room and the upper floor for art rooms and hall. The library is the result of efforts inaugurated in 1870 by a few women who started a fund by giving entertainments, etc. In 1878, by popular vote, the library was made a city institution and a tax levied for its support. The library contains upwards of 10,000 volumes and is in charge of Olin S. Davis, city librarian.

The state library was originated in 1855 by a joint resolution of congress appropriating \$5,000 for the purchase of books for the then territory of Kansas. In 1862 the legislature made its first appropriation, being \$2,000. In 1870 a salaried librarian was appointed, the books cleaned and shelved, and another appropriation of \$2,500 was made. The first librarian was Dr. D. Dickenson, the original salary being \$500 per annum. As the entire time of the librarian was found to be required, the salary was increased to \$1,000 per annum. In 1873 the first report was made, and shows the amount expended to be \$12,000, the number of books, pamphlets, etc., to have been 9,000, and the value \$25,000. The same year the salary of the librarian was increased to \$1,500, which it has since remained. The board of directors is composed of the judges of the Supreme court. The library is at present under the efficient charge of Hon. H. J. Dennis, who was appointed March 1st, 1881. The report for 1886 shows 23,975 books, and at the present time there are about 25,000. The library is for consultation and reference, being in its entirety one of the best in the Union, few of the much older states equaling it; the court reports, digests, state and United States laws being particularly full and complete. The use of the library increases daily, and is now double that of two years ago.

Besides the libraries mentioned, the Washburn College library is of note, comprising 5,000 volumes of carefully selected literature; the library of the State Historical Society, F. G. Adams Librarian, containing files of newspapers published in the state, together with histories, etc., amounting to 35,000 volumes. The Swed-

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ATCHISON, TOPEKA & SANTA FE OFFICE BUILDING.

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TOPEKA MILL AND ELEVATOR COMPANY.

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ish Library Association, organized in 1879 for the purpose of collecting Swedish, American and German literature, to be used as a circulating library, is in a prosperous condition. The library of Bethany College is also a very valuable one, containing several thousand volumes. These, and numerous private libraries, will sustain the claim of Topeka as the literary center of the state.

BOARD OF TRADE.

The board of trade was organized in 1880, being formed of the leading business men of that time. It was permitted, however, to drift into a decline, and interest in it nearly died out. But later on some enterprising men came to the rescue and in February, 1886, a charter was obtained, and the board incorporated with a capital stock of \$10,000, divided into 200 shares of \$50 each. The rooms are located in the Stormont building.

TOPEKA CHURCHES.

Topeka may rightfully claim the honor of being styled "the city of churches." There are two facts which are very significant as showing the kind of moral and religious influences pervading the community. There is not a saloon within the city limits nor a place where liquor is publicly sold, and there are in the city a greater number of churches than are to be found in any other city of its population in the United States. The city enjoys the distinction and pre-eminence of being the See City for the Episcopal diocese of the state of Kansas, over which the Rt. Rev. Bishop T. H. Vail has charge, assisted by Dr. Thomas, just ordained at the meeting of bishops at St. Paul, Minn. Topeka is also the home of Rev. Dr. Ninde, bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church.

The history of religious work in Topeka is practically contemporary with that of the city. In the summer of 1854 Rev. S. Y. Lum came to Lawrence as a missionary, and during the following winter preached several times in Topeka. The First Congregational church of Topeka was organized October 14, 1855, in the cabin of Mr. James Cowles. A house of worship was begun in 1857 but the walls were twice reduced to ruins by the wind so that the building was not completed until 1861. In 1880 the present building was erected at a cost of \$35,000.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized March 31st, 1855, and the first pastor was Rev. J. S. Griffin. A church building was begun in 1860 and finally finished in 1867. The present church building is shown in this work, also an interior view showing the organ which cost about \$7,500, and is one of the finest in the country.

The First Baptist church of Topeka was organized March 1, 1857. A house of worship was erected in 1870-71, though prior to that time they held worship in the

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FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, TOPEKA.

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ROCK ISLAND DEPOT.

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WASHBURN COLLEGE.

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THE COTTON FACTORY.



WASHBURN COLLEGE—BOSWELL MEMORIAL AND HOLBROOK BUILDINGS.

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second story of a mercantile building. The first regular pastor was Rev. C. C. Hutchinson.

The First Presbyterian church was organized December 9, 1859. Two or three years later a house of worship was built. The present church building was dedicated April 12, 1885.

The Episcopal church was organized September 9, 1860, with Rev. Charles M. Callaway as rector. Services however had been held in Topeka by Mr. Callaway since the fall of 1857. A house of worship was completed in 1863.

Other churches have come into existence from time to time until there are now in the city some forty-five church buildings, a number of which are very handsome structures. There are also a large number of missions in various parts of the city.

The first church bell used in Topeka was presented to the Church of the Assumption by Mr. Edward C. K. Garvey, who had brought it to Topeka in 1855. It is still used for school purposes.

Among our illustrations are several showing the Kansas State Capitol in process of construction. Geo. H. Evans & Co., are the contractors. One view of the interior of the library room shows the iron work used in the building, which is furnished by C. R. Lane of the Lane Bridge and Iron works of Chicago, Ill., and Topeka, Kan. A general view looking north-west shows the work on and about the building.

The view showing the interior of the senate chamber is exceptionally fine. The room is said to be the finest of its kind in the United States.

We have endeavored to give a fair representation of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad shops, both on account of their magnitude and their great importance to the city of Topeka. Some idea of the magnitude of the plant may be obtained from the bird's-eye view taken from the elevated foot bridge, looking north over the entire plant. Other views show something of the details of this institution.

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BIRD'S-EYE FROM KEITH BUILDING.



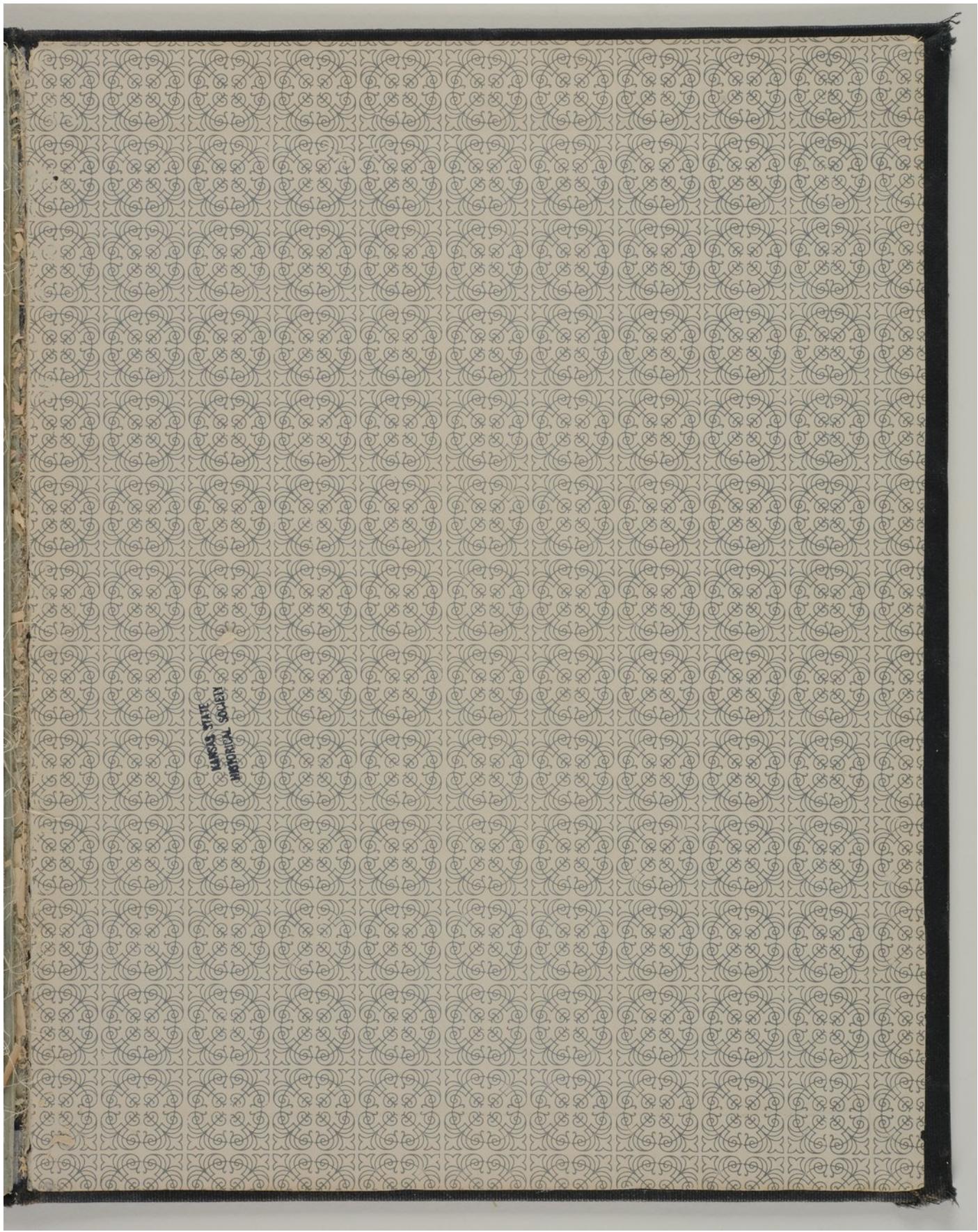
AT FOOT OF SEVENTH STREET.

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