



YESTERYEARS

A publication of

The Jefferson County

Historical Society

April 2024

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Jarrett and Dica Smith of McLouth

In the 1860s in Platte County, Missouri, as winter closed in, farmers and plantation owners were supervising enslaved laborers who secured their food harvests, prepared hemp and tobacco for commercial sales, and laid in supplies of firewood. Women, free and enslaved, were getting ready for Christmas, seeding raisins, chopping citron, baking cookies, and decanting fruitcakes prepared in the fall.

In the cabins occupied by the landowners' enslaved people, a rumor spread from farm to farm: "The ice on the Missouri is almost thick enough to bear." In the winter of 1862, one small family escaped bondage in Platte County and set out for Leavenworth, Kansas. Traveling about 20 miles in secret, they crossed the frozen Missouri River by night.

Jarrett Smith was born in June 1827 in Garrard County, Kentucky. He was enslaved by a man named **Pope**, who sold him to **Aytchmonde L. Perrin** when Jarrett was 18. Perrin took Smith to his farm near Camden Point in Platte County, Missouri. Perrin, a native of Lincoln County, Kentucky, may also have been the original enslaver of **Dica Ann "Dicey" Walker Smith**. She was born enslaved in Lincoln County, Kentucky, July 1, 1830, and brought to Platte County, Missouri, when she was 11 years old. Jarrett Smith and Dica Walker married in slavery. Their son, **James Smith**, was born around 1848. In 1852, **Reverend Forbes**, a Black minister, performed a marriage ceremony for them.

Jarrett Smith joined Company B of the First Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry on Aug. 18, 1862, mustering in at Fort Scott, Kansas. Dica and James Smith stayed behind, possibly with relatives or friends. The 1865 Kansas State Census listed Dicy Ann Smith (38, Domestic) and James H. Smith (16, Farmer) living in Wyandotte County in the household of **Hanson Smith**.

The primary recruiter for the First Kansas Colored was **Captain William D.**

Matthews, a free Black businessman and a station master on the Underground Railroad. Officially, Kansas's first **U.S. Senator James H. Lane** began the recruiting for the regiment, although he lacked any federal authority to do so. Volunteers were promised ten dollars a month (three dollars less than white soldiers) and a guarantee of freedom. Kansas was the first Union state to begin training Black troops.

The First Kansas Colored fought with distinction at the Battle of Island Mound in Missouri on Oct. 29, 1862. About 225 Black troops drove off 500 Confederate guerillas. Ten Kansas men were killed and 12 wounded. The *Lawrence Republican* reported that the new regiment behaved nobly and that the skirmish "proved that black men can fight." Lane publicized the victory to show that Black troops could and would fight with intelligence and courage.

When the Emancipation Proclamation took effect on Jan. 1, 1863, the First Kansas Colored officially joined the Union army. Because only white officers were allowed, its two Black officers, **Captain William Matthews** and **Lieutenant Patrick Minor**, lost their commissions. Matthews later was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the federal artillery and commanded the Independent Kansas Colored Battery. Minor was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Second United States Colored Battery. He fought in the Battle of Westport.

Between 1862 and 1864, the First Kansas Colored Infantry fought at Island Mound, Sherwood, Cabin Creek, Honey Springs, Prairie D'Ane, Poison Springs, Flat Rock Creek and Timber Hills.

In June 1863, **Colonel James M. Williams** of the First Kansas Colored led a Union supply train of 300 wagons down the Texas Road from Baxter Springs, Kansas, to Fort Blunt (also known as Fort Gibson) in Indian Territory (now Oklahoma). At a ford on Cabin Creek, Confederate **Colonel Stand Watie** prepared an ambush on July 1, 1863. The Union forces fired on the Confederates but could not cross the flooded creek on the first day of fighting. By the second day, the flood level had fallen. Williams stationed the First Kansas Colored on the right of the Texas Road, with the white Second Colorado Infantry on the left. While Union artillery shelled the Confederate forces, Williams ordered three companies of the First Kansas Colored into firing position.

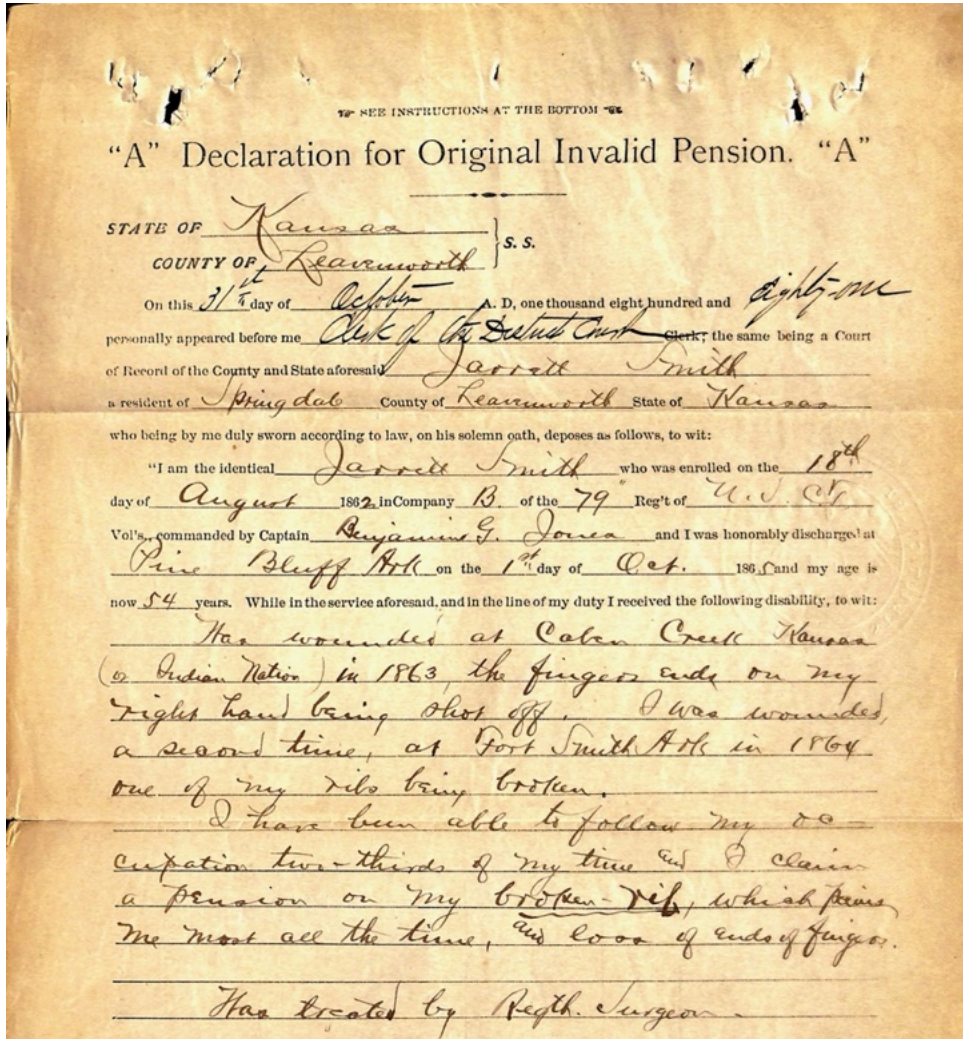
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SCHEDULE 2.—Slave Inhabitants in *Green Township* in the County of *Platte* State of *Mo.*, enumerated by me, on the *15th* day of *July*, 1860. *Walter B. Johnson* Ass't Marshal.

1	NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS.	DESCRIPTION.				7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
		2	3	4	5															
1		1	2	3	4															
2		1	3	2	4															
3		1	3	2	4															
4		1	2	2	4															
5		1	2	2	4															
6		1	2	2	4															
7	<i>William Elliott</i>	1	2	2	4	11														
8		1	2	2	4															

The U.S. Federal Census Slave Schedule for 1860 listed A.L. Perrin of Green Township, Platte County, Missouri, as the slave owner of six people. Among them were one Mulatto male, 36 years old; one Black female, 30 years old; and one Mulatto male, 15 years old — possibly the Smith family. (Slave Schedules did not list enslaved people by name.) The other three enslaved people were a 28-year-old woman, a 25-year-old man, and an 11-year-old girl. Perrin provided one cabin for all six people. According to historian **Earl Nelson**, Platte County lost 23 percent of its enslaved population during the first four years of the Civil War. Most of them made their way to freedom in Kansas.

Lieutenant Luther Dickerson of the First Kansas Colored fought with the men of Company B as they exchanged fire with the Confederates. Dickerson was standing beside a Black soldier who, “while in the act of loading his gun, was struck by a bullet which passed between the gun and his hand tearing the flesh from the inside of his fingers.” The soldier asked Dickerson to load his musket for him so that he could continue fighting. Dickerson obliged but was wounded in the arm as he drew the ramrod. Both men kept fighting. In his 1886 pension application, Dickerson identified the soldier as Private Smith. Company B had two Private Smiths — **Jarrett Smith** and his friend **Isaac Smith**. Jarrett Smith’s pension documents include several mentions of a hand wound he received at Cabin Creek.



Jarrett Smith applied for a pension in 1881, stating that he was wounded at Cabin Creek in 1863, “the fingers ends on my right hand being shot off.” His application was denied, although he later received a pension for rheumatism and heart disease.

the 79th United States Colored Troops (USCT), and the Second Kansas Colored Infantry was reorganized as the 83rd USCT. Jarrett Smith was honorably discharged on Oct. 1, 1865. When he returned to Dica Smith in Kansas, it was to mourn the death of their son, **James**, who died in 1864 while Jarrett was in the army.

Jarrett and Dica Smith settled on the farm of **Dr. William Hosford** near Round Grove in Jefferson County. Dr. Hosford treated Jarrett for rheumatism and a broken rib. Jarrett worked on Hosford’s farm. Because “slave marriages” were not officially recognized, Jarrett and Dica Smith formalized their union in 1867 at Oskaloosa, Kansas. **Justice of the Peace Ball** performed the ceremony. The couple moved to Oskaloosa in 1867 and to Boyle Station in 1869. They moved to Springdale in Leavenworth County in 1871 and to McLouth in 1884.

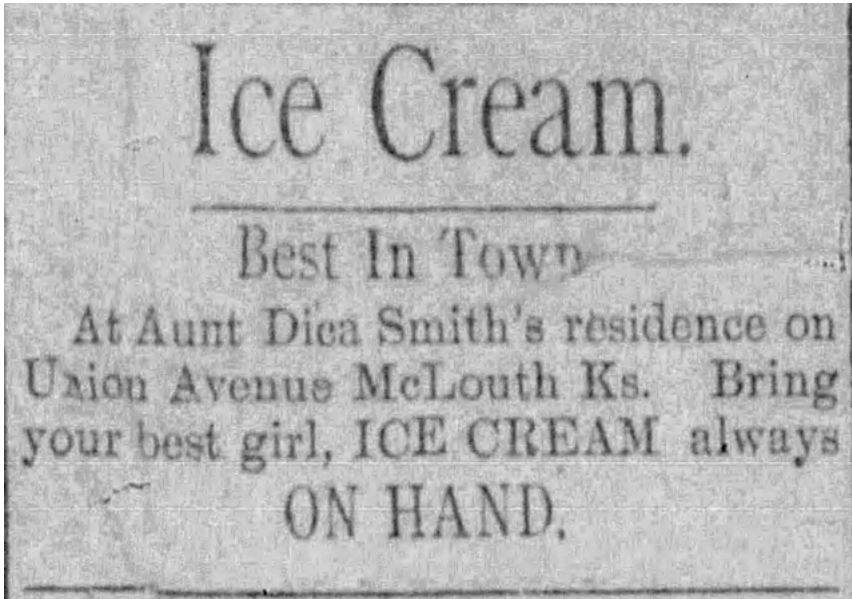
The only Black residents of McLouth, the Smiths earned the town’s respect. In 1895, **Dica Smith** opened an ice cream shop in the Smith’s home on Union Street. **H.C. Stewart**, editor of the *McLouth Tribune*, wrote, “The editor and family took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Smith Monday. But to say ‘dinner’ does not do the matter justice, for it was a sumptuous feast, to which was added choice ice cream. When it comes to getting up a first-class meal, Aunt Dicy Smith is second to none.”

The attack drove the Confederate troops back. **Colonel Williams** ordered the First Kansas Colored to cross the creek, wading through waist-deep water. He sent the Ninth Kansas Cavalry ahead in pursuit. The Union victory assured the arrival of the wagon train with supplies and reinforcements for Fort Blunt and paved the way for future Union successes.

The first battle of Cabin Creek marked the first time that a Black unit fought alongside white troops. Historian **Ian Michael Spurgeon** described Williams’s command: “In all, the Union force at Cabin Creek included white, black, and Indian units from two states and two territories.” For the men of the First Kansas Colored, it also marked their first payday since the regiment was formed a year previously.

While the regiment was stationed at Fort Smith, Arkansas, in fall 1863, Jarrett Smith was kicked in the left side by Private **Julius Jones** of Company B, as they prepared for guard mounting. The accident broke one of his ribs. He was tended by the regimental surgeon, but no record of his treatment survived.

On Dec. 18, 1864, the First Kansas Colored Infantry was reorganized as



From the *McLouth Tribune*, July 19, 1895

Jarrett Smith worked as a day laborer, carrying bricks for the walls of the McLouth school building and driving a float in the 1897 McLouth city picnic parade. The *McLouth Times* reported, “**Comstock & Stout** were not to be undone. They had a load of lumber and builders’ supplies tastefully arranged and driven by **John McGuire** and **Jarrett Smith** and on the lower sideboards were conspicuously written ‘Ice cream at Eph’s,’* complimentary to Uncle Smith.”

*“Uncle Eph” was a character in minstrel shows and “plantation sketches” in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Jarrett Smith received a pension for his army service, beginning at \$4 a month in 1889. He petitioned for an increase several times, eventually receiving \$30 a month. He was active in Republican politics and served as Sentinel for the McLouth post of the Grand

Army of the Republic. **Dica Smith** was a member of the G.A.R. Ladies Relief Corps and the Baptist Ladies Aid Society. Jarrett Smith was a member of the “committee of arrangements” for the reunion of the First and Second Kansas Colored Infantry on Jan. 13, 1900, the anniversary of the regiments’ official muster into the U.S. army in 1863.

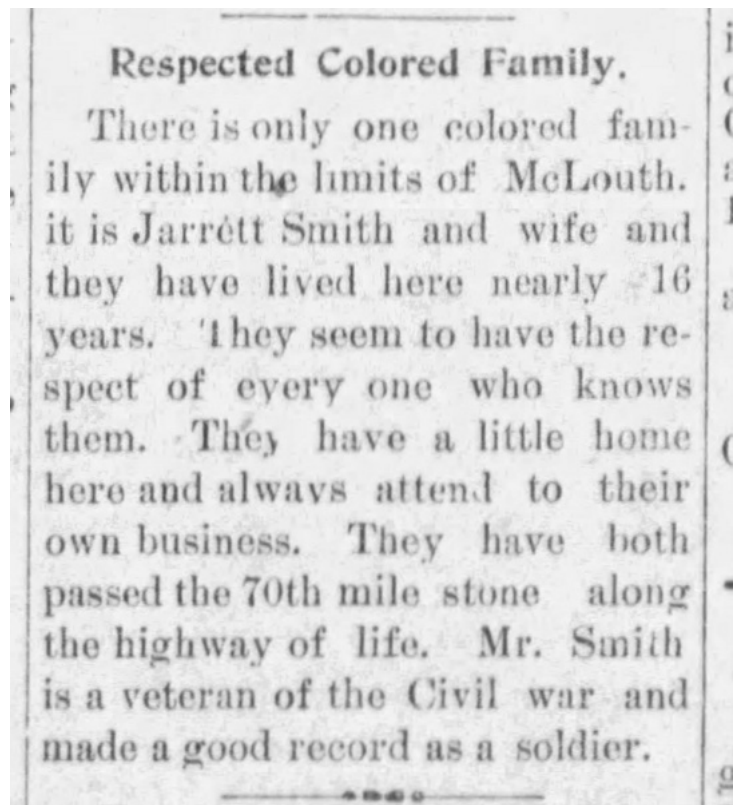
In June 1900, Dica Smith fell and broke a rib. She did not fully recover from the injury. In August 1903, the *Oskaloosa Independent* reported that her brother had come from Wabaunsee County to help care for her. Dica Smith died Sept. 6, 1903.

After his wife’s death, Jarrett Smith “became lonely and moved to Oskaloosa.” On Sept. 1, 1905, the McLouth city jail was struck by lightning. The building burned down, along with Jarrett Smith’s nearby house. He sold his property the next year.

In February 1907, Jarrett Smith’s nephew, **Jarrett Gardner**, visited him in Oskaloosa. Gardner was the son of Smith’s sister, whom he had not seen since childhood. Gardner was serving in the U.S. Ninth Cavalry. When his unit was sent to the Philippines, Gardner instructed the army to send \$10 of his monthly pay to his uncle in Kansas. The *Oskaloosa Independent* reported, “Smith wears a broad flat gold chain sent him by his nephew which was made in the Philippines out of \$5 gold pieces, and contains, it is said, \$80 worth of gold. It is made of innumerable tiny gold rings and is an ingenious piece of work.”

Jarrett Gardner also served in the 24th and 25th U.S. infantry. He was discharged in 1909 and moved to Oskaloosa, planning to help with the care of his uncle. He worked as hostler for **Dr. Marlin McCreight** and married **Amanda Jackson** of Oskaloosa in 1911.

Jarrett Smith regularly took part in Old Settlers’ Reunions and Decoration Day ceremonies. He was active in fund-raising for the First Baptist Church in Oskaloosa. The *Jefferson County Tribune* recalled his determination to learn to read and write: “each summer he spent hours sitting in the court yard greedily devouring the contents of a small primer.”



From the *McLouth Times*, June 28, 1901

In June 1916, the *McLouth Times* reported, "Jarrett Smith (colored) of Oskaloosa made his annual pilgrimage to McLouth Tuesday to place flowers on his wife's grave. Mr. Smith is 89 years old."

Jarrett Smith died Dec. 28, 1916, at the home of **James Tompkins** in Oskaloosa. Two funeral services were held, one in Oskaloosa and one in McLouth. Pallbearers were members of the Grand Army of the Republic posts of Oskaloosa and McLouth. He left an estate valued at \$702. **James Tompkins** and **Jarrett Gardner** were paid for personal care services. **C.H. Pebler** was paid for funeral expenses. The *Jefferson County Tribune* called Smith "an honest, upright and honorable man."

Jarrett and **Dica Ann Smith** are buried in the McLouth Cemetery.

— Jane Hoskinson

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Important to Veterans

From the Oskaloosa Independent, Jan. 12, 1889

(Contributed by Leanne Chapman)

Says the *Leavenworth Times*:—"Private Dalzell, of Ohio, announced in a letter to a friend that he has discovered a law among the statutes of the United States which authorizes the payment of twenty-eight cents a day to soldiers of the late war while prisoners and soldiers when on furlough, the same being the daily value of the subsistence to which they were entitled but which prisoners in the hands of the enemy did not receive. Mr. Dalzell says he made the discovery by accident and made a claim under the law and was paid without question. If Mr. Dalzell is correct this is a very important matter to several thousand veterans and the heirs of those who died while in rebel prisons or since their return. But it is strange that none of the zealous claim agents have known about such a law."

Secret Society News*

MASONIC INSTALLATION.

W. M.—S. L. Fark.

S. W.—B. F. Lawson.

J. W.—E. M. Starbuck.

Treasurer—J. H. Oroke.

Secretary—David Edmonds.

S. D.—C. M. Rankin.

J. D.—S. H. Vandruft.

S. S.—E. U. Bond.

J. S.—E. D. Dradford.

Tyler.—C. B. Barnes.

WOODMAN INSTALLATION.

V. C.—J. F. Gish.

W. A.—A. L. Mills.

E. B.—C. M. Rankin.

Clerk—C. H. Steeper.

Escort—H. E. Cobeldick.

Watchman—U. S. Adnington.

Sentry—J. W. Ross.

Physicians—E. C. Rankin, E. Jones, T. B. Lee, T. M. Fortney.

Managers—A. B. Mills 3 years, A. J. Bowman 2 years, J. W. Ross 1 year.

Representative—J. E. Garrett.

ODD FELLOWS INSTALLATION

N. G.—T. J. W. Tarr,

V. G.—A. M. Dick.

P. S.—E. D. Bradford.

R. S.—J. C. Millikin.

Rreasurer—G. J. Johnson.

R. S. N. G.—Thomas Russell.

L. S. N. G.—H. M. Reynolds.

R. S. V. G.—J. H. Oroke.

L. S. V. G.—S. P. French.

Conductor—G. W. Davis.

Warden—Thomas Minney.

I. G.—C. H. Steeper.

GRANDARMY INSTALLATION,

P. C.—A. B. Mills.

S. V. C.—Logan Hickerson,

J. V. C.—W. H. Denney.

Adjutant—Thomas Russell.

Q. M.—W. B. McDonald.

Surgeon.—George H. Shaffer.

Ceaplain—J. W. Hendrick.

O. D.—Hugh Cosgrove.

O. G.—T. J. W. Tarr.

S. M.—E. A. Cain.

Sentry.—Jarrett Smith

WOMANS RELEIF CORPS.

President.—Mrs. Olive Rankin.

S. V. P.—Mrs. Hugh Cosgrove.

J. V. P.—Mrs. John Veits.

Treasurer.—Mrs. Uriah Barnes.

Secretary.—Mrs. Nye.

Conductor.—Mrs. S. J. Rankin.

Assistant.—Mrs. S. D. Reynolds

Guard.—Miss Helen Guest.

Assistant.—Mrs. Denney.

Chaplain.—Mrs. Nancy Rice.

A Big Fire

From the McLouth Times, Sept. 5, 1902

Brown & Dark's Meat Market, Harness Shop and Implement Store Burned Down.

About 1 o'clock Sunday morning the cry of fire was given, the U.B. church bell was rung and the inhabitants rushed out into the night to find that Brown & Dark's store was on fire. The fire was too much under headway when first seen to be extinguished. A fruitless effort was made to get out some of the goods when it was found to be impossible only a corn harvester and one wagon was saved, and the men turned their attention to the surrounding buildings. **Wm. Harding's** barn and **Jarrett Smith's** house were in the greatest danger, but owing to a favorable wind and a soaking rain earlier in the night nothing else caught, although it took some heroic work to save the barn. Unfortunately for the owner, **E.U. Bond**, there was no insurance on the building. There was \$3800 on the stock of goods which no way near covers the loss. This firm is composed of good business men who have worked up a good business here and are looked upon as among the best business men of the town. Their loss is a heavy one, but we understand that they intend to start up again as soon as possible.

FIRE BRANDS.

Postmaster Dick was among the sleepy ones who had to be told the next morning that there had been a fire.

Charlie Carnahan lost most of his clothes, his grip was in the store.

Charlie Rankin's prize watermelon was in the ice box. He was saving it till Sunday and—it just barely kept till Sunday.

Only one person brought a lantern to the fire and that was an old lady.

It is not known how the fire originated, any supposition would only be a guess. The safe containing the books was opened Sunday afternoon and the accounts were all found in good shape.

Across the street the plate glass in **Rankin's** and **Kenyon's** stores were cracked and the new paint on the drug store badly blistered.

Jim Cross ran a nail in his foot, a **Lester** boy ran against a pile of lumber or wood breaking a rib or two and **Hollister McQuary** was overcome by the heat and hard pumping.

I take this means of thanking those who helped me in keeping my barn from burning, for their generous assistance.

Respectfully,

Wm. Harding

Early Jefferson County Postoffices

From the Jefferson County Tribune, Dec. 26, 1919

(G.J.R. in Atchison Globe)

Nortonville's postoffice began in a tent in 1873, with **John Taggart** as postmaster.

The first postoffice in Jefferson county was established at Ozawkie, March 15, 1855, with **George M. Dyer** as postmaster. Dyer kept the trading house on the "old military road." A postoffice was established at Hickory Point shortly afterwards, with **Charles Hardt**, another trader, as postmaster. A postoffice was established at Grasshopper Falls, Dec. 21, 1855, with **A.J. Whitney** as postmaster. Another office established in 1855, was Middletown, with **William Butler** in charge.

The postoffice in Oskaloosa was established early in 1857, with **Joseph Fitzsimmons** as postmaster. An office was opened at Florence the same year and **C.D. Shields** was the dispenser of mails.

Postoffices were established at Rising Sun and Kaw City in 1858. **L. Lutt** was postmaster at the former and **James S. Jones** at the latter. Chester postoffice was opened for business in 1862.

Williamstown and Perry postoffices were put in operation in 1865, **Charles Williams** being postmaster at the former and **Joseph Terrell** at the latter place.

Medina postoffice was established in 1866, with **William King** postmaster, and Newman in 1867, with **A.A. Haston**. Woodstock office was opened in 1870, **Jules L. Williams** being in charge.

The Meriden postoffice dates its existence to 1870. The first postmaster was **Frank Cunningham**. A postoffice was established at Thompsonville in 1878, with **C.F. Tolles** as postmaster.

Baby Stops Press

From the Nortonville News, Apr. 23, 1886,

O.F. Thum, Prop'r.

We stop the press to announce that the greatest joy prevails within the household of the editor. **Susie** goes to school as a visitor, the "middle one" has been turned loose among the neighbors, and the scent of chicken soup permeates the entire domicile, while the "old man" walks like he was stepping over a fence. All on account of a new boy, who arrived Wednesday night, weighed nine pounds and kicked **Dr. Kelley** on the nose the first thing! The mother is doing well.

[Ed.: *O.F. Thum was editor of the Nortonville News from August 1885 to December 1886. His wife gave "instruction on the pianoforte to a limited number of young ladies and misses."*]

From the Rabbit Hunters

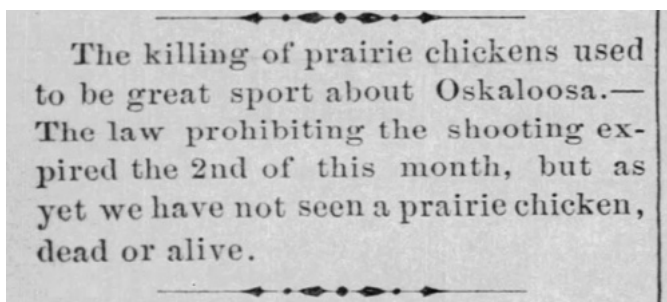
From the Oskaloosa Independent, Jan. 31, 1891

Meriden, Jan. 26, '91

Ed. Independent:—We will try to convince you and your friends that we can shoot, and shoot to kill, even the little rabbit. No indeed, we do not do as the girls do at leap year parties, get them in a fence corner and scare them to death, but deliberately shoot them wherever we run across them. As for the number that we have killed, indeed that would be a very hard matter to tell, as we have not kept account of all the game, but can say this much that **Ida Chapman** killed six rabbits the last time she went hunting, and **Emma Becker** can shoot, also **Emma** and **Amanda White**, but they have not kept account of the game they have killed, either. **Ida Chapman**, who has been hunting and shooting at times for the last ten or fifteen years, learned to shoot in this way: When her father, **B.F. Chapman**, moved on this place some twenty years ago, there was a snake-den close by the house and sometimes the snakes would come out, but not far enough to kill only by shooting; so she learned to shoot. Since then she has shot squirrels, rabbits, prairie chickens, wild geese, owls, hawks, &c., but how many of each could not possibly tell, and would not if we could, as then you would call us “brags,” which we are not. Since this thing has started we simply stand up for our rights and we are willing to prove them. As for the amusement of your readers, please tell them if they doubt our word just to visit Muddy Creek some time when they have leisure, and we will convince them that we can shoot with them.

Most respectfully,

The Rabbit Hunters



The killing of prairie chickens used to be great sport about Oskaloosa.— The law prohibiting the shooting expired the 2nd of this month, but as yet we have not seen a prairie chicken, dead or alive.

From the Oskaloosa Times, Sept. 17, 1891

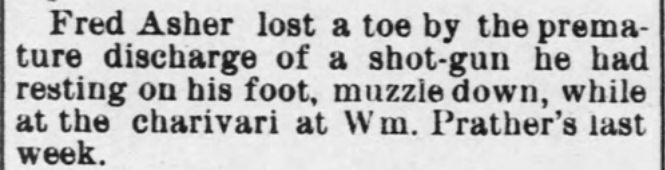
Tall Snake Tale

From the Oskaloosa Independent, May 17, 1884

(Contributed by Leanne Chapman)

The early vegetable liar is now competing with the fishing liar and the race is a close one. **Joe Tedrick** says he caught 41 good fish in Slough Creek, the other day, and we guess he can prove it. No one thinks of tackling

a snake story since the Perry *Chief's* effort in that line, but if that boy's father, **Editor Coutant**, doesn't look after him he will be ruined. “Sixty-six snakes”! and “lots got away”! “big around as a man's arm”!!! How's that for a first effort?



Fred Asher lost a toe by the premature discharge of a shot-gun he had resting on his foot, muzzle down, while at the charivari at Wm. Prather's last week.

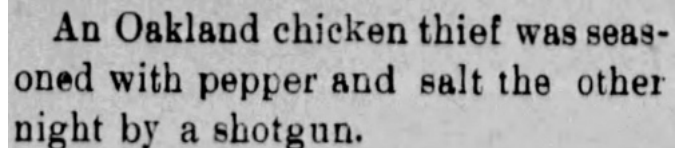
From the Oskaloosa Independent, Mar. 23, 1900

Shooting Crows

From the Nortonville News, July 5, 1907

(Contributed by Mary Luse)

Last Saturday afternoon **Mrs. Ned Rice** loaded the rifle and prepared to shoot crows. She cocked the machine and in sneaking up on Mr. Crow her foot caught in the grass and caused her to stumble. The gun was discharged the ball going through her foot. She was brought to town immediately and **Dr. Martin** dressed the wound. For a couple of days and nights **Mrs. Rice** suffered a great deal but now she is getting along very well.



An Oakland chicken thief was seasoned with pepper and salt the other night by a shotgun.

From the Jefferson County Tribune, Sept. 7, 1900

Boys and Revolvers

(Contributed by Leanne Chapman)

From the Oskaloosa Independent, Jan. 13, 1883

Lamar Sinnard, errand boy at **Hamilton & Huddleston's**, shot himself through the hand while fingering a revolver. Boys and revolvers nearly always make trouble when they get together.

From the Oskaloosa Independent, Aug. 27, 1870

Two boys took a notion to run off last week. One of them had a revolver, and when a little way on the road drew his weapon and said playfully, “This is the way I will shoot Indians,” and suiting the action to the word, fired, hitting his companion in the forehead, inflicting a dangerous wound. The wounded boy's name was **Wiser**. He was doing well at our last advices. The name of the other boy we did not learn.

The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same

[Editor's note: The following item from the May 15, 1924, issue of the *McLouth Times* (John Wilkins Roberts, editor) was contributed by **Rick Nichols**, the former editor of the *Oskaloosa Independent*, who said that in reading the piece he was struck by the similarity between the themes embraced 100 years ago by those who were fully or at least partially sympathetic to the efforts of the Ku Klux Klan (a preference for whiteness, a general dislike of foreigners, an emphasis on what was held to be "real" or "genuine," and the "purification" of American society), a group that included pastor **Bob Shuler** and apparently Roberts' father and *Oskaloosa Independent* editor **F.H. Roberts**, and the rhetoric that regularly can be heard coming from some circles today. He also said he couldn't help but notice the implied claim that the KKK was basically a Christian organization.]

AN AMAZING PROTEST

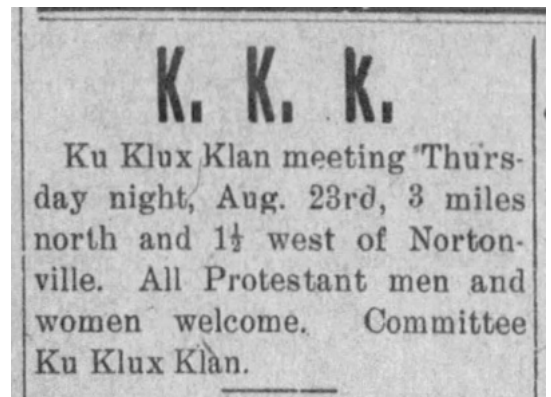
From the Independent

The editor of Shuler's magazine, (such a power against the evil influences and corrupt practices of Los Angeles and Hollywood) occupies the same position as the editor of the *Independent* — he is a student of the Klan movement, watching it from the sidelines, believing in its principles and avowments, hoping for much good out of it, and trying to advise it right. Every reader of this paper should carefully peruse the sweeping and eloquent portrayal drawn by Editor Shuler of existing conditions, the opposition to the Klan and who and what compose that opposition. Mr. Shuler says:

From Bob Shuler's Magazine, May number:

The Ku Klux Klan has flashed across America's heavens like the blaze of a meteor. With swiftness unparalleled came the marching hosts of white-clad forms and some prophesied that they would go as swiftly as they came. But they are with us yet, with numbers ever increasing and with power undiminished. These millions of native born sons of a mighty Republic came in response to a challenge. It was the challenge of a nation's pleading. America needed just such an organization. That is why the organization did not fade away beyond the horizon.

I have purposely occupied the place of a student, in my relation to the Ku Klux Klan. I have stood outside its portals and watched it. I have watched with the keenest interest its goings and comings, its friends and its movements and the movements that have moved in opposition. Men have declared that it was unworthy of the confidence of good Americans. They gnashed their teeth in hate and rage. They have foamed their madness. Every conceivable lie has been published in the daily papers, which these foes seemed to control without effort. And while this war of extermination, that did not exterminate, proceeded, I watched.



From the Nortonville News, Aug. 17, 1923



From the McLouth Times, Oct. 2, 1924

I noted that every un-American force within the nation joined hands against the Ku Klux Klan. True, there were now and then protests from the lips of a really good American. But as against his lonely cry, there arose, until the heavens echoed with the howl, the chorus of babbling voices that proclaimed animosity that only hell could sire, and joined in this battle cry were all of the anarchistic and un-American agencies and forces that had found shelter and succor on American soil. With interest ever deepening, I watched the I.W.W.'s, the bootleggers, the grafters in public office, the gamblers of every conceivable stripe, the corrupt political influences, the subsidized monthly magazines, and every other agent and avenue thru which vice, crime and anarchy ply their infamous and disastrous instruments of wreckage, as this combination made war to a hilt upon the organization of native born sons, with their proclamation of a return to the idealism that is indeed American.

Recently I attended an I.W.W. meeting at which there were many speakers. The most noticeable fact of that meeting was the sneer that met the word "Americanism" every time it was pronounced. Over and over, speakers referred in burning wrath to the Ku Klux Klan. More than any other instrument which they fought and feared, there stood out and up, as their speeches denoted, this organization of American men, not content to see anarchy throttle the Republic and drag its slimy trail of lawlessness over the portals of our goodly land. I had heard much of the

“un-American” Klan and now I got a glimpse of the genuine attitude of “un-American” forces of that Klan. There was hatred kindling in the eye of every anti-American, of every red anarchist in the audience at the very mention of the Klan. And I said to myself, the Klan will live and thrive and grow and prosper and possess the land, as surely as men like these continue their campaign of hate and opposition.

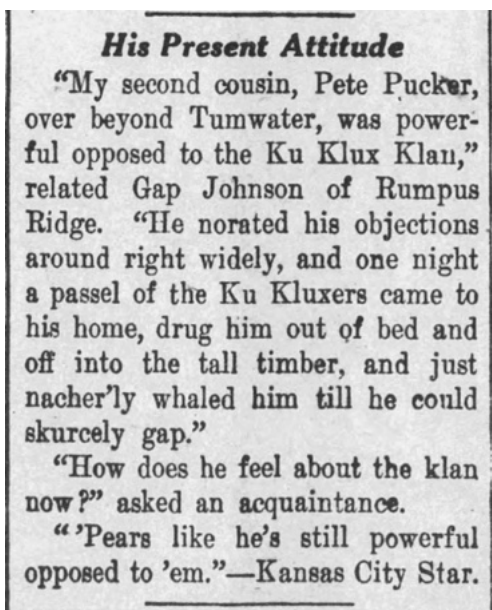
There was a condition nation wide, at the time of coming into existence of the Ku Klux Klan, that demanded the coming together of real American men in just such an organization. Foreign influences and un-American forces were combining for the overthrow of American ideals and standards of living. The war’s aftermath was upon us. Every corrupting and degrading agency known to the program of governmental decay had invaded our land. America was mapped out for the plunderers. We were to be stripped, wounded, robbed and left all but dead. The red orator was upon every street corner that the law allowed him. The I.W.W. organizer was busy here and there. And by the side of these foreign forces walked those American born men who preferred the pelf that belongs to the camp follower to the heroic sacrifice of the front lines, where true men battled for their country.

Nor was the challenge of anarchy the only challenge that called to the real Americans and demanded the allegiance of genuine sons of genuinely American sires. The constitution of the United States was being attacked by a host of bootleggers and their infamous protectors in public office. Rich and powerful men had declared that the eighteenth amendment should become the laughing stock of the nation. Twenty-five percent of the Drug Stores of the nation had been converted into saloons, while a larger percent of Doctors had stooped to the filthy profits that come from pimping for such Drug Stores. Prohibition was to be made a farce. Sheriffs, District Attorneys, Judges, Policemen and public officials of every variety had joined hands with these lawless minions in “making a rag” of the Constitution of these United States.

From the McLouth Times, Nov. 29, 1923

Oskaloosa Klan to Have Fine Klavern

The old Critchfield opera-house, unused for many years, has been rented by the Jefferson County Bank to the members of Oskaloosa Klan No. 58 who are fitting it up in fine shape for a klavern. The owners of the building are having the walls pointed up and have installed a steel fire escape, a four-foot wide flight of steps leading from the stage entrance and landing at the stone walk north of the hall. It is of a substantial pattern, with heavy handrails on either side. The old stage wings have been torn out and the front arranged so as to shut off the stage entirely or disclose it again by opening panel doors. When shut off, the stage can be used for a kitchen or for a waiting room as desired. The appearance of the hall is greatly improved by this change and the seating capacity considerably increased. The interior will be given new plaster, paper and paint. Officials of the klan state that the hall will be available for public gatherings where use of the high school auditorium is not feasible.



From the Winchester Star, Sept. 26, 1924

Added to this, there was a crime wave unprecedented in the history of the world. Mere lads were becoming gunmen. Life and property were imperiled daily. Vice and crime broadened their borders and prepared for larger and larger activities and profits. No longer were we faced by a few hardened highway men. Our bandits were boys in their teens but they were as desperate as the most flinty criminals. They shot and they shot to kill. Our jails were burdened with them and while they stifled in crowded tanks and cells, new criminals appeared, younger and more determined.

As if to make the souls of real men despair of all hope for the nation’s future, there came a veritable slush tide of social vice as companion for the condition already pictured. France, it seems, had educated the very world in degeneracy during the war. Our boys came back with their baggage full of the nude pictures of the French underworld, for Paris seemed to have afforded one big sheltered underworld for them. Immediately, familiarity country. Modesty became a lost art among us. Women lay in the embrace of young men in every passing auto. At night our roadsides were banked with autos until the morning hours and the petting party became the sure and certain path to loss of virtue. We grew swiftly a breed of libertines that sickened the souls of real men. Our moving pictures led in the procession. Our dance halls marched with the gathering hosts of depraved and

suggestive agencies of vice. Socalled “art houses” began to send out hundreds of thousands of the most suggestive pictures to our high school boys. And thus America began her journey toward free love, toward absolute looseness and the absence of all moral restraint, toward Sodom’s doom and Babylon’s certain end.

From the McLouth Times, May 17, 1923

“One-Hundred Per Cent Americanism.”

The “Other Side” of the Klan Question

Editor Independent:

Who are they who plead for one hundred per cent Americanism? Not they who in a loud voice acclaim that to be their principle yet in their actions repudiate the fundamental doctrine in itself; rather they whose voices patriotic martyrdom has stilled—the martyrs of the Nation—plead for ‘Backbone’ Americanism.

The day is at hand when it behooves us all to consider the true meaning of Americanism. What constitutes genuine Americanism? Americanism is not a mere matter of birth. A man may be born in the most distant of foreign lands, reared under institutions utterly hostile to democratic ideals, and still be an American in principle. When such persons come to the United States they make loyal citizens, ready not alone to live for the flag but to die for it. On the other hand a man may be born on Bunker Hill, reared in Valley Forge, get his education in the shadow of Washington’s monument; and live and die, not only as a total stranger, but a traitor to its ideals. No person is a true American who does not believe in the principles of self-determination. No person, native or naturalized, is a true American who claims any rights, social, political, civil or religious, while he would deny it to others.

Equality of rights is the soul of Americanism. Only an illegitimate American claims a right for himself that he is unwilling to grant to another person.

D.F. O’Reilly

we are now assured. Millions of dollars have been spent for the destruction of the Ku Klux Klan. Every lie that hell could furnish has been told. Traps and plots of the most unbelievable character have been prepared. The cunning of the most cunning foreign organization the world has ever known has been brought to bear. The very government has been seized by her foes and a studied attempt has been made to turn the arm of the nation against these American men. And yet they continue in ever increasing numbers. Opposition has but strengthened their lines and the forces that would destroy have found to their discomfort that the Ku Klux Klan has grown and advanced with every test that has come her way.

This Editor is still on the outside. He is still watching. His is the office of a student. He is umpiring the game, as it were. But he does not hesitate to say that the steady, solemn march of the American men of the Ku Klux Klan is as sweet music as his ears have heard, outside of the hymns of his fathers which have sounded the challenge of the Cross of Calvary. And thank God, the Ku Klux Klan stands also for that cross!

[Ed.: Another aspect of this issue was presented by Emporia Gazette editor William Allen White, who ran for governor in 1924, saying, “I want to be governor to free Kansas from the disgrace of the Ku Klux Klan.” White did not win the election, but a Kansas Supreme Court ruling in 1927 effectively outlawed the Klan in the state.]

And this story of our condition might be continued indefinitely, a condition that challenged every good American, a condition that brought every thoughtful father to his feet, a condition that only a traitor could ignore and a scamp deny. Such was the condition that gave rise to the most amazing protest that ever swept America. Suddenly a band of American men appeared. They stated their case and declared their creed. They were against the encroachment of foreign ideals and standards of living. They were Americans. They were American born. They were the sons of the white Americans who have given this nation her life. They demanded that the American public school, the melting pot of the Republic, be preserved as an American institution, and that her foes withdraw their poisonous efforts to paganize that institution. They demanded the Bible again on the school house desk. They stood for the enforcement of the laws of the land, for the driving from public office of that host of dirty wretches who have sold privileges to criminals and who for gold are willing to protect vice and crime to right and left. These American men declared themselves friends of the Constitution and defined the forces that would make that sacred document into a discredited piece of paper. They stood for the American home, for the virtue of our womanhood and the sanctity of the marriage relation. Such was their bold and triumphant stand, looming like a giant in the midst of those forces of destruction that hovered like vultures over the nation’s prostrate form.

That the Ku Klux Klan has made mistakes we doubt not. That thousands have crept in who must be driven out, we are sure. The rise of this organization was so swift, so spectacular, so suddenly mammoth as to necessitate mistakes. But that the organization has had its face in the right direction all good men are certain. And that day by day that body of men are most surely coming to a place of confidence in the heart of all who hope to see their country saved from destroying forces,

Free Picture Show
Tuesday Night, May 31.
Featuring the great Bible picture
“From the Manger to the Cross”
Picture to be shown on screen at the Air
Dome or town Park
To be given under the auspices of
WINCHESTER KLAN NO. 80.

From the Winchester Star, May 27, 1927

Baseball and Dirty Blues

Oskaloosa resident **Walt Grose** told this story about growing up in Alma, Kansas, in the 1930s.

To celebrate the Fourth of July, Alma sponsored a fair and a dance, hired a band from Kansas City, and scheduled a baseball game.

Before the game was due to begin, the Alma side realized they were missing a player. As the team discussed the issue, a man got off the Kansas City band's bus and approached them. He told the team, "I play some ball, if you don't mind playing with a Black guy."

They accepted his offer gratefully, and he returned to the bus to change clothes. He emerged wearing a jersey that read "MONARCHS."

Frank Duncan, Kansas City Monarchs catcher, was the husband of blues singer **Julia Lee**, whose band was playing in Alma that evening. Duncan caught for the Alma nine that afternoon. Walt Grose's brother **Wayne** was pitching for Alma. He said Duncan's return throws were so powerful they blistered his hands. Alma easily won the game.

Frank Lee Duncan Jr. (1901-1973) grew up in Kansas City, Missouri. He and Julia Lee attended Lincoln High School. They married in 1919. Their son, **Frank III**, was born in 1920. Duncan played for a local team, the Kansas City Tigers, then began catching for the Chicago Giants in 1920. He was traded to the Kansas City Monarchs the next year. Most of his 27-year baseball career was spent with the Monarchs, but Duncan also played in Cuba, Japan, Hawaii, Mexico, Brazil, the Philippines, and all over North America. He managed the Kansas City Monarchs from 1942 to 1947, a job that required everything from bus driving to expert diplomacy. The Monarchs' **Buck O'Neil** said, "In our baseball, our manager had to be the one to go in and see if we could eat. He also went in to see if we could sleep. Frank could talk-that-talk and he had to be able to. Because if Frank didn't, we were not going to get in and out of some of the spots we were in." From 1948 to 1950, Duncan was an umpire for the Negro American League.

Julia M. Lee (1902-1958) was born in Boonville, Missouri, and grew up in Kansas City. As a child, she performed with her father's string trio. She began singing and playing piano with her brother **George E. Lee Jr.**'s band in 1920. One of the first Black female musicians in Kansas City to be recorded, Lee's trademark genre was "Dirty Blues" with double-entendre lyrics. She described them as "songs my mother taught me not to sing." In the 1940s, her band, "Julia Lee and Her Boyfriends," recorded such hits as "Snatch and Grab It" and "King Size Papa." In 1949, Lee and her drummer, **Samuel "Baby" Lovett**, performed in Washington, D.C., for **President Harry Truman** at the White House Correspondents' Association dinner.

Frank Duncan and Julia Lee divorced but remained friends. Duncan eventually married **Bertha Lewis**. According to **Dave Wilkie**, when Julia Lee toured, "Frank carried an empty instrument case, sat in the

orchestra pit, and pretended to be a musician in order to watch her perform at the all-White music halls."

Wendel Wayne Grose was born in Alma, Kansas, Jan. 6, 1914. He pitched for the Bartlesville Oilers of the Kansas-Oklahoma-Missouri League in 1946. He had a career record of 11 wins and 15 losses and a 2.92 ERA in his 40-game pitching career. The Bartlesville Oilers ended the season with a record of 47 wins and 73 losses, finishing sixth in the KOML. Wayne married **Eileen Taylor** in 1946. He died in Oberlin, Kansas, on Nov. 28, 1975.

Walter Leland Grose was born in Alma, Kansas, Jan. 24, 1919. He graduated from Alma High School and attended Kansas Wesleyan College in Salina. He married **LuElla Peterson** in 1945. They moved to Oskaloosa, Kansas, in 1963 with their children, **Tom** and **Nancy**. Walt worked for the United States Postal Service for 25 years, retiring in 1981. He was also a free-lance graphic artist and sign painter. He died in Oskaloosa, Mar. 20, 1981. He is buried in Pleasant View Cemetery, Oskaloosa, Kansas.

Sources

1946 Bartlesville Oilers Statistics, Stats Crew:

https://www.statscrew.com/minorbaseball/stats/t-bo10325/y-1946#google_vignette

"Frank Duncan," by Dave Wilkie, Society for American Baseball Research: <https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/frank-duncan/>

Julia Lee - Show Me Missouri Blues - 1946, YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IfqLZ2NfFoU>

"KCQ remembers jazz star Julia Lee," by Dan Kelly, Kansas City Public Library: <https://kclibrary.org/news/2021-03/kcq-remembers-jazz-star-julia-lee-who-found-national-fame-staying-put-kansas-city>

Valley Falls Vindicator, Mar. 21, 1981

*Thanks to Jefferson County Historical Society genealogist **Tom Grose** for sharing this story and for research into Frank Duncan and Julia Lee.*

From the Files of Raymond Riley

Public Debate

From the Oskaloosa Independent, Jan. 17, 1874

PUBLIC DEBATE.—The following proposition is to be discussed at Winchester, in this county, on the 28th and 29th inst.

Resolved, That the oaths, obligations and practical operations of secret orders, as practiced by Free Masons, Patrons of Husbandry, and secret oath bound organizations generally, are anti-Christian, anti-Republican, and anti-Social, and are opposed to our civil, religious and social rights.

Revs. J. Dodds and **R. Loggan** will take the affirmative, and **Dr. Younkin** and **Rev. J.B. McCleery** will take the negative. The discussion is to commence on the 28th, at 7 o'clock p.m.

Horse Races

From the Winchester Press, Aug. 1, 1876

From the Oskaloosa Independent, Aug. 5, 1876

There were several horse races indulged in by the lovers of this kind of sport on Saturday in Winchester; but we did not see them, and cannot give the particulars. One thing we commend in them is, that they did not race on the streets. It is not right, we think, to run horses where there is danger of running over any one.

From the Winchester Press, Apr. 30 1877

From the Oskaloosa Independent, May 5, 1877

Dick Gardiner et al are building a race track in **Dr. Trower's** wheat field just on the southern limit of this town.

From the Oskaloosa Independent, May 12, 1877

The race track in Trower's wheat field is not of much use as yet—too wet. It will get dried out some of these times. Have patience, boys, but don't practice your fast horses on the streets, for some one will get hurt or killed, we fear.

The Ice Harvest

From the Winchester Argus, Jan. 6, 1883

Smith's Ice House is being filled with splendid ice; nice clean blocks from six to ten inches thick. He will put up over fifty tons. It will be appreciated in August.

From the Winchester Star, Jan. 29, 1897

The ice harvest is on. The creamery commenced yesterday and **Joe Wert** will put a large force of men at work tomorrow. The ice is from six to eight inches thick and of a very fair quality.

From the Winchester Star, Feb. 5, 1897

The ice harvest is at a close and our people ought to be able to keep cool during the warmest weather. There are over four hundred tons of ice packed in town, of which **Joe Wert** put one hundred tons, Creamery Company two hundred fifty tons and **Frank Royer** fifty tons. Besides this a great many farmers have put up enough to run them. With this amount we surely ought not to suffer with the heat.

“Repelling Indian Invasions”

From the Winchester Argus, Apr. 2, 1885

Kansas has had another windfall. The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a warrant for \$332,308 in favor of Kansas for expenses incurred by the State in repelling Indian invasions.

Base Ball News

From the Winchester Argus, June 17, 1886

NOTICE.

On account of nuisances having been frequently committed on the premises, we the undersigned Trustees of the R.P. church, forbid base ball playing or any other trespassing on our grounds adjacent to the church yard, after this date.

June 17th 1886

D. S. Farris

J. W. Carson

W. M. Dill

From the Winchester Argus, July 22, 1886

Some of our base ball boys went down to Lee's Station and played an interesting game of ball last Sunday. If they cannot find time to play on week days, they ought not to play at all.

The Model Dishwasher

From the Winchester Star, Aug. 7, 1896

The Only Perfect Dishwasher Ever Invented.

A boon to over-worked housewives. Washes the dishes for a family in a minute, with less water than is required by hand. Over 10,000 in use. It washes, rinses and dries the dishes, without putting the hands in water. It is made out of good heavy galvanized iron and with good care will last 20 years. Agents wanted in this and other counties. Call on

FORSYTH & KIRKPATRICK

General Agents

Winchester, Kansas.

From the Files of Raymond Riley (cont.)

Buggy Count, 1901

From the Winchester Star, Aug. 16, 1901

Saturday afternoon there was hitched within a radius of half a block eighteen buggies and carriages and they were all swell turn-outs. There was one farm wagon, sandwiched among this array of splendid equipage, and it looked lonesome. Most of the men who rode into town in those rigs wore laundried collars and patent leather shoes and carried a check book in their pistol pocket. Occasionally, among them, there was a calamity spouter but his wares were not wanted. They don't believe there is any calamity; they will not be convinced that there is, and they are right. There is none.

Racoon Supper

From the Winchester Star, Nov. 29, 1907

A coon supper was enjoyed by quite a crowd of the patrons of Talcott's restaurant last Friday evening. Sweet potatoes, dressing, pickles, and everything that goes with a feast of this kind was served. **Charley Talcott** was the cook in charge.

Farms for Sale, 1920

From the Winchester Star, Oct. 1, 1920

No. 1.—80 acres, 5 miles northeast of Winchester, in good Catholic community, with church and school near; *-room house, good barn, plenty good water, 30 acres plowed for wheat. Price \$200 per acre.

No. 2.—160 acres, 1 mile from Dunavant; 5-room house, good granary, fair barn, 45 acres plowed for wheat. Price \$110 per acre. This is a bargain.

No. 3.—240 acres, 1½ miles from Dunavant; good improvements. Price \$110 per acre. Here's another bargain.

No. 4.—100 acres 4 miles south of Winchester; fair improvements, ½ mile from school. Price \$120 per acre.

No. 5.—80 acres, 3 miles southeast of Winchester; good improvements. Price \$125 per acre. Good terms on this.

No. 6.—80 acres 3½ miles northwest of Winchester; good improvements, good community. Price \$13,000.

No. 7.—95 acres, 4½ miles northwest of Winchester; good house and barn, improvements all new. Price \$200 per acre.

No. 8.—120 acres, 2½ miles northeast of Winchester; fair improvements, 4 miles from Catholic school and church. Price \$22,000.

No. 9.—80 acres, 3½ miles southwest of Winchester; small house. Price \$125 per acre.

This is only a partial list of the farms we have for sale. If interested, write, phone or come and see these places.

No. 10.—93 acres, 3½ miles north of Oskaloosa and 6 miles south of Winchester; good 6-room house, arch cave, plenty good water, good outbuildings, 17 acres in alfalfa. Price \$125 per acre.

BYRN & WEIR, Winchester, Kans.

Aggie Radio Party, 1925

From the Winchester Star, Dec. 11, 1925

A number of Aggies and friends gathered at the home of **Rev. and Mrs. Eckert** Tuesday night to enjoy the nation wide Aggie program which was given from 6:30 to 1:30 that night in celebration of the first anniversary of the KSAC broadcasting station. Each student organization was to give a ten minute musical program.

Those present to enjoy the music were: **Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Robinson**, of Oskaloosa, **Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Stuart**, **Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Mitchel**, **Mr. and Mrs. R.B. Keys**, **Mr. and Mrs. Leo Miller**, **Mr. Garinger**, **Miss Lea** and **Miss Lyness**.

After listening to the music and hearing familiar organizations give familiar songs, dainty refreshments were served. The feature of the refreshments was a large cake with a purple "K" on it. The crowd then sang Alma Mater, gave Jay Rah and various other yells for the particular time and place. At a rather late hour the guests departed thanking their host and hostess of the evening for a happy time and for the arousal of the old college spirit once more. Miss Lea, Miss Lyness and Mr. Garinger planned and carried out the evening's entertainment.

New Ford Cuckoo Clocks, 1927

From the Winchester Star, Feb. 18, 1927

Equip your Ford with one of the new cuckoo clocks, just out. When the car reaches a speed of 30 miles per hour, the bird will come out and sing "Nearer My God to Thee," at forty per, it will sing "Lord, I'm Coming Home."—Ex.

*[Editor's Note: Raymond Riley was the organizing president of the Jefferson County Genealogy Society and a member and officer of the Jefferson County Historical Society. He edited Yesteryears from 1981 to 1988. Thanks to **Bev Schuler** for sharing her father's research.]*

Kansas Veterinarian Served in Vietnam

By Mary Luse

While researching to prepare an obituary for the Library at Old Jefferson Town for **Sally Jean Cook**, who recently passed away in Oskaloosa, Kansas, on Jan. 10, 2024, it was discovered that she had been previously married to **Dr. Roy Braum**, D.V.M. Several farmers and ranchers from Jefferson County have known Dr. Braum and have used his services for many years. Since his practice has mostly been located in the Lowemont, Kansas, area, many people have not realized that he has had such a connection with Jefferson County.

Dr. Braum graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University in 1965 and later completed his D.V.M. degree in 1967. Following the completion of his degree, he assisted **Dr. Gerhard Malm** at Valley Falls during summer months and then left the States and served two years in the Army Vet Corps. He was stationed in Vietnam and cared for combat dogs.

After his stint in the service he returned and rejoined the veterinary practice with Dr. Gerhard Malm and worked in that clinic for two years. He then moved to Lowemont to start a practice of his own.

Dr. Braum and Sally had a son, **Curtis Jay Braum**, born in 1976. He preceded his mother in death on June 4, 2017, from cancer. Dr. Braum and Sally were divorced. Sally taught music in the Oskaloosa school system for several years.

Following is an article from the *Parsons, Kansas, Sun*, dated Apr. 15, 1968, about the work that he was involved with in Vietnam.

Veterinarian from Kansas

His Duties Hardly of Usual Kind

PLEIKU, Vietnam (AP) — The young veterinarian just arrived from Kansas tilted back his chair and considered his patients—a platoon of dogs, a few monkeys, a couple of cats and one truculent bear.

It was, grinned 24-year-old Roy Braum, hardly what he had expected when he graduated from Kansas State University's veterinary school and headed for Vietnam as an Army captain.

Barely a month in Vietnam, the lanky farm boy from Denison rubbed his new red mustache and admitted his textbook education had been weak in such things as the treatment of bears.

He allowed, however, that it added excitement to his ordinary chores—the examination of meat and vegetables to make sure they are pure enough for GI stomachs, and the health of 30 sentry dogs.

Since the Army did away with the horse cavalry, veterinarians have largely been used to examine fresh foodstuffs.

The influx of combat dogs in recent years, however, has given them a new official task. And the American soldiers' penchant for picking up stray mascots will always make life interesting.

Sooner or later Braum will also get an elephant. Many are used as work animals by the tribesmen of the central highlands and the tribesmen have learned to turn to the U.S. Army when the beasts are off their feed.

For the moment, however, Braum concentrates on the health of the sentry dogs at his Pleiku base. The guard dogs get as much care from the vets as human soldiers get from their medics.

They are examined regularly, get a full range of shots and are evacuated to the big animal hospital in Saigon if they are wounded. They have medical histories, individual files and ear tattoos instead of dogtags.

Braum himself has a German shepherd as a pet. The dog is also a walking blood bank. Braum keeps him handy just in case a wounded dog comes in and needs a transfusion.

At sprawling Camp Schmidt just outside the highlands capital of Pleiku, Braum is the only veterinarian for many miles. He stays with a bunch of helicopter pilots from the nearby evacuation hospital and takes his daily, dusty rounds in a battered truck left by his predecessor.

His dispensary is a Quonset hut with a tiny examining table hardly adequate for a lively bear. Fortunately, the bear is a cub, perhaps six months old and weighing about 50 pounds. It belonged to some helicopter pilots.

Roscoe Miller Critically Burned – Monday Morn

*From the Winchester Star, July 23, 1965
(Contributed by Geri Rowlinson)*

Roscoe Miller, 56, of Oskaloosa is in critical condition at the University of Kansas Medical Center with burns over approximately 80% of his body.

Roscoe was critically burned when fumes from gasoline he had pumped into his car ignited and both he and the interior of the car were engulfed in flames.

The fire occurred shortly before 7:00 a.m. Monday morning. His calls for help resulted in many of the town's citizenry rushing to his aid and, with the use of articles of clothing, dirt, a rug and a fire extinguisher they put out the fire on his clothing and body.

The fire department extinguished the fire in his car.

He was rushed to Winchester to the Jefferson County Hospital by Hampton Ambulance. There he was given immediate first aid and then taken on to the Medical Center.

He was alone at the time of the accident and the exact cause has not been determined.

Roscoe's condition remains critical; however, a report Wednesday lists him as having a good pulse, good body functions and the doctors are ready to begin treatment.

Roscoe Miller

*From the Winchester Star, July 30, 1965
(Contributed by Geri Rowlinson)*

Roscoe Miller, 56, who was critically burned in an accident July 19 at his service station, died Monday at the University of Kansas Medical Center at Kansas City, Kansas.

Miller was pumping gasoline into his car at the station when the fuel ignited and he was engulfed in flames. He suffered burns over 90 per cent of his body. Cause of the fire was undetermined.

He was born August 22, 1908, at Valley Falls and spent most of his life in the Oskaloosa community. He had operated the service station about 18 years.

He was a member of the Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge No. 14, AF&AM, and Royal Arch Masons Chapter No. 9, all at Oskaloosa, and Zabud Council No. 4 in Topeka.

Survivors include his wife, **Mrs. Alice Miller**, at home; a daughter, **Mrs. Ernie Bahroglu**, Hagerstown, Md., a son, **Charles Miller**, Oskaloosa; his mother, **Mrs. Nellie Miller**, Granger, Wash., four brothers, **Roy Miller**, Anchorage, Alaska, **Raymond Miller**, Melbourne, Iowa, **Raphael Miller**, Hogansville, Ga., and **Russell Miller**, Kennewick, Wash.; four sisters, **Mrs. Mildred Dean** and **Mrs. Roberta Haag**, both of Granger, Wash., **Mrs. Geneva Ingram**, Zillah, Wash., and **Mrs. Esther Ferrell**, Valley Falls; and four grandchildren.

Services were held Wednesday in the Methodist Church at Oskaloosa. Masonic graveside services were at Pleasant View Cemetery at Oskaloosa. Hampton Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Lydia Alice Miller

From the Valley Falls Vindicator, Mar. 27, 1986

Mrs. Lydia Alice Miller, 78, Oskaloosa, died March 20 at Cherokee Lodge Adult Care Center, Oskaloosa.

Mrs. Miller taught in schools in Leavenworth and Jefferson counties before she retired.

She was born Nov. 7, 1907, at Valley Falls, the daughter of **Jesse** and **Estella Puckett Brittain**. She lived in Oskaloosa the past 49 years. She attended Washburn College in Topeka, the University of Kansas in Lawrence and Hagerstown College, Hagerstown, Md.

Mrs. Miller was a member of the United Methodist Church, Home Demonstration Unit, and Colonial Club, all at Oskaloosa. She also was a member of the Happy Hour Club at McLouth, National Education Association, and Kansas Teachers Association. She was a volunteer at the Oskaloosa Public Library for 10 years.

Her husband, Roscoe Miller, died July 28, 1965.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Betty Baharoglu, Norwalk, Ohio; a son, Charles Miller, Oskaloosa; two brothers, **Jim Brittain** and **George Brittain**, both of McLouth; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were March 22 in Pleasant View Cemetery, Oskaloosa. Memorial contributions may be made to the United Methodist Church, Oskaloosa. Hampton-Barnett Funeral Home, Oskaloosa, was in charge of arrangements.

The Southpaw Special

Contributed by Rick Nichols

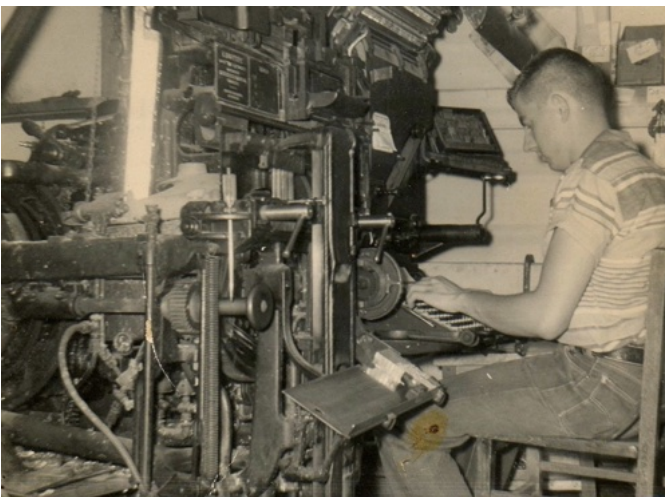
Did you know that the *Oskaloosa Independent* once had a left-handed linotype, which was a real curiosity back in the days when the type that was used to create headlines and the stories below them was painstakingly set by hand? Well, ‘thanks’ to the *Topeka Capital*, it once did. Here is the story from the Oct. 15, 1953, issue of the *Independent*:

THAT LEFT-HANDED LINOTYPE

Milt Tabor has this in his Sunday “Round Up” column:

Printers all over Kansas were amazed when they saw the Capital’s picture last Sunday of the linotype in the *Oskaloosa Independent*. **Will Morton** of the *Burr Oak Herald* wrote that he would travel a long way to see that “left-handed linotype.” And the photo did show up in reverse — the film was turned over when the print was made. The trip bar was on the left side, where no linotype ever had one. Worse yet, **Miss Doris Harbour**, the operator, newly engaged, had her ring on the right hand, apparently. **Newton Townsend**, the Capital’s Sunday editor, is red-faced and apologetic. He unintentionally committed a crime against Mergenthaler and aroused more curiosity among linotype operators than if he had tried to print the Sunday Capital on an old Washington hand press.

At the *Independent* printshop the force had a good laugh about that “left-handed linotype” disclosed in *Topeka Capital*’s magazine section of October 7; and our operator Doris Harbour stood a lot of kidding about her “right-handed” diamond. But we didn’t want to plague the Capital’s photo printer about it.



The Independent’s right-handed linotype, operated by Jack Stoner.

Claimed He Was From Jefferson Co.

From the *Winchester Star*, Jan. 5, 1940

(Contributed by Leanne Chapman)

A week or so ago a man dropped into the office of **Dr. Warren E. Jeffrey**. He said he lived in Jefferson County and wanted a set of false teeth. Doc took the impression and necessary measurements and said it would take a few days to have them ready. “I want to make a down payment,” said the man and pulling out a check signed by his wife on an *Oskaloosa* bank for \$15, handed it to Doc. Then as an after thought he remarked, “I am a little short of money and must buy a few things to take home. I wonder if you will advance me \$5 and put it on the bill when I come for the teeth.” Being an accommodating fellow Doc handed him a five-dollar bill. The next day he deposited the check in his bank. In due time the check bounced back with the notation, “Has no account here.” Doc now has a set of false teeth for sale to anybody whom they will fit.

It dawned on Warren that perhaps some other dentist had been duped. So he hot-footed it up to **Dr. Sam Lyman**’s office and asked: “Sam, do you know a man over in Jefferson County? (giving his name.)” “Yes,” replied Sam, “I have just made him a set of teeth. He gave me his wife’s check for \$15 as down payment and then borrowed \$5 of me which he will pay when he comes in after the teeth.” Warren unloaded his story on Sam and the two had a mutual indignation meeting. Sam also has a set of teeth for sale to the right party.—

Charles Sessions in *Topeka Capital*

The young ladies of this town are warned against a painter who is working here and passing himself off, we understand, as unmarried, when his wife is living at Grasshopper.—Sickle.

From the Oskaloosa, Independent, Nov. 21, 1874

For Sale—A nearly new buggy, cheap or will trade for good double barrel shot-gun, razor or any other implement of war. Address Disappointed Hopes, Rock Creek Kans.

From the Meriden Ledger, May 25, 1900

Woman's Christian Temperance Union News

DEPARTMENT

Devoted to Temperance, Library Interests, and Good Citizenship.

Conducted by

Mrs. Nettie L. Crandall.

Mrs. Hattie Babcock.

From the Nortonville News, Jan. 8, 1897

The Nortonville W.C.T.U. was organized November 10, 1892. Our motto is the same as other local unions, "For God and Home and Native Land." In 1894 a reading room was opened evenings free to all; the Library association giving use of all books, and the W.C.T.U. taking charge of the same also furnishing magazines and newspapers. In 1896 the city decided to provide a room and relieve the organization of the burden of rent, which is thoroughly appreciated, as it allows frequent additions to the Library and literature that otherwise could not be made. Officers of the W.C.T.U. are elected in August.

For the present term they are: Pres., **Mrs. C.B.**

Crandall; rec. sec. **Mrs. P.A. Glenn**; cor. sec., **Mrs.**

S.M. Hood; treas., **Mrs. L.M. Knapp**; vice pres., **Mrs.**

A.T. Aller, **Mrs. S.M. Hood**, **Mrs. J.W. Harris**, **Mrs.**

M. Sayre, **Mrs. O.L. Dunbar**. The Library association

elected officers in April which are at present: Pres.,

Mrs. J.B. Brown; vice pres., **Mrs. L.F. Randolph**;

sec., **Mrs. B.C. Zimmerman**; treas., **Mrs. C.B.**

Crandall; librarian, **Mrs. L.M. Knapp**. Library is open

from 2 to 5 p.m. each Friday. Yearly subscribers are

members of the association. Terms, \$1 per year, or 10

cents per month.

Twenty counties in Kansas elected women to the office of county superintendent at the last election.

From the Nortonville News, Feb. 5, 1897

The supreme court of Missouri appointed **Mrs. Jennie**

Edwards to the office of state librarian.

The Westerly Daily Tribune, of Westerly, R.I., claims to be the first Prohibition daily newspaper established in the world.

Ireland spends about \$60,000,000 per year for liquor, and, as usual, they have the annual famine on their hands and are out in an appeal for help.

Lady Henry Somerset has sent a London lady doctor and two trained nurses to Bulgaria to help care for the Armenian refugees, who are in great need. The work is to be done and a refuge to be built under the auspices of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

The ladies who are trying to do good by keeping up the different lines of work represented in this column often feel discouraged and ask themselves: Will any benefit result from our efforts? A private letter just received from a Nortonville boy who though young, has already proved a success and is still climbing the ladder of fame, and we predict, will not stop short of the highest rounds, gives so much encouragement that we trust we will be pardoned for copying portions from it: "Your recommending of books for me to read when I was at home and had access to the public library did more for me than you anticipated. Many of the heroes in those books are well worthy of imitation and I learned lessons that are very important to me now. Good books are well worth any one's time to read. I am very thankful that I availed myself of the opportunities when they served. My time is so fully occupied now I seldom have time to read only a book now and then. I always try to read something beneficial. The memories of the Nortonville Public Library are indeed pleasant ones for me. It is with much eagerness I look for the arrival of the **News** each week and I take great pleasure in reading the Department of Temperance, Library Interests and Good Citizenship. * * * I find each item contains something that interests me. Especially I remember a few weeks ago was a paragraph in which it described how each of us is growing up some one's place to fill, who has passed on before us. After enumerating the various reliable positions, it mentioned the "Drunkard Tom" who wanted some young man to take his place as he was soon to fill a "drunkard's grave." I wish that every young man starting out in life in this broad land of ours would read that article and think over it seriously. I am sure it would influence many of them so they would swerve from the habits that are probably slow but surely growing upon them. I do not know what position in life I may fill, but one thing, my mind is clearly set on this one point, I will never be a follower of Drunkard Tom. I am truly thankful for the pleasure I derive from your efforts and thoughtfulness and with all my heart wish you abundant success in the temperance cause and the public library. * * * "

From the Nortonville News, Apr. 16, 1897

Haugesund, Norway, has had no spirit license for twenty-nine years. Its population is 6,200. There is also a large surrounding population.

A colored lecturer recently said: "When I see a man going home with a gallon of whiskey and a half pound of meat, dat's temperance lecture enough for me, and I sees every day. I know that everything in his home is on the same scale—gallon of misery to half-pound of comfort."

At the annual meeting of the Library Association Apr. 2 the following officers were elected for the coming year: Pres. **Mrs. J.B. Brown**; vice-president **Mrs. B.C. Zimmerman**; Sec. **Mrs. L.F. Randolph**; Treas. [Mrs.] **C.B. Crandall**; Librarian **Mrs. L.M. Knapp**. The executive committee were chosen to act as book committee.

“How to stop forgeries.”—That’s easy enough. Make the forgers take out a license. Don’t let them forge on Sunday or after midnight. Make the forgers get the consent of their neighbors to commit forgery. Don’t let them forge within two hundred feet of a school house or church. Make the tax high enough to win the support of the tax-paying church people. Thus, you will make it respectable and get part of the winnings, don’t you see? But never prohibit forgery, for, you know, “force is no remedy.”—Ex.

The Gospel Temperance Meeting held at the S.D.B. church, on the evening of April 10, was throughout a success. The evening was fine and the program as published in the paper last week was carried out with exception of **Rev. F.H. Bentley**’s address, he not being able to attend. The music was fine, showing considerable preparation had been made. The addresses of **Revs. S.M. Hood, G.W. Hills** and **Thomas Campbell**, were all first class and every one seemed delighted with the entertainment and encouraged in the temperance work.

We read with no little amusement and withal satisfaction the denunciation by the liquor papers of those “busybody women,” the W.C.T.U., and the “ill-advised sticking of their sharp noses into other peoples business” as manifested in the crusade against kinetoscopic pictures of prize fights. The scornful allusions to “grandma” government which, it is said, the “dear old souls” are trying to bring about, and the angry howl which is going up from the liquor interest generally, is very encouraging. It shows that our giant antagonist has received a blow in the region of the heart. Inasmuch as pugilism brings no little grist to the drink-seller’s mill we are not surprised that a liquor organ hopes “to find among college students some Moses(?) who will deliver the manly art out of its present bondage.”—Union Signal.

[Ed.: In 1880, Kansas became the first state to adopt a constitutional amendment prohibiting alcohol, but the law was not always enforced. Prohibitionists, including the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union, remained active in the state until the passage of the “bone dry” law in 1917 made it unlawful for anyone “to keep or have in his possession, for personal use or otherwise,” any intoxicating liquors.]

Leedy Against Prohibition

The Governor Evades the Question by Making a Railroad Speech.

From the Valley Falls New Era, May 22, 1897

At the temperance mass meeting of citizens held at Topeka Monday night Governor Leedy was present and made a manuscript speech, scoring the temperance people, and putting in some licks on railroad legislation. Prominent people in all parties denounce him and his do-nothing policy in regard the enforcement of the law. Following are brief extracts from the speeches:

“My opinion is that the failure to enforce the prohibitory law is largely chargeable to the executive committee of the State Temperance union, . . . but, unfortunately, an organization capable of so much fell into the hands of the agents of the corporations who proceeded to make of it a political weapon instead of an instrument for good.

“I believe it is my duty to do what I can to enforce the laws against corporations as well as to enforce the prohibitory law, and I have started in to do what I can in that direction and I do not propose to be diverted from my purpose by any howl that can be raised about the prohibitory law by men who are put forward by the corporations to do the screaming.”

—**Governor J.W. Leedy.**

“The news will go through the entire country that the Governor or Kansas has arrayed himself against the movement to abolish the saloons. Drive out the joints. . . I tell you, men and women, in spite of what you have heard to-night, and with or without the support of the governor and police board, we will enforce this law. We haven’t begun to fight yet. We have just wakened up.”

—**H.G. Larimer.**

“I believe that if I were governor of Kansas I would drive the saloons out, or leave enough wrecks in my path to show what I had done. The governor has sworn before God Almighty that he will enforce the law. It seems to me that if I were governor of Kansas that instead of abusing the temperance people, I would denounce the violators of law.”

—**Wm. A. Peffer.**

“Governor Leedy did not appoint a man to the railroad board who he was not sure favored the strict enforcement of the maximum freight law, if it passed. . . We should join hands and rise above partisanship when it comes to a question of enforcing the law.”

—**Mrs. Annie L. Diggs.**

“I strongly suspect that the popular sentiment of Kansas thus aroused will so assert itself that officers will be compelled to execute the law or vacate their positions. I have faith in the convictions, the determination and final success of the temperance men of Kansas.”

—**Bishop John H. Vincent.**

From the Oskaloosa Independent, Sept. 16, 1882

The County Fair,

Held last week, was a success in some respects and not what was hoped in others. The exceedingly dry and hot weather kept many at home, so that the attendance was slim. The receipts were sufficient, however, to enable the association to pay forty per cent. of the premiums and all bills; and payment was made promptly, too, on the grounds. The officers of this association have got things systematized so that their exact financial standing is known before the close of the Fair, and an exhibitor doesn't have to wait for his premium money.

The exhibitors seemed very generally satisfied with the per centage paid, and will be on hand again next year.

It is thought that the date for next year's Fair will be fixed somewhere near the first of October, when farmers are not so busy.

There was plenty of water on the ground which fact, if generally believed, would have increased the attendance.

The excursion from Leavenworth got off all right, on time—at least he was seen sitting on the ties waiting for the train.

The premium awards will be found on our first page, in full.

The old settlers had a little "speaking meeting" in the shade of the agricultural hall. **Judge Hopewell** was chairman and **J.N. Insley** secretary. Short addresses were made by **J.L. Speer**, **W.N. Allen**, **T. Critchfield**, **J.W. Roberts**, and others. We hope this may be the beginning of regular annual meetings of the old folks—meetings which shall be made useful in collecting historical matter.

The directors elected for the ensuing year are as follows: Oskaloosa township, **Geo. Davis**; Jefferson, **H. Mott**; Norton, **Geo. Slane**; Delaware, **A.G. Patrick**; Rock Creek, **Geo. E. Hensley**; Osawkee, **M.M. Maxwell**; Fairview, **E.L. Carter**; Kaw, **Geo. H. Rushmore**; Kentucky, **Val Brown** and **Jno. F. Geopfert**; Rural, **W.G. Bayne**; Sarcoxie, **James O'Neil**; Union, **O.W. Glynn**; at large **Jno. F. Histon**.

THE BASE BALL GAME

Was the leading attraction of the fair, the crowd of spectators being large and closely attentive throughout the game. The contesting nines were the Oskaloosa club and the Cyclones of Winchester, and the prize a ball and bat given by the association. After a game hard fought to the very close of the ninth inning, the score stood 23 to 21 in favor of the Oskaloosa nine.

The score by innings stood as follows:

Innings:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Oskaloosa,	0	0	2	6	3	1	4	5	2—23
Cyclones,	2	0	0	0	3	5	4	2	5—21

The game was in all probability saved to the Oskas by a running fly catch and fine throw by their center fielder, **Jim R. Smith**, whose prompt play was followed by another by the **Johnson** brothers, on 2d and 1st, putting two men out and ending the game.

The two nines are so evenly matched that games between them must necessarily be close and interesting.

Herb. Milton did some fine catching for the Oskas, he and **Dailey**, who pitched the entire game, making a strong team.

McConnell of the Cyclones is a splendid catcher, his strong point being his ability to cover so much ground as he does.

The Topeka boys failed to come, and there not being three entries the special purse was not played for.

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From the Oskaloosa Independent, June 13, 1885

Queens of a Club

From the Nortonville News, Dec. 21, 1900

Thursday evening, December 13, was the occasion of a very enjoyable entertainment, to a company of her lady friends, at the home of **Mrs. James J. Speck**. The special object was the organization of a Ladies club. After due consideration and calm deliberation the company concluded that a club consisting of ladies only would be rather uncongenial, and should the occasion require there would be no one to club; consequently they voted, unanimously, of course, that their husbands should be the victims at their next initiatory ceremonies. The next important question was dress reform, and it was resolved, that the members must positively discard all purple and fine linen apparel and appear at the sessions of the club clothed in their right minds and ordinary calico. Not even a black bow in the hair or a standing collar would be tolerated. The gentleman members are to be arrayed in ordinary everyday business suits, and no gentleman, excepting **Dr. Groff**, will be permitted to wear a white shirt, the doctor's wife insisting that it would be too unprofessional for the doctor to wear a colored one.

After these momentous questions had been disposed of, the genial hostess presented each guest a handsome thimble, a bodkin and material for a sweeping cap as souvenirs of the occasion. The ladies were required to make their caps at once; to facilitate the work the hostess offered two prizes, one as first prize and one to last one out. During the competition perfect silence prevailed, as it was found impractical to operate two rapid running machines at the same time. **Mrs. W.L. Hummel** captured the first prize, a fancy dusting brush, having finished her cap first. **Mrs. J.B. Brown** was awarded the second, a miniature dust pan. The dusting caps are to be worn during the sessions of the club. Delicate refreshments were served and the evening unanimously voted a delightful one. **Mrs. L.J. Bates** will entertain the club next Thursday evening. The club adjourned sometime between 11 and 12 and on retiring found **Mr. Speck** outside singing, "Home Sweet Home—Be it Ever so Full, There is no Place like Home." The ladies present were **Mesdames L.F. Randolph, R.H. Meyer, E.L. Thomas, L.J. Bates, H.D. Burdick, W.D. Groff, Foy Weishaar, A.W. Johnson, P. Brunstetter, W.L. Hummel, R.S. Clingan, J.B. Brown, C.H. Kaufman, W. Dainton.**

Reporter.

Anderson-Bruce Wedding

From the Valley Falls New Era, Sept. 26, 1891

Probably the most noteworthy event among the colored people of this city for many years was the marriage of **Miss Ada Bruce** to **Mr. Joseph Anderson**.

The residence of **Mr. J.W. Calloway** was crowded to overflowing on Mon., the 21st inst. Promptly at 8:45 among sweet strains of music and floral offerings, Miss Ada leaning on the arm of **Miss Mary Anderson** and Mr. Joseph Anderson accompanied by **Mr. Edward Toul**, as his best man, moved into the parlor. The music ceased, the friends rose to their feet, and **Rev. Bradley** pronounced the ceremony that made them one. Congratulations were abundant and choice delicacies of the season were abundantly provided. At a late hour the guests departed for their homes.

Grand Army of the Republic Installation and Campfire

From the McLouth Times, Jan. 12, 1894

A public installation of the new officers of the Grand Army took place at the United Brethren church on Wednesday evening. The installation was preceded by a supper at the Grand Army hall. Upon assembling at the church **Prof. Stout** and choir opened the exercises with an excellent selection of music, and also rendered several others during the evening.

Hon. **Matt Edmonds** gave the "old boys" a short and appropriate talk then the post commander duly installed the new corps of officers.

Then comrade **T.B. Gerow**, of Atchison, Senior Vice Department Commander was introduced, making an earnest and interesting speech, which at times elicited applause. He is a forcible speaker, and does not lack for words to convey to his hearers the precise meaning of his language. His hits at the pension policy of the present administration were biting, and received the endorsement of his old comrades.

The following are the officers for 1894:

P.C.—**Uriah Barnes.**

S.V.C.—**Logan Hickerson.**

J.V.C.—**W.H.B. Denney.**

Adjt.—**A.P. Reardon.**

Q.M.—**J.W. Hendrick.**

O.D.—**Wesley Guert.**

O.G.—**J.W. Stone.**

Sentinel—**Jarrett Smith.**

Early Reminiscences of North-Eastern Kansas in 1857

By Isaac Maris

Chapter III

The Nortonville News

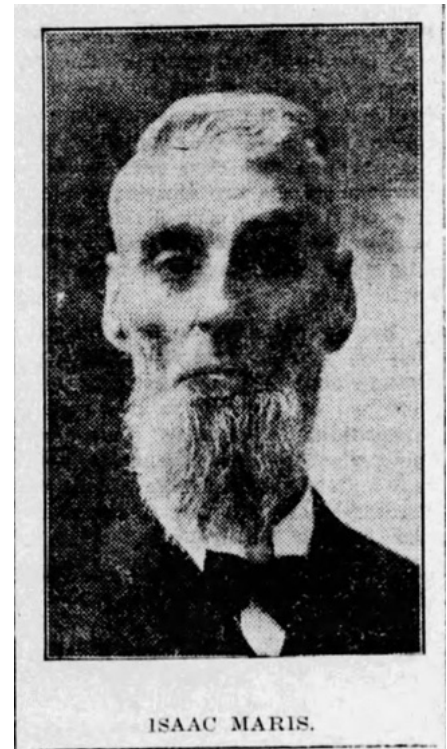
Friday, June 12, 1903, Page 1

Dennis Saunders and **S.P. Griffin** passed through this locality while on a prospective tour through eastern Kansas in the spring of 1857. It was quite amusing to one not accustomed to a camper's life to see such a variety of methods used. Some living in tents, others in wagons and three or four families living in a log cabin fourteen feet square "seeming" to sing, "You in your little corner and I in mine." The first two months or more was a very busy time with us all repairing the cabins already built and building new frame houses (mostly one room and one story) with a little shanty attached for a store room and a cook room. During the summer months we provided stables and shedding for stock. The latter were largely covered with coarse prairie grass. The new wells were dug during the early part of winter which were all walled up with rock as were the other two that were dug a few months before, making five in all that have been in constant use from then to the present time. After the first rush of work was over a lyceum or literary society was organized about the first week in December and was held in a log cabin just a very little south of where Uncle **Perry Stillman's** old blacksmith shop now stands, in what is now **L.M. Clark's** yard, on the south side of what was then called and a few years after, "Gopher street," now Seventh Day Lane.

This street running east and west a distance of a little over two miles, was first settled by the colonists above mentioned, and as there were a number of young people, many of which were just out of the public schools of the east, also several young married people, some of which were school teachers, it seemed to be the unanimous wish of all, both old and young, that such a society be organized. All took an active part, which was continued weekly without a vacation for sixteen months. It was held in the afternoons during the spring, summer and early autumn months. I never attended a literary society, east or west, that surpassed this one in interest, enthusiasm or such a general cooperation on the part of all, people attending from miles around. There were three papers published, viz: "The Pathfinder," edited and published by **Mahlon Oliphant** of West Branch, Iowa. Mr. Oliphant was a school teacher in 1854 and for some years after and is a fine Christian character and of more than ordinary ability and is the author of the "Wayside Rhymes." Mr. Oliphant and wife are both living.

"The Herum Skerum," edited and published by **Caleb Maris** of Garfield, Ohio. Brother Caleb has been a farmer and carpenter the most of the time in eastern Ohio since young manhood, and at one time he and his wife were superintendent and matron of the government school for the Potawatomie Indian tribe of Potawatomie county, Kansas. He has been an industrious, conscientious christian man and reared a fine family of eight children of which **Miss Lou T. Maris** of Nortonville is one.

"The Expanding Bud," edited and published by the writer, who is living on the same farm that he did when he was acting the part of an editor over 45 years ago, and has from that time to the present been doing all he can to help expand every interest or phase that goes to make Kansas a great state; that she may take her place as second to none among the sisterhood of states in this Union.



*From the Atchison Daily Globe,
Mar. 24, 1915*

The above papers were generally very interesting, having as they did a corps of efficient correspondents, as also were the essays which were read; alternately for several weeks upon the topics of "The Old Bachelor" and "The Old Maid." **Charles Ball** took the part of the old bachelor and **Miss Chrysanthia Saunders (Mrs. M.P. Stillman)** taking the part of the old maid. Each handled their subject exceedingly well and presented some shrewd and witty thoughts. It was difficult for anyone to predict which might finally come out ahead.

We had also from the young people recitations and various subjects for debate or discussion. The older ones who took an active part in the debate were **Dennis Saunders, Milo Carlinton, D.C. Duncan, Mahlon Oliphant** and **Joshua Wheeler**. **Miss Lavina Taylor, Miss Alma Butin** and **Miss C. Saunders** were the only young ladies in this colony at that time and there were ten young men. Young ladies were at a premium and things went about their way. In the spring of 1858 **Benjamin Ball** and wife with seven children (some of whom were grown). **Frank Rich** and **Edwin Coppock** came from Iowa and settled in this colony. They were formerly from Ohio and were also Friends [Quaker faith].

The same spring and summer a store building and family residence combined was built at Pardee by **Dr. Moore Sr.** Soon after a school house was built.

The first prominent active free-state men we became acquainted with after arriving in Kansas were **Rev. Pardee Butler, Col. Caleb May, A.S. Speck, George Blodget, William Mayfield, John Graves, Milo Carlinton** and others. Our voting precinct at that early time was at Saint Nick on the east side of Spring Creek in **Mr. Pateet's** cabin in the timber nearly a mile east of Cummings. It was no common thing to see men at the polls with one or two revolvers and perhaps knives attached to their belts and guns were stacked up around the trees by the score.

Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church

From Kansas Trails: https://genealogytrails.com/kan/jefferson/churches/nortonville_sdb.html

The church was organized in 1863 under the labors of **Rev. A.A.F. Randolph**, who became its first pastor. His successors have been **Revs. S.R. Wheeler, J.J. White, G.M. Cottrell, J.M. Todd, Geo. W. Hills**. During the first years of its history this was known as the Pardee S.D.B. church. Its meetings were held in the houses of its members until in 1866 the "Lane schoolhouse" was built, which was used as its place of worship until its first building was erected in 1883, two miles north of Nortonville, which was at that time about the center of the society. The old church was carefully taken down in August 1900, and the materials used in the construction of the one just dedicated.

The original Nortonville S.D.B. Church building stood two miles north of Nortonville. It was built in 1883, and was torn down in 1900 to be used in the erection of the present building—1950—which was built in town.

The first S.D.B. settlement on the Lane was made by a group of fourteen people, who came in a wagon train from Farmington, Ill., arriving in the rain Oct. 5, 1857, when night was close at hand. Pastorless, they held a service of prayer and praise the next morning which was a sunshiny Sabbath. Their temporary stop was on the farm now owned by **Albert Nolting**, but **Dennis Saunders** soon filed on land east of where Lane school was later built, and moved a house there from Pardee, which for a time sheltered the entire colony.

August 14, 1863, under the guidance of **Rev. A.A. Randolph**, the church was organized. Dennis Saunders was the first Deacon. Meetings were held in homes until Lane School was built in 1865, thereafter in the school house. In 1883, the church building was erected on land now owned by **Mrs. Anna Kloepper**, and the name of the church changed from Pardee to Nortonville.

In 1900, the old church building was carefully torn down and the present building erected on West St., using parts of the original. The parsonage was moved intact to its present site, and addition built.

The Hot Wind

From the Oskaloosa Independent, Sept. 16, 1882

On Tuesday, about noon, a hot wind struck these parts, from the southwest, which everybody but those who were here in '60 said was the hottest thing in the breeze line they ever felt. It fairly scorched one's face and made iron gates, stone walls, etc., so hot as to be uncomfortable to the touch. It lasted during the afternoon, cooling off gradually after 4 o'clock, and until that time the air was more comfortable in a closed room than outside.

The Leavenworth Times says of the phenomena:

After a few minutes the heat became so intense that few people were to be seen on the streets and those who were compelled to be out walked slowly and as much in the shade as possible, avoiding, too, the wind, which was as hot as though being blown from a burning building. Furniture in the houses became so heated as to be unpleasant to the touch. The mercury in the thermometers ran upwards with astonishing rapidity. Vegetation seemed to show more of the effects of the heat than anything else, as leaves on the trees were seen to curl and assume a grayish hue in a very few minutes. On looking toward the sun, at two o'clock the air seemed more like molten brass than air, and the sun seemed a ball of fire, from which the heat emanated. The picture is not overdrawn, for it is the verdict of many who witnessed the phenomenon. A reporter for the Times took observations of the temperature in various localities at two o'clock. The mercury at **Frank Zipp's** boot and shoe store on Shawnee street, near Fourth, indicated 107°. At the Continental hotel it registered 106°. On the platform of the commissary building at Fort Leavenworth the register was 117°. At the residence of **Dr. R.J. Brown**, on Broadway, it was 115°. At **Ex-Gov. Carney's** residence it was 113°. In the signal office it was 98°.

The reporter while in the signal station saw many people coming in and making inquiries as to the meaning of the singular weather. He finally asked observer **Brown** if it portended anything unusual in the way of an atmospheric disturbance which would be likely to prove of a dangerous character. "No," he replied, "it is a singular kind of weather for this season of the year though."

"Where did it begin?"

"The first intimation we had of the wave was from Dodge City, last night (Monday night), where the thermometer was reported 96°, while at the same hour our thermometer registered only 80°."

"Have you any idea where the wave came from, beyond Dodge?"

"I think of no other place than the staked plain, or what is known as the Great American Desert."

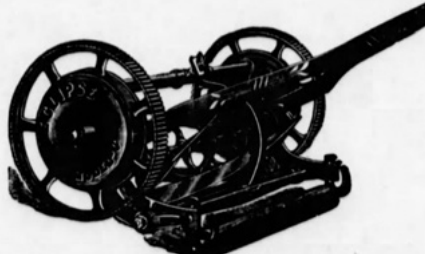
"Which way is it going?"

"Directly east. It cannot go north for the temperature at Omaha is cooler than it was here when the wave came, and at North Platte it is cooler than it is at Omaha. It is also cooler south of us. It is terrible weather."

"Do you anticipate a change soon?"

"Yes, the barometer is going down steadily, and I am pretty sure this will be followed by rain and cooler weather, but there is nothing I can see that indicates a storm. I look for the change to night."

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From the Valley Falls Vindicator, May 12, 1933