

Territorial Census, 1855, District 8

This census was taken in order to determine eligible voters for elections to be held as proclaimed by Governor Andrew Reeder on November 10, 1854. The categories for information in the census were name, occupation, age, gender, emigrated from, native of United States, naturalized citizen, declarant (intention to become a citizen), Negro, slave, and voter. Only white males over twenty-one were eligible to vote. The districts used for the census were the same as the election districts. A statistical summary of the census followed the enumeration pages. For District 8, the place of election was the house of Ingraham Baker, on the Santa Fe Road. The boundaries of each district were described in Governor Reeder's proclamation, and it is difficult to determine what counties were in each district. The description of the Eighth District follows: "Commencing at the mouth of Elm Creek, one of the branches of Osage River; thence up the same to the Santa Fe road; thence by a direct northerly line to the southwest corner of the Pottawatomie reservation; thence up the western line thereof to the Kansas River; thence up said river and the Smoky Hill Fork, beyond the most westerly settlements; thence due south to the line of the territory; thence by the same to the line of the Sixth District; thence due north to the head of the south branch of the Neosho River; thence down said river to the lines of the Seventh District; thence due north to the place of beginning."

Creator: McClure, J. R.

Date: January through March, 1855

Callnumber: State Archives

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Leave the 30th day of January
A.D. 1855.

Application
for the



Territorial Census, 1855, District 8

Receipt.

C. B. Drake

You are hereby appointed to take the census or enumeration of the inhabitants and give special votes of the Growth, South and North States districts of the Territory of Kansas. The act of Congress requires an enumeration not only of the inhabitants but also of the qualified voters and as the law commits duty to my discretion the mode of taking returning I have caused Books to be prepared which will show many features of the population interesting to the public. Synopsis as well as the legislation as the people in the way of statistics information. In this Book you will find the column prepared accordingly. You noting the age write in the proper column for those under twenty in the last minor for those between 21 & 30 the figures 31 and for those between 30 & 40, between 40 & 50, between 50 & 60 and one 60 write always the same number. You noting those, those of the U.S., Naturalized citizens, Deceased, meaning those who have declared before some proper court their intention to become citizens, qualified voters, Negroes & Slaves, it will only be necessary to insert a mark or figure in the proper column. Your columns of marks you will fasten up in each page & at the end of the Book bring together the totals of the census columns & fasten them up so as to show the total of each class. You will also ascertain the total of each kind of occupation & of each class in the column devoted to age. The column for occupation will of course be left blank for animals who have none & females. You entering the persons emigrated from you will name the state or Territory of the U.S. or the foreign country which was the last place of residence. You will ascertain from the column & carry to the end of the Book the number from each person named. You will indicate any officer or soldier of the army or person attached to troops in the service of the U.S. and as they intend to remain reside in the Territory not in service nor will you indicate any Indian or person having Indian blood. As this is an enumeration of inhabitants not of property you will enter the name of no man by reason of his owning or claiming land here or intending to remove here, but those only, who actually dwell here

at the time. You noting the qualified voters you must ascertain from your own observation & the best information you can obtain who are entitled to be thus designated. A qualified voter must be free of white blood - twenty one years of age - a native or naturalized citizen of the U.S. or a descendant who has taken the oath to support the constitution of the U.S. & the act organizing the Territory must also be an actual bona fide resident, dwelling here with the intention of making it his home. You will keep you these districts separate as well in the enumeration as in the totals of the different classes. It may become necessary in the formation of the Representative House districts to divide the of these census districts it will be well to preserve by notes on the blank pages some information as to the number of inhabitants in reference to known localities or natural boundaries or at least so to take the enumeration that you may readily communicate to me such information on this head as will enable me to make the necessary notes. You will also make an alphabetical list of the qualified voters in each district within the same and your enumeration to me personally on the twentieth day of February. When you will be expected to take the oath entire at the end of this book.

Issued this 30th day of January
A. D. 1855.

A. W. Fletcher
Governor



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Dr. C. P. McLean Esq:

Dear Sir: I am hereby appointed to take the Census or enumeration of the Aborigines and qualified Indians of the District of Kansas in the District of the Territory of Kansas in the year of C. P. McLean Esq. who has a detailed list of the Indians of that enumeration - and you will in the performance of said duty be governed by the instructions enclosed in the foregoing receipt issued to the said C. P. McLean for the same and within said time - and will take said census and return the same in conformity to the rules therein laid down - which may be seen in the receipt of said C. P. McLean. A. D. 1855

Wm. H. McLean
Governor of the Territory

[illegible]

W. D. Barber
in
favor of the

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Under State of Missouri }
County of Lawrence } ss

On this 2nd day of March A.D. 1855 before the under signed Sheriff of the County of Lawrence, personally appeared Johnathan the being duly sworn, sworn and says that the foregoing sworn section or census of the district and eighth of said City is just and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief - that he has not and he will not sell or otherwise dispose of any individual or qualified person that he has, under the name of no person except those legally entitled to the same and that he has made the same examination and registration of the said individuals and the designation of qualified voters truly and correctly as directed in the foregoing preamble to the best of his knowledge, judgment and ability. (In the 5th dist - to be informed by one or two persons of a district settlement in said district before the turning of said 30th day but the information was completed) and he is unable to say whether said settlement is or is not to be made within the place within an necessary day to find and the best of the record.)

Subscribed and sworn to
the 2nd day of March A.D. 1855.

J R McFlane claims for 16 days at \$5. . . . \$80
Less Days additional for services by A. D. Gibson . . . 20
\$100