Spring 1935

Some Lost Towns of Western Kansas

Rebecca Wells Taylor
Fort Hays Kansas State College

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SOME LOST TOWNS OF WESTERN KANSAS

being

A Thesis presented to the Graduate Faculty in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Science

by

Rebecca Wells Taylor, Bachelor of Arts

Approved:

Major Professor

Chairman of Graduate Council

Date: APR 3 - 1935

FORT HAYS KANSAS STATE COLLEGE

1935
Dedicated

to

Professor R. L. Parker,

Head of the History Department of

Fort Hays State College, whose

suggestions have been valuable and

unfailing.
I. A modern sod house.
INTRODUCTION

The early settler in Kansas seemed to have a penchant for establishing towns. Wherever a few settlers were gathered, though several miles apart, a convenient location found an enterprising storekeeper ready to sell. Soon this store became a gathering point. It was not long before a few dwellings were built around the store and it became a center for trade. A United States post office was established and a new town was born. Some of the pioneer towns were organized before the post office was established, some later, as a result of the mail center.

There were many reasons for locating towns. Some grew up by reason of the fertile soil surrounding them; the region being dotted here and there with farmers who needed a center in which to trade and to receive mail.

Locations near water were preferred by many; therefore, rivers, streams and creeks proved attractive. In later years railroads established stations which slowly became towns. In the earlier days stations on overland trails and on stage routes developed into towns with stores and a post office. In western Kansas, especially, the desire to locate and live in a county seat caused some towns to spring into existence. In organizing towns in western Kansas, generally no one town had enough population to be made the county seat without question. No place having any apparent advantage, led to the contests for location of the county seat.

As there was always a reason for the establishment of a
town, so was there just as much a reason for its demise. Perhaps fewer towns were abandoned on account of Indian raids and burnings than for any other reason. Upon the ashes of the first town another usually appeared flinging defiance to the red man.

In the years of extreme drouth, smaller streams dried up and caused the removal of the inhabitants to more favorable places. Towns located on projected railroads, anticipating events as it were, were forced to abandon their locations when the railroad missed them, building a short distance away or never being built at all. State lines and overland Star routes were sometimes forced, by frequent Indian raids, high waters, or to serve larger communities, to change routes and leave out of circulation a town which promptly moved to a more favorable place. A common cause of abandonment in western Kansas especially, was loss of a county seat fight. Usually the victor absorbed the defeated town by inviting its inhabitants to become residents in the county seat, and offering free a town lot to anyone who would locate in the capital of the county. Occasionally a town located its site near a town already established and outrivalling the first comer, gradually attracted its people until all had left and the first location became a ghost town.

In considering the question of lost towns, one is forced to define town. Webster defines it as derived from the Anglo-Saxon word "tun" meaning enclosure, and first used to mean a dwelling in an enclosure. In the United States the word generally means a collection of houses constituting a distinct place and having a name. Usually it has a United
Horace Greeley said: "It takes three houses to make a town in Kansas, and as soon as the town lots are plotted, it is called town."

I have chosen not to call a settlement a town until it has an established United States post office. Then comes the question, and every post office mean that there was a town? Very often, yes; sometimes, no; but a positive stand must be taken somewhere.

When is a town not a town, sounds like some old riddle, it must be decided, so, perhaps arbitrarily, I have chosen to say a place ceased to be a town when the post office was discontinued. However, this is not true in one or two cases which will be cited later.

The aim in this thesis is to ascribe a reason for the establishment, life, and final abandonment of the lost towns as far as is possible with the time and materials available.

The lost towns of Kansas are fast being forgotten as older inhabitants are passing. Some have already passed into oblivion unrecorded except by casual allusion in old letters, records, or locations on old maps.
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Part I.

SIXTH DISTRICT
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Chapter I

CLOUD COUNTY

Lawrenceburg.

The site for Pawnee was selected in July 1827. It
had a post office also a store and elevator.

Lawrenceburg was in the northern part of the county, lo-
cated on Salt Creek. The Kansas Pacific Railroad ran through it; it
had a depot and a post office, also a store and elevator.

It has now vanished. 1.

Chapter 2

DECATUR COUNTY

Hawkeye.

The site for Hawkeye was staked off in July 1887. It had a capital stock of $70,000. The Hawkeye incorporators were J. M. Brady, F. M. Taylor, George N. Hunter, F. M. Stewart, E. A. Hall, J. M. McGonigle and Henry Claar, all of Colby. There were not many people living in that section of the state at that time. The chief industry was gathering buffalo chips and hauling bones to the Union Pacific railroad south or to the B. and M. Railroad about seventy miles north. The income from the sale of the bones kept the people from starving. Thousands of tons of buffalo bones were brought to the railroad about this time. After a struggle for existence, Hawkeye finally was forced to subside. People moved nearer to the railroads.

Kalamazoo.

The town of Kalamazoo never reached any great size. It was laid out and incorporated in March 1873. The capital stock was $50,000. The directors were A. B. Hard, Elmore Allen and William H. Tweed of Lawrence, and George W. Moon and Frank W. Webber of Manhattan. The charter of this town is recorded in the secretary of state's office.

The town of Lund was started by the Oberlin Cooperative Exchange which built the first building at Lund, about 1900. It was used as a grocery store. Frank Fleming was president of the company and George Higgins was the first grocer in Lund.

This first building became a community center. It was twenty-four by thirty-six feet in size, large enough to be the gathering place for the early settlers of the time. The settlers were from Sweden and named the place Lund after a town in the home land of that name. This first building contained the post office and was also a good trading center in this farming community.

The arrival of the auto ruined Lund. People went to Oberlin. As the trade dwindled the stock was gradually replaced with gasoline, oils and auto accessories as tires, tubes, and small supplies. It had virtually changed to an oil station when it was sold, about 1930. In April, 1930, Mr. C. H. Alstrom purchased the building and moved it to his place two miles away. This was the last of the town of Lund, which was located about fifteen miles southwest of Oberlin.

---


The first location of an element in Illinois County was
on the west side of his homestead near the railroad grade by
the Hill Brothers of Valley in the latter part of May, 1909. Before
the middle of the following month a two-story house on the site
was completed.

V. Unrein Farm Home, Site of Rome.
Chapter 3.

ELLIS COUNTY

Rome.

The first location or settlement in Ellis County was made on the west side of Big Creek, north of the railroad grade, by the Lull Brothers of Salina in the latter part of May, 1867. Before the middle of the following month quite a town was built on the neck of land between the grade and the creek on the north. Later, in June, Hays City was staked out by the Big Creek Land Co. Quite a contention resulted between the representations of the two town companies. Unfortunately for Rome, the railroad supported the Big Creek Land Co. The railroad construction company, after repeated efforts to compromise between the two rival towns, deemed it advisable, in order fully to protect the railroad bridge over Big Creek against high water, to raise the grade three and one-half feet. This determined the fate of Rome and made Hays City the metropolis for traffic coming from southern, eastern, and northern territory.

June 5, 1867, Captain Duncan was president of the town company of Rome. On June 8 the third merchandise establishment in the city opened for trade. On the seventh the store of Bloomfield, Moses and Co. General Supply Co. was ready to sell goods. Joe Perry built a two-story frame hotel, later moved to Hays and known as the Gibson House. Scotty built a four-room one-story stone residence. Rose and Cody built the first stone business house. The brewing company announced its readiness to quench the thirst of all by the following Sunday. With half a
VI. Ford Across Big Creek, at Home.
dozen other places of business and industries in operation, we see Rome as she was on June 7, 1867. Each succeeding day brought new arrivals. Before the end of the week the town company announced a population of five hundred.

The camp of the 18th Kansas, half a mile west on the creek, and the camp of the 38th U. S. Infantry (colored) about the same distance southeast of town, furnished enough people to swell the population on the streets and to impress new arrivals. The actual amount of business transacted was very small. The population proper was increased daily. At the end of the second week, Front Street, the principal street of the town, extended from the bank of the creek, west to the narrow neck of land between the creek and the roadbed. It was a city built almost of canvas. It was about this time that a report was circulated that Fort Hays was to be moved and to be located somewhere near Rome. This required immediate celebration on the part of the Romanites. Some days later the arrival of the government ambulance with Major Gibbs of the 7th Cavalry, Captain Loffer, quartermaster, and several other officers, confirmed this report.

W. C. Webb and Phinney Moore arrived about this time and located Hays City. The contest between the rival towns was sharp, though good natured, with the apparent advantage in favor of Rome. The lonely tent of Messers Webb and Moore was the only visible signs of the rival.

Captain Duncan addressed a letter to the two lonely men, offering to bring them and their effects to Rome and to present
VII. Boy standing on rocks of old mill dam at Rome.
them each with a valuable lot in recognition of their pluck. The men refused to leave. Rome's prosperity continued. It was extensively advertised in papers.

About the middle of June, 1867, Rome's population was increased to several thousand on account of an Indian attack farther west on a grading camp at Park's Fort. The graders in all the camps along the railroad refused to stay and all flocked to Rome. To these men, Rome was a safe haven. The day following the arrival of these people was a lively one. The majority celebrated their escape by indulging excessively in drink. After several fights and much uproar the town quieted down again.

Nearly every branch of mercantile business was represented in Rome with stocks ranging from a few hundreds to thousands in value. Those engaged in the liquor trade being numerically greater. The saloon business was continuous, day and night. Joe North, a conspicuous character among the saloon element, built an annex to his place of business to stow away his customers who had lost the power of locomotion.

A short time after the Indian scare the crews resumed their work and the town became normal again.

The Butterfield Stage and Express Co. established a way station at Rome in the Perry Hotel. The arrival and departure of the six-horse coaches, express and mail wagons, was a matter of no small moment in Rome. After the stage company had thus recognized Rome, a petition was circulated asking the postmaster-general to establish a
VIII. Old mill race at Rome, partly filled in and grown over.
post office at Rome with William Rose as postmaster. Unknown to the
Romanites, however, the Hays City people had forwarded a like applica-
tion a few days before. The applications were held for investigation.
In the meantime Hays had received more new arrivals than Rome. M. E.
Joyce was working with all his might for Rome.

In the latter part of June, 1867(?), Corporal J. H.
Towell, of the 18th Kansas, was stricken with the dread disease, cholera,
while seated at breakfast in one of the restaurants of Rome. Others suc-
cumbed in quick succession. It came without warning and left as sudden-
ly. At the end of the third day over one hundred of the soldiers had
died. In the camp and in the town there was one continuous funeral, day
and night. During this epidemic a barrel of whiskey stood open in front
of one place of business with tin cups attached and upon the barrel was
inscribed these words, "Free, help yourself." Strange to say there was
not a drunken man in town. The general feeling was, "If my time has
come, I want to go sober."

After this outbreak, Rome never recovered. In the his-
tory of Rome, it is worth while to state that not a single murder nor
attempted murder was committed there during the life of the town. This
record is an exception in the history of towns along the railroad.

There were large stocks of goods in the stores which
were named Lone Star, The Dewdrop Inn, The Occidental, Graders' Retreat,
and Last Chance. Joe North, prominent among the saloon element, craved
to be known as "wild, wooly and hard to curry." By 1870 little was left
of Rome but a few ruins.
In 1887 Rome, a town now in western Kansas, was the only town in the western half of the state. In June 1887 the Governor appointed E. E. Joyce of Rome, Ellis County, Justice of the Peace. At the time of his appointment Joyce was the only legally constituted civil tribunal in the western half of Kansas.

IX. Site of old mill, Rome.
In 1867 Rome, a pioneer town in western Kansas, was the only town in the western half of the state. In June 1867 the Governor appointed M. E. Joyce of Rome, Ellis County, Justice of the Peace. At the time of his appointment Joyce was the only legally constituted civil tribunal in the western half of Kansas.

Judge Joyce married a woman about sixty years old to a one-eyed man. The judge's fee was fifteen dollars. At the wedding festivities, the judge lavished too much affection on the bride. The groom became jealous. The judge immediately convened court and granted the bride a divorce. The groom promptly sued for return of the marriage fee. The court rendered the decision in favor of the plaintiff, but in return charged the ex-groom fifteen dollars for costs in his divorce case which he had lost.5

Lookout Station.

This was a station on the Butterfield overland stage route in 1867. It was about six miles south of Hays. In a raid it was burned by the Indians.6

Smoky Hill Station.

This place was about eighteen miles southwest of Hays in section 10, township 14, range 15. In 1900 gold was located in the

shale district. It created some little excitement. A well for gas was drilled. Only the hole remains.7

Chetola.

This place was located south of Antonino. It was founded by Frank Fulgon. The old hotel is still there.

The Smoky Hill River was called Chetolah by the Indians, because a big grove of cottonwood trees on it near the Colorado line, gave the Indians the idea that they appeared from a distance to be a cloud of smoke.

In 1888, when the town was chartered, it was on the Smoky Hill River so the town was given the the Indian name of Chetola.8

Big Creek Station.

This was a station in December, 1867. It was eight or ten miles east of Lookout Station. In 1867 there was a ranch store there; also A. C. Pyle had a blacksmith shop. In 1867 it was attacked and burned by Indians. It was known as Big Creek Ranch. It was abandoned in Nov. 1867. In 1875 Alex Philip acquired the site of the ranch. Then there were remains of a sod corral with a well inside; also some holes that were the last of some dugouts.9

8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
Chapter 4

ELLSWORTH COUNTY

Thomas.

Thomas was two and one-half miles west and one and one-half miles north of Geneseo. It was built on a branch of the Santa Fe Railroad which ran out from Little River. It once had two stores, a post office, a dance hall, a blacksmith shop, and a hotel. The railroad had a well there. The well hole may still be seen. The site is now a wheat field.  

Prosper.

Prosper was two and a half miles east and one mile north of Bushton. It had a post office and a grist mill. There had been some dispute over the location of this place. Many around Lyons claim it is in Rice County. Mr. Bent Turner, whose family had a farm in that locality, declares he is sure it was a quarter of a mile north of the Rice-Ellsworth County line, making it over the line in Ellsworth. A government map of 1876 shows it in Ellsworth County.


11. Ibid.
Chapter 5.

GOVE COUNTY

Chalk Bluffs.

Downer
(In Trego County)

These places seem better written up together as they were stations on the Butterfield Trail. Grannall Springs was located where the trail crossed Indian Creek. The springs were never dry. It is now on a farm and the spring is still used to furnish water for stock. No remains of buildings are to be seen, only a few places where dugouts were, along the bluffs on the creek. At Chalk Bluffs are still seen pits and mounds that mark the old dugouts and sod houses. There were some stone houses but the stone has been hauled away by settlers for building materials. At Downer Station, along the Smoky Hill River, squads of soldiers protected the stages and later the railroads.

In 1867 Castle Rock and Chalk Bluff were burned by the Indians. A band of Cheyennes, known as dog soldiers, about 250 or 300 young bucks, killed the employees, stock tenders, and burned the station.12.

Salem, now a deserted village, was situated in the valley of White Rock Creek in the northwest corner of Jewell County. In 1874-75, Salem was platted into town lots and the second school district in the county was organized. In a short time the town contained five hundred people. It prospered until 1888. The Salem people were confident they would have a great town some day. All they needed was a railroad. The prayed-for road did come through the county but passed Salem about five and one-half miles to the south. This was the main line of the Rock Island to Denver. This was a death blow to Salem. In the next two or three years the people moved either to Esbon, six and one-half miles south, or to Lebanon, eight and one-half miles southwest. It was not uncommon to see two or three store buildings or houses, with their contents in them, being moved by old time moving trucks, along the roads.

A few Salem folk tried for a few years to get a railroad even after they were missed, but they failed. The Salem community, in early days, had Indian scares; also hunting expeditions after buffalo, little deer and antelope. They also had droughts, grasshoppers, cyclones, prairie fires, and hard times.

At its height, Salem had two hardware stores, three dry-goods stores, two hotels, a harness shop, two livery barns, two or three churches, a two-room school house, a bank, and a drug store. It was a
happy, prosperous village until after 1888.

James W. Adams, John Adams, and Ellis Adams, brothers, conducted a store in Salem. About 1889 they moved store, stock, and furniture to Lebanon.

Joel R. Burrow, who later lived in Topeka and was a leading banker there, ran a stage line from Burr Oak, twelve miles east of Salem, to Red Rock, eighteen miles northwest through Salem. Salem had a newspaper, the Salem Argus. In an ad in the issue of June 28, 1889, Robert Rabb advertises that he is the city barber and he will buy or sell real estate or personal property. He was a musician of some note, and also an auctioneer.

The Salem Argus established in 1883, ran as a weekly paper for several years. Then it was moved to Lebanon and named the Lebanon Argus.

In her prosperous days, Salem was quite a sport town. She had baseball, horse racing, and foot racing. One day a stranger came in on Joe Burrow's stage line. He bet that he could out run any man in town. John Adams was selected to run with him. As soon as stakes were placed, the stranger stripped down to trunks and the boys realized they had been taken in by a "professional." Being good sports they did not back out. Adams won the race to the surprise of all. The stranger had to beg his way out of town. Forty years later a fat contented looking preacher walked into the Adams' store in Lebanon and made himself known as the opponent in the foot race. The men became fast friends.

One day a man and boy drove through Salem in a buggy drawn
by a pair of mules. It was learned later that the mules had been stolen. They were followed and both man and boy were hanged on an oak tree. Later it was learned that the boy was not guilty, but he paid the price just the same. It is reported that the place of the hanging is haunted and that even today children are afraid to play under this tree.

In Salem lived a one-eyed man, Alex Barnes, called Blinky. He wanted a wife. In 1884 a new church had been built but it had no bell. Some of the town men promised Blinky that they would find him a wife if he would put a bell in the church tower. He agreed and did. The boys were never able to find any woman that would marry him. This was always Blinky's "pet peve." Now nothing is left of the life that throbbled there. The town wells have been filled up, the streets have been plowed over, the buildings removed and corn grows where once Mr. Adams ran the foot race. 13.

Omio.

Omio, once a flourishing village, is now reduced to a few foundation stones to designate the business section.

Omio was a prosperous little village until 1890 when the Rock Island built three miles north of it. Formosa was founded on the railroad. Omio was forced to move to the new town and to the railroad. Residences were moved bodily. The stone store buildings were torn down

and rebuilt in the new town. Some of the Omio buildings are still standing in Formosa. One firm, the Snedden Drug Store, that moved from Omio is still in business.

Omio was the scene of a coal mine. A shaft was sunk but the coal was found to be of too low a grade to be mined profitably or to get it on the market.

The cross roads where the townsite was located is surrounded squarely by farm fields. The Omio school district is now gone. 14.

Chapter 7.
LOGAN COUNTY
Sheridan.

In 1868-9, Sheridan was the terminus of the Kansas and Pacific Railroad. In less than a year the population grew to two thousand. It was a regular frontier town. It owed its importance to the fact that it was a depot for the freight to Colorado, New Mexico, and other points west. This freight was transported west from Sheridan by wagon trains. On the return trip the wagons brought back wool, hides, and ore. Sometimes as many as a thousand wagons were camped around Sheridan. It was a rough place, having the usual collection of saloons, dance halls, and gambling places.

One incident shows conditions. An ex-scout named Hank Whitney was running a dance hall. One night he was shot. The man who shot him was promptly taken to a nearby saloon to be tried by a committee of citizens. While the trial was in progress, Hank, who had had his wounds dressed, came walking into court and shot the man in the back of the head, killing him instantly. Without further ceremony Hank was escorted to the nearest railroad trestle and quickly hanged. The next morning Hank and his victim were buried in the same grave.

Today a solitary house, that of the railroad section hands, is all one may find of Sheridan. There are no streets nor vestiges of former habitations. No title-deeds of town property were ever recorded and an air castle could not have faded more effectually than did Sheri-
Sheridan was also a terminus of the railroad and was an enlarged edition of Coyote. It was named after the gallant Phil. Sheridan. The town was situated on the side of a desolate ravine. A month's hammering and the new town was built. Before the town was built, however, the engineer was called upon to locate a graveyard. This he did upon a ridge overlooking the town. "I'll give you a high lot," was a threat in Sheridan and meant a grave on the hillside. During the first week three graves occupied places on the hill, all going "with their boots on." During the first winter the number increased to twenty-six.

This town contained among its odd characters old Neb, short for Nebuchadnezzar, so called because he was forced to take to the tall grass much of the time for his misdeeds.

One day after one of his disappearances, Neb came into Sheridan with a pair of Uncle Sam's bracelets on, accompanied by Federal officers. He was charged with counterfeiting. The next night he was taken from the rickety jail and hanged to the railroad trestle. Then it was learned that he had been chief of a gang who had manufactured " queer" money in a dugout near town. Under the body, as mourner, next morning was found his daughter who had never been seen in that vicinity before. She was a sweet faced girl from Vermont and had been summoned west by her father to accompany him to California. Some effort was made to send

her back home but she was crushed by her father's shame and death. She remained to live her own life in shame.

"Judge Lynch" was justice's favorite official and the railroad trestle the gallows tree. Vigilance juries sometimes brought in queer verdicts. One man, arrested on suspicion, called the court names; the jury brought in the following sentence, "This yere court feels itself insulted without cause and orders the prisoner strung up for contempt," and straightway he was strung up.

Many episodes occurred, exciting at the time and interesting to us. One day Gunshot Frank and Sour Bill, each armed himself with a revolver and a spade, and with a few friends started for the hill. The plan was that each man should dig a grave for the other, then exchanging places, fight on the edges. Before the work was half done, Gunshot made an imprudent remark and Bill shot him through the abdomen. The dead man's friends at once fell upon the murderer and broke his skull with a spade. That night the two men slept in the graves their own hands had made.

Chapter 8.

LINCOLN COUNTY

Abram.

It would scarcely be just to omit mention of this town. Although at present it does not exist, it was the first county seat of Lincoln County and records show it was platted in April, 1871. It embraced the northwest quarter of section 9, township 12, range 7. Myron D. Green, the first county attorney, was the president of the town company. The town was abandoned in 1872.17

Chapter 9.

MITCHELL COUNTY

Waconda.

This was a town which sprang up on the farm of J. W. Terry, about two miles south of Cawker City near the confluence of the north and east forks of the Solomon River. In 1871 it had six or eight general stores and a large stone hotel kept by W. C. Whitney; a steam saw mill; a blacksmith shop and a brewery. Now nothing remains but a dwelling or two. The hotel is now a large farm house, the brewery is unoccupied, the stores have all been removed. The most conspicuous landmark, a two story building, the old stone school house, built in the spring of 1873, still remains as a marker to the memory of the departed. 18.

Chapter 10.

OSBORNE COUNTY

Arlington.

Arlington was a contestant for the county seat of Osborne County. November 7, 1871, was the date set for the election. Two hundred thirty-five votes were cast. Arlington received forty-one votes. Osborne City was made the county seat. During the winter of 1871-72 the question of the county seat was again agitated. Arlington, anxious for a relocation, was very active against Osborne City. A campaign was organized. Meetings were held in every township. The county commissioners ordered the election to be held on March 19, 1872. The result was not a majority for any one place. A second vote was ordered on the two highest, Arlington and Osborne City. Osborne won by twenty votes. 19.

Mount Ayr.

Mount Ayr was established as a post office July 1, 1873, with J. W. Winslow as post master. 20. It was located in the western part of the county. It was an enterprising little place, its people being mostly Quakers. Omar Gregory was a leading man and merchant. It improved steadily until 1879. 21.

Chapter 11.

NORTON COUNTY

Norton Center.

In 1872, a rival town, Norton Center, was started about a mile farther up the creek from Norton. Mills, shops, and stores were started. For a time this village had quite a boom but in three years it collapsed. The best buildings were removed to Norton, and the scheme for a new town had to be abandoned; it was too near Norton. Nothing remains there but two cellar holes and a few relics. 22.

Chapter 12.
RAWLINS COUNTY

Blakeman.

About 1885, the Lincoln Land Company, a Nebraska organization, with a few Rawlins County people, tried to establish Blakeman and wrest the county seat from Atwood. The B. and M. Railroad aided them.

Blakeman was established four or five miles west of Atwood. The B. and M. Railroad built a branch of their line from Orleans, Nebraska, to Atwood, thence west to St. Francis in Cheyenne County. This road was about a mile out of Atwood. For years there was no depot at Atwood. After two or three years of partial crop failure, when Atwood was having a hard time, it seemed an opportune time for the conspirators against Atwood.

The Lincoln Land Company, aided by the railroad, began active operations. Suddenly a man appeared in Atwood with a complete moving outfit and announced he had been hired to move the buildings in Atwood to Blakeman. He began work. He moved buildings and set them on foundations in Blakeman. For several days the people of Atwood watched the moving going on. Finally, they raised a protest and promised bloodshed if the work was not stopped.

Previous to this a request had been presented to the board of county commissioners of Rawlins County for an election for relocation of the county seat. The board refused the election as the cause was not sufficient. The people of Blakeman and the railroad appealed to the
Supreme Court. The decision of the county board was upheld. The railroad built a large depot at Blakeman and the fight continued. These were days of great excitement. Had the workmen continued moving buildings trouble would have ensued as the men of Atwood were organized to prevent it. Realizing the uselessness of the move, the boomers of Blakeman acknowledged themselves beaten.

The buildings at Blakeman were sold and moved to farms. Some were moved back to Atwood. Cellars were filled in and the townsite became an alfalfa field. Blakeman had once as many as five hundred people, a flour mill, grain elevators, a bank, a newspaper, a brick school house, a large depot, and several mercantile houses. 23

Chapter 13.

REPUBLIC COUNTY

Salt Marsh.

Salt Marsh was the first post office established in the county. James G. Tuttle was the postmaster. Later the name was changed to Seapo. This was the oldest village in the county. Just north of this town was a three story grist mill which is still standing. 24.

Chapter 14.

ROOKS COUNTY

Paradise Flats.

Immigrants came into Rooks County and settled Paradise Flats very rapidly. It was at first thought this would be an ideal place for agriculture, hence the name. It did not take the farmers long to see that the flats was a wheat country. C. C. Cochran, an implement dealer in the county, secured the agency for the Deering harvester and binder. Paradise Flats went to fulfill its destiny of being a wheat country, hence the town disappeared and became a wheat field. 25.

Chapter 15.

SALINE COUNTY

Mariposa

In 1856 P. B. Plumb, the late United States senator from Kansas, came out to the Saline River and established a town on the south side of the river near the mouth, and named it Mariposa. The site selected was a fine one. The town grew to a log house above ground and a well under ground. It lasted two years. In 1858 it was abandoned. 26.

Buchanan.

In 1857 the Buchanan Town Company was granted a charter to establish a town. This company was granted the privilege of several thousand acres of ground to build cities, construct railroads, and erect salt works. They were also given water privileges. The same year a settlement was attempted near the mouth of the Solomon River in Saline County. A large tract of land was selected, part being put aside for a public square. Eight log cabins were erected, two on each side of the square. The town was named Buchanan in honor of the president of the United States. Some of the houses were occupied. One occupant was Richard Mobley, his wife and child. Soon after settling there the child died and the Mobley’s moved away. The other in-

habitants followed and the town was abandoned. Some two or three years later the town was destroyed by prairie fire. The last vestige of Buchanan had vanished. 27.

Chapter 16.

SHERMAN COUNTY

Sherman Center, Eustis, Itaska, Gandy.

Itaska and Gandy were two small places not far apart located near the center of the county. These two towns moved together and pooled their interests and called the new place, Sherman Center.

Eustis was laid out in 1885. It was organized and laid out by the Lincoln Land Company. This company was composed of P. S. Eustis and O. R. Phillips. These towns were all fighting for the county seat; Goodland also got into the race in 1887. At the election some men, headed by Ed. F. Madden of Hays City and A. B. Montgomery, had bought land near Eustis. They persuaded Sherman Center to join forces with them. They controlled the election (by money), and liberal offers of public buildings and town lots. The election went for Goodland. The county records were carefully guarded at Eustis in an upstairs room waiting for the court house to be built. Early one morning a party of reckless daredevil cowboys entered Eustis, captured one of the county officers, forced him ahead of them upstairs and made him unlock the safe. Hank Carpenter, the cowboy leader, conducted the raid as though ignorant of the danger they were in from an armed guard stationed across the street. Carpenter threatened to fire the town if a shot was fired. The books were quickly loaded and not a defender appeared until the rising sun showed the departing cowboys. A few shots were fired to arouse
the town but it was too late.

The county seat was now Goodland, not only by right of vote, but also by possession of the county records. In two weeks from that day Eustis moved to Goodland. The site of Eustis became what it is today, a few deserted cellars. Every building was removed. Mr. William Walker was a business man in Eustis when it acknowledged itself beaten. He promptly moved to Goodland and became a member of the drug firm of Ennis and Walker. 28.

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Chapter 17.
SHERIDAN COUNTY

Guy.

Sheridan was laid out in December 1887. The stockholders were Isaac Mulholland, W. J. Carson, W. H. Allen, Charles Perkins, and J. H. Whitson. At the time of incorporation a news reporter from Topeka visited Guy and was offered a town lot free if he would give the place a good write-up. 29.

Guy was a boom town. It was started a few miles east of Hoxie in Sheridan County and was located on the proposed line of the Union Pacific Railroad. Guy had several business houses. In January, 1888, a milling company organized to erect a flour mill, as the nearest mill to Guy was at Lincoln, over a hundred miles away.

Guy was a project of the Mulholland interests to sell lands. After the railroad missed the town, Guy dwindled and soon disappeared, most of the people moving to Hoxie. By 1888-89 the town had gone back to farm land. 30.

Chapter 18.
SMITH COUNTY

Cedarville.

So far as can be ascertained, Cedarville was the first post office and also the first county seat in Smith County. John Johnston was the first postmaster in 1871. The first official stage line in the county was established in the spring of 1871 and made weekly trips from Cawker City to Kirwin, which was the western edge of civilization. The mail route traversed the route from Cawker City, New Arcadia, west to Downs, thence to Bethany, now Fortis, and to Cedarville.

When rural routes were established many post offices were abolished. This was the fate of Cedarville, which is now only a memory. Cedarville was the metropolis of the southwestern part of the county and boasted a town square, four hundred inhabitants, two general stores, a hardware store, a post office, and a grist mill. It was on a branch of the proposed Missouri Pacific but as the township refused to vote bonds to help build the road, in retaliation Cedarville was not given a depot and trains did not stop there for several years. Finally, a depot was placed at Cedarville and the town flourished, drawing trade from all parts of the county. In 1886 the Rock Island crossed the county and much of the trade was diverted from Cedarville. When the post office was discontinued and the town was put on a rural route, it dwindled away.

Simmonds, F. W. Smith County Pioneer, Sept. 8, 1932.
Coyote.

Coyote was a temporary terminus of the railroad (eastern division of the Union Pacific) in 1868. A crazy street of shanties and a gang of men had been flung down among the buffalo upon the plains. Canvas saloons, sheet iron hotels, and sod dwellings, surrounded by tin cans, describes the town, a shabby place. Coyote was in the middle of the buffalo country. For a hundred miles their carcasses disfigured the land. Everywhere about town was visible the meat, cut into strips, lying on sheds or any accessible place, becoming jerked meat. Buffalo were so numerous around Coyote that they have been known to dash through the outskirts of town when chased by horsemen.

One morning early, it is related, a young boy from the East, who was general chore boy for the town and generally liked, found an old mangy buffalo that had wandered into town in the night. The boy was eager for a kill. He seized an old hunter's rifle and fired at the rear of the old timer. Quickly wheeling, the old bull charged the boy who climbed up a limb of an old dead tree that had been dragged in for fuel. The first charge shook the boy off the limb. The roar of the gun had awakened the townspeople, who came out to find the boy under the side of the tree trunk hugging the timber for dear life, and the bison trying to pick the youth with his horns.
Finally, tiring of his unsuccessful attempts, the buffalo trotted away.

Coyote soon disappeared when the temporary terminus was moved forward to Sheridan. In a week not a house of the town remained. Thousands of empty cans marked the place where it had stood.

Old Ogallah changed its name to Park's Fort. Now both are gone. At Old Ogallah, fifteen miles west of Ellis, was a boarding house run by a Scotchman, Joe Thompson. He was a real cook and furnished meals for the Kansas Pacific passengers, the railroad workers and other workmen. Here was served buffalo meant in any style—roasts, steaks, stew, rump, heart, and tongue. Buffalo meat was about the only fresh meat furnished. Buffalo Bill (William Cody) had a contract to kill twelve or more buffalo each day to supply meat for the workmen who were working on the railroad construction. This was in 1868.

About the middle of June, 1868, Old Ogallah, or Park's Fort as it came to be called, was attacked by Indians. The timely arrival the day before of a company of the U. S. 38th infantry saved the camp. One teamster, by the name of Parks, was killed.

Parks himself with two soldiers was returning from looking for some strayed stock. The Indians saw them approaching and attacked them. Parks realized the situation was critical and retreated down a

ravine toward the Saline River for protection. In the fight that fol-
lowed Parks was killed and the two soldiers were wounded. The firing
was heard and a rescuing party went out from town to their aid. The
Indians retreated. The body of Parks and the wounded soldiers were
brought in. Messengers were sent to the 18th Kansas from the differ-
ent camps asking assistance. Troops were hurried forward and the In-
dians were completely routed. The men, however, refused to continue
work at the grading camps. The result was a general stampede to Rome,
increasing the population to several thousand.

Only foundation walls remain to mark the place where the
town was. It is one mile west of WaKeeney.33.

Letitia.

The first post office in the county was established at
Letitia in 1879. It was located ten miles east of Colby. Miss
Letitia Reed was the post mistress.34.

34. Worcester, Eugene. Sketch of Thomas County. The Thomas County Cat.
X. Site of Pond Creek Station. The dark streak is the course of Pond Creek. On opposite bank are depressions of old dugouts now nearly filled in with debris and Russian thistles.
Pond Creek was a good fortified stage station. It had stables for horses and buildings for the drivers and hostlers. It also had a good ranch house and a corral. It was well fortified. There was a pit dug about thirty feet from the stables. This pit was eight feet by ten feet and had a stone roof supported on wood. The roof was just above the level of the ground with port holes on all sides. There was a tunnel from the stables to the pit. This pit commanded the stables. There were similar pits on each side of the house, each with a tunnel to the house. Another pit commanded the rear of the stables. Over these pits waved a black flag which the red man well knew meant, "no quarter." The Indians were very wary of these pits as they were impregnable. Two or three men with breechloaders were a match for almost any number of assailants. Pond Creek Station assumed the name of Pond City in 1868 and was the first county seat of Wallace County. It was two miles west of Fort Wallace.

Pond Creek was located on what was thought to be the route of the Kansas Pacific Railroad. It was thought the road would come through here because of its good water supply. However, the railroad missed the town, going to the fort instead for the convenience of the post people. At one time Pond Creek had three or four hundred inhabitants.
In its early days Pond Creek had a bad element, as many western towns had. Fortunately, it also had a man named John Whiteford who was a peacemaker as well as justice of the peace. Whiteford also owned a jewelry store and in addition manufactured moss agate jewelry. The agates were found near there.

Whiteford killed Frank Dixon one day when he attempted to ride a broncho into his jewelry store. He also killed a colored soldier who had broken into a store and resisted arrest. In spite of these killings, Whiteford was a law abiding Christian gentleman and a member of the Episcopal Church. He was the terror of the bad element in town but respected by the law abiding citizens. Due to John Whiteford, Pond Creek was one of the best conducted towns in the west.

When the railroad missed Pond Creek it ceased to be of any importance. When the people moved away, John Whiteford is said to have gone to Manhattan and later been elected from his county to the state legislature. 35.

Location of the old station: If one turns south just east of the Pond Creek culvert that crosses the railroad track, one may find all that remains of the old station. It is about two miles south of Wallace and not far from the South 40 highway. In 1893 the outlines of the town could be dimly traced by caved-in dugouts, broken glass, bits of leather and exploded rifle shells.

Troops were stationed at Pond Creek as early as October, 1865. It is known that troops of the regular army arrived previous to April, 1866. The name was changed to Fort Wallace in September. The town Pond Creek was two miles south of the fort. 36.

36. Gandy, Lewis C. Early Wallace County. The Western Kansas Times, September 21, 1933.
XI. Seventh Congressional District.
XII. Monument marks the site of Old Fort Zarah.

It is three miles east of Great Bend, in Barton County, on State Highway No. 96. It is a landmark by which the townsite of Zarah can be located. The old town of Zarah was just a mile east of this monument.
XIII. Site of the old town of Zarah.

It is one mile east of Fort Zarah monument on State Highway No. 96. The townsite was between the highway and the tree seen in the background. It is now a wheat field—nothing now remains of the old town.
In 1871 Zarah was designated as a post office with Titus J. Buckbee as the first postmaster. Zarah was started by a party of people from Ellsworth in 1870 and was located about a mile east of Old Fort Zarah, which was three miles east of Great Bend. In July, 1872, an election was held to determine the county seat of Barton County. Zarah received thirty-three votes. At this time Zarah was quite a little village. It was the first town settled in the county. It took its name from the government fort which was about a mile away and which was established during the Civil War. In 1871 the fort was abandoned and its land sold. The same year Great Bend was started. This new town was on the railroad, therefore it had a great advantage over Zarah. In the latter part of 1872 people began moving to Great Bend and Zarah was left desolate, and soon disappeared. It is now a wheat field with only a lone tree to mark the place where was once a town of some consequence.\(^1\).

Zarah was surveyed by a Mr. Meriton for the town company of Zarah. Judge Miller of Ellsworth was the president of the company. In September a hotel was erected called The Southern Hotel.

There was great rivalry between Great Bend and Zarah for lo-

\(^1\)Andreas, A. T. History of the State of Kansas, p. 763.
oration of the county seat. Great Bend won the fight with the completion of the railroad, which included Great Bend and left out Zarah. Its downfall was inevitable. It disappeared in 1872. Now the site is a wheat field with only a lone tree near the spot that was a little town. 2

The town occupied the top of a beautiful mound and commanded a view of the valleys of the Salt and Neosho Creeks. There was an abundant water supply there. The site for Avilla was selected about 1867 by O. K. Carrow, President of the town company. At one time the town contained about one hundred people and forty houses; ranging in value from two hundred dollars to twelve hundred dollars. In addition to these, Avilla had a fifteen hundred dollar schoolhouse and three churches. It was a good trading center and boasted a good hotel owned by the Englishman, Messers Trask and Edward Clark. There was also a graduate physician there, it cabled what would become known in 1935.

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Chapter 2.

COMANCHE COUNTY

Avilla.

The country around Avilla is a swelling prairie as far as the eye can reach. The town occupied the top of a beautiful mound and commanded a view of the valleys of the Salt Fork and Cavalry Creeks. There was an abundant water supply there. The site for Avilla was selected about 1884 by D. R. Darrow, president of the town company. At one time the town contained about two hundred people and forty houses, ranging in value from two hundred dollars to twelve hundred dollars. In addition to these, Avilla had a fifteen hundred dollar schoolhouse and three churches. It was a good trading center and boasted a good hotel owned by two Englishmen, Messers Frank and Edward Colley. There was also a graduate physician there. It dwindled away until it was vacated in 1903.3.

3 Newton, G. W. A Sketch of Comanche County Kansas, 1885.
XIV. Herding on the sky-line.
Chapter 3.

FINNEY COUNTY

Buffalo Center.

This was the first attempt to start a town in Garfield Township, then Buffalo County (1878). A. D. Wettick of Cimarron decided to start a town and make it the county seat of the county that he thought was about to be organized. He put up a sod store building in the southeast quarter section and stocked it with goods from his store at Cimarron. He placed a manager in charge; a post office was established to hand out mail to the settlers. Mail was brought up from Cimarron by the freighters. One day two young fellows rode up to the store and whipped out guns and ordered the bunch of men loafing there, along with the store keeper and patrons in the store, to line up against the wall. They took what they wanted from their victims and from the store. They made a successful get-away and soon vanished from sight. Mr. Wettick had failed to find good well water near his store; this, together with the discouragement of the holdup helped him to decide to abandon his trade center. It has never been revived. The post office was discontinued.

Sherlock.

Sherlock was established by the Santa Fe Railroad officials

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in 1872. At first it was only a flag station but by 1878 it had a section house and a water tank. By May 1879 a store had been established by Spencer and Company. There were also a restaurant and bakery, and a lumber yard. George Igou was the land agent. In July, 1879, a saloon was started. Garden City offered to move the citizens to Garden City free if they would locate there. Most of them accepted. Sherlock flourished only a few months after that.\(^5\)

Old Pierceville.

In 1872 the Barton Brothers arrived in the county with a herd of three thousand cattle. They established a ranch and headquarters on the Arkansas River. The Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad later came through their land.

The Barton Ranch headquarters was chosen by the Santa Fe officials as a railroad towns site and was named Pierceville in honor of Charles W. and Carlos Pierce, members of the company. A commissariat was established at Pierceville with Stubbs in charge. Here five hundred workmen were fed and bunked in box cars. Hired hunters supplied meat from the herds of buffalo and antelope. Thomas O'Loughlin put in a store and proved to be a successful trader. A post office was established June 10, 1873; George B. Clossen was the postmaster. There were several dugouts in the town. For about two years the town flourished.

July 3, 1874, some buffalo hunters raced into town with the news of the

fight at "Adobe Walls," Texas, a few days previous. The defeated Indians were on the warpath and coming north. It was true. Before long Pierceville lay a smoldering ruin, and the Indians were on their way to the Indian Territory. For some years the site was used as a camping ground for bands of cowboys, travellers and Indians. In 1878, July 24, the post office was reestablished. When the post office was burned in 1874, the postmaster, Charles Stewart, was obliged to change his occupation. He roamed over the prairies gathering bones and dealing in buffalo hides. It was a lonely existence. He began to show signs of insanity and people were afraid of him. On March 30, 1875, he was taken up and was declared insane by a jury of twelve, and to be incapable of managing his own affairs. Later he was sent to the state insane asylum.

Whitson was named for John H. Whitson of Rowley, Mass., who with his father Aaron F. Whitson and his daughter Barbara, went to Sequoyah County in 1884. He homesteaded three quarter sections northwest of Garden City.

At Whitson a post office was established which served the settlers in that part of the county. It was probably the smallest post office in the United States as it occupied a corner of Mrs. Whitson's kitchen and had only a few pigeon-hole boxes for letters and some drawers

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for stamps and records. In 1886 the post office was moved to Hatfield. 7

Essex.

This town was located near the center of Finney County in the Pawnee Valley. It was placed here as this was on the proposed line of the railroad, the Kansas Air Line Railroad, which would connect with the D. M. and A. running southwest to the coal fields of Colorado. Essex was twenty-two miles from Garden City and fifteen miles from Ravanna, and eight and one-half miles from Eminence.

It had first class water and was surrounded with fertile valleys. Fine limestone building rock was only half a mile out from town. Essex contained a hotel, general store, printing office, a real estate office, a blacksmith shop, lumber yard, and five dwellings. Here, also, were a canning factory with an output of two thousand can capacity, and a large sorghum mill.

James Concannon and family moved into Garfield Township in 1887. He operated a general store there and was postmaster long after the boom had passed. The post office was discontinued in 1890. Only a few farm buildings now mark the site of Essex. 8

Pattenville.
(Pansy - Loyal.)

The post office called Pattenville was established in 1880, in Old Buffalo County. Adam S. Van Patton was the postmaster. The name

7 op. cit. p. 183-4.
8 op. cit. p. 185.
The way to get to Ravanna, Kansas.

Come to Cimarron on the A. T. & S. F. R. R., then by Price Bros. Stage line.

Ravanna is a thriving town with one of the best locations for a city, being situated on a rise of ground in the GREAT PAWNEE VALLEY acknowledged by all who see it to be one of the finest valleys in the world with plenty of water, and good building rock in many places on the north side of the river, and occasional sand banks. It is understood that two Rail Roads have agreed to build and maintain Depots here and that the C. K. & W. R. R. will extend their line to here and make this the end of a division soon. Now is the time, come and buy deeded town lots and relinquishments of Timber claims and Homesteads while they are cheap, before the R. R. gets here, as property is certain to advance from 100 to 300 per cent in a very short time.

For information call on or address D. W. HERMAN,
Ravanna, Garfield County, Kansas. Office At the EAGLE HOUSE

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HOMES FOR ALL.

CHEAP AND GOOD LAND AND CITY LOTS by

D. W. HERMAN,
Real Estate Agent, Ravanna Garfield Co., Kansas.

The way to get to Ravanna, Kansas.
Come to Cimarron on the A. T. & S. F. R. R., then by Price Bros. Stage line.
Ravanna is a thriving town with one of the best locations for a city, being situated on a rise of ground in the

GREAT PAWNEE VALLEY

acknowledged by all who see it to be one of the finest valleys in the world with plenty of water, and good building
rock in many places on the north side of the river, and occasional sand banks. It is understood that these
Rail Roads have agreed to build and maintain Depots here and that the C. K. & W. R. R. will extend their line
to here and make this the end of a division soon. Now is the time, come and buy, decide here, town lots and relinquishments of Timber claims and Homesteads while they are cheap. Before the R. R. gets here, this property is certain to advance from 100 to 300 per cent in a very short time.

For information call on or address D. W. HERMAN,
Ravanna, Garfield County, Kansas. Office At the EAGLE HOUSE.

KANSAS SOD HOUSE PRINT.

XVI. Copy of D. W. Herman handbill.
XVII. D. W. Herman of Ravanna.
of the post office was changed to Pansy in November, 1881. In February, 1882, Martha Hoadley was appointed postmistress. On March 3, 1882, the name of the post office was again changed to Loyal and Mrs. Hoadley was appointed postmistress. Loyal was a popular community center and trading point for several years. It was a typical village of pioneer days with a general store where settlers took their plows and wagons to be reconditioned; a schoolhouse which served also for church and social gatherings. At Loyal, July 1, 1887, the Garfield County Journal came into existence. G. L. Sigman, M. L. Hart, and Mrs. C. F. Hoadley, all took a turn at editing it. Mrs. Hoadley many times got out the weekly issues on the old hand press all by herself. The post office of Loyal was discontinued September 15, 1899. Nothing is left of it now, the buildings have all been removed. When the new Loyal schoolhouse was built a new location was selected. 9.

Mason.
(Cowland - Ravanna)

Mason was named in honor of Seaman Mason and was established as a post office January 8, 1879. Samuel Wood was the postmaster. The site was surveyed by John Bull a settler from Quebec, Canada. Mr. Bull later, 1880, preempted the southwest quarter in the same section. At first this place was called Bull Town but, February 15, 1880, the name was changed to Cowland as being more euphonious. A post office was

XVIII. L. D. Price at twenty-one.

XIX. L. D. Price in tight rope costume.
established. Cowland was advertised as a beautiful little village. Hotel Gelding sheltered many weary speculators and cattlemen. It was the center of the cattle industry. Later, as farmers settled in the country, a town meeting was held and the name was changed to Ravanna as being more fitting to a farming community. It was named for the town Ravenna in Ohio, but in making out the official government papers the name was spelled Ravanna, so it remained. This was September 25, 1885.

Mr. Bull was a leading citizen of Ravanna. He was proprietor of the leading store, the blacksmith shop, harness shop and butcher shop. Later other stores were added, including a building for church purposes. The first preacher was Elder Booth of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Bonds were voted for a ten thousand dollar courthouse which later was built, a large two story building of native rock. A schoolhouse was also erected.

On Christmas Day, 1885, a big celebration was held at Ravanna. A rope was stretched across Main Street from the second story windows. On this rope a tight-rope walker performed above the heads of the enthusiastic audience. The performer was L. D. Price, a young man twenty-one years old. There was a high wind and much dust but Mr. Price kept his promise in spite of the swinging rope.

Mr. L. D. Price, now a man seventy years old, lives on north Main Street in Garden City, about twenty-eight miles south and west of

10 op. cit. p. 104-192.
XX. and XXI. Court House views.
In an interview Mr. Price states that it was a wire he walked and not a rope. The wire was stretched across Main Street from the second story of two buildings, now in ruins, that were about one hundred feet north of the Eagle House. According to Mr. Price, it was a fine day, warm enough for the men to go in shirt sleeves. On Jan. 1, 1886, in the evening a dance was being held at Ravanna. At midnight a blizzard began that lasted about three days. Some of the people attending the dance were forced to stay at the dance hall until the storm abated. The fourth and fifth days of January were mild, allowing people to get home and to round up stock that had wandered off.

On Jan. 6 there was a return of the storm that was worse than the first storm, the wind blew harder, the temperature was lower and more snow drifted. This latter storm is known as the great blizzard of '86. Cattle drifted miles with the storm and hundreds were frozen to death.

Mr. Price, after performing in Ravanna on Christmas, went to Dighton to entertain the crowd on New Year's Day. He was caught in the first blizzard and did not get back to Ravanna until Jan. 4, shovelling snow much of the way back home.

Mr. Price is delightful to meet and is accurate in describing old times in Finney County. He is a respected citizen, interested in the growth of Garden City and Finney County, and is hale and hearty
and says that he expects to live to be one hundred years old. He is still active in the community, although no longer in business.

In a few years it became evident that this was a country better adapted to cattle raising than to grain. Accordingly Mr. Eul established a cheese factory. The idea was to encourage dairying. His cheese products won prizes at state fairs and were shipped to many cities. He sold his cheese until the people should decide by vote. Kansas was not given a republic. There was bitter feeling between buffalo and buffalo. A special election was held October 18, 1867, to decide the question.

Mr. Eul was one of the people and twenty-two deputes to come down from Kansas City. The preachers of this religious community prevented the worst part battle of eastern Kansas. It is said.

Both sides were organized and high turns at voting. The opposite side

XXII. Eagle House. Now the farm home of David S. Herman.

[Image of Eagle House]
and says that he expects to live to be one hundred years old. He is still active in the community, although no longer in business.

In a few years it became evident that this was a country better adapted to cattle raising than to grain. Accordingly Mr. Bull established a cheese factory. His idea was to encourage dairying. His cheese products won prizes at state fairs and were shipped to many cities.

The county seat of Garfield County was first named Creola, the post office was moved from Cuyler to Creola. When the name was sent in, a town by that name already existed in the state, so it was given the name of Eminence. Creola, or Eminence, was located in section 13. The people in the eastern part of the county declared that the county had been cut so that Ravanna might be the county seat. This was natural for Ravanna was the largest town, having a population of several hundred people. Ravanna was henceforth the county seat until the people should decide by vote. Eminence was not given a precinct. There was bitter feeling between Ravanna and Eminence. A special election was held October 18, 1887, to decide the question.

Mr. C. J. Jones of Eminence hired Bat Masterson and twenty deputies to come down from Dodge City. The presence of this famous gunman prevented the worst gun battle of western Kansas, it is said. Both sides were organized and took turns at voting. The opposite sides

11 Price, L. D. Personal interview.
XXIII. School house, Ravanna.

watched and other expeditions. Feeling was intense. Ballot boxes from rallying points were rushed to under guard, expecting to be saluted in every dip of the ball, but no one was attacked. Violence received 428 votes; Ravanna received 407. Ravanna had won. A great celebration was held.

During the next year (1900) Ravanna seemed the population increased. But Seattle had not given up the fight. A new suit was instituted, the case finally reaching the supreme court. It was previ-
watched each other suspiciously. Feeling was intense. Ballot boxes from outlying precincts were rushed in under guard, expecting to be waylaid in every dip of the trail, but no one was attacked. Eminence received 432 votes, Ravanna received 467. Ravanna had won. A great celebration was held.

During the next year (1888) Ravanna boomed, the population increased. But Eminence had not given up the fight. A law suit was instituted, the case finally reaching the supreme court. It was proved that the ballot box had been stuffed. Forty-six ballots favoring Ravanna were thrown out. This gave the decision to Eminence.

On October 7, 1889, the Board of County Commissioners met for the last time at Ravanna. On motion, the board adjourned to meet at one o'clock at Eminence, the accepted county seat of Garfield County.

The citizens of Ravanna did not favor the removal of the county records to Eminence and were ready to act should anyone attempt it. Just after dark that same day, Fred Smith and John Rader from Eminence drove a team of race ponies hitched to a spring wagon, through the streets of Ravanna to the court house. They managed to secure the records and a wild flight started across the country to Eminence, about eight and one-half miles away. The Ravanna men, led by Tom O'Toole and Michael Hainey (according to J. A. Goodman, Garden City, the name is Frank Mciloney) followed, shooting at intervals. It was dark and the road was broken by draws which helped to conceal the men in the wagon. Instead of taking the road straight into Emin-
ence, they turned off into a dry draw. The Ravanna men continued on the trail and reached the hitching posts in front of the Bryan Hotel.

L. W. Fulton, hearing the noise, ran out with his revolver cocked, marched the men upstairs and locked them in a room, giving his wife a gun with orders to shoot anyone trying to get out. Smith and Rader were then informed that it was safe to come into town. So Eminence became the county seat.

After Ravanna lost the county seat, they had the county resurveyed and discovered that it had been illegally organized as it contained less than 432 square miles, the amount required by law. The supreme Court decided it had been illegally organized. In 1889 Garfield County was joined to Finney County, under the latter name. In the county seat contest which followed, Ravanna lost. Consequently the court house was never completed and never used, but it had to be paid for.

In its hey-day Ravanna had several newspapers. In 1886 The Chieftain was established, M. L. Hart, editor, lasting until 1894; The Record, 1887 to 1889, Enos and Davis, editors; also the Kansas Sod House and The Ravanna Leader.

After Ravanna lost the contest of 1889, there followed several bad crop seasons. Settlers left the county which was declared disorganized. In 1893 the town was abandoned. There remain now a few buildings, the court house, the school house, and some farm buildings. 12.

D. W. Herman was instrumental in disorganizing the county. The townsite is now owned by David S. Herman, a grandson of D. W. Herman.

Terryton was located in the northern part of Finney County on the stage line between Garden City and Scott City. It was founded by Porter D. Terry, a real estate speculator from New York. He founded Terryton during the boom of 1885-86. At Terryton there was a stage barn where eight horses were kept for change. Four stages came in every day. Here, also, was a grocery store, run by Young and Jeffries. George W. Morse sold provisions, glassware, and flour. Mr. Terry operated a real estate and livestock exchange. A general store was operated by Mr. J. M. Dunn; also a comfortable hotel, a drug store, a livery stable, and a bus station thrived. Terryton supported a newspaper, published by W. E. Coutant, 1886-87, called "The Enterprise." During 1888-89 its name was changed to "The Eye," with B. L. Stephenson as editor. There was also a good lumber yard. For three or four years Terryton flourished, but the drouth drove the homesteaders out of the country and the town passed into oblivion. A rival town, Hatfield, published the following in "The Hatfield News:"

"For Sale: A one-horse railroad boom broken in the middle and without head or tail. It might be repaired to suit emergencies. Will be sold very low as I wish to give place to a more able man, as I wish to hie myself back to Yankee-dom where my real estate interests
are. Porter D. Terry." \textsuperscript{13}.

Felix.

In 1882 Felix was a post office and received mail twice a week from Garden City and was the center of the cattle range patronized by the cattlemen. \textsuperscript{14}.

Lorenz.

Lorenz was in the southeast corner of Garfield Township. It had a post office and several places of business during the boom years of 1886-87-88. Later the name was changed to Canyon post office. \textsuperscript{15}.

Burham. Gas City.

These two places were established in 1910, being on the proposed railroad, Nebraska, Kansas and Southern. As the railroad never materialized, the sites were abandoned. \textsuperscript{16}.

Passedena.

Passedena never existed except on paper. A site was lo-

\textsuperscript{13} op. cit. p. 182.

\textsuperscript{14} op. cit. p. 187.

\textsuperscript{15} op. cit. p. 187.

\textsuperscript{16} op. cit. p. 188.
cated and lots staked out in Garfield County. During the boom of 1886 lots were sold to people who bought thinking it a good investment. No records could ever be found of transactions. It was only a fake promotion scheme.\(^{17}\)

Knauston.

Knauston was located in the northwestern part of Finney County by a man named Knaus from Knobnoster, Missouri. He was the postmaster and operated a general store. Here were a few houses. There was a building that was used for school house and church. During the blizzard of 1886 people abandoned their homes and lived in the church to conserve fuel. The post office has been discontinued.\(^{18}\)

Hatfield.

Hatfield was located fifteen miles northwest of Garden City on the proposed line of the Denver, Garden City, and Southeast Railroad, and also on the line of the Cannon Ball Stage and on the United States Mail Route to Leoti. At its best it had a store, operated by Thompson and Crawford, a claim house occupied by Rev. Gogley, a town hall, and a few houses. The Antelope was a hotel of eleven rooms. Later Hatfield contained a sod house built by C. C. Coutant, which was perhaps the most

\(^{17}\) op. cit. p. 188.

\(^{18}\) op. cit. p. 188.
magnificent sod houses ever built. This house was two stories high with four rooms on each floor. It had a shingle roof, was ceiled, and had the inner walls smoothed down with plaster and whiting. It was furnished with carpets, good furniture, a piano, and book cases.

John W. Gregory helped to lay out the town of Hatfield. The Hatfield News was published in 1887-89. Issue ceased with the death of the editor. The fall of Hatfield was due, no doubt, to the rise of Terryton on the northeast.

Mrs. J. N. Reeves, who lived four miles east of Hatfield, taught a term of school in later years among the deserted ruins of the town.

Chapter 4.

GRAY COUNTY

Old Montezuma.

This town was about a mile and a half south of the town of New Montezuma. The old town contained a depot, two large hotels, and a large number of business houses. It lived well as long as the railroad thrived. After the road had no business the Rock Island ceased operating. An effort was made to compel the road to continue, but the courts held that it could not be compelled to operate at a loss. The farmers raged but were powerless to help themselves. The rails were taken up and sold to the Gould line in Texas. To compensate themselves, the farmers seized the ties, bridges, and the buildings. Not a stick of lumber was left of Old Montezuma which once had contended for location of the county seat. Nothing but the railroad grade is left. In 1895 the townsite was vacated. 20.

Chapter 5.

GRANT COUNTY

Appomattox.

In the boom days of Grant County, Cincinnati and Ulysses were established with about seven hundred inhabitants each. When Ulysses won the county seat fight, Cincinnati and Surprise consolidated under the name of Appomattox. Its spirits renewed, Appomattox issued bonds for a $2500 school house, then they unloaded them on the state school fund, or at least attempted to do so. The bonds are still unpaid. The town of Ulysses never has paid a cent on either the interest or principal.

In 1905 John Dawson, assistant attorney-general of the state, went out to make an adjustment of the matter. In Ulysses he asked where Appomattox was. The sheriff said, "Gone!" There was nothing left. Mr. Dawson went out to see. All he saw was a small hill that was the townsite, not a building remained. Even the $2500 school-house had been moved. He saw some abandoned wells and a few dugouts. The whole quarter of land was probably worth not more than $250.21.

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Chapter 6.

HAMILTON COUNTY

Coolidge - Kendall.

Two interesting towns of western Kansas are Coolidge and Kendall. The first newspaper in Coolidge was called The Border Ruffian, and appropriately so, as the town was only half a mile from the Colorado state line. In 1883-84, Coolidge had an immense merchandising trade. It was on the trade route with the west and south. Buffalo Jones was route agent there at that time. In 1886 Coolidge was the end of the Santa Fe division. It had a population of from 800 to 1000, partly floating, of course. In 1912 it had only 125 and now has become entirely extinct.

Kendall, or Aubrey.

Aubrey, later known as Kendall, was at first only a watering place on the Santa Fe. It was named in honor of Francis X. Aubrey, famous French-Canadian scout and guide. He it was who discovered the spring where Syracuse now stands. Fort Aubrey was established in the spring of 1885 and abandoned less than a year later. Bitter war was waged over the selection of the county seat, Kendall contending with Syracuse. During the years of 1887-1888, neither town would give in and the county had two county seats and two sets of county officers. Finally more people moved to Syracuse and Kendall dwindled to nothing. The Syracuse Sentinel of Feb. 1, 1887, printed a death notice of the town of Kendall, twelve miles east.22.

Chapter 7.

HARPER COUNTY

Gourock.

Gourock was a post office with Mrs. Seavey as postmistress. When Albion was laid out in 1881, the post office at Gourock was moved to Albion but did not change its name to Albion until 1882. 23

Bluff City.

This county was first organized under suspicious circumstances, in 1873. The county seat election was held in a ranch house. The cowboys of the vicinity secured a Cincinnati city directory and assembled at the polls on election day. They used buffalo bones to represent the voters. A name was called from the directory, a buffalo bone was used to represent the name. A ballot was issued for him, and voted. By such means an imaginary town, Bluff City, was made the county seat of Harper County. Although there never was such a town, it remained the county seat for five years. The courts admitted that the affair was illegal but no other town showed a superior claim.

Toward the end of that decade some town boomers from Wichita started a town named Harper. The Bluff City election was disregarded. 24


Runnymede.

This town was located in Harper County about two miles south of the present town of Runnymede. It was established by an agitator by the name of Turnley from the north of Ireland. His son, Edward Turnley, bought seventeen acres of land in Harper County and then began advertising in England that he was lord of a western paradise. For five hundred dollars a year he would teach the sons of English gentlemen to farm successfully and to raise stock. He also offered to provide them with room and board and give them such education as was needful for the situation. After several years of indenture he would help them in buying a farm for themselves.

Runnymede was accordingly located about twelve miles north of Harper in the middle of the prairie with only one tree in sight. Here was located, in June, 1889, what was intended to be the great commercial center of the west. When the travellers from England reached Runnymede, much to their disgust, a ranch house was the only place built for them. Here the scions of English aristocratic families were forced to live and partake of corn bread and fat bacon until houses were built.

Some of these people had means but none had any financial sense. While waiting for Runnymede to become a great city, they sought many forms of diversions, as dancing, feating, and riding. As Kansas was known as a prohibition state, one father had thought that Runnymede would be the salvation of his son, who had acquired too great a thirst.
for liquor. This boy kept the path hot between Runnymede and Harper. He always had some kind of a jag. The good livers had brought whole cargoes of fine whisky from Chicago. The men wore cowboy outfits and the guns and knives on them rattled as they walked.

Every fortnight there was racing. One rider will never be forgotten. John Lobb appeared wearing a white, stiff-bosomed shirt, a collar, a black alpaca coat, checked trousers that reached half-way to his knees, white socks, dancing pumps, a granger hat, and lavender kid gloves.

The place, of course, never developed and soon died as the people realized the situation or grew tired of the novelty.

A story is told of a prize fight there. Paddy Shea, the champion heavyweight of Kansas, was to fight one of the lads. The Englishmen, fond of sport, arranged for the bout. The boy was no match for Shea, who knocked him out in a few minutes. The lad was a good sport, however, for he presented Shea with his watch and a purse with the compliment, "You're a blooming good lad, don't you know."

Tragedies occurred there, too. Several young Englishmen had been ordered home. Transportation had been sent and they were celebrating in a final dance. One to leave was the son of a lordly house who had just come into his inheritance. This youngster was so overcome by the celebrations and libations that he could no longer walk. His friends carefully stowed him away in a hay mow near by for safe keeping and to sober up. What was their horror soon after to discover the barn on fire
and burning furiously. Rescue was impossible. He was buried near
the spot, alone, in an unmarked grave. 25.

Santa Fe.

Santa Fe had a population of about one hundred fifty. The
trouble began when the Santa Fe Railroad decided to build a cut-off
through Kansas. The survey line ran about twenty-four miles south of
Santa Fe. After waiting thirty years for a railroad, the town of
Santa Fe did not propose to be cut off, therefore it decided to move.
But where? It had a hard time deciding this question. It wanted to
take its name and the county seat with it.

Santa Fe could move to any one of the three towns laid
out by the railroad, i.e., Capeland, New Rolette, or McNutt. The
railroad agreed to exchange a similar amount of land for land at San-
ta Fe. The railroad also offered to destroy expenses of removal of
the frame buildings. There were about sixty that were worth moving.
The moving was simple as there were no hills, streams, or sites to
interfere.

The county seat was transferred to Rolette. The Santa
Fe people moved to nearby towns. All that is left now is a filling
station and a few vacant buildings.

Santa Fe prepared to move. One man, anticipating the move,
sent to Union, Illinois, and had made four sets of steel wheels with

Chapter 8.

HASKELL COUNTY

Santa Fe.

Santa Fe had a population of about one hundred fifty. Its troubles began when the Santa Fe railroad decided to build a cut-off through Kansas. The survey line ran about twenty-four miles south of Santa Fe. After waiting thirty years for a railroad, the town of Santa Fe did not propose to be cut off, therefore it decided to move. But where? It had a hard time deciding this question. It wanted to take its name and the county seat with it.

Santa Fe could move to any one of the three towns laid out by the railroad, i.e., Copeland, New Sublette, or Satanta. The railroad agreed to exchange a similar amount of land for land at Santa Fe. The railroad also offered to defray expenses of removal of the frame buildings. There were about sixty that were worth moving. The moving was simple as there were no hills, streams, nor wires to interfere.

The county seat was transferred to Sublette. The Santa Fe people moved to nearby towns. All that is left now is a filling station and a few vacant dwellings.

Santa Fe prepared to move. One man, anticipating the move, sent to Quincy, Illinois, and had made four sets of steel wheels with rims two feet wide at a cost of four hundred dollars. His plan was to set the house on these four wheels and rool it over the prairie to Sub-
XXIV and XXV. Townsite of Old Santa Fe.
lette. Some town people and the farmers north of town opposed the move but people living south favored the move. The railroad favored the removal of the county seat and offered the lot owners in Santa Fe a free lot in Sublette. Steven Cave was the first to move. His house weighed seventy tons. It was placed on the steel wheels and in two hours was moved the six miles to Sublette, at a cost of $250. The next day two stores and three houses were moved. 28.

Chapter 9.
KEARNY COUNTY

Chantilly.

Chantilly is fifteen miles north of Lakin. It was once a town of about three thousand inhabitants. This was one of the places that lost its prestige and finally its identity as the result of a county seat contest. In the 80's this town and Lakin contended for the choice of county seat. Chantilly did not have enough residents to entitle it to be selected. The land agents thereabouts, realizing this, busied themselves with remedying the situation. They moved farmers into town to remain until after the election. To house them, crude houses or huts were built. Some erected sod houses, while many men lived in dugouts. Wells were dug, a post office was established and a stage line rendered mail service every other day. Crops of corn, barley, and maize were planted. When the appointed election day arrived the land agents had lost interest so no election was held. The ensuing years brought drought, crop failures, and hard times. The people gradually moved away. Finally, when the election was held, Chantilly lost and Lakin won. The remains of huts, soddies, and the old wells may still be seen. 27.

Chapter 10.

KINGMAN COUNTY

Bross

Bross first was an old trading post but later became a town. It had a number of large buildings and was on the Kingman and Medicine Lodge daily mail route and about midway between these two places. Its location was ten miles south and twelve miles west of Kingman. The land around Bross was mostly preempted farm land. It was in a fine wheat section, and was a live little town. A. Smith operated a general merchandising store, F. S. Peck was a physician and druggist, the hardware dealer was Benefiel and Son, and B. F. Carter ran a hotel and livery stable. H. L. Shannon was the post-master, and John Driver contractor and carpenter. Now it is entirely gone. 28.

Maud.

Maud was located twenty miles west of Kingman on the Cannon Ball Daily Stage line, in the fertile valley of the Ninnesh Valley. It was situated on the projected railroad and for some time prospered. The citizens were enthusiastic over its prospects. It had a general store, a postmaster, a blacksmith, and a druggist, also, a hotel and stage stables owned by D. R. Green, better known as Cannon Ball Green. It is now gone. 29.

28· Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe. Folder. Kingman County, 1885.
29· Ibid.
Artesian.

Artesian was located in the southwest corner of section 6, township 31, range 27. The plat was filed by F. M. Davis, December 27, 1887. Artesian had two stores, a hotel, a real estate promoter, and a post office that was acquired by absorption of another town in 1885, namely, Spring Lake.

Artesian was on the proposed line of the Missouri Pacific Railroad across Meade County. The railroad failed to go through Artesian so Artesian failed to grow. It went the way of all flesh. The legislature vacated the townsite in 1893. 30.

Atwater.

Atwater was located on the southeast forty acres of section 34, township 33, range 29. The plat was filed November 9, 1887. This town had a general store, a blacksmith shop, a public hall and other buildings. It was quite a social center. The chief activity was dances at which Bill Long furnished the music, and Fred Judd did the calling. The proceeds were divided between Long and Judd in the ratio of two to one. A post office was maintained until about 1912, although the townsite was vacated in 1899 by act of legislature. 31.

31. Ibid. p. 36.
Chapter 12.

MORTON COUNTY

Richfield.

There is a hackline from Johnson City to Richfield. Richfield once had fifteen hundred people and had a part in the Morton County fight for county seat. The best building left in Richfield is a stone court house bonded for $25000. with the bonds still held by an eastern trust company. The county treasurer of Morton County comes into town once a month, transacts his county business in half a day and goes back to his ranch.

When the Rock Island built to Liberal it caused the decay of several towns, Richfield being among them. 32.

32. Smith County Pioneer. September 8, 1932.
Chapter 13.
NESS COUNTY

Sidney.

This town was named after Sidney, Iowa. It was located June 6, 1879, by the Sidney Town Company, composed of J. R. May, president, Dr. J. S. Beams, E. M. Bill, J. H. Ferguson, A. F. Gardener, D. C. Mages, and R. J. McFarland. It had about one hundred fifty inhabitants and was the second post office in the county.

In the contest for the county seat, Sidney had several determined opponents. The southern half of the county favored Sidney but the northern part was divided by factions and scattered their votes. Sidney had planned to offer the county a fine stone courthouse if that site should be chosen. Ness City offered a number of lots. Sidney reconsidered its offer and decided not to offer the courthouse but to contest the election in case Ness City won. Ness won, Sidney lost, and the courts refused to reverse the voice of the people. So Sidney declined. At the time of the election Sidney was the best town in the county with stores, hotels, and a wide awake people. The houses were either sold or moved away, the stone store and Masonic Hall were torn down, leaving a hole and a few stones to mark the spot.

Chapter 14.

PAWNEE COUNTY

Camp Criley.

In the summer of 1872, the Santa Fe railroad established Camp Criley twelve miles from Larned. It was a supply camp during construction of the railroad and was named for Captain J. D. Criley, superintendent of construction. The supply depot was located at Camp Criley instead of at Larned, with the deliberate intention of injuring Larned, on account of a private quarrel between Criley and some of the citizens of Larned. Between two hundred fifty and three hundred men were employed at the camp, unloading and reshipping ties and other supplies west for road construction. In October, 1872, Camp Criley was selected by H. P. Wolcott as the location of the Ohio Colony. November 5, 1872, was designated as election day when the county seat and county commissioners were to be selected. The election board at Criley counted the votes cast there and then threw them out of the window. Learning that ballots must be sent in with the returns, they gathered up all they could find. The number lacking was made good from tickets left over. The camp was abandoned when the railroad moved farther west. 34

34. Ball, Isabel Worrell. Larned Eagle Optic, March 2, 1899.
Chapter 15.

PRATT COUNTY

Old Saratoga.

The last landmark of importance of Old Saratoga was removed August 12, 1916, when lightning struck the old Methodist Church, burning it to the ground.

Nearly thirty-five years ago, or about 1885, Saratoga was a town of nearly three thousand people and contended for the county seat. When Iuka began to decline, and it was found necessary to consider changing the county seat, Saratoga began her fight and gave Iuka much trouble to hold the county records.

During the contest, Pratt Center was founded in the center of the county. It was six miles south of Iuka and three miles east of Saratoga. Pratt Center later came to be the county seat and the men in Pratt had to defend the city against armed horsemen from Saratoga. The county records were finally moved to Pratt. The county safe at Pratt still has the bullets imbedded in it that were shot into it by Saratoga men in their efforts to recover the records.

Saratoga is gone. The town Adrian, on the Santa Fe, is near the old site. The lumber to build Saratoga was hauled seventy miles overland from Hutchinson. The Saratoga Sun was the first newspaper there, with J. K. Hupp as editor. The State Fish Hatchery is on the site of Old Saratoga. The former mill race now gives the water
supply to the hatchery. Nothing is left of Saratoga but a few cellar holes and a few bricks from the school house. 35.

Saratoga is reported by plainsmen as a town of two thousand people. When Pratt Center was organized Saratoga was at its height. When Pratt became county seat, the fate of Saratoga was sealed. 36.

About ten years ago (1902) Mayfield disappeared. No one has ever been able to discover a reason for his mysterious disappearance. One night he appeared at the store of H. J. Hinsonrose in old Medora and paid a little bill. He joked about the weather and then went out of the store never to be seen again. The secret of his disappearance has never yet been solved. His friends have sought diligently for cause for the action. He left no debts, had no trouble, had not drawn all of his pay, he had a clear record with the company, nor was any wrongdoing ever found. No evidence of foul play ever discovered. There is no known reason for his going away. Soon after this occurrence the town moved what there was over to the location Medora. Houses and stores were taken over and placed along the one aircraft of the road. A few years later they were taken


36. Topeka Capital, June 22, 1930.

57. Topeka Journal, February 19, 1918.
All of the old town of Medora, half a mile northeast of the present Medora railroad junction, is now a farm. All of the town lots were bought by Pat Shea who now owns the farm. Several of these lots were never paid for by Pat, for the owner could never be found. These lots once belonged to Ed Mayfield, a section hand on the Rock Island.

About ten years ago (1906) Mayfield disappeared. No one has ever been able to discover a reason for his mysterious disappearance. One night he appeared at the store of H. J. Rickenbrode in old Medora and paid a little bill. He joked about the weather and then went out of the store never to be seen again. The secret of his disappearance has never yet been solved. His friends have sought diligently for cause for the action. He left no debts, had no trouble, had not drawn all of his pay, he had a clear record with the company, nor was any entanglement ever found. No evidence of foul play was ever discovered. There is no known reason for his going away. Soon after this occurrence the town moved what there was over to the junction Medora. Houses and stores were taken over and placed along the one street of the new place. Where Mayfield is may some day be solved. Shea says he will pay for the lots if he ever returns.

Olcott.

Olcott has gone. It was once a flourishing town in western Reno County. It had many business houses and dwellings. On January 25, 1927, the Missouri Pacific ceased to operate its depot there. This killed what was left of Olcott. Mr. Billie Amrine was the last depot agent. Even the depot has been moved away. 38.

38. Topeka Capital, February 7, 1927.
XXVI. Map of Rice County.
Chapter 17.

RICE COUNTY

Beach's Ranch, or Trading Post, or Cow Creek Ranch.

This place was located on Cow Creek, Rice County in 1858 or 1859, by Asahel Beach and his son, Dr. A. J. Beach, on the Santa Fe Trail about a mile south of the present town of Lyons, or near where later was old Atlanta. A post office was established at the Ranch April 1, 1859, called Beach Valley. Dr. Beach was the postmaster. In 1860 Beach Valley was incorporated by Asahel Beach, Dr. A. J. Beach, and Samuel Shaff, and was the county seat of Peketon County, now Rice County. The incorporators were the county commissioners. Dr. Beach later was a surgeon in the 9th Kansas in 1864.

Smoke houses were erected on the ranch and buffalo meat was cured for the eastern market. The ranch was abandoned in 1864, about the time of an Indian battle near-by. Later bones of Indians were plowed up by Mr. Frank Marks of Lyons. It is supposed the Indians buried their dead in the low mound near-by, where they were found so many years later.

Dr. Beach had quite a trading post at his ranch, his stock consisting of "Dead Shot Whiskey," sugar, flour, and bacon. This was

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40. Pool, Sherman.
also a mail station as well as a post office. John Stanton, in 1863 was the last postmaster.

In 1859 Asahel Beach, et al., was authorized to build a bridge, the time was extended to 1860. There was a bridge built near Beach's ranch across Cow Creek on the Santa Fe Trail.

On November 6, 1860, there was an election held at Beach Valley. Twelve votes were cast. Mr. Asahel Beach, disabled by paralysis and freezing, died at Council Grove, February 17, 1860. He was probably half brother of Moses Y. Beach, proprietor of The New York Sun.

Cain City.

This place was one and one-half miles west and one-half mile north of Lorraine. It was a boom town, being organized by some promoters from Chicago. Great predictions were made for it, but it failed to make good in a substantial way. During its brief existence it was something of a sporting center. Every Saturday horse races were held in the town. The track was down the main street and everybody that could be there was there. On August 18, 1887, appeared the first city newspaper, called the Cain City Razzooper. It must have been fairly successful to have lived as long as it did. In 1899 the Cain City News appeared from August 1 to December 6.

42. Montgomery, Mrs. Frank C.
43. Ibid.
44. Jones, Horace. History of Rice County, p. 36.
The following is part of the editorial of the first newspaper published in Cain City. It was called the Cain City Razzooper.

Volume 1, No. 1, August 18, 1887. Subscription price $1.50 in advance. Editor and Proprietor, Will J. McHugh. The editorial column of this first edition was as follows:

Salutatory.

"In order not to deviate from the customs of the newspaper fraternity, we will present the Razzaoper to the people of Cain City and vicinity in the usual manner.

"It will be unnecessary for us to state anything particularly except our party affiliation, the principles of which are understood throughout the length and breadth of this broad land. The Razzaoper will be democratic in politics, but as far as pertains to local interests, will be conducted upon independent principles, and under all circumstances will be found on the side of right and justice; whether we be in the majority or not, we will be conscientious in all news taken, and will adhere tenaciously to them, regardless of consequences."

*********** ********* *********

August 18,

"Cain City, though but ninety days old, has fifty substantial buildings already completed, nineteen under construction, and the contracts let for thirty-two more to be completed within the next sixty days."
ial, "The Glen Sharrold White Stockings and the Cain City Chumps played a game of baseball at this place last Saturday. Our boys were found not to be such chumps after all as they beat the White Stockings by a score of 32 to 16."

September 1, 1887, the editor, Mr. McHugh, took B. Grant Jefferies in as associate editor.45.

45. Cain City Razzooper, August 18, September 29, 1887.
XXVII. The site of Old Atlanta, Rice County, Kansas.

The automobile is standing about where the old Atlanta schoolhouse once stood. It is on the top of a slope. The town was located south of where the grain bin now is. In the picture is Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Pool. Mr. Pool went to school in the old schoolhouse.
Old Atlanta was located on the Santa Fe Trail about two miles south of the present town of Lyons. Earl Joslin was the first postmaster, having come there when the post office was moved from Brookdale to Atlanta. Atlanta was the county seat until 1876. It was an important place in those days. There were several hundred inhabitants and stores and dwellings. The Rice County Herald was started in April 1872, by Mr. Frazier who soon after sold it to the Shinn Brothers. Later the paper was taken to Sterling and was published there.

In December, 1870, the Atlanta Town Company built the first hotel in the county and called it the Atlanta Hotel. It was later conveyed by the Company to the county seat for use as a court house and was used both for court house and to house the county offices until May, 1876. 46

In the spring of 1871 D. M. Bell opened the first hardware store in the county under the name of Myers and Bell. 47

The school building was the last building to be torn down at Atlanta. For some time it stood alone, a landmark, and could be seen from every direction. It was a two story building, sixty by sixty feet, painted white and had three rooms large enough for a town five

46. Andreas, History of Kansas, p. 754.
47. Jones, Horace. History of Rice County, p. 95.
times as large as Atlanta. Early teachers were J. H. Cozens, Dick Wirt, Mary Muscott, W. B. Johnson, Miss Clestical Axtel, J. K. Farrar, Mary Mann, and Professor Pazton. Among early pupils attending were Mrs. Ency Embree, Curt Holmes, Mrs. Grace Day Holmes, Mrs. Jessie Applegate Eble, Abe Pool, Sherman Pool, Mort Lennen, and Frank Taylor. The large school house was used by the different religious organizations for their meetings for several years. 48.

XXVIII. The present site of Union City.

The three trees mark the former townsite. Between the right and the middle tree was the old town well. The left tree stood near Dick Early's blacksmith shop. These trees could tell much if we could but understand what the whispering leaves are murmuring.
Union City.

Union City was located about five miles southeast of Atlanta on the Dick Early place. Early was a colored man who homesteaded the land. Union City was a post office in 1870; the postmaster was named Spencer. There was also a store, saloon, and a blacksmith shop. 49.

Union City was the headquarters of the Ohio Company. Here occurred the shooting of P. B. Shannon, August 8, 1871, by Edward Swanson. Swanson fled and was never arrested nor punished, although James J. Spencer, the sheriff, started after him to make the arrest but never returned to Rice County. There was talk that he was in connivance with Swanson but nothing definite was ever known. It is said that a short time before Shannon was shot he had remarked, "You must kill a man before you can have a graveyard here." 50.

Jarvis View.

Jarvis View was one and one-half miles north of Saxman and three quarters of a mile east. It is on Jarvis Creek east of what is now Lyons. 51.

In 1849 travellers returning from the goldfields of California hid a quantity of gold to keep it from the Indians who were about to attack. All in the party were killed except a man named Jarvis, or, 49. Pool, Sherman. Interview.


by some, thought to be Charvez. He later returned there, preempting land, and lived many years. He hunted carefully for the gold, but could not find it. It is not known to this day that the gold was ever found, and even now occasional parties ask permission to seek for the buried treasure. The town around Jarvis' place was named Jarvis View, the creek became known as Jarvis Creek, and the post office as Jarvis View office. When Jarvis disappeared the place was abandoned. It is reported that Jarvis was murdered near the creek that bears his name, by three doctors who were his companions. Also he is said to have had much money.

Kansas Center.

Kansas Center was located about three miles northwest of the present town of Frederick. It located on what was thought to be the exact center of the United States and that, in consequence, it would be a great place. It contained a post office, a store, a blacksmith shop, and a dance hall. A pool hall and saloon combined were run by Laudencloough and Pat Turney. Kansas Center was on the first survey of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. Later, when the road was built, it missed Kansas Center, going a half mile north of the town. The town of Frederick was located on the railroad. Thence moved Kansas Center. It died about 1886.

Kansas Center was incorporated in 1858 by A. Beach and others near Golden City.

54. Poole, Sherman. Interview.
55. Turner, Bent. Interview.
Lodiana.

Lodiana was located two and one-half miles south and eight miles east of Lyons on land now known as the Tom Carter place. The first postmaster was J. W. Crawford. This never was much more than a post office and a small store. Lodiana was incorporated into the town of Little River when it was established after the coming of the railroad.

Allegan.

Allegan was located on the east side of Cow Creek about ten or twelve miles northeast of Lyons. It was later moved two or three miles north to the Underwood place, about 1886. John L. Deeds was the first postmaster at Allegan, being followed by James Underwood. The town contained one good building which housed the post office and the store, besides this only a few frail structures marked the town. When the Missouri Pacific Railroad came through Frederick, Allegan was absorbed by that town. Charles Gazzell owns the land where once was Allegan.

56. Poole, Sherman. Interview.
58. Poole, Sherman. Interview.
60. Turner, Bent. Interview.
XXIX. This view of the natural embankment of the Stone Corral is taken from the inside looking toward the west shoulder. It shows the highway around the bank and a road over it. From the top of this bank a fair view may be obtained of the entire corral and surrounding country.
XXX. A view from the top of the corral bank, showing the view south. The trees in the distance mark Cow Creek.
XXXI. Inside the corral, looking north. Shows the natural opening used by caravans. The trees on right background border Little River.
XXXII. This view shows the east and part of the north embankment.

The small break in the sky line is a bit of rock work. The stone corral proper was in this section. The stone wall of the corral was protected by the bank. Along this bank the stone buildings were located. The floor of the enclosure is now planted to wheat.
Old Stone Corral.

The Old Stone Corral was built of native stone and served for protection against the Indians and as a garrison for United States soldiers. The Corral was about three hundred feet square, the walls were about seven feet high and two feet thick at the top, being thicker at the base. There were port holes on each side except on the east; the port holes were about eighteen inches across on the outside and six on the inside. The gate was on the south. A stone found marked, "Bean 1850," has led to the belief that the corral was erected by someone of that name in 1850. To the southeast of the corral, across the river on land now belonging to A. E. Duvall, are evidences of trenches in which soldiers fought against Indians.

A bridge with stone abutments and floor of wood was located across the river just east of the corral. It was the property of one of the earliest known Rice County business men, whose identity is lost. He charged a dollar for a wagon to cross the bridge. He had a dam built upstream a short distance to make deep water at the ford so caravans would be forced to use the bridge. Indians burned the bridge shortly before Mr. and Mrs. Ashland Clay Bean came to the vicinity in the early 70's. This later family of Beans lived in a corner of the stone corral where their second daughter was born. They were awakened one night by the falling of stone abutments of the bridge which had been washed out. Mr. Bean was in charge of the Stone Corral post office.
The cost of building this bridge was several thousand dollars. A man named Wheeler built the corral for rent to caravans. William Mathewson, the Kansas Buffalo Bill, operated a store in the stone corral during the 60's. The farm at Stone Corral is believed to have been the first claim staked out in Rice County. It was taken first by Theodore Sternberg, a major in the United States Army in 1867 but was never proved up until it was claimed by the Bean family in the early 70's.

J. I. Duff, in 1878, a freighter for the Rosecrans store in Kansas Center, made weekly trips between Kansas Center and Sterling via Stone Corral. 61.

Old Stone Corral was a sort of fort and breastworks on the west side of the Little Arkansas River, a little north of the Santa Fe Trail and about six miles south of where now is the town of Little River.

Stone Corral was an enclosure containing several acres and was large enough to shelter a company of several hundred with their impediments. It was a natural meadow basin, enclosed on the south, west, and north by a natural embankment high enough to be ample protection for cattle and wagons. On the south side of this basin, in a ravine, flowed the Little Arkansas River which furnished water for men and animals. It was never known to be dry.

The natural embankments overlooking the river lands for many

miles in every direction furnished an ideal place for lookouts. So the caravans or stages were reasonably safe within its protecting enclosure. 62.

Inside these high banks was built a stone corral, from which the place derives its name. Horses and cattle were turned into the corral at night. There they were safe from Indians or rustlers. 63. Stone Corral was on the Santa Fe Trail and also on the star mail route from Lyons to McPherson. J. W. Givens was the carrier. It had a sod post office and the hotel. There were one or two sod dwellings also. 64.

Stone Corral was a noted place on the overland trail and travellers often tarried several days resting themselves and their horses and making necessary repairs. It was also used by settlers while looking for a location in the vicinity. It was known both as a safe refuge and for trading facilities. 65.

Coopersburg.

Coopersburg was located in the northeast corner of Rice County, north of the present town of Little River. It was a trading point before Little River was located. It had a post office, a store, and a


63. Poole, Sherman.


65. Poole, Sherman. Interview.
blacksmith shop. Nothing now remains of the place. J. E. Purdue, afterward county treasurer, lived in Coopersburg. 66.

**Golden City.**

This town was located in the north central part of the county, six or eight miles north of Kansas Center. It had a post office and a little store. The location now is in the northeast corner of old Bent Turner's farm. Not a vestige remains. It was in existence before 1876 as it appears on the postal map of the year 1875. 67.

**Wildwood.**

Wildwood was about six miles west and one mile north of Atlanta. It had a postmaster whose name was Shaw, later a man named Enfield was the postmaster. Wildwood had a two story building; Shaw lived in the building, which also housed the post office. Here also was a school building, the school being one of the later buildings; it was in existence in 1871. This school building was later moved away to the Zene Wright place and is still used for a school house. Only an old tree remains to tell the place near where the old post office stood. 68.

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66. Poole, Sherman, Interview.

67. Turner, Bent, Interview.

68. Poole, Sherman, Interview.
Brookdale.

Brookdale was made a post office in December, 1870. It was located two and one-half miles south of what is now Lyons. This was the first post office in the county, according to Frank Hoyt, an early mail carrier. Earl Joslin was the first postmaster. He brought the mail to and from Brookdale once a week from Ellsworth, a distance of thirty miles. In 1871, when Atlanta was established, Brookdale moved to Atlanta, Joslin being the first there. And again when Atlanta was abandoned in 1876, Joslin moved with the town to the present town of Lyons, again being the first postmaster there. Nothing can be found of Brookdale, and its existence is forgotten except by a few old settlers. 69.

Farmer.

The little station of Farmer was established in 1874 as a point to distribute rations to the needy farmers in the area devastated by the grasshoppers. It was in the western part of the county, had a post office, and remained in existence during 1874 and 1875. When the emergency was relieved the town finally disappeared. It had a post office at one time. Meat and beans were distributed among other things. Mr. H. L. Green was the distributor. From this place comes the hard luck story that it was common for each member of the family

to take turns at chewing the same piece of meat so that all might derive a little sustinance from it. It is hard to tell whether this is a little pleasantry of the pioneers to relieve the monotony of existence or is a sly slap at the food sent out from the east. 70.

New Cincinnati.

This place was four miles west and three and three-fourths miles south of old Atlanta. Squire Wright was postmaster. He had the post office in his store which was a small trading point. Squire Wright was a very religious man and would not open his store nor sell anything on Sunday. The patrons of the post office gradually began getting their mail at the larger places near-by,—Sterling, Alden, and Lyons, these being more advantageous trading centers. New Cincinnati soon dwindled until the post office was discontinued. Nothing now is left. 71.

70. Poole, Sherman. Interview.
XXXIII. View of Pollard, looking east toward the railroad.

The delapidated building at the left is falling to pieces. It was at different times the hotel, the post office, and store.
Pollard.

Pollard is located eight miles north and one-half mile west of Lyons. This town was started as a station on the Frisco Railroad when it built through the county in 1886. It is located on what was in former days said to be excellent antelope hunting grounds. It had a section house, a post office, an elevator, a blacksmith shop, and a store, besides a few dwellings. It was a thriving little place containing six or eight families. The store did a good business, Lert Wright made money there. A few years later the post office was discontinued, not having sufficient patrons to warrant its continuance. The patrons now receive their mail via Route Five out of Lyons. The store was closed and some of the buildings were moved away. Three families remain. May 1, 1934, the store has been opened with a small stock of goods, but it still has no post office.

72. Poole, Sherman. Interview.
74. Personal observation of author.
XXXIV. All that is left of Noble,  
Only a flag station bare,  
Buildings empty and vacant  
Returning a blank like stare.
Noble.

Noble was seven miles north and one-half mile east of Lyons. It was another town located as a station by the railroad. It was a thriving little wheat center, having a post office, a depot, store, elevator, and some houses. The motor truck, together with several years of crop failures, put a quietus upon this little settlement. What little was raised was hauled to Lyons or Geneseo, only a few miles either way. The post office has been discontinued and both it and the depot have been moved away. There is no longer any depot agent and trains stop only on flag signal. Dwellings are vacant and the elevator is open a few weeks during the wheat harvest season.75.

Galt.

Galt is one of the more recent towns of Rice County to join the phantom list. It was one-half mile east and four miles north of Mitchell. It had a post office for many years. John Berwick was the postmaster. Berwick also ran a store for a man by the name of Trotter, who lived in Illinois. It was a good trading point. Berwick also ran the elevator and in harvest season bought many hundreds of dollars' worth of wheat. Even the post office has been discontinued, nor is wheat bought any more. A few buildings remain.76.

75. Personal observation of author.
XXXV. Galt, a flag station and an elevator.
Chapter 18.

SEWARD COUNTY

Fargo Springs.

Fargo Springs was in the northern part of Seward County. It was a contestant with Springfield for the county seat. On the morning of election day, the Springfield voters went early to the polls which had been designated in Fargo Springs. The Fargo voters had placed a posse of armed men at the polls to regulate the franchise. The Springfield men, finding it impossible to vote, arranged their own polling place in the bed of an old wagon near-by and proceeded with their election. But the Fargo men put only Fargo men to canvas the vote. Consequently Fargo had the most votes. But Springfield was not to be easily defeated. She brought suit and gained the decision. Springfield then built a $60,000. water system and a $10,000. school house. Fargo Springs was forced to give up as Springfield had fifteen hundred people. The Fargo Owl, a newspaper of the time, says: "The gloom of despondency has settled over the once prosperous little village of Fargo. Stores are being moved from the luckless town to Springfield." At one time Fargo had a population of seven hundred. Only a few bricks are left of the school house.

Springfield.

Springfield was only a few miles from Fargo Springs. It had at one time over four hundred voters and was a lively contestant for the county seat, contending with Fargo Springs. When it was thought that Springfield would be the county seat, and also be on the projected Rock Island Railroad, it built a school building costing $10,000. A fine business section developed. Had the Rock Island built through, it would very likely have decided the question in favor of Springfield. But the road went southwest of both places. They were eighteen miles off the track. They both dwindled. Only an old fire plug may be seen on the townsite.

78. Dodge City Daily Globe, December 30, 1925.
Chapter 19.

STEVENS COUNTY

Woodsdale.

Woodsdale was founded by Col. Sam Woods. He was the mayor. Immediately Hugoton began a fight with Woodsdale for the county seat. The governor selected Hugoton as the temporary county seat until the people should decide the matter by vote. In the meantime the Hugoton people attempted to kidnap Mr. Woods. He was captured and taken into Oklahoma and held for about three weeks until rescued by a Woodsdale posse. In the election Hugoton won the county seat. 79.

Woodsdale was once important enough to have contended for the county seat. The last existence of Woodsdale was in 1897. It then consisted of three inhabitants, a woman, her son and daughter. The son was the school teacher; the mother, Mrs. Carpenter, was the postmistress; and the daughter was the only pupil in school. 80.

In March, 1934, the last remnants of Woodsdale were to be removed. The Woodsdale cemetery was to be taken to the Moscow cemetery. In the old cemetery rested the bones of many persons who took part in the battles which marked the settling of the country. The project is under the public works fund. 81.

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80. Dodge City Daily Globe, December 30, 1925.

81. Kansas City Times, March 14, 1934.
Lerado.

Lerado was once a thriving village of the boom days in the 80's. In the summer of 1886 when not less than eight railways were being projected in the section west of Hutchinson, it appeared very much as if Lerado would be the junction of two of them. Dr. J. A. Brady of Louisville, Kentucky, believed it strong enough to launch the town with a $24,000. brick hotel. A bank was established along with several mercantile institutions. A newspaper was founded. But Dr. Brady's inside tip proved a mistake and the railroads missed Lerado. The town went to decay. Many of the buildings were taken overland to Turon which was on the new Rock Island line. Now a school house, church, and cemetery are all that is left.

However, oil men declare that the townsite is in the hot spot for oil development and so this town may be born again. 82.

82. Kansas City Times, April 4, 1934.
Chapter 21.

STANTON COUNTY

Johnson City.

Johnson City was once a thriving place of twelve hundred people. Now only a few houses are left on the site. The town no longer exists legally. The treasurer of Stanton County lives in Johnson City. He is the only county official still remaining in the old court house. The county clerk runs a store on a near-by corner, and receives the mail. An amusing feature of the situation is that while the county treasurer and the county clerk are the only ones in town, they are not on speaking terms. The county treasurer receives his mail at Edwin, a place four miles away. 83.

83 Mail and Breeze, April 7, 1900.
Coronado was located three miles east of where is now the town of Leoti. The two towns were in plain sight of each other. Leoti was platted first as a government townsite in July, 1885, and proved up in June, 1886. The post office was first called Bonasa, but later changed to Leoti, through the efforts of Congressman S. R. Peters, about January 18, 1887.

Coronado was incorporated October, 1885. John W. Knapp was president of the town company and W. D. Brainerd, Secretary. In February, 1886, the town is said to have had four houses. In July, the same year, it had a newspaper, the Wichita County Herald, issued by James Barrett, later by James R. Badgers. The first house in town was the Hotel Vendome, built by the town company and finished in February, 1886. By March, 1887, the town had over a hundred business houses and residences.

In the years of 1885, 1886, 1887, there was bitter strife between Coronado and Leoti for the county seat. The editors of each indulged in abusive and picturesque language. Each town charged the other with lies, fraud, forgery, trickery, intimidation, and finally murder.

In the spring of 1886 Leoti sent a representative to Topeka requesting organization of the county. About July 15, Governor Martin
XXXVI. Coronado, only a station.
appointed W. D. Brainerd of Coronado census taker for the county. Both towns requested to be allowed to send a representative with the census taker; it was refused. The Coronado paper said: "As a public official, Mr. Brainerd intends to do his work impartially, but as a citizen of Coronado, he is for this town first, last, and all the time."

Leoti charged Coronado with delaying county organization until they could get enough votes for Coronado to be the county seat. November 12, Mr. Brainerd made his report. During the last week in November, Governor Martin appointed a special disinterested commissioner to canvas the county for county seat votes. The town securing the most votes to be the county seat. T. B. Gerow was the special commissioner. He was accompanied by a man from each town. The poll was completed December 22, 1886. The result was Leoti received 451 votes, Coronado 285 votes. But the census taker had showed 817 votes, a difference of 81 votes. December 23, 1886, the Coronado Herald printed: "No doubt Leoti has a majority of votes polled. Four townships in the north and northeast part of the county were intimidated from voting by the presence of seventy-two teams loaded with rifles, shotguns, and imported bulldozers from Wallace, Greeley, and Hamilton Counties."

The Leoti Standard retorted by charging the Coronado men with saying that they would win if it cost $50,000. a vote and that they had imported men from other counties. Also the polls were guarded by armed men stationed in upper story windows and stairways.

The poll completed, Wichita County was organized by the
Governor's proclamation, December 24, 1886. Leoti was named as the temporary county seat. February 8, 1887, was the day set for the county officers to be elected and the county seat voted on. On February 4, 1887, the legislature required voters for the county seat location to be registered. The election was put off until March 10, 1887. Nearly all of Leoti voted at the February 8 election for county officers, but over four hundred Coronado voters refused to vote. The crisis came February 27, 1887, each town charging the other town with starting it.

On Sunday, February 27, 1887, Coronado invited several Leoti men over to have a good time. They met in Dr. Wright's drug store. After half an hour the Leoti men got in their wagon to return. The Coronado men became abusive. Coulter and Williams got out of the wagon and began fighting. Charles Coulter and William Raines were killed. George Watson was wounded and died later. All received wounds. Two men escaped to Leoti with the runaway team. The Governor was asked for protection for March 10, election day. Adjutant General A. B. Campbell instructed Col. J. H. Ricksecker to bring the Larned and Sterling companies to Garden City to be ready for marching orders.

Gen. Campbell and Col. Ricksecker arrived at Leoti about 4:00 a.m. Monday, February 28. Leoti was closely guarded to prevent a surprise from the enemy. A large rifle pit was dug near the center of town.

As a result of the election March 10, the commissioners de-
clared Leoti the permanent county seat. The Coronado paper fought desperately until September, 1888. The fight ended tamely and abruptly by the town of Leoti offering free town lots to all of Coronado who desired to move to the county seat. This offer was generally accepted during the winter of 1888-89. All the Coronado townsitie buildings were moved to Leoti. The quarrel was forgotten and John W. Knapp was elected a member of the Leoti city council. None of the houses remain. Even the old pump has been pulled up and taken away. 84.

84. Kansas Historical Collections, vol. 12, p. 441-447.
XXXVII. Abandoned am I.

A full account of early Kansas. Information reliable.


Contains much new pioneer history. Sources are personal accounts of pioneers. Much authentic material.

Cain City Rezcooper, Aug. 18, 1887, Sept. 29, 1887. Will J. McHugh, editor. Published at Cain City, Kansas.

Contains accounts and news of the city. Published during a projected boom. Exaggerates importance of the town.

Dodge City Daily. Dec. 30, 1925. Dodge City, 1925.

An unsigned article in a series of pioneer accounts.

Gandy, Lewis C. Early Wallace County. (The Western Kansas Times, 1933, Sept. 21. W. E. Ward, publisher.)

Account of a personal visit to Pond Creek.

Harrington, W. P. History of Cove County. 32 p.

Valuable personal recollections. Contains many facts of importance.

An annual pamphlet containing short historical accounts of western history.


An account of establishment and features of Old Stone Corral.


Preserves old stories, facts, and legends. Indicates authority many times.


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vol. 4, 319 p. years 1886-1890.
vol. 5, 695 p. years 1891-1896.
vol. 6, 507 p. years 1897-1900.
vol. 7, 619 p. years 1901-1902.
vol. 8, 594 p. years 1903-1904.
vol. 12, 569 p. years 1911-1912.
vol. 17, 97 p. years 1926-1928.

Valuable information, states authority. Gives sketch of authors.


A clipping.

Kansas City Journal. June 27, 1905 or 1906.

Article on Lost Towns.


Contains old material and new items of interest.


Clipping.


A compilation of old timers' stories and reminiscences.
Motz, Simon. Historical and Biographical Sketches. Old Settlers Association of Ellis County.

An account of early settlements in Ellis County.

Mail and Breeze. April 7, 1900. Capper Publishing Co., Topeka, Kansas.

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Relates early events.

Pool, Mrs. Eloise Geren. Lyons, Kansas. Personal reminiscences.

An interview.

Pool, Mr. Sherman, Lyons, Kansas.

Interview.


An account of early day county seat fights especially.


An account of Mt. Ayr.

Simmonds, F. W. Smith County Press, Sept. 8, 1932.
A clipping.


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Interview.

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April 6, 1920, clipping.
Feb. 17, 1927, "
An account of Omio.

Topeka Journal. Topeka, Kansas.
May 5, 1910, clipping.
June 5, 1912, "
Feb. 3, 1916, "
Feb. 16, 1916, "
Short accounts of early days.


Interesting accounts of early towns.


Contains much early day information, accounts of a few lost towns.


Contains much information. Not well indexed. Many authentic accounts.
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