DELPHOS

in the Solomon Valley
of Kansas

The beginning of Delphos and Ottawa County and accounts of the last Indian Raids in the Solomon Valley as recorded by early day settlers.

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410 South Chestnut St.

Lindsborg, KS 67456

First Printing 1998

Second Printing 2002

DELPHOS IN THE SOLOMON VALLEY

Through the years many people have taken great pride in the founding and development of their home town, Delphos, Kansas. Pieces of history were written up by various setters and were preserved in the newspapers of the time. We are grateful to those early writers and to the later editors who found the items important and interesting enough to reprint in *The Delphos Republican*

This book a compilation of some of those clippings saved by many, including myself. There is an index of names and places and a Footnote section with additional information about some of those persons and explanations of some terms.

Maps have been included to point out the locations in early Cloud and Ottawa counties and of the Solomon Valley where the Indians raids occurred.

The compiler is thankful to those who gave so much assistance in completing this work. I hope that it will bring pleasure and understanding of the beginning of Delphos and Ottawa County.

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Delphos from 1869 to 1879

A Descriptive Sketch of Delphos from the Year 1869 to Jn'y 1879 by Geo. W. Strickler
First printed in *The Delphos Herald* Feb. 14, 1879
Reprinted in *The Delphos Republican* in 1974

In the year 1869, W. A. Kiser, the father of Delphos, visited this country and purchased the land that Delphos now stands on and a large tract adjoining it, with a view to the laying out of a town thereon. In the spring of 1870 he located here and proceeded to erect the first dwelling house in Delphos. The following summer he surveyed and laid out the town site into lots 4 by 7 rods and a public square 16 rods square. All containing 50 acres. Before the town was finished being laid out, Simpson, Seymour & Easley built a store room and opened out the first stock of goods; at the same time Levy Yockey built and opened to the public the Delphos Hotel and run it until the spring of 1872, when he sold to L.S. Disney, who has run it ever since and at the present. In the fall of 1870 Daniel Yockey, Jr., built and opened a grocery store, run till summer of 1871 and quit; recommenced again in summer of 1872 under the firm name of Yockey & Kearns, run till summer of 1873 and quit.

About the year 1868 Levy Yockey was appointed postmaster, when the mail was carried once a week on horseback. He held the office until 1876, when H. A. Easley was appointed and held the office until February 1871, when Geo. W. Strickler, the present incumbent was appointed and has held the office ever since. In 1871, mails were received from once to three times a week. Now the mail is received daily from the east and west, running two lines of coaches.

In the spring of 1871, M. M. Stanley and George M. King built and opened the first drug store--run six months when King sold his interest to Stanley who run it one year and then sold to Strickler & Payne who built the city drug store building,--which building is owned and occupied at present by Mr. Nobel Barker as a family residence. After running until the spring of 1875 they sold to J. A. McConnell who run until spring of 1876 and sold to M. M. Stanley who run until

spring of 1878, when he sold to E. A. White who is running it at present.

In the spring of 1871 B. F. Billingsley and T. S. Morris arrived seeking a location--when into quarters in a green painted patent canvas house in the majestic banks of Henry Creek, joining Delphos on the south. The settlers already here looked with wonder and amazement upon this patent prairie house.

During the winter of 1870 and '71, a lyceum was held in the log school house west of town, where a great interest was manifested by the people.

Early in the winter of 1871, Easley sold his interest in the store to Simpson & Seymour, who run until the spring of 1873, when Simpson sold his interest in the store to Geo. McKenzie. In the fall of 1871 Geo. Fancher built and opened out a hardware store and tin store, who run until spring of 1873 when he went into partnership under the firm name of Fancher, Seymour & McKenzie, in the business of general merchandise, run until fall of 1873 when Fancer sold his interest to R. H. Shultis; McKenzie also selling his interest then run under the name of Shultis & Seymour until the spring of 1874, when Shultis sold his interest to Wm. White who run under the name of Seymour & White until the fall of 1878 when White sold his interest to A. Simpson, and is now running under the firm name of Seymour & Simpson. As will be noticed Seymour has had more partners than any one in Delphos; but he still remains in business and can be counted the oldest continued merchant in Delphos.

Early in the winter of 1870 and '71, Geo W. Strickler built his present store and post office building, and in April 1871 opened out a stock of general merchandise--run until fall of 1876, when he took in James Clark as a partner, which has since been run under the firm name of Strickler & Clark. Strickler can also be called one of the oldest merchants.

In the fall of 1871, Seymour Ayers commenced to build a livery stable and store building but quit soon after, before completing the same. In the fall of 1871, Wm. Hall purchased and completed the stable and store building, opening out a livery, sale and feed stable under the firm name of Hall & Bishop, running about one year when

Bishop sold his interest to Wm. Hall who run it until the summer of 1878, when he sold to Quincy & Haggard, who have run it since.

The 4th of July 1871 was celebrated with great interest, being the first observance of the 4th at this place; save the 4th of July 1868, which we are told, was celebrated by a few citizens then living here. Among other things, swings were erected which were left at the place, and afterwards created much wonder and curiosity by the Indians who visited the scene in those days.

In the year 1867 and '68, the Indians caused much trouble to the settlers in this vicinity. When stock was stolen a number of settlers killed and carried off in captivity. Much interesting reminiscence could be narrated had we the space and time to do so.

In the spring of 1872 Wm. Hall built a harness and saddlery shop, occupied afterwards by H. J. Weckerly as a harness shop on the first floor and by Chas. Levy as a shoe shop on the second floor; after running one or two years sold out. The building has been rented and used as a harness and shoe shop by A. Isbell for some time since, also as a harness shop since Mr. Isbell quit by Robert Sears, during the fall of 1877, S. P. Rawson opened out a harness shop in the same building and has run ever since.

In 1872 the bridge that spans the Solomon River at this place was built by voting bonds on the township to the amount of $5,000.00. A two-story stone school house was built in 1873 by voting bonds to the amount of $2100.00 in district bonds. The house was accidentally burned January 8th 1875, with all its contents, including organ, books etc, making a loss of about $3000.00 to the people living in the district. In 1869 or '70, the log school house was built and used for school until the stone house was built; after it was burned, Seymour & Simpson's old store building and J. T. Strickler's basement was used for school purposes until the fall of 1876, the present frame school house was built and has been used for school since.

In the spring of 1873, Wm. Hall opened out a stock of goods, and run until summer of 1875 when he sold to J. M. Shelby & Co. who run about three months and sold to Kiser and Billingsley who run until the spring of 1878 and quit.

In 1878, S. C. Webster opened a blacksmith shop, run until

spring of 1876, when Edwin Lynch went in as a partner and run until the fall of 1876 when they sold to A. Geren who has run it ever since. In 1872, Seymour & Simpson built the blacksmith shop afterwards sold to L. S. Disney which has been run part of the time as a blacksmith shop.

The Delphos mills was built in 1871 and '72 by Kiser, Beaver & Simpson; run by the same until 1873, when Beaver & Simpson sold their interest to Wm. White and has been owned and run since under firm name of White & Kiser.

The Unaversalist (sic) Church was commenced in 1872, and was finished in spring of 1876--dedicated May 14th, 1876, Rev. J. W. Hanson, of Chicago, preaching the dedication sermon, assisted by quite a number from abroad. Rev. Joy Bishop has been the pastor of the church ever since its commencement. Rev. N. Bracken has been pastor of the Presbyterian congregation for several years. Rev. E. T. Russell, G. H. Root and Boynton have preached for the Christian congregation but not regular as well as others passing by. Rev. Geo. Balcom preaches occasionally for the Baptist congregation, Dr. A. D. Ballou and J. N. Blanchard lectures to the spiritualist congregation. The Methodists have a parsonage stationed preacher at this place. The following named ministers have been stationed and preached here: Rev. Baird, Windsor, Jas. Phillips, L. A. Tallman, Bartells and C. K. Jones, being pastors at the present time. Sabbath school part of the time during the summer season.

It is supposed that Rev. Geo. Balcom, Baptist, preached the first sermon in 1870.

In 1873, C. McDonough built and opened on his farm adjoining town the Farmer's Home; run it until the summer of 1877; when he moved the building in town, built on during summer of 1878 an addition and has run it since as a hotel.

Wm. Hall and E. Hutton are justices of the Peace. Hall is also notary public which has been for several years. C. C. Wood has been constable and under sheriff for several years. Leo. McDonough was elected constable also at last election.

The 4th of July 1872 was celebrated with great grandeur and interest.

In 1871 Geo. W. Strickler commenced to write a column of local interest of Delphos and vicinity, which was published in *The Pioneer* at Lindsay for about two years, when the paper was suspended--when he wrote occasionally for *The Independent* between 1873 and '75; when *The Sentinel* was established in August, 1875, he commenced writing a column of local items which has been continued ever since up to the present--thus giving all the news of a local nature. Upon the issuing of *The Delphos Herald*, the Delphos items in *The Sentinel* will be discontinued for the present.

The 4th of July 1874 was celebrated in grand style with music, speeches, performances by ragamuffins, catching of a greased hog, ascension of a balloon, climbing of a greased pole, shooting of firecrackers, etc., were the order of the day.

The 4th of July 1877 was also duly celebrated with pomp and grandeur. A large mammoth pavilion was erected in town and the day was celebrated with much interest, about 1500 people being present. Many circuses, menageries, and shows of various kinds have visited and exhibited in our town.

A. L. Keables established a lumber yard in the spring of 1878; he also opened out a hardware and stove store, and is yet in business.

J. W. Davis opened out a stove and tin ware store in the spring of 1878, and is still in business.

Chas. O'Neal built and opened a blacksmith shop in spring of 1878 and is still in business .

S.S. Courtney & Bro. erected the drug store building and Odd Fellows' hall in spring of 1878; afterwards rented the store room to S. & C.S. Maddox, who opened out a stock of drugs.

During the summer of 1878, Haggart & Quincy erected a large store room with rooms for renting over head (with basement) and opened out in October last, a large stock of general merchandise which has since been purchased and run at present by F. S. Quincy.

Wm. Farrand & M. Blanchard are in the bee and honey business in town and furnish all the honey and more than Delphos wants. The past summer Lynch & McClure built and opened a meat shop and run it most the time since. Rolf and Chapman built the restaurant building the past season, afterwards selling the building to A. J.

Dinwiddie who has used it since as a boarding house and dwelling.

Rolf & Rawson are in the poultry trade buying, dressing and shipping.

The summer of 1878, Dinwiddie & McDonough erected a large livery and feed stable, furnish buggies &c, on short notice--well stocked and do a good business. They also keep the stage horses.

Thos Halley built and opened a shoe shop the past season. A short time ago, Wm Tolley & Wm. Schaar built and opened out to the public a butcher and meat shop. He also built near town a slaughter house and does the whole thing pertaining to the butchering business in a neat, workman like manner. Keeps meats of different kinds and shape.

W. H Skinner repairs wagons &c.

W. C. Davis and father, and W. B. McGregor have each built, dwellings shops, and located in town during the past year. They are engaged in building houses and general carpenter and cabinet work.

Wm, Lazalere and A. Adams have located in town and gone into the plastering business. Houses plastered in good style on short notice.

The health of the people is looked after by Drs. J. T. Strickler, J. H. Payne. S. B. Boyer and A. D. Ballou who are ever ready day and night to go to see patients or issue out doses of medicine &c. They also extract teeth (not without pain however).

Thos. F. Donigan opened a grocery store during the past summer. He deals in groceries, fruits, confectionery &c.

David Barker keeps a fine team and is always ready to do hauling on short notice. Price 10 cents per 100 lbs, for hauling from railroad to this point.

Fred Smith & Bro. built a grain and ware house during the summer and purchased considerable grain, but as the railroad was not completed on time they quit hauling grain. Frank Wilson & Bro. north of town are in the business of buying and shipping cattle and hogs.

Hiram Overacker has put up a coal house and furnishes the people with coal.

L. F. Smith is teaching the winter term of school,--"learning

the young idea how to shoot," etc, Geo. W. Strickler is treasurer, W. A. Kiser clerk and A. J. Dinwiddie director of the school district of Delphos.

During the past few months the M. E. Church was built. On account of cold weather and funds the house has not been finished, but soon will be. It is at present being used for church purposes. The Catholic Church was commenced during the last few months, but on account of the inclemency of the weather the house was not completed. Work will be recommenced as soon as the weather will permit and finished.

On the memorable night of Oct. 4th 1877, the store of Strickler & Clark was broken into by burglars. The trial before the Justice and in the court the result &c. &c., all of which is too monotonous to review at this time. (Ed note--This was his store)

Quite a number of very successful festivals have been held for the benefit of church, organ, and one for raising funds for the yellow fever sufferers. The last festival was held Christmas eve, last, for the benefit of the M. E. Church. A Christmas tree was presented on each Christmas eve to an immense crowd on Christmas eve 1877 and 1878.

The I.O.O.F. lodge was organized in July last and has held weekly meetings ever since with a membership of about 80.

The I.O.G.T. Lodge was organized during the fall of 1877 and holds weekly meetings ever since. The present membership is something over 100.

The Masons contemplate organizing a lodge soon.

Lyceums are maintained and attended largely during the winter months of most every year.

Adams & Rawson are stone masons, living in town; also quite a number living in the vicinity.

Ice is put up by quite a number of families during the winter.

In 1878, county railroad bonds were voted with the understanding that the railroad would be completed to Delphos by October first. This created a great stimulant to the town; several houses were built and some commenced, lots changing hands quick and fast at good prices, and everything indicated that our town would soon be a

place of no mean importance. The RR did not come as all expected, which checked the town somewhat. About 35 buildings of different kinds were erected during the past nine months. The present population of the town is near as actually count is 235. Several houses are under way of erection at present and more under consideration. All feel that the RR. will reach our place in the not so distant future. At present W. A. Kiser and Geo. W. Strickler are called on pretty often to show and sell lots, which are fast being sold and built upon.

Delphos is situated on the left or east side of the Solomon River, 1/4 mile from its bank, on the north east quarter of section 16 township 9 range 4 west of the sixth principal meridian. The location is said by every one visiting it to be finest of any in the great Solomon valley, 12 miles from the county seat; surrounded by magnificent agricultural lands, occupied by an industrious moral class of citizens. The town is situated so as to command that trade of a large radius of country. Clear cold water can be had at a depth of 25 to 35 feet. A fine view of the surrounding country can be had from the town. Its people are a class of energetic, moral and intelligent citizens. The water power is second to none in the state; its mail facilities are a daily line of coaches from the east and the west. Leavenworth, Kansas City and Topeka daily papers reach here at 9 a.m. next day after publication.

Geo. W. Gilspy and Joseph Brown live in town and do carpenter work.

Henry Haase has recently opened in F S. Quincy's store and is a fine tonsorial artist, doing his work with neatness and dispatch.

David Barker is Veterinary surgeon and horses put in his care will be carefully treated.

The town and vicinity contains as old or older people as there is in the state. Mr. Smith living in town was a soldier in the War of 1812. Wm. Thompson, the oldest man in the state, lives west of town and comes in often. He is still hale and hearty, proving that this is a healthy country to live in.

E. B. Crew, living near town is secretary for the I. O. G. T. of the state.

We have in a hurried manner, wrote the foregoing historical

sketch, hoping it may prove instructive and interesting to the readers of the *Herald.* It will be borne in mine that this sketch is not perfect and many little things have been overlooked in our hurry having to rely chiefly on our memory; yet we trust, it contains a pretty fair synopsis of the beginning and growth of our town to January 1st 1879. We humbly submit it to your perusal, hoping it will prove interesting. The future improvements and history of the town from this time hence will be given to the world from week to week through the column of *The Herald* by it editor. Every body should feel the importance of helping the sustain our paper and send copies to friends. All influence brought to bear of this kind will have a salutary effect. Wishing all a prosperous year and many good wishes for our paper, I subscribe myself, very fraternally, &c.

Geo. W. Strickler.

DELPHOS 1888

Items taken from the newspaper in 1888 to 1889 and reprinted in *The Delphos Republican* in 1975

Dec. 17, 1888--It would be a good scheme to put a large lamp upon a post at each corner of the square for use on dark nights.

Five bushels of ear corn will pay for *The Republican* one year. So will eighteen pounds of beef or pork.

Dec. 22, 1888--From *The Concordia Daylight:* "Kansas real estate is neither on the rise or decline--just holding its own, so to speak" Ed comment..."In this locality last week, a great deal of it was 'on the rise' and in the air.

Dec. 1888--WANTED--Corn to shell at 75 cents per 100 bushels, G. E. Dewey.

December 28, 1888--Dr. W. B. Davis caught a 10 lb. catfish out of the Solomon river Wednesday.

A train of empties came up this branch Tuesday night and relieved the elevators a little.

Dec. 22, 1888--Now is a good time to agitate the question of a sugar mill right here in Delphos. There is no industry which will furnish a surer road to prosperity in this section than that of sugar making. The plant need not be on such an extensive scale as to frighten our capitalists. There are plenty of mills in the state, in successful operation, and ideas can be obtained from a visit to some of them, that may built up a safe and profitable business here, both to the manufacturer and farmer.

The cane can be worked up and the saccharine fluid stored in vats during the growing season and made into sugar and refined the rest of the year. Or the cane may be chopped and diffused here and the juice shipped to where it can be made into sugar. The best plan would be to do all the work here.

Delphos can not afford to sit down and wait, Macabre like, for something to turn up, but she must take the initiative through private capital and stock companies and offer some inducement to people to come here, and then give them employment so they can stay. Let's go to work and turn up something. Our natural advantages are good.

Editorial--One of the best means to be used in building up a town is for its citizens to speak a good word whenever they can, for its people, its trade and its prospects. Encourage those who undertake new enterprises and help them all you can, and above all, patronize your own business house and not spend your money to help build up rival towns. Pull together in cooperation, and not assail every business but your own. What helps one part of town helps all, and the reverse is true.

January 16, 1889--1,650 dozen eggs, 964 lbs. of poultry and 20 tubs of butter were shipped from Delphos Wednesday.

February 2, 1889--Our Iceman began putting up ice Monday. It is about six inches thick.

Editorial-

One thing can be said of our merchants and that is that they keep their stocks up with the times, and carry a full assortment in their various lines. We know of several instances where people from other towns have found in our town what they wanted and what they could not buy at home. Delphos is nothing if she can not stand in the front ranks.

Delphos in 1890

by J. M. Waterman

Printed January 1890 and reprinted in *The Delphos Republican* in 1975

January 1890-- Somebody bring us some wood or cobs on subscription.

January 4, 1890--The following resume of Delphos was published and prepared by J. M Waterman and Son. The report will be a continuing account of several weeks running, therefore you may wish to clip each week's report.

Delphos is situated in the Solomon Valley on the east bank of the river. Its site slopes gently toward the west, just enough for good drainage and not too much for an easy grade for street and sidewalk. It has a population of about 800 and its inhabitants are industrious, hard working people.

The school is the pride of her citizens and has an enrollment at present of 193. Its four departments are presided over by Miss Helen Eacker, principal; Misses Mertie Riley, Daisy Clendinen, and Martha E. Peet, assistants, with a monthly payroll of $190, an average of $47.50 a month.

The religious organizations are the Presbyterians, Methodists, Christians, Catholics, Universalists, and Spiritualists, all having church edifices except the latter, who own a splendid grove of 11 acres adjoining the city limits on the northwest, where they hold annual meetings from 10 to 17 days.

January 4, 1890--The Presbyterians have a society of young ladies named "Silver Leaves" who do good work in the humanitarian vineyard, and the Universalists a society of young people of both sexes, named the "Young People's Missionary Society". who work for the objects indicated by their society name. All (churches) have Ladies Aid Societies fully equipped for work.

Resident pastors--W. L. Cannon, Methodist; J. W. Funk, Presbyterian; Geo S. Smith, Christian; Father Reagan, Catholic; Joy

Bishop, Sr., Universalist and A. D. Ballou, Spiritualist.

In the line of civic societies Delphos has: GAR Wilderness Post No. 116, GAR Wilderness Relief Corps No. 49, Sheridan Camp No. 72-S of V., I.O.O.F Delphos Lodge No. 149, Adam Encampment No. 71, Benevolent Lodge No. 48 D of R

Other societies--AF&AM Delphos Lodge No. 202, AOOW Delphos Lodge No. 129, AOOW Select Knights, No. 35, IOGT Delphos Lodge No. 136, OWGT Juvenile Temple No. 2, Delphos People's Protective Association, Delphos Farmer's Alliance No. 874, and Delphos Library Association.

The medical profession is represented by MDs C.C. Sturber, W. K. Williams, F. J Snedecker, J. H. Payne, L. H. Keys, who practice regularly and D. W. Chase and A. D. Ballou who treat and prescribe for family and friends, but do not make it a business; and Mrs. Jennie Parke, Christian Science healer. Dr. S. W. Kincaid represents the Dental Surgery in an expert manner.

In Veterinary branch of practice there are A. P. Ferris and J. W. and David Barker.

The law is represented by Geo. N. Nichols and J. W. Barker.

Beginning at the northeast corner of the square (Keim Grocery in 1975) we start south and find James Clark, general store; next office of Strickler and Nichol; George N. Strickler conducts a loan brokerage, notary public, etc.

Strickler and Jones, real estate, loans and insurance, J. E. Jones lives on a farm and is a real estate agent.

Next door, M. F. Davis, the tonsorial artist who can give his patrons about the slickest shave to be had in the country. Frank Taylor is his assistant.

A. G. Jones is next in order and carries a full stock of groceries, provisions and canned goods.

The livery and feed stable of H. Gilbreath comes next. Just across the driveway is his blacksmith shop, presided over by Tom Ellis also a good buggy painter.

Passing on we come to the restaurant of S. D. Courtney, where you can buy fresh bread, candy, nuts, cigars and tobacco.

Next comes Mrs. R. J. Shippee who carries a large and well assorted stock of millinery goods and ladies furnishing.

W. E. Clingenpeel, next door is the old reliable jeweler.

I. E. Packard has his office here and deals in 'Microbe Killer' and soap.

Tudor and Co. General merchandise, occupy the next room south of Clingenpeel. They handle dry goods, groceries, clothing, notions, boots and shoes. I. F. Tudor and John Tudor Gardner manage the business.

Next door and on the corner is the furniture store of W. C. Davis and Co. W. C. and E. N Davis manage the business.

South Side

Crossing to the south side of the square, we find on the corner the variety store of James Rae, where a thousand-and-one useful articles may be found on the 5 cent and 10 cent counter. In connection with his store he has a chicken ranch and keeps several hundred fowls of several varieties, chiefly the Brown Leghorn. He, his father, John Rae, his sister, Eva, and dog, Dock, carry on the business.

Going to the west we find L. C. Warner with his harness shop. He is the inventor of several useful articles in horse and mule jewelry and their harness.

Next in the line is the millinery store of Irvine and Hawthorne presided over by Mrs. S. A. Hawthorne.

Joseph Yager holds forth next door and does first class tailoring.

Next in order is N. L. Burr with a full line of groceries and provisions.

On the corner is the justly popular Potter House, Thos. Foote proprietor. Here you can get good clean beds, good food and lots of it.

Turning south again, we find in the rear of the Potter House, the blacksmith shop of A. D. Geren. On October 1, 1899, his shop and tools were destroyed by fire but it was rebuilt.

Coming back to the square, on the southwest corner is the Chicago Lumber yard managed by J. N. Nichols. A set of Fairbanks

wagon scales do duty here.

West side

Across the street to the north is Henry Gilbreath's livery stable where he keeps his fancy turnouts. He runs a bus from his stable to all trains. J. E. Bigelow and Wm. Hale are his able lieutenants.

Continuing north we next find J. W. Barker, Justice of the Peace and Counselor at law.

Next is the harness shop of Stribling and Hoy who carry a full stock of everything in the harness and saddlery line.

Turning north on Washington Street, we arrive at the wagon, Blacksmith and machine shop of George Trumblee.

North side

Coming back to the north side of the square we find, on the corner, the hardware store of Ferd Lambert & Co.

Next, going east, is the Arcade Restaurant. A. Farra, proprietor. Marion Farra assists his brother.

Next in order is T. W. Miller with a full line of drugs, medicines, paints, oils, toilet articles, et. (Just like the modern drug store) Mrs. Minnie Miller assists in the business.

Next in order is the meat market of Amos Anderson, presided over by Joe Doyle, who is a good butcher and cutter.

The next door is not exactly a gospel shop, but a great deal of sole repairing is done here. Here we find Thomas Hally, the jolly knight of St. Crispin, who uses the last first, and pegs away on the soles of humanity, his wax ends being awl powerful.

H. D. Jones comes next with a full line of groceries, provisions, glass and queensware.

Next is the old reliable hardware and implement store of Clendinen Bros. W. Hurd and T. R. Clendinen form the active business firm and H. A. Dean manages the extensive tin shop maintained with the establishment.

Next door we find the old established meat market of Wm. Tolley. He and son, Harry, are accomplished butchers.

Next door east is the post office Drug Store presided over by that prince of druggist, O. L. Kinsey, and assisted by W. P. Stillwell.

Arriving at the corner we find P.C.Hull with a large stock of general merchandise, dry goods, groceries, clothing, notions, etc.

Charles Neuman ably assists him while Mrs. Hull lends a helping hand on busy days.

Across Main Street on the north east corner of the square is located the Pacific House, John Dopp proprietor.

At the depot are located the elevators of C. W. Lord and E. E. Clark. They each have a capacity of from eight to ten cars a day and are equipped with all the modern improvements. Each handles coal in connection with the grain business and Mr. Lord buys and ships stock. Will I. Dopp is engineer at Lord's and A. S. Edwards at Clarks.

C. J. Johnson and I N. Richardson do an exclusive business in handling and shipping butter, eggs and poultry, while James Clark ships butter and eggs and I. F. Tudor and Co. ships poultry. In the past year they have shipped 12,616 lbs. of poultry representing a cash value of $810.48 and 35,528 lbs of butter.

The painter and paper hangers are M. D. Slater and Farra Bros. The former is a plasterer, brick layer and mason. J. H. Peters is a stone mason.

The carpenters and builders are L. P. Williams, C. S. Taylor, Geo. Knowles, J. C. Shippee, M. W. Bates, Sam Siders and H. H., Taylor.

Well diggers are Dan Twombly and R. T. Overacker, while Tom Ellis runs a power well drill.

The Delphos Roller Mills is as good a plant as can be found on the Solomon River, and is supplying the surrounding country with as good a quality of flour as can be found anywhere. White and Co. are the proprietors and are to be congratulated upon the popularity to which their excellent brands of flour have attained.

The sorghum mills are operated by H. Gilbreath and W. B. Eames, both making an excellent quality of syrup. Mr. Gilbreath made 4,000 gallons this season and the latter nearly as much.

Mr. Blanchard has the only apiary and supplies the vicinity with honey.

Joe Duncan buys and ships stock and deals in windmills. He

has put up a large number of mills the past season which have given good satisfaction in every instance.

Our drying interests are looked after by David Barker, Bob Cor.....and Jones. Strickler and Jones are dealers and agents for Real Estate, Loans and Insurance (unreadable) and its members in particular, and is a financial Gibraltar.

The U. P. depot is managed by agent C.J.C. Prior assisted by J. C. Dopp.

The total shipment of eggs by our merchants was 44,471 dozen. Total pounds of butter shipped 56,121. Total pounds of poultry 14,616. Besides there are ten farmers who ship their butter regularly from the station, milking ten to twenty cows.

In addition to these shipments must be added one-third for home consumption, in order to arrive at a just estimate of the importing part the hennery and dairy plays in the farm finances. This would make a total of 57,962 dozen of eggs and 71,161 lbs of butter produced for sale by farmers contiguous to the city.

Delphos will compare favorably in a social, moral or business sense, with any town of its size in the state and possesses a wide awake, rustling class of people who make business hum. If you think we are exaggerating just move here and see how it is for yourselves. There is yet room for more.

FIRE 1893

As taken from the November 17, 1893 issue of *The Delphos Republican* and reprinted in 1996.

THE FIRE FIEND- The East Side wiped out to the Barnum Meat Market. Loss $25,000. Insurance $4,000.

About 5:30 this morning fire was discovered in the east side livery stable. The wind was blowing a strong gale from a north of east direction and the flames spread rapidly to the south and slowly against the wind to the north.

Graham's restaurant was a mass of flames before the crowd had gathered and the family and boarders barely escaped with their lives and what clothing they could grab in the hurry. Only a small portion of the furniture on the lower floor was saved.

Next south was Harry Bower's jewelry store. He and his brother Henry were asleep up stairs and had a narrow escape. The tools, showcases and considerable stock was removed, the valuables being in the safe.

The millinery store of Mrs. R. J. Shippee was next in line, the Corell building. The flames swirled around each end of the stone walls and the interior was soon a fiery furnace.
A few show cases, containing ribbons, laces, bead work, etc., and a sewing machine was all that was saved here and they were badly scorched while taking them through the flames.

The lodge room of the Odd Fellows, Encampment, Rebekahs, K. of P. and W. R. C. were in the second story of the Corell building and lost everything but the I. O. O. F. bible and permanent secretary's books, the Encampment books, financial secretary's books of the Rebekah lodge and the records and financial books of the K. of P. All regalia, paraphernalia, rituals, seals, etc., were destroyed. The Odd Fellows, who sub rented to the other societies had recently fitted up the hall with new emblematic carpet, curtains, altar, pedestals, furniture. etc. Nothing saved.

The Taylor building was occupied, on the ground floor, by Clendinen Bros. as a buggy depository and it was filled when burned.

On the second floor Bob Baxter occupied the front rooms as a residence. He and his wife were in Kansas City at the time of the fire and lost all their household effects and wearing apparel except what they had with them Dwight Butler and wife occupied the back rooms and lost everything, scarcely having time to dress.

The next building was that of the furniture store of W. C. Davis & Co. They had a large stock of wall paper, paints, and oils and undertaking goods which, with their tools, were a total loss. They saved some of the furniture, organs and sewing machines, but they were badly damaged by the intense heat.

In the livery stable ten horses with harness, buggies and feed were burned, nothing saved.

Next north of the livery stable was the barber shop of F. F. Davis. Most of the fixtures were saved.

The post office was the next and last building to the north of the stable destroyed, and by strong, united action, aided by the high wind, the fire was stopped here. The mail, boxes and fixtures were saved, and most of the grocery stock of A. G. Jones, in this building, was saved. The post office safe was broken open and everything in it found unharmed. Harry Bower opened his safe and found everything all right.

James Rae's variety store was in line of the heat, diagonally across from the furniture store, and was badly scorched. It seemed at one time as though it and the entire south side of the square was doomed, but good work and plenty of water saved it. The glass front is badly cracked.

The post office is now in the building occupied by Kinsey & Co. A. G. Jones is temporarily located in the store of Clendinen Bros. Harry Bower has room with J. W. Seymour. Mrs. Shippee has all she saved at the restaurant of Shippee & Son. What W. C. Davis & Co. and Mr. Graham will do we have not yet learned. F. F. Davis says he will have another building as soon as it can be built.

The wind was in the most favorable direction possible for the safety of the rest of the city. Everybody worked like beavers.

Clendinen Bros. supposed they had $500 insurance on their buggies, but after the fire found that it had expired. It would be a good

idea for our citizens to examine their policies.

Burning shingles and other fiery masses were blown a mile southward, but did no damage. The following are the losses:

W. C. Davis & Co. building, stock, tools, and Graham restaurant building. $6,700. Ins. $1,000.
Taylor heirs, building, $2,000.
Mrs. R. J. Shippee, $1,000
John Corell, building, $3,500. Insurance $1,500.
Harry Bower, building and stock, $2,000. Insurance $700.
Clendinen Bros. buggies $1,000.
L.L.Graham, household goods, wearing apparel and restaurant stock, $1,200.
J. B. McCardle, building and livery stock, $1,500, insurance $300.
Rollings & Davis, buildings, $1,000.
L. C. Cunningham, post office fixtures, safe, $200.
A. G. Jones, grocery stock, $200.
Clendinen Bros. horse, $100.
Dr. Stuber, two horses, buggy and harness, $300.
F. F. Davis, damage to barber fixtures, $100.
Harry Downer, cash left under his pillow in Graham restaurant, $300.
Dwight Butler, household goods, and clothing, $100.
Robert Baxter, household goods, clothing, estimated, $300.
Odd Fellows, $1,000. Insurance, $350. Encampment $300, Rebekah, $100, K. O. P., $300 and W. R. C. $50.

Story of Delphos

By I.I. Truex

First published in *The Delphos Republican* in 1926 and again in 1975. Isaac I. Truex came to Ottawa county in the spring of 1874--along with the historic grasshopper plague.

In 1866, site of the city of Delphos was a beautiful rolling prairie, composed mostly of a smooth buffalo grass sod with patches here and there of tall blue stem. Prairie chickens "boomed" all day long on the uplands, while wild turkeys gobbled almost unmolested in the groves along the river and creeks.

The lives of the first settlers in this vicinity would, but for the fear of the Indians, have been almost idyllic. Game, both large and small, was abundant. Wood could be had for the chopping, and hay for the cutting. The settlers made themselves comfortable in rude dugouts, and their stock was well cared for in hay sheds. They all fared alike, and the bickering and jealous faultfinding of old settled countries was entirely absent.

The newly plowed sod produced vegetables in abundance. These people lived on coarse, healthy food and sickness was almost unknown. There were plenty of antelope and deer in the hills west of town, and buffalo as near as Willow Springs, now Beloit.

The following named men with families settled in the vicinity of Delphos previous to 1870; Levi Yockey, Daniel Yockey, David Yockey, John Hardy, Milton Kellar (Mrs. Sullivan's father), Hillhouse, Hendershot, Virtue, Sage, Fowler, Shaffer, McBride, Harding, Cleaver, Stewart, Andrews, Karnes, Rush, Bennett, and three families of Smiths. The names that follow were single men; Maurice Dupont, J. S. Morgan, D. A. Brewster, Dick Rees, Frank Rees, David Mortimer and Strickler brothers.

In the following brief sketch of what happened in Delphos and vicinity in the early days, we hope we will be pardoned if we mention a few of the eccentricities, virtues, and foibles of some of the settlers.

Brewster

In 1866, J. S. Morgan and D. A. Brewster, two young bachelors and ex-soldiers, settled just west of town. Frank Jaquier owns the Brewster farm and Mrs. Linnie Smith and Claud Childs own the Morgan farm. The man Brewster was a very eccentric man, and was surely in a class by himself. If there ever was a man in the Solomon Valley that could "cuss by note" it was this selfsame Brewster. He was the author of many sayings that have been handed down to this day. One was "It always rained in Kansas fifteen minutes before or after everything had gone to hell". Another was: "That Kansas was the hottest and coldest, wettest and driest country on earth". After many years he became "hard-up" and applied for and received a pension from the government. He hadn't received but a few payments when he wrote the pension office a letter and in a few choice oaths told them where to go and instructed them not to send him any more money.

About a year after he settled on his homestead, his sister, Miss Anna Belle Brewster of New Jersey came out to pay him a visit. Miss Brewster was a beautiful blonde, tall and willowy, with a mass of golden hair, but strange as it may seem although there were some fine looking young men in the settlement including Maurice Dupont, Dick Rees, and Frank Rees, who did their best, she was won by a short, sawed-off, freckled face redheaded man, J. S. Morgan. It always did seem to us (that) redhead men always did get the best of everything on earth.

Indian Raid

The first Indian raid down this valley was August 12, 1868. When the alarm was sounded that the Indians were raiding in the vicinity of Beloit, and coming this way, all the families in the locality consisting of four families of Yockeys, the Hillhouse family, Karnes, Bennetts, Miss Brewster, Hendershots, Rush, Hardy and part of the Gates family all got together and started to Minneapolis, where they thought they would be safe. Some were in wagons drawn by oxen, some by mules and horses, while the Hardy family and some others were afoot trying to keep up with the rest.

Ed Hardy who now lives in town was then a lad of twelve, and to whom we are indebted for many facts and incidents of this retreat.

We think, he and Will Hillhouse are the only living witnesses of what transpired. Another young boy, a few years older than Ed, named Abe Karnes was driving a yoke of wild Cherokee oxen to a big California wagon that was packed full of women and children. This outfit was entirely unarmed. There were only two men along and one gun, no ammunition for that.

Most of the men after seeing their families well started on their journey turned West to intercept the Indians and guard a family at Asherville that was too sick to be moved. About 1 p.m. when half way to Minneapolis they were overtaken by the Indians, who were after a man named C. C. Clark who with this young wife, were in a wagon to which was hitched a fine team of horses. Mrs. Clark was lying down in the wagon box while her husband was up in the front and urging his horses, which were running in good form. When the Indians came alongside of the caravan they began shooting at Clark and as their rifles cracked, Abe Karnes' wild Cherokee oxen commended to jump and kick, to run away. To add to the excitement the women and children commenced screaming. The Indians paid little heed to them, but kept on after Clark as they wanted his fine horses; but in a short time seeing that they could not overtake him, they gave up the chase crossed the river and disappeared.

The settlers became separated and wandered around that evening and all night, afraid to call to each other for fear the Indians were lying in ambush. About daybreak, Hardy, Cleaver, Hillhouse and Dr. McHenry came in search of them, found them, then they all went Minneapolis together--tired, hungry, and nothing to eat when they got there.

No one was killed in this vicinity, but some horses were stolen and the Shaffer home northwest of town was burned. The much more serious Indian raid in which several settlers were killed began October 13th of the same year.

Second Indian Raid

The second raid on the settlers of this locality occurred on October 13, 1868, the same year as the first one. They were better prepared this time and but for this they probably would all have been murdered.

James S. Morgan was the first man shot. He and his young bride were living on their farm one mile west from where the Union Pacific station now stands. That part of the farm is now owned by Mrs. Linnie Smith. Morgan was husking corn on the Brewster farm now owned by Frank Jaquier. Each morning he would put his Army carbine by his wagon as it was rumored that the Indians were preparing to raid the valley. But on the fatal morning he left it home, telling his wife that he was tired of bothering with it.

About two o' clock that afternoon he saw a small band of Indians coming through the corn toward him. They were armed and painted, and he knew they meant business. He called to them, demanding they stop or he would shoot. They paid no attention to this. One of his horses was a fast one and thought if he could get him loose he could escape. He dropped the tugs and was in front of them trying to get the breast straps down when an Indian ran up and shot him in the right hip. He ran for the river, the Indians followed and shooting at him as they ran, but none of these latter shots found their mark. He plunged into the river and hid in some willows and escaped.

In the mean time the horses ran away and returned to the house. His wife thinking that her husband had had a runaway jumped on one of the horses to search for him. She had gone a little distance when the Indians rode up beside her knocked her off the horse with a war club, then bound her to a pony. She then lost consciousness until the Indians made camp among the hills, where Nels Peterson's farm is located.

At this time there were about fifty Indians in camp. After darkness descended, Morgan came out of his hiding place, dragged himself home only to find her gone. Thinking she had escaped to Minneapolis he started for that place. He was found the next day and taken to Minneapolis where his wound was dressed by Dr. McHenry.

Of Mrs. Morgan little more need to be said, as the story has often been told. Suffice it to say she was recaptured by General Custer, out on the plains of western Texas and returned to her husband eight months from the time she was taken by the Indians. She took up the duties of life where she left them, but she was a changed and saddened woman. She reared three children to maturity and in after life

her mind became clouded. She now sleeps in our beautiful cemetery out on the hill.

A good many of the settlers when hearing that the Indians were on the warpath took refuge in stockades that they had built for the purpose. One was on the Hillhouse farm a few miles north of town. Another was on the Levi Yockey farm a short distance west of the upper railroad crossing on the banks of Yockey creek.

On the afternoon that Morgan was shot, Alex Smith and his aged father were breaking prairie sod with two yoke of oxen on what is now known as the Bennett farm, southwest of town. They were the uncle and grandfather of Alex and Frank Smith who now live on the west side of the river.

Toward evening a band of Indians attacked them. One of them hit the old gentleman in the mouth with a lance, cutting it from ear to ear. Another shot Alex, and leaving them for dead, rode off. After dark the older revived and dragged himself to the house, driving the oxen before him. He unyoked them and crawled in a comcrib to hide. Mrs. Alex Smith and her two little girls and Grandma Smith seeing their husbands attacked, ran in among some willows and hid themselves.

On the afternoon the Smiths were attacked, Milton Keller, who lived just south of where the Hossack Mill now stands, and John Smith were stacking hay about where Billy Clark now lives.
When they saw the Indians coming they rode for the river, and noticing they were being rapidly overtaken, they escaped. Mr. Keller waded the river around to the John Hardy farm south of his own and found Mrs. Hardy and the children hiding in some willows.

They were greatly frightened as they could see Indians riding on all sides of them. About 5 p.m. Bob Smith, Marion Hendershot and two others rode down to the Hardy place. Bob put Mrs. Hardy on his horse and they all started to Minneapolis. When they came near his father's place, he said he could go no farther till he found out what had become of his folks. He waded across the river and called repeatedly and searched the premises the best he could in the darkness, but he could find no one. His mother and sister-in-law and two little girls hear him calling, but were afraid to come from their hiding places for fear it was Indians. He went back and took Mrs. Hardy and the chil-

dren to within three miles of Minneapolis when he returned to his father's house and searching all night but found no one. When daylight came a sad sight met his eyes.

He found his father hidden under hay in a corn crib, dying. His mother and the others seeing who it was came out of their hiding. He went out to where his brother had been plowing, but his body was not there. He tracked him to the river by the blood, but there lost the trail. He found him a few days afterward, partly submerged in the river with his arm locked around a small tree, dead. *(We think this was one of the bravest deeds heard of-this young man searching and calling all night when uncertain but that any minute he would be shot down by some Indians in ambush.)*

Two men, besides the Smiths were killed in this vicinity, John Andrews and Peter Karnes. Andrews was killed just east of the Spiritualist Campground. The Karnes family, with the four Yockey families were inside a hastily built stockade. The Indians gave this defense a wide berth as there were men inside well armed with good rifles and were real marksman. Karnes thinking Indians had all passed, went home to do the chores. He was shot down from ambush by two Indians.

When Bob Smith left the Hardy family near Minneapolis and went back to search for his people, they went on to that place. They found many there with nothing to eat. We want to say this of Mrs. Hardy, that no more efficient and kinder hearted woman ever lived on any frontier. She hunted up "Bud" Dupont, a brother of our fellow townsman, Maurice, who ran a little stone chopping burr down where the Elkhard Mills were later located. He gave her some chopped wheat that had been tramped out by horses and winnowed in the wind. With this crude material she went back to her children. She had no stove or cooking utensils. She hunted up an old scoop shovel; scoured the rust from the back of it and on this she baked flapjacks for her starving children. Ed, her son told us later that never in his life did he ever taste anything quite so good.

Third Indian Raid

The third and last Indian raid down this valley was in 1869. The

Indians killed several settlers up near Beloit. They rode across the present site of Delphos and down by the Hardy farm. There they rode through the yard between the house and the barnyard where Mrs. Hardy and Ed were milking cows. They fired several shots, one going through the hen house door. They then went across the river and killed a man named Dyre who lived at Indian lookout, where the Nelson ranch is now located.

Delphos, the town

The town site of Delphos was mapped out by W. A. Kiser, its first settler in 1870, and recorded in January 1871. It was given its name by Levy Yockey in honor of his old home town, Delphos, Ohio. About this time settlers from the East began flocking in.

Among the first ministers that settled here was Rev. Adams, a Methodist. He lived but a short time before his death. He began to lay the foundation for the present flourishing Methodist church.

The first Union Sunday School was organized in the old log school house in the Spring of 1871 of which G. N. Nichols, a settler wrote: "There were plenty of good singers and these accompanied by a melodeon, which was furnished for each occasion music of no mean order floated out upon the prairie which but two years before had been traversed by bands of bloodthirsty savages". This school was superintended by D. Davis.

About this time old Uncle Levy Yockey started a little hotel on the banks of Yockey Creek. Here the young men of town boarded and woe unto any of them who were in arrears with his board bill as Yockey was an irascible old German who believed in taking the law into his own hands. About the time Yockey started the little hotel, a man named Morris Robecker started a stage line from Solomon City to the hotel. He did a thriving business from the start, bringing up homesteaders and also mail. Since the mail was distributed by Yockey, he became the first postmaster.

The first hardware store in town was started by a man named Fancher, who brought his young wife with him from the state of Illinois. Mrs. Fancher brought her piano with her--the first one in Delphos. She could play it nicely and sing like an angel and a great many of the

young folks, who had never heard such singing nor a piano at all, believed for a long time she was one.

At the time the Disney hotel was built the stage line was extended to Cawker City and an eccentric old gentleman, William Hall, built a livery barn to keep a part of the stage horses in and also built a little store where Lloyd Hunt Produce now stands.

The first mill in this vicinity was built by a man named Beaver. The power that ran this little mill was furnished by a rude log dam on the spot where the cement dam now stands that furnishes power to pull the big Hossack Mills.

Dr. Payne who settled on the west side of the river, was the first man in this locality to hang out his shingle as an M. D. He was a fine physician, but a poor collector. If he ever presented his bill to one of his patients we never heard of it. If he could now collect all his back bills with interest, he could now be wearing diamonds. He is now a hale old man now living in town and is "just waiting for the boatman".

About the time Dr. Payne settled here, a man named Doc Stanley put up a small building in town and put in a stock of drugs.

The first postmaster of Delphos who lived within its limits was George W. Strickler, who lived with his young wife, came from Indiana and settled here in 1871. Mr. Strickler built a little storeroom where the Economy Store now stands. He and a young man named Frank Sexton, started a general store at this place. The post office was in the same building.

The great majority of the people that settled in Delphos and vicinity were energetic and determined young married couples. No wonder our boys and girls are going out in the world and filling responsible positions with honor and efficiency for their progenitors were as fine a set of young couples as ever settled any country on this earth.

(Note: We made a mistake when we said Maurice Dupont taught the first school in the old log schoolhouse on the banks of Yockey creek. It was Mrs. Neidham. Mr. Dupont taught the first school in the county, but was in an old log house in Minneapolis.)

About the time George W. Strickler was appointed postmaster, the people of Ottawa county elected his partner, Frank Sexton county clerk. He remained in that office many years and never returned to

Delphos to live. He founded the State Bank of Delphos in 1880 and appointed George N. Billings cashier, who still holds that office.

About this time settlers from the East began flocking in and homesteading the prairie land away from the river and creeks. Three young men Simpson, Seymour and Easly built a frame building where the State Bank now stands and put in a stock of groceries.

Settlers built a log school house down on the banks of Yockey Creek. Mrs. Neidham taught the first school in this building. It was used as a community center and all kinds of public meetings were held in it. The first sermon preached in it was by a Methodist minister by the name of Jones. Shortly after this came Father Bracken as he was called, a Presbyterian minister, and then Father Bishop, a kind and genial old gentleman who adhered to the Universalist faith.

(Comment: And it was just as easy and handy for a young fellow in those days when he took his girl out in a big wagon joy riding to tie the lines to the brake beam and let the mules take care of themselves as it is for the young man of today to drive a Ford with one hand.)

Little New York

In 1871 a number of families from one locality in the state of New York settled four miles north of town. They were Geo. N. Billings, William Webster, G. N. Nichols and others. They were a jolly set of young married couples that didn't take life too seriously and looked upon the whole thing as rather a "lark". The land on which they settled was fine rolling prairie, covered with buffalo grass as smooth as a new mown meadow.

Young Billings lost no time in digging a dugout and moving his wife and young son into it. The first thing Mrs. Billings said was, "George, where is the stovepipe hole?' And George could only admit "I entirely forgot it, but Grace I don't want to spoil that nice smooth dirt roof by digging a hole through it, so we will put the blamed thing through the window." This they did and placed an elbow of the end of the pipe which had to be turned opposite from the direction from which the wind was blowing. Mrs. Billing said afterwards, "I almost wore my legs off running up and down the dugout steps adjusting that stove-

pipe to changing winds."

Those were the golden days for the settlers in this part of the valley. All danger from Indians was over. Emigrants from all parts of the United States and from across the sea were coming in daily and most of them bringing in quite a little cash. Nine out of ten paid no taxes. No interest to pay as no one was in debt.

The soil was new and most years produced crops abundantly. Of course, there were a great many inconveniences. It took three days to market a load of wheat in Solomon or Salina. It is doubtful there was a buggy in Sheridan township. Nothing but wagons, buckboards, go-carts and oxcarts. Good roads were scarce, and that didn't make much difference as each settler had a road of his own. When he wanted to go anywhere he made a beeline for that place and paid no attention to roads. If a team of horses or mules took it into their heads to run away no one paid much attention to them as there were no barbed wire fences or trees to run into.

(I've seen a bunch of boys in a wagon to which was hitched a team of mules that were running away, take a blacksnake whip and lash them to make them speed up all the more. Don't blame your young men too much when you see them running races in their Fords and Buicks for they are the sons and grandsons of those boys that pounded those runaway mules over the back to make them run faster.)

Disney Hotel

In 1871 Leroy Disney of Mount Vernon, Ohio, moved his family to the little city and built its first hotel. The frame of the building was of cottonwood and was one of the few that stood the great storm of June 1879 when Delphos was almost completely demolished. This building stands just north of the West Side Garage and is as good as the day it was built.

Mrs. Disney was a fine cook. She had four grown sons and a daughter, Clare, who was a fine singer. No wonder all the young men in town deserted the Yockey house and moved to the Disney hotel, which after this was the social center of the little city. With Mrs. Fancher at the piano, Mrs. Strickler leading the soprano and Miss Disney the

contralto, while the young men took up the tenor and bass, music of considerable ability floated out on the prairie.

Churches

The first church built in Delphos was a Universalist; a stone structure. Father Bishop, as everyone called him was the prime factor in the building of this church. Although a man advanced in years, he went out into the stone quarries on the west side of the river and wielded sledge and hammer to shape the stone with which to put up this building. Among those assisting him were: Uncle Joe Morris, William Hall, Elihu Barnum, Arb Barnum, LeRoy Bishop and Joe Bishop.

On a beautiful sabbath morning in June 1876 this church was dedicated. A large and new Estey organ had been purchased a short time before the occasion. A choir from the people of the town and surrounding country was selected, and all the years since, I don't think I've heard sweeter singing than I heard that morning in June in this little pioneer town.

Father Bishop at this time arose and explained to the people that a debt of two thousand dollars was hanging over the church that must be paid before the dedication ceremonies could proceed. A wave of enthusiasm seemed at this time to sweep over the people. Elihur Barnum was the first to rise and say he would give fifty dollars. He was followed by many more, some for smaller sums and in less than thirty minutes this debt was subscribed for. As this was announced, Rev. Bishop, with tears of joy streaming down his cheeks, and in a burst of eloquence that we have rarely heard equaled, thanked the audience for their generosity. And such an anthem of joy as went up from the choir and congregation would be hard to describe.

A circuit Baptist preacher by the name of George Balcom from some parish up the river used to stop and show the old sinner where to "head in". He was a large man, over six feet tall with a long flowing white beard and looked not unlike the pictures of the old patriarchs in the Bible. He was an orator from 'way back' and while Bracken and Bishop preached sermons that God was afar off, but that the Devil and Hell were near at hand. We well remember when as a 20 year old boy in listening to one of his powerful sermons regarding the separa-

tion of the sheep from the goats, how our knees trembled and knocked together for fear we were one of the latter.

Among the first ministers that settled here was Rev. Adams, a Methodist.

School

In 1873 the people of Delphos deserted the old log school house on the banks of Yockey Creek and held public school in a new two story stone structure which stood near where the present school building stands. The upper story was used for all kinds of public meetings. Here the young people help their dances. An eccentric old young man played the fiddle. His name was Abraham Karnes. Abe was glad when they quit having dances on dirt floors and moved on to the boards as he could tap with his boot heel.

On special occasions the boys would send to Minneapolis for Reyley Penniman and Charley Dale to make music. Reyley played on the violin while Charley played a cornet. These young men were fine musicians and jolly fellows. We were always glad to have them come. Of later years we have lost trace of these men, and so far as we have knowledge they have exchanged their violin and cornet for "harps of gold".

The people of this vicinity did not get to enjoy their new school house very long, as it burned during a blizzard in the winter of 1874-75. From the time of the burning of this building until the dedication of the Universalist church, all public meetings, Sunday School and church were held in the little frame building that stood where the Ledigh-Havens Lumber office is located.

Here Dr. Davis lectured on philosophical and scientific subjects, and old man Hall would harangue the people on all matter of subjects. An old gentleman named McGreggor, used to preach occasionally in this building, as his name indicates he was a thoroughbred Scotchman and loved everything that had a Scotch brand on it.

I'm indebted to John White for the following yarn concerning the old gentleman McGreggor. Mr. White spent many years in the Solomon Valley and helped build it up, but is now living in retirement in the city of St. Louis.

When Delphos was almost wiped off the map by the great tempest

that came from the Northwest in June 1879 McGreggor was caught in a falling building and wounded. In going their rounds relieving the injured Dr. Payne and Mr. White found in the debris, unconscious. Doc carried a large long necked bottle filled with brandy. He pushed the neck of this bottle in the mouth of the old man and held it there a long time. On removing it he remarked, "My God, John I'm afraid I've killed him by giving him an overdose." But not so. He rallied immediately and in a slow drawling voice said, "Doctor, will you kindly repeat that dose as often as you deem necessary?" It was found out afterwards that he was but little hurt.

Spiritualists

While the orthodox religious organizations were being built up a new doctrine, called Spiritualism sprang up. It was ably advocated by four men: Joy Blanchard, Milliard Blanchard, Dr. Ballou and George Knowles. They claimed that spirits can and do return to earth after death and they had solved in the affirmative the old, old question, "If a man die shall he live again?". They pointed out that many sacred writers mentioned the visits of spirits (angels) to earth, and that John, the revelator in a vision saw a "Great multitude that no man could number". This society increased quite rapidly and in a few years bought a beautiful grove northwest of town. This they improved by putting up buildings and planting and pruning the trees. Here each August was held a camp meeting that attracted people of that belief from all parts of the country.

Grasshoppers/Locust

In the afternoon of July 26, 1874, a great black cloud appeared in the north. It immediately attracted much attention by its peculiar and ominous appearance. As it came close the cry of "grasshopper" was heard in every mouth. A subdued roaring was heard in the sky and the sun was hid as in a rainstorm. It is to the everlasting credit of the people that they didn't become panic stricken. Towards evening the locust began settling to the earth. It was noticed immediate that they seemed ravenously hungry and attacked everything green.

By three o'clock next day there wasn't a blade of corn left in the whole state of Kansas. This cloud of locusts extended from the Cana-

dian border to the Gulf of Mexico, and about 100 miles of the Missouri River to the Rocky Mountains. The story of this great catastrophe has been told many times and need not be enlaaraged upon here. (Ed note: note change from Grasshopper to Locust)

In a later article Treux went on to say:

In the following notes we will use the word locust instead of grasshopper, as they did not hop but flew in the air like birds. In the 1874 invasion they stayed but a few weeks, leaving without laying their eggs. In 1876 there was another visitation. They came later in the season, about September 20th. They ate the corn blades off as before, but it was so nearly matured that they did it but little damage. This time they remained all fall and laid their eggs.

In May of the following year they hatched out in millions and immediately began devouring all kinds of crops. I believe the settlers came nearer getting panic stricken at this time than ever before or since. The State Legislature met in an extra session and passed a law compelling the road supervisors to call all able bodied to go into the fields and drive the young locusts into strips of straw placed across the fields for the purpose and burn them.

The men on the west side of the river met on Lash Duncan farm to begin a drive. The young locusts at this time couldn't fly but a short distance without stopping to rest. The absurdity of the idea that a few men driving this countless host from thousands of acres was apparent to all. These men soon disbanded, all going home resolving to fight their own locusts. It was a comic sight to see whole families from the old granddads down to little tots not more than four years old, all armed with old rags, brooms, or anything that came handy, all out in the garden pawing the air and shouting at the top of their voices to drive off the little marauders.

But relief was at hand. In a short time the young locusts developed strong wings and began flying away. Those that stayed behind were attacked by a peculiar parasite that soon caused their death. There was still time to replant the crops; and as the season was a rainy one, an abundant crop was raised.

Sports and games

In the early seventies, the young fellows were just as keen for sports

as the boys of today. They organized a baseball club and laid out a diamond where the part is now located. Among the charter members of this club were: Lew Service, Lee Barnum, Charley Neuman, Andrew Doty, Sammy Doty, Bob Rollings, Ray Newman and Jimmy Clark.

A club was organized in Minneapolis about the same time, and a good natured rivalry sprang up between the two organizations. Among the Minneapolis boys I remember: Frank Sexton, Reyley Penniman, Joe Smith, Dave Hoag, and W. A. Johnson. Saturday afternoon was baseball time and the two clubs played alternately in the two cities.

The boys from the county seat always brought young Johnson along. They said they never had any luck when he was absent, so they brought him along as sort of mascot, so to speak, as he was not much of a player. That luck he brought his ball colleagues has followed all his life, as he is a hale, hearty old gentleman now and has been Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court for many years.

Thanksgiving

In 1871, the settlers in "Little New York" as they were called just north of town concluded they must have a turkey roast on Thanksgiving Day, as had been their custom in their old home state of New York. George Billings and Will Webster were selected to bring in the turkey. About a week before Thanksgiving Day they began their hunt for the bird. By this time the country was pretty well settled, and many more were hunting Thanksgiving dinners, too.

One day they would hunt along the river and the next up Mortimer Creek, then down Yockey Creek, but no turkey could they find. Towards the last, their wives began making fun of them for being such poor hunters. Sunup Thanksgiving morning found them down on the river west of town in a last desperate effort to get that turkey. They hunted quite awhile, but with no luck, so with heavy hearts, started for home. George was armed with a fine double barrel shotgun, but Will had an old army musket loaded about a foot deep with powder and paper wads and turkey shot.

As they walked dejectedly along about where the railway station is now located, a big fine gobbler arose from a patch of young bushes and sailed away--a beautiful shot. Billings fired at it point blank with both barrels, but didn't ruffle a feather. Webster banged away with his old musket and brought the turkey to earth. They carried it home in

triumph. Dinner was a little late, but it was a feast "fit for the gods'.

Someone asked them later what they would have done if they had failed to get a turkey that morning. They both swore they would have camped out and lived on jack rabbits a week, before they would have gone home and withstood their wives' raillery,

Peaches

In an early day old Uncle Levy Yockey sent to Ohio and had some peach seed sent to him. He planted them with great care. In a few years he had a thrifty little orchard that commenced to bear. Although they were seedlings, they were quite large and had a delicious flavor and an aroma that would be hard to describe. They caused a great amount of excitement as it was thought fruit would not grow here.

The old man passed seed around to his neighbors and in a few years every settler had a thrifty young peach orchard. They grew much better in those days than now as there were no peach borers and curculious in the vicinity to destroy them. The history of pioneer fruits about Delphos territory would be incomplete without mentioning the Billings peach. The seed of this peach was introduced by Geo. N. Billings. It has been in the Billings family for more the 150 years. It was a medium sized golden yellow free stone, the flavor of which was about perfect. It was the leading peach here for many years, but I'm afraid it is now extinct.

Strawberries

About this time another horticultural surprise was in store for the early settlers. A. J. Bowers, a kindly genial old gentleman, living north east of town succeeded in raising a fine strawberry bed. None thought it possible to raise them in this climate. He brought several boxes to town and placed them on exhibit in Strickler's store. They were admired by all who saw them. Mr. Bowers was very painstaking in telling others how to grow them and soon many of his neighbors were enjoying this delicious fruit. He was considered by many of us an old man in those days. but he and his wife are still living hale and hearty in the beautiful city of Fairview, Oklahoma.

Although we are now eating peaches and strawberries and cream let's not forget those lowly, sour, little wild gooseberries and grapes that so nobly stood by us in the days when we were so hard up for

fruit. Let us not forget the pies made from them although sweetened by Parachards sorghum.

HISTORY OF THE MASONS

conditions, events, and circumstances surrounding the birth of Delphos Lodge No. 202 A. F. A. M.

by Alva S. Adams

This history of Delphos Lodge No. 202 A.F.A.M. was written in 1926 by Alva S. Adams and published in *The Delphos Republican* beginning April 21, 1994. As well as the history of the Mason Lodge, the people and situations are described.

The statements recorded are facts not fancies, which were secured largely from the early minutes and directly from those who were present and helped enact many of the scenes and situations.

By the year 1879, among the early pioneers in the vicinity of Delphos, who had weathered the Indian attacks, drought, deluges and grasshopper invasions were about 10 or 20 Master Masons. They were a very representative groups of the early plainsmen of this period, principally farms with a scattering of the professional and a few business men. Their lodge affiliations were with eastern lodges located principally in the Middle Atlantic states and western states north of the Ohio River.

Then, as is true today, Masonry had gripped a few more firmly than others. And these Masons were exceedingly anxious that a lodge of Master Masons should exist in this inland, prairie town of Delphos.

Sam Webster

Perhaps there was no man more interested in this project than Sam Webster. He was a man of about 5'6" in height, heavy and sturdy built and dark complexion. By trade he was a blacksmith and farmer who lived about four miles northeast of Delphos (this land is now owned by H. Inscho). Sam had only recently returned from Arizona, where accompanied by Geo. N. Billings and Will Webster, he had driven over land with a covered wagon and mule team to find work for a livelihood following the grasshopper invasion of 1876. Sam had worked at his trade while in Arizona and had now migrated back with his companions, laden with hunter's trophies picked up during their stay and while enroute.

Sam Webster had two Masonic neighbors, who were also deeply interested in the Masonic project. The one had been his bed fellow on the Arizona trip and lived about two miles west from Sam's farm and the other resided about the same distance northwest.

Geo. N. Billings

The neighbor on the west was no other than Geo. N. Billings, who lived on his claim across the line in Cloud county. One rainy day young Billings started north from where Delphos now stands with a loaded wagon and team leaving a trail behind in the soft sod as he made his way to his claim. This was the first wagon trail made up the section line past the C. J. Ballou farm, with its excellent highway today. He crossed the Teed creek about 60 yards west and south of the present bridge as this afforded much easier crossing.

Billings loved to hunt. And hunting in those days was more than a sport. It was practiced by some as a business and a means of livelihood. And each fall and early winter found three or four covered wagons of men starting for the northwest to lay in the winters supply of buffalo meat. These trips extended to northwest Kansas, southwest Nebraska and sometimes into Colorado. Billings had brought with him from the east an especially good Mayhard breech load rifle, accurate and nicely made. And he was chosen by this group of men as their marksman. The remaining men butchered, skinned and cared for the meat.

Buffalo hunting must be done leisurely. When a herd of buffalo was sighted, he would cautiously crawl and hide up ravines and hollows to as close a range as possible without detection. He would then watch and closely observe what he considered to be the head or leader of the herd.

This was usually an old cow buffalo, which would be shot first. Then a wait as not to startle the herd by rapid fire. Upon the loss of their leader when she lay down, the other buffaloes would gather close around and begin milling round and round in the same spot. By slow fire and this procedure many times practically an entire herd would be shot down. Then began the skinning. Nothings but the clear meat was taken, no bones. When cooled, this was wrapped and covered with blankets, papers, and wearing apparel and placed in the wagon during the day. And at night it was hung in the open on all sides

of the wagon and along the tongue, where it might become cooled in the night air. The surface gradually became dry and by this process of keeping the meat cool it kept well until the return home and during the entire winter. The hunters generally came home well laded with sufficient meat to last through the winter.

Brother Billings still has in his possession a mounted deer head which he shot on Cole Creek about six miles northwest of Solomon in 1874. And he says "he was as fat as butter".

Billings lived here on his homestead, neighbor to brother Webster for several years, working part time in town as a clerk in grocery stores and later secured an interest in a private bank started here by F. M. Sexton of Minneapolis. He later sold his homestead and invested the proceeds in the bank in which he is still active and cashier. But back to our story again.

Henry K. Bernard

The other neighbor who lived about the same distance northeast and resided in what was considered than an excellent stone house was considered one of the better fixed settlers, financially speaking. Brother Henry K. Bernard was a jovial farmer who made and held friends readily.

It was a well known fact that it would be necessary before a charter could be obtained, that these young Masons would be required to show their "stuff". So over to Sam's came young Billings from the west, riding a horse for want of a buggy. And down from the north came neighbor Bernard, driving a nimble span of mules to a spring wagon.

Then down back of the house, by the shallow banks of the creek marked them off the form of a Lodge; "its length from east to west, its breadth from north to south, its depth from its center to its circumference and its height from the earth to the heaven", literally. And in this Lodge marched these three pioneers quoting their lectures, and the assistance of each other and initiated their invisible candidate in due form. Without doubt this was, in spirit at least, the first Delphos Lodge #202.

Porter Hull

But do not inter from these first remarks that these three were

the only settlers helping to breath life into the Masonic idea, which was now beginning take root. There was Porter Hull, a prospering young merchant who had migrated up the river from Solomon, where he had worked as a clerk, and was now in business for himself. Following the terrible cyclone of 1870, he built the Hull store building, which still stands, and was just being completed about this time.

Not only the merchant was Porter Hull, but was also later the "pay man" or banker in these pre-bank days. His was one of the very few safes, and when grain was bought the grain buyer gave the seller a ticket upon which was stated the amount due. Upon presentment of this ticket brother Hull paid the farmer his money. This in itself, gives us an idea of the standing of brother Hull in the community as to honesty and integrity. He was a quiet man, exacting, very particular, and wonderfully accurate. How disgusted and nearly sick he became. when he made a mistake. Brother Hull was probably one of the best informed of the early Masons and helped materially in securing the dispensation.

Van Butler

Another well versed and informed Mason who helped untiringly in establishing #202 was a very pleasant, small man of about 130 pounds, who lived on a farm one half mile east of what we now term the Nichols farm north of town. Van Butler was happiest when he was puttering around his fruit trees. In fact Van was a better fruit tree man than farmer. He later quit the farm went into business here in Delphos. Brother Van Butler was our first Worshipal Master and was a good one. He and Porter Hull were the most active and probably best informed in the unwritten work.

John Eacker

On a 40-acre tract and about one half mile northeast of Delphos lived another Mason. He was of average height, thin and wore a full bushy beard. "A mighty good man was John Eacker." He had come west and had been a member of the Greeley colony settling at Greeley, Colo. But becoming dissatisfied he turned his fact eastward and in 1880 was helping organize Delphos Lodge #202. He was the Lodge's first treasurer and was described by a brother as being "very, very faithful and always present".

And the above sturdy men all of whom later became officers

under the charter, with the assistance of several others, who will be mentioned in detail later, called an informal meeting to consider establishing a lodge, organize and learn the work. The building they met in stood directly north of the Scranton Poultry House on the east side of the square. A building very similar to a two story dwelling. It later burned in the fire which wiped out the east side. They met in the upper story of this building to perfect their plans.

Perhaps it would be of interest to take a birds eye view of our public square at about this period and a few years preceding.

Square-west side

On the west side of the square were three principal buildings. A hardware store stood where the I.O.O.F. Hall now stands. Our brother Sam Webster's blacksmith shop stood a few feet south of this near where the Pool Hall is now located in the Seymour building and south of this near the corner stood a modest little building with a "Drugs" sign in the window, which was operated by John Strickler. This little drug store was no different than the others of this period. Any whiskey was the chief profit and most staple article. In fact it was regarded as a cure for all diseases by many.

A story later told in confidence by Mr. Stricker, relative to the leading physician and surgeon in Delphos at this Time, Dr. J. H. Payne, another of our charter members and one of the two who still survives. Brother Payne lived on his homestead west of Delphos, and was the only doctor here in the early period. He traveled far and near, largely on horseback to administer to the sick. He was considered a well informed doctor. Dr. Payne had his prescriptions filled at the Strickler drug store. And as doctors are given special favors at the soda fountains today so they were then. In fact, the doctors were given free access to the liquor bottles. Now John Strickler appreciated a joke, so one day in the doctors favorite brand he mixes some ipecac, just a small amount and tasteless but effective still. Several days pass; the doctor takes his not unusual beverage for health sake. In confidence one day he says to Strickler, "I can prescribe for others but my case has me stumped. I'll be dead if I can take a drink of whiskey without getting sick." This was told by Strickler long after the event and at that time he had never let the doctor in on the secret.

Square-north side

On the north side of the square the buildings were more plentiful. Until the cycle year, a small hotel occupied the present P.C. Hull site. The new hotel was rebuilt following the storm where the present hotel now stands. West of the first hotel was a shoe and harness shop ran by Tom Talley and David Louden. The first paper *The Delphos Herald* was edited here. Tom furnished the motive power and Dave set up the type. And sometimes the paper came out and sometimes it didn't. It was not an unusual sight to see them working on their paper with the printing outfit in the open.

Farther down the street was the city barber shop. It was located where our present secretary, H. P. Dean's electric shop now is. F.F. Davis was the proprietor. There was no beauty parlor in connection and you sat now in a leather padded folding chair but in a straight, stiff back dining room chair. Perhaps there was a season for beards being in vogue. A store, with a variety of goods for sale occupied the Woodward site.

W. H. Clendenin

And another of our early members was in business where the Racket grocery now is. W. H. Clendenin came here from southern Illinois and entered the hardware business in the present Shroyer building. He lived above his store and later built the Parks' stone building directly east. into which he moved his stock of goods. Brother Clendenin was a large man of dark complexion with a big beard. He was a pleasant man and made friends rapidly.

Square-east side

On the east side Geo. Strickler had built the present Economy store building. The two story dwelling like building stood south of this. And a livery barn completed the east side buildings.

Buildings were also more scarce on the south side of the square. On the southeast corner, where the Hunt Produce now is, a store was located. Across the road east from this was another livery.

Water well

The first water well in Delphos was the old corner pump, on the State Bank corner, now marked by a drinking fountain. This well was dug by Samuel Doty. And previous to this practical all drinking

water was gotten from a spring in the bank of the creek south of Clyde Sullivan's house. This spring ran an unfailing supply of clear, fresh, sparkling water winter and summer. While drinking at this spring, we are told by an early pioneer that in gazing up he saw 12 or 14 native antelope run by passing over what is now our city park. They bounced lightly over the green sod and were soon out of sight. So much for the water works for this period.

So in this setting and under these conditions the Masons before mentioned, with the following members, were granted a dispensation from the Grand Lodge then located in Ft. Scott, Kansas in 1880. Those members not previously mentioned were as follows:

A. D. Keables

A. D. Keables was a large, pleasant, easy going man in the lumber business, located where the Golden Belt Lumber Co. now is. He wore a mustache, was dark, very agreeable and a successful business man. Brother Keables was the first mayor of Delphos.

A. W. Trumble

A. W. Trumble was located in a blacksmith shop where the Nels Peterson residence now stands, directly north of the tower. He was of medium stature, dark, married and lived here several years, later moving to Iowa.

E. W. Crew

E. W. Crew lived on a farm in the hills west of town, near the W. W. Wheeler farm of today. He was a medium sized farmer of good repute and was later killed accidentally in a building, under process of construction.

J. M. Tappen

A small odd man of decided opinions was J. M. Tappen, who lived on his farm in Cloud county. He had formerly been a sea faring man. His wife was a timid little lady, who seldom if ever left the homestead.

David Mortimer

David Mortimer, who has passed on within the last year, was an officer in the Federal army during the Civil War. He was a mechanic and had worked in Cuba and various parts of the United States. He was one of the earliest settler here, and Mortimer Creek two miles north of town was named after him, since he homesteaded at its mouth.

Dave did not live here continuously at this early date, but took up his claim and then left to work at Fort Harker and for the U. S. Govemment. David Mortimer, with his reddish hair and shaggy eyebrows, was an extremely interesting character. He had a decided Scotch accent, was set in his beliefs and opinions, always ready to do his part, economically yet charitable and patriotic to the core.

Edward Hale

Edward Hale, father of W. A. Hale, was a large man with dark hair and beard. He was a good consistent Mason. And farmed and lived for many years with the Dr. J. H. Payne family west of Delphos.

G. W. Gregg

G. W. Gregg lived on a farm in Cloud county. He was one of the surveyor's squad that surveyed the U. P. R.R. from here to Beloit.

D. Cornue

D. Cornue owned and lived on the farm south of town now owned by Mrs. Ella Snook. Brother Cornue was one of those fine, pleasant, unassuming fellows.

H. M. Slater

H. M. Slater was a dark medium sized farmer, who sent part time plastering as well as farming.

J. W. McIntyre

Another industrious, hard working farmer was J. W. McIntyre. He came here from Iowa in the fall of 1871, and settled on a claim, in Cloud county, which is still held by his daughter Mrs. Anna McIntyre Richards. Brother McIntyre suffered, a stroke of paralysis in the early 1880's from which he never recovered. Brother McIntyre's is the first Masonic death of which we have a record. Resolutions of condolence and respect being spread on the minutes in November 1882.

Dr. D. W. Chase

Dr. D. W. Chase was a lovable man, decided in his opinions but of sterling honor. He lived for several years with his son-in- law Van Butler north of town. His wife later died and he moved to Salina, in which place he lived until his death. He lived to be over 80 years of age.

Dispensation

Dispensation

As before stated Delphos Lodge No. 202 received her dispensation upon the recommendation of Minneapolis Lodge No. 143 and Past Master Geo. McKenzie of Minneapolis, opened the first lodge in due form on the third degree Aug. 3, 1880. And presented the dispensation from the Grand Lodge, to continue in full force until December 31, 1880, at which time it was to be returned with a copy of the bylaws and proceedings to the Grand Lodge at Ft. Scott. After the dispensation expired, no lodge was held until April 5, 1881, when the charter was granted. Brother O. L. Kinsey, who later was our druggist for many years, was the first petition voted on after the charter was granted, although some initiatory work was done while under the dispensation.

As Minneapolis Lodge No. 143 was the closest organized lodge, visiting between the two lodges was not uncommon. E. E. Clark, F. M. Sexton and J. D. Marchbank were common visitors from the Minneapolis lodge. And several of our members made frequent trips to Minneapolis to brush up and improve the work before the charter was granted to No. 202.

On one of these particular visits, brother Geo. McKenzie, who was before mentioned, was the Master of the Minneapolis Lodge. Brother McKenzie was a merchant, with a squeaky voice, who always talked as though he had a cold. On this visit W. A. Johnson, the present Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Kansas, was named to examine the visitors. And one of the visitors told the writer, with a chuckle that "some of us knew the work in question better than he did". With all due apologies to brother Johnson as we can vouch that similar situations have existed in later dates than the '80's.

The Minneapolis lodge than met in a long frame hall near the present Tamplin shoe store site.

The trip was usually made with a lumber wagon and team as buggies in the country were very scarce. The route taken was "as the crow flies". There were no fences then and a trail was followed, which was then called the State road, which ran in a straight line to Minneapolis, crossing diagonally the McLaren homestead southeast of town. Mr. McLaren later helped petition to change the road to follow sec-

tion lines. There were no bridges, except perhaps one old wooden bridge over Pipe Creek west of Minneapolis, when this particular visit was made.

After the preliminary meetings, prior to securing the dispensation, the lodge began to meet in its hall on the south side of the square, in which hall it still meets. The lodge room was built and owned jointly with the I.O.O.F. Lodge. The Masons raising their share of the expense by subscription. Many gave $10,000 each, and the balance was borrowed from various sources. And we note the interest rate was 10 and 12 percent those days.

Some of the furniture, charts, and various other articles purchased at this time are still in existence and in the lodge room. They were purchased over a period of several years. For as a group of pioneers just recovering from grasshoppers and a cyclone, it was not unusual that after the price of the hall was met by subscription and borrowing, that there was little left for the purchase of equipment. We note where books and candles were purchased among the first articles, and also three charts and one hoodwink at a cost of $12.25. We now use our electric slides for our lantern to illustrate our lectures but these charts are still in the lodge and in good order. They served their purpose well. I note the secretary was instructed "to procure a lantern for the stairs" and at the same meeting a bill for $3.00 was allowed for a street lamp to be erected in front of the hall.

The expense of maintaining the hall was met jointly by the two lodges. This was the principal hall here then and many organizations met there including the A.O.U.W., Rebekahs, Womens Relief Corps, and several others.

In May 1888, the Masons purchased the one half interest of the I.O.O.F. Lodge in the lodge room and furniture for the sum of $150.00, since which time they have been the sole owners.

Happenings-coal bucket

In glancing over the early minute book one discovers several amusing and interesting, if not humorous happenings. We still have our members who prefer the seat next to the coal bucket. But in this early period it seems they was a very coveted position. In fact this was such a favorite spot that it was finally suggested by some that why not have more of the popular buckets at stated intervals about the

lodge? Therefore, says one of our early brothers I move "that the tyler be instructed to purchase six spittoons". But WOW! We judge the secretary preferred Yacatan or Black Jack as three short words follow "motion was lost". But this was not all, I see a member rise to is feet, who is seated far from the coveted vessel and again the secretary writes in flowing hand "moved and carried that the tyler remove all spittoons from the lodge room".

And still he does not stop there but in this same meeting continues "moved and carried that smoking be prohibited in this room". With this lodge was closed in due form.

But an issue of such import, when crushed to earth will rise again and turning over a few pages I again see the issue has again risen as predicted. And those members near the coal buckets survey the situation as well as the crowd and I see written, but seems to me in not quite so bold a hand. "Moved and carried that the lodge purchase one dozen spittoons". And still I turn the pages, with the spitters not in control, but there. I must stop or I will be fingering out of this earliest period to which I wish to limit these pages. But 'tis our guess that "to be or not to be" issue, like the brook rippled on.

The early lodge was not without its social life. Public installations were common and looked forward to with much pleasure, at the Holiday season. After the Opera house was built these public installations were sometimes held there, after which they returned to the hall for refreshments and the social time. On another occasion in 1883 a Masonic lecturer was invited to speak here, and each member invited three friends. The basement of the Universalist church was rented, which before the opera house was a popular place for social and public gatherings. On another occasion the minutes disclose invitations were sent to members and to the widows and families of deceased Masons. So we conclude that the early lodge was active in looking after and caring for the social life of its members.

Not only did the early lodge care for its members social life, but it looked carefully after their morals as well. In the first 10 years of #202 three Masonic trials were held, all of which found the accused guilty, with two expulsions and one suspension. Remember these were pre-Volstead days and the temptations were greater then than now. In

fact one brother took up two whole cases of beef which did not belong to him, while the other party simply overestimated his capacity. The third did "maliciously and cruely maim, beat, and torture one bay mare" and worse yet he didn't stop there but he did "strike, beat, and kick his wife" and by a vote of 20 to 1, this man with the violent temper was expelled.

These founders of our Institution were men of sterling character and strong convictions who sought to carry out the four Cardinal virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice and thus further the principle of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. Let us who follow and are yet to follow, rededicate ourselves to these principles on which our Institution rests, and carry on with the same sincerity and conviction of purpose that these early brethren, of whom we have been thinking, displayed during these early times and in the founding of Delphos Lodge #202.

By Alva S. Adams,
Worshipal Master,
Delphos Lodge #202
1926

"How brief this drama of our life appears! The good die not! This heritage they leave--The record of a life in virtue spent; For our own loss, at parting we may grieve--Lives such as theirs build their own monument" Anonymous.

EARLY OTTAWA COUNTY HISTORY

by Theo. H. Scheffer

First published in *The Minneapolis Better Way* beginning March 25, 1925 and reprinted in *The Delphos Republican* beginning April 1976

Introduction

It is some time since the writer last had residence in Ottawa county; so many years, in fact, that when we visited Delphos recently we found young people in the high school, whose dad's and mother's had listened to our words of wisdom when we were in charge of the same institution. At this former time a young lady in the schools suggested something which we haven't quite forgotten in all these year- an investigation into the sources of geographical names in the county.

Having since then had opportunity at times to follow up the matter, by way of mental recreation, we have found it most interesting, and trust that our relation of some of the details will interest also those who are familiar with the scenes and places to be considered.

Before taking up the names of local streams and towns, we will undertake to sketch in a background of the designations applied to the state and to the county, respectively. Since we have only three or four Indian names to deal with we naturally wish to make good use of those few; though without over working them, we hope. It is really fortunate perhaps that our part of the map is not shot to pieces with these Indian term, like some parts of the North Country, for instance. For sometimes when we come to analyze the term which the local people fondly believe means "Babbling Brooks' or "Sky blue Moonbeams: it is found to designate the "Place Where-the-Buffalo-Had a Fit", or something equally prosaic.

Indian tribes

The Indian tribe from which our State got its name was not the most important group of red men within its territorial boundaries,

but was the one of the first with which the explorer came into contact as he voyaged up and down the Missouri River. These Indians never played an important part in the frontier affairs, and efforts to civilize them later on their reservations, met with little success. They were exceedingly conservative in those days, and refused to adopt white man's ways.

The Kanza group of Indians was a southwestern, Siouan tribe of which the Omahas were probably the mother stock or upstream stock. In fact, all the tribes native to the territorial limits of the future State were of the great Siouan family, except the Pawnee and perhaps some remnants of the Padoucas still further to the Southwest.

Various spellings of the tribal name given to our State, as found on the maps of the early explorers are: 'Cans', 'Canses', 'Canzas', 'Canzes', 'Escansaques', 'Kansas', 'Kanze', 'Kansez', 'Konza', and 'Konsa'. "Kaw" is a French abbreviation.

A Philologist, who has gone deeper into the meaning of the word than we have had opportunity to venture, says it means "Wind People" or "People of the South Wind". If this is the correct interpretation, we have a parallel to it in the Northwest, where the warm wind coming from the south is called "Chinook", and the tribe dwelling on the lower Columbia is known by the same name.

Juan de Orante gives us the first recorded reference to the Kanza Indians in 1601. He called them "Escansaques". On Marquette's map, accompanying the narrative of his journey down the Mississippi in 1673-74, "Au Kansa" is shown in latitude 39 degrees, some distance west of an extensive, abrupt bend of the river from a southwesterly to a southeasterly course. A map of LaSalles's voyages, 1679 to 1682, shows a village of the "Casa" on "LaGrande Riviere de Emissourittes" (Missouri River).

Other early maps showing location of Kanza villages, or of the streams which were given the same name were (1) DePratz's map, accompanying an account of DeBourgemont's trip from the Missouri River to the headwaters of the Smoky Hill of Solomon forks in 1724; this shows "R of the Cansez", "Cansez Gr. village (on the Missouri) and another village marked "Cansez" on the Kansas river.

(2) Map by Chambon, 1764 showing "Kansez" (village) and

"Petite R. Kansez" (a small tributary of the Missouri), in the northeastern part of the state.

(3) Atlas by DeLisle, 1782, on which is shown "Grande Riviers des Cansez" and two "les Cansez" villages.

All the older maps on which definite locations can be determined, place the two principal village of the Kanza Indians about where the late explorers found them--one on the Missouri River about the mouth of the Kansas, the other on the north bank of the latter stream where it is joined by the Big Blue, just east of the present site of Manhattan.

The right of the Kanza tribe to the lands now comprised in Ottawa county was recognized by the United States government in its treaties, the first of which was made in 1815. By the second treaty, at St. Louis in 1825, this tribe ceded to our government all their lands lying north of the Kansas-Arkansas watershed and west to the headwaters of the Smoky Hill and Solomon forks, except a tract thirty miles wide beginning twenty leagues west of the Kansas river (near the mouth of Soldier Creek) and running west throughout the lands ceded. This long and comparatively narrow strip included approximately Townships 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, South, government survey covering thus all of the present Ottawa County.

On January 14, 1846, at the "Methodist mission in the Kansas country" the Kanza tribe ceded to the United States 2,000,000 acres, beginning at the east end of the above strip, including its entire width of thirty miles and running west for quantity. This cession included part of Ottawa county but as insufficient timber for the use of the Kanza was found to exist on this part of the strip that was left them the provisions of the treaty were made to cover the entire strip to its western limit, and a new reservation, about twenty miles square was given the Kanza Indians in the region of Council Grove.

Thus the simple red man (very simple) disposed of his Ottawa county hunting grounds, and thereafter received his rations of beef, more or less regularly from the generous hand of Uncle Sam. The Council Grove reserve was diminished by treaty in 1859 and in the period between 1873 and 1880, the lands of the reserve were all sold, the Indians having been removed to the Indian Territory on a

small reservation bordering the Arkansas River on the east, where it enters the Territory from Kansas.

Here they seem to be doing well now under the up-to-date rule of the lady chief, Female Deer, who is a graduate of Haskell. One of her subjects is her white husband, John R. Eads. Oil is flowing from some of the allotments, and as a further evidence of prosperity, the tribe seems to be more than holdings own in numbers. A recent official census enrolls about four hundred members, of which number nearly one hundred are full-blooded.

Ottawa name

The name Ottawa is derived from a word which signified "to trade", "to buy and sell". In early traditional time, and also during the historic period the Ottawa Indians were noted among their neighbors as intertribal traders. Various spellings of the tribal name are: "Ahtauwah", "Attawa', "Autawa', "Adajwaigj', "Ouatouax", etc.

The Ottawas were first visited by Champlain in 1615 on Georgian Bay, there they were picking huckleberries. In the next century they are known to have migrated considerably in bands, some settling in southern Wisconsin, northeastern Illinois, and along Lake Erie. They took part in all the Indian wars of their region up to 1812. Pontiac a chief in "Pontiac's War", 1763 was a member of the Ottawa tribe.

Ottawa Indian traditions have it that their tribe once spread all along the Ottawa River, Canada, to its head waters. At the time of first exploration by whites they were established mainly along the Straits of Mackinac, on the Michigan peninsulas, and on Manitouba and Mackinac Islands. The few Ottawas still in Michigan are scattered about among the whites and are civilized.

By treaty of August 30, 1831, made at Miami Bay in Lake Erie, four bands of Ottawa Indians dwelling along the Maumee river and its tributaries, in Ohio, ceded their lands to the United States and were moved to a tract of which the present Ottawa, Kansas, is about the center. This tract was about eleven miles square. In June 1862, they ceded these lands back to our Government and under the conditions of the treaty they made, the tribal relations were to be dissolved in five years and the Ottawa to become citizens of the United States.

Ottawa County

A little history of the organization of Ottawa county may prove interesting here. In the Council Journal, Kansas Territorial Legislature, Special Session 1860, February 25 action was taken. In House Journal, morning session, February 27, 1860, we read in part:

"House Bill No. 420, ' An Act to provide for the organization of the counties of Republic, Shirley and Wade' was taken up and on motion of Mr. Pierce, the House concurred in the amendment of the Council."

In the evening session, February 27, which was the last day of the Special Session, the following message was received from the Governor:

Executive Office, K. T., February 27, 1860

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

I have this day approven House Bill ****"An Act establishing and organizing the counties of Republic, Shirley and Ottawa, and to define the boundaries thereof"****

Respectfully, (signed) S. MEDARY

In the Session Laws of Kansas Territory, 1860, we find the text of this bill: "Chapter XLIII. Be it enacted by the Governor and Legislative assembly of the Territory of Kansas:

Section 1.....and the territory composed of townships nine, ten, eleven and twelve south, in range one, two, three, four and five west of the sixth principal meridian shall constitute the county of Ottawa.

Section 2. The following named persons are hereby appointed commissioners for the aforementioned counties, to wit **** for the county of Ottawa, R. C. Whitney, Henry Martin, and .....Branch of Pike (sic) Creek"

It will be noted that the county barely escaped being named "Wade". The selection of "Ottawa" instead was probably a compromise on a neutral name; for the same day on which the organization bill was introduced, the Governor had sent in his veto of a bill prohibiting slavery in Kansas. Now Benjamin F. Wade, for whom it was sought to name the county, was a fiery antislavery senator from Ohio, who fought the Kansas-Nebraska Bill in 1854 and the Lecompton

Constitution in 1858. He was a strong opponent to fugitive slave laws.

Though Ottawa county was thus defined and described by the legislature of 1860, it was not formally organized until 1866. At the first election, in this year, Minneapolis was chosen as the county seat. Ayersburg had been designated by the Governor as temporary county seat.

Solomon River

Coming now to the geographical names of more local application, we find ourselves in deep water at once--figuratively speaking, for the Solomon is not that kind of a stream. We know that this river was formerly the Niphahela (Nepah-ha-la), meaning in the language of the Kanza Indians "water-on-a-hill". This we had directly from an educated tribesman who used to roam the valley as a boy. The designation also appears occasionally on the older maps or journals as the Nepaholia River. The name originated from the peculiar situation of the Great Spirit Spring, along the river's course near the present site of Cawker City.

The name, however, did not stick, and we are left in some doubt as to the origin of the newer term "Solomon". The first recorded reference to the stream under this name is in the journals of Capt. Zebulon M. Pike, entry of date September 23, 1806. He referred to the stream as Solomon's Fork, and so Solomon's Fork it usually appears on the earlier maps up to about the time the Territory was admitted as a State. Sometimes it is given as Solomon's River.

There can be little doubt but that the name was given the river by the French traders and trappers who were in the country in the years just preceding Pike's expedition; for they gave designations to other streams of the region, two of these partly within the present limits of Ottawa County. The name Solomon was fairly common among the people at that time, as we may note from a perusal of some of the journals of the early explorers. John C. McCoy, who came to Kansas country as early as 1830, states in a letter written about 50 years later: "My impression is that a man named Solomon connected with a company of early Rocky Mountain trappers, was either lost or robbed by the Indians on that stream".

Our own impression is, however, that the name does not per-

petuate the glory of the might Prince of Israel, but that it had a more humble origin, in the character of the waters of the stream itself. This for two reason: First, that no other natural feature of the region was given a personal designation at that early day, and second that the French had called two other streams of the region the Grand Saline (Saline River) and the Little Saline (Salt Creek) on account of the properties of their water. Therefore, we may be pardoned for expressing our belief that Pike, an Englishman, wrote the word "Solomon" in his journal from confusing it with the spoken word "Salemant", pronounced almost identically the same, sa-le-man. This is the adverb form of a word meaning "dirty". So there you are! Good bye, old swimming hole!

Pike's Journal

To relieve this tense situation somewhat, we will quote Pike's entries in his journals for the days he spent in Ottawa county--the first recorded account touching the territory. The years in 1806.

"September 18th, Marched at our usual hour, and at twelve o'clock halted at a large branch" (Saline River) 'of the Kans" (Smoky Hill) "which was strongly impregnated with salt. This day we expected the people of the village" (Pawnee) "to meet us. We marched again at four o'clock. Our route being over a continual series of hills and hollows, we were until eight at night before we arrived at a small dry branch" (of Salt Creek). "It was nearly ten o'clock before we found any water. Commenced raining a little before day. Distance twenty-five miles.

"Sept. 19th, 1806. It having commended raining early, we secured our baggage and pitched our tents. The rain continued without any intermission the whole day, during which we employed ourselves in reading the Bible and Pope's Essays, and in pricking on our arms with India ink some characters, which will frequently bring to mind our forlorn and dreary situation, as well as the happiest days of our life. In the rear of our encampment was a hill, on which there was a large rock, where the Indians kept a continual sentinel, as I imagine to appraise them of the approach of any party, friends or foes, as well as to see if they could discover any game on the prairies". (The Indians referred to here were some of Pike's scouts. The camp on this

day was according to the editor of Pike's journal, on one of the small branches of Salt Creek near the present site of Ada. The crossing of the Saline River at noon the previous day was somewhere in the vicinity of Culver.)

"Sept. 20th. It appearing as if we possibly might have a clear day, I ordered our baggage spread abroad to dry; but it shortly after clouded up and commended raining. The Osage sentinel discovered a buffalo on the prairie; upon which he dispatched a hunter on horseback in pursuit of him, also some hunters on foot; before night they killed three buffalo, some of the best of which we brought in and jerked or dried by the fire. It continued showery until after noon, when we put our baggage again in position to dry, and remained encamped. The detention of the doctor and our Pawnee ambassador began to be a serious matter of consideration" (They had been sent ahead to the Pawnee Village on the morning of the 14th.)

"Sunday, Sept. 21st. We marched at eight o'clock passed a large creek, remarkably salt". (This is Pike's Little Saline river, now Salt Creek). Our interpreter, having killed an elk, we sent out for some meat, which detained us so late I concluded it best to encamp where we were, in preference to running the risk of finding water. Distance ten miles".

"September 22nd. We did not march until eight o'clock, owing to the indisposition of Lieutenant Wilkinson. At eleven waited to dine. Light mists of rain, with flying clouds. We marched again at three o'clock and continued our route 12 miles" (probably by mistake for 2 miles), to the branch of the Solomon, near the Glasco-Simpson district). "Met a Pawnee hunter, who informed us that the chief had left the village on the day after the doctor arrived, with 50 or 60 horses and many people, and had taken his course to the north of our route, consequently we had missed each other. He likewise informed us that the Tetan (Commanches) had recently killed six Pawnees, the Kans had stolen some horses, and a party of 300 Spaniards had lately been as far as the Saline; but for what purpose was unknown. Distance 11 miles.

"Sept. 23rd. Marched early and passed a large fork of the Kans" (Smoky Hill) river, which I suppose to be the one generally

called Solomon's. One of our horses fell into the water and wet his load. Halted at ten o'clock on a branch of this fork. We marched at half past one o'clock and encamped at sundown on a stream" (Buffalo Creek) "where we had a great difficulty to find water. We were overtaken by a Pawnee who encamped with us. He offered his horse for our use. Distance 21 miles." (It may be noted here that Pike counted distance mainly by his watch--so many miles per hour of march.)

This gets Pike out of Ottawa County and across the Solomon River so we will follow him no further.

Post office names

A letter of petition from local residents requesting the federal government to establish a post office in their community, may or may not suggest a name for the new geographical location. When a name is offered, the officials in charge of such matters usually adopt it, though they reserve the right to reject fool names, or one that is so nearly like another in the state that confusion might arise in routing the mails. If no name is suggested in the petition, an official or clerk in the Washington office used to take it upon himself to call the place after some friend, or perhaps a person of high rank in his estimation. Sometimes however, the name has proved to be too rank to suit the community concerned wherefore in more recent years the federal office has adopted the slogan, "Give us a name or you don't get the mail bag", or words to that effect.

With those preliminaries we will try to discover who's who and what as pertains to names of towns in Ottawa County.

Delphos

Cleomenes, returning from a visit to the famous oracle at Delphos, in ancient Greece, reported that "The climate's delicate; the air most sweet". Considerations of this sort may or may not have influenced the Ottawa county pioneer, Levi Yockey, to suggest the name Delphos for the post office of which the first had charge. Probably, however, memories of his old home town of Delphos, Ohio, influenced him more than any knowledge of Shakespeare's "Winter Tale".

The office was established on November 13, 1866 in Yockey's cabin on the creek that still bears his name. Here the pioneers are

reported to have gathered on "mail days" to witness the dumping of the sack's contents in the middle of the floor, after which ceremony every fellow scrambled about on hands and knees to get all he could rightfully claim.

The town site of Delphos was laid out by W. A. Kiser, on his land, in 1869-70, when the memory of Indian raids was still fresh in the minds of the few settlers. One such incursion of the Cheyennes reached Yockey Creek on August 12, 1868. In another raid, on October 14, of the same year Peter Karnes, John Andrews, and two members of the Smith family were killed and Mrs. Morgan was taken prisoner. A third raid has been mentioned in connection with Capt. Pierce's defense of his cabin at Pierces Ford.

Delphos first appears on a map of the state (Keeler's) in 1866-67 along with three other location in the county--Ayersburg, Coal Creek and Bennington.

Sumnerville

In the summer following the arrival of the first mail bag at Yockey's cabin, Capt. A. D. Pierce landed a post office for his community down the river. This was in June 1867, and the place was called Sumnerville. It still has the distinction of being the only Sumnerville in the United States, although there are nineteen places called Sumner. All apparently named in honor of the eminent statesman Charles Sumner whose famous speech in the Senate on "The Crime Against Kansas" provoked the assault on his life by Rep. Brooks of South Carolina. Whether the name of the new post office was suggested by Capt. Pierce or provided by the federal officials, we have not been able to learn. A railroad station stills bears the name, but the post office has been discontinued with the spread of rural free delivery.

Ada

The post office at Ada, Kansas was called to serve the public on August 26, 1872. Jacob B. Lane was in charge and in honor of his wife, Ada, he suggested the name for his cabin which held the soap box which held the few communications received once a week from the outside world. S. P. Beucler later secured the office for his store, the nucleus of the town Ada, about two miles northeast of his homestead. For a long time, he writes, his office did not average more than

a half dozen pieces of mail a week. With the coming of the Santa Fe railway, in 1887, the post office and the town of Ada were shifted three-fourths of a mile southeast to the station located there.

Ayersburg

Although Ottawa county had been legally established in 1860, it was not formally organized until six years later. At the time of its establishment, Ayersburg had been designed by the Governor as the temporary county seat, but at the first election held in the county November 1866, the community of Minneapolis was chosen instead. A post office was established at the later place January 13, 1868. Elijah Smith, who was afterward identified with the business interest of the new town, was the first postmaster. Minneapolis appeared a on state map for the first time in 1870. Ayersburg, to which reference has been made above, was the cabin of Seymour Ayers, on Lindsey Creek between the present highway bridge and mouth of the stream. As legally constituted, it had been the county seat for more than six years. A post office of that name was established on July 16, 1864, the same date on which Bennington post office was created. These two, then, were the first post offices in the county.

The first postmaster at Ayersburg was John C. Boblett, who according to report, dealt out the postal cards at a cabin somewhat nearer the present site of Minneapolis than the home of Seymour Ayers on Lindsey Creek. The latter, however, succeeded to the postmastership on September 12 1865. From the recollections of Mrs. Frank Rees, Ayers used to ride to Solomon once or twice a week to supply the neighbors with their news of the outside world. After serving in this capacity until July 5, 1867, he was succeeded by Thomas Waddell, who held the office until it was changed to the name of Lindsay the next year. Ayersburg appears on Keeler's map 1866-67 and on Colton's map 1867, but on no map published later.

The Ayers family afterward moved to a farm on Pipe Creek, on which, or near which, the Ayers school house, District No. 10 stood in later years. The old stone school house has been replaced by another which bears the name of Woodsdale.

Creeks

Rand, McNally & Company's map, 1879, is apparently the

first publication to recognize and to record local names of three of the smaller streams of the county. These are Table Rock Creek (flowing into the Saline from the south, between Tescott and Culver), Mortimer Creek, and Yockey Creek, the latter two tributaries of the Solomon from the east, just above Delphos.

Table Rock is no more, but before it fell from the attacks of vandals it had perpetuated its name in the stream which flows close by, in the eastern edge of Lincoln county.

Yockey creek perpetuates the memory of Levi Yockey, whose homestead cabin once stood on the bank of this stream somewhat less than a mile west of the present site of Delphos. The few who still remember the location can trace the foundation of the old log structure and that of the pioneer school house which was near it.

The groves of timber on Mortimer creek, about two miles further up the Solomon Valley, still shelter the home of David Mortimer, who came to the county in 1865. These groves once witnessed serious Indian troubles, but the writer remembers them only as the Happy Hunting Grounds of unforgettable vacation days.

Dry creek, which doesn't flow into the Solomon, about two miles south of Delphos, and Henry creek which sometimes does run through the city limits, are streams that occasionally appear on the maps. As to the former we need offer no explanation of the origin of its name. Henry creek may have been named for Henry Stelter, a pioneer whose home was on the edge of the stream just south of Delphos. But David Mortimer, mentioned above, thinks the name dates back to an earlier settler who lived there for a time before the lands were surveyed and who was driven out by the Indians. In this connection we may note that one of the municipal townships of the county also bears the name "Henry".

As a preliminary to discussing the origin of names applied to towns in Ottawa county, or any where else for that matter, we may say that such names usually originate with the establishment of a post office at the place designated. Now, the name of a post office, or a Pullman car, is anybody's game so long as the alphabet holds out. We have never been able to fix responsibility for atrocious combinations of letters that appear on some of the cars, but with the post offices we

have fared better. Not that we object--understand! We are lucky to have a list of good and worthy ones. If they were not such, could be changed, for all names of towns in our basic language are feminine.

The Saline River and Salt Creek, thus accounted for in connection with the naming of the Solomon, did not appear on any map under their present names until the setting up period of Territorial Days. "Salt Creek", instead of "Little Saline" first appears on Mitchells's map of 1859. The "Grand Saline", "Saline Fork", "Great Saline Fork" as shown on Reams map of Kansas 1865.

Pipe Creek

Pipe Creek has probably shared the fate of many another geographical feature whose original designated has been carelessly recorded by cartographer or copying clerk. There is a current impression that the stream was originally called Pike Creek in honor of the explorer who camped, however, on Salt Creek, west of the Solomon. At any rate, we have noted that in the session laws of Kansas Territory February, 1860 "A Mr.....Branch of Pike Creek" was appointed one of the first three commissioners of the newly created Ottawa county. This was probably E. W. Branch who had come into the county the previous spring. Mitchell's map of that year, on the other hand, has the name "Pipe Creek" for the stream. Therefore, if there was an error in listing or copying the word it dated from the very beginning and has been perpetuated ever since; for the creek does not appear on any earlier map than Mitchell's '59.

Coal Creek

Some of the pioneers who traveled or freighted by ox team must have had trouble at the Coal Creek fords, for this stream first appears on the map (W.J. Keeler, 1866) as "Hard Cross Creek". Concerning the change of name, we have the following item from J.J. Jenness, prominent in the pioneer history of the county.

"Coal Creek was originally called Hard Crossing, but in '64 or '65, a man by the name of Gladden living on the headwaters of the creek, discovered a small vein of coal about six inches thick. He took a sample to Junction City, then the nearest town of any importance, and endeavored to organize a company to prospect. In this he failed, but in order to keep the thing before the public, he went to the land

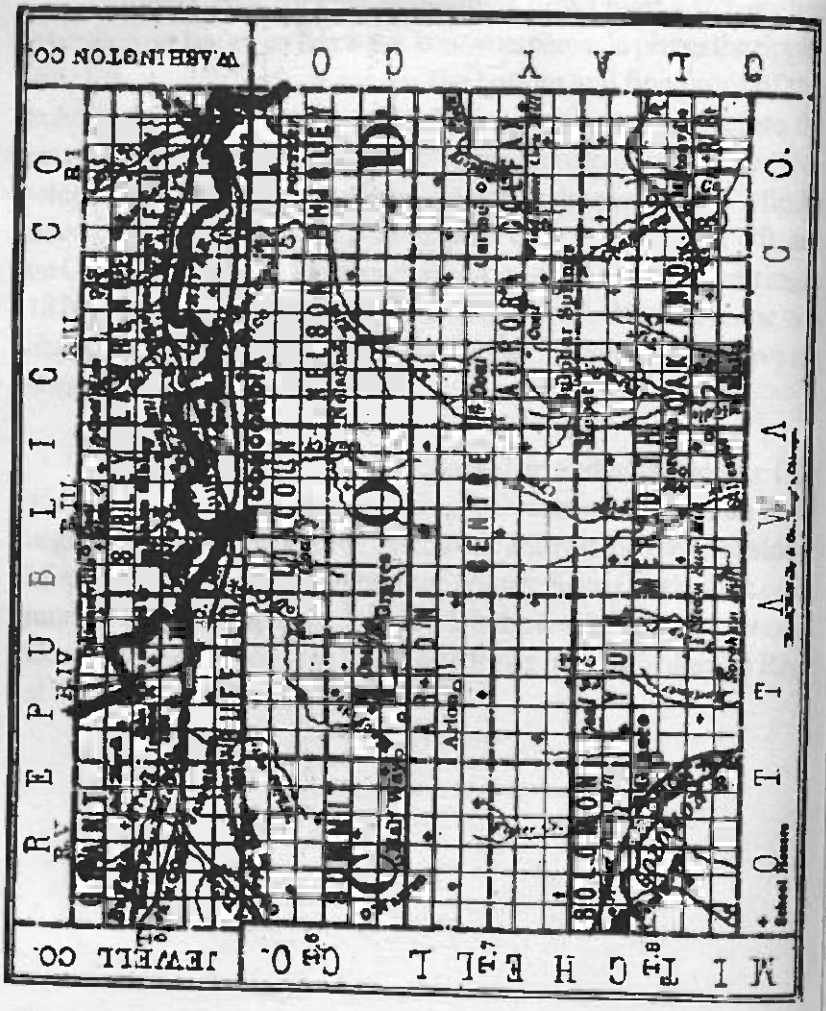
office in Junction City and succeeded in getting the name changed on the government map to Coal Creek.

Coal Creek post office was established October 3, 1866, with James L. Ingersoll as the first postmaster.

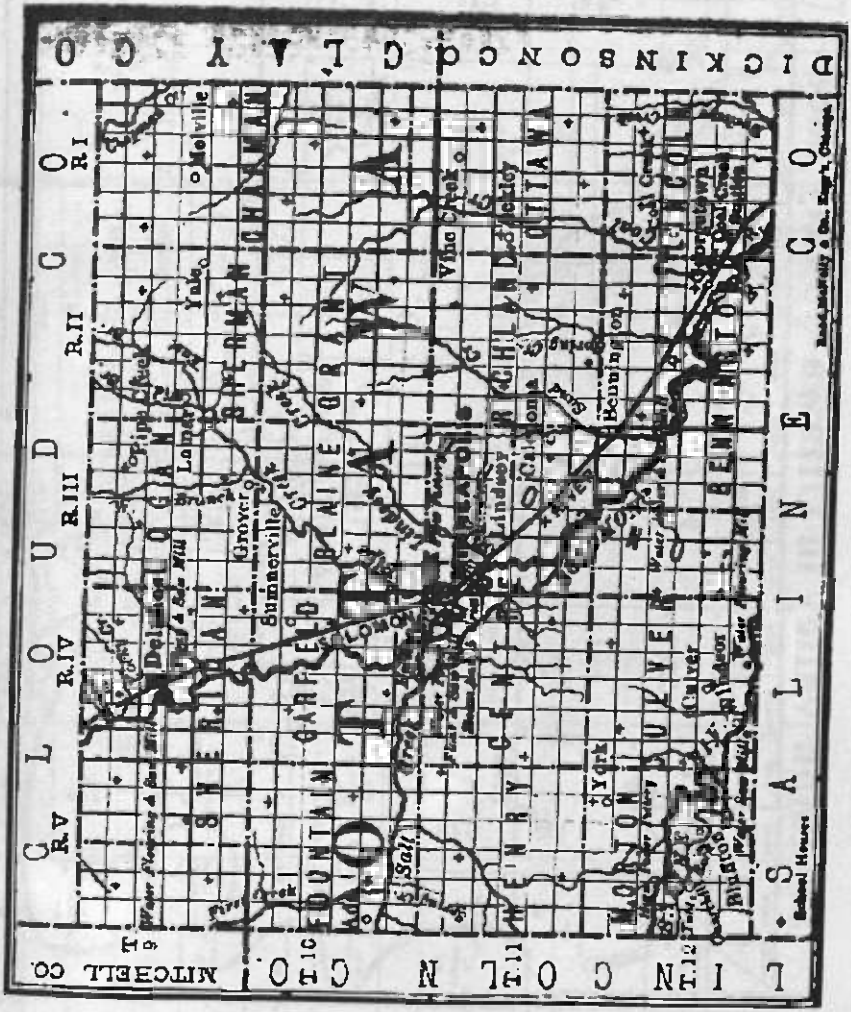
Sand Creek

Sand Creek trickles, sometimes flows over a stream-bed whose nature has given this water-course its name. In places the ripples are clear enough that one can see the bottom and find proof of this condition--which is rather unusual in a prairie stream. Before the country was settled up, the antelope came there to drink, and as "Antelope Creek" the stream was first known to the pioneers. We find it thus represented on Colton's map, 1867; on Johnson's map '70, and on Cram's map in '71. On a revised edition of the latter, appearing in 1876, the designation "Sand Creek" is first used. Why the name was changed, after it had been on record for nearly ten years, we have not been able to learn.

Ed Note from 1976: My thanks to Mr. and Mrs. George Paul and Art Beck for the creek updating information: Chapman creek begins some distance north of Miltonvale and runs on the west side of Miltonvale southeast into Dickinson county. Sand Creek is the creek running into the State Lake. Dry Creek is the creek at Duane Ranneys. Coal Creek is west of Vine Creek and flows into the Solomon River at Verdi.

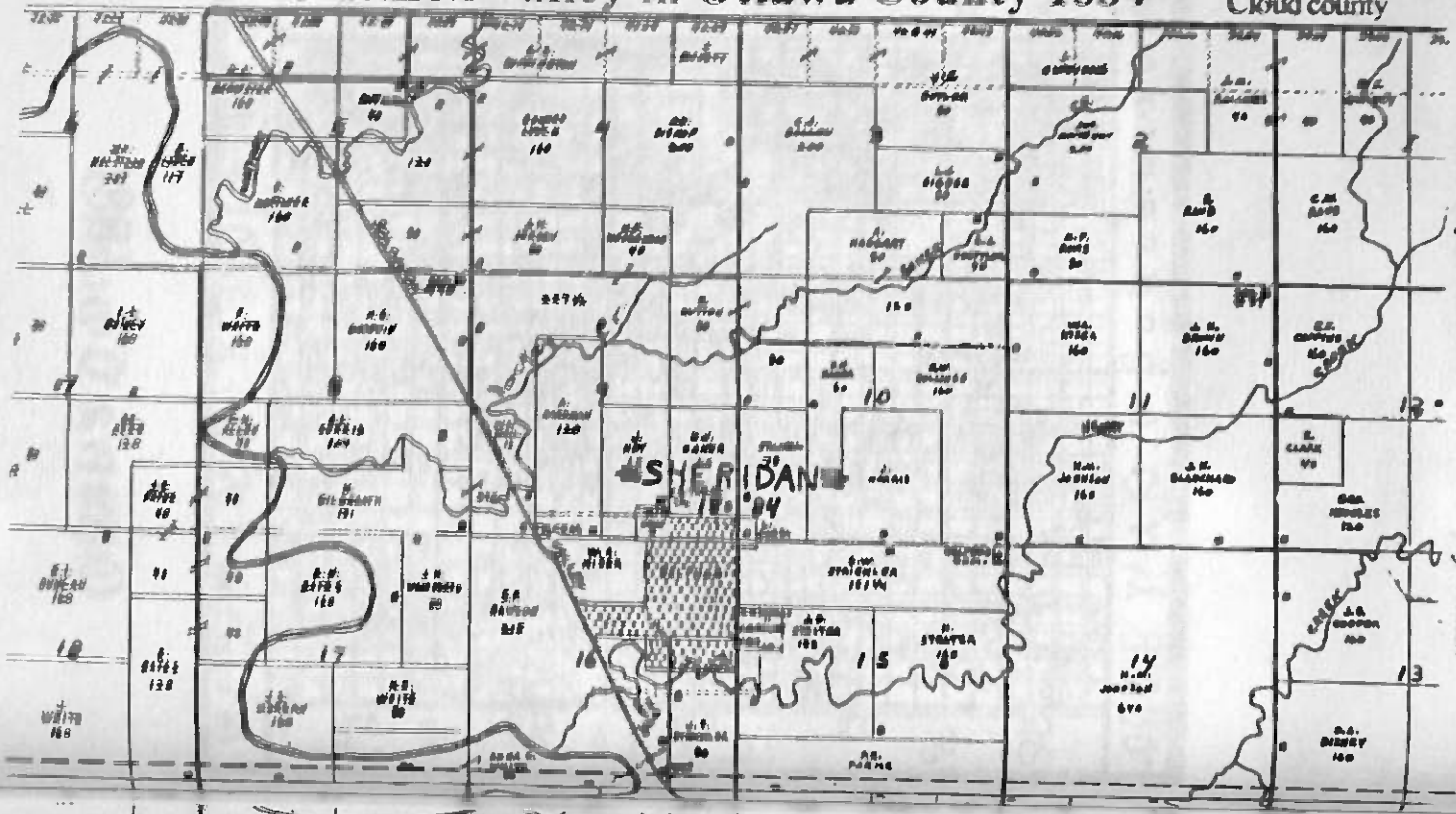


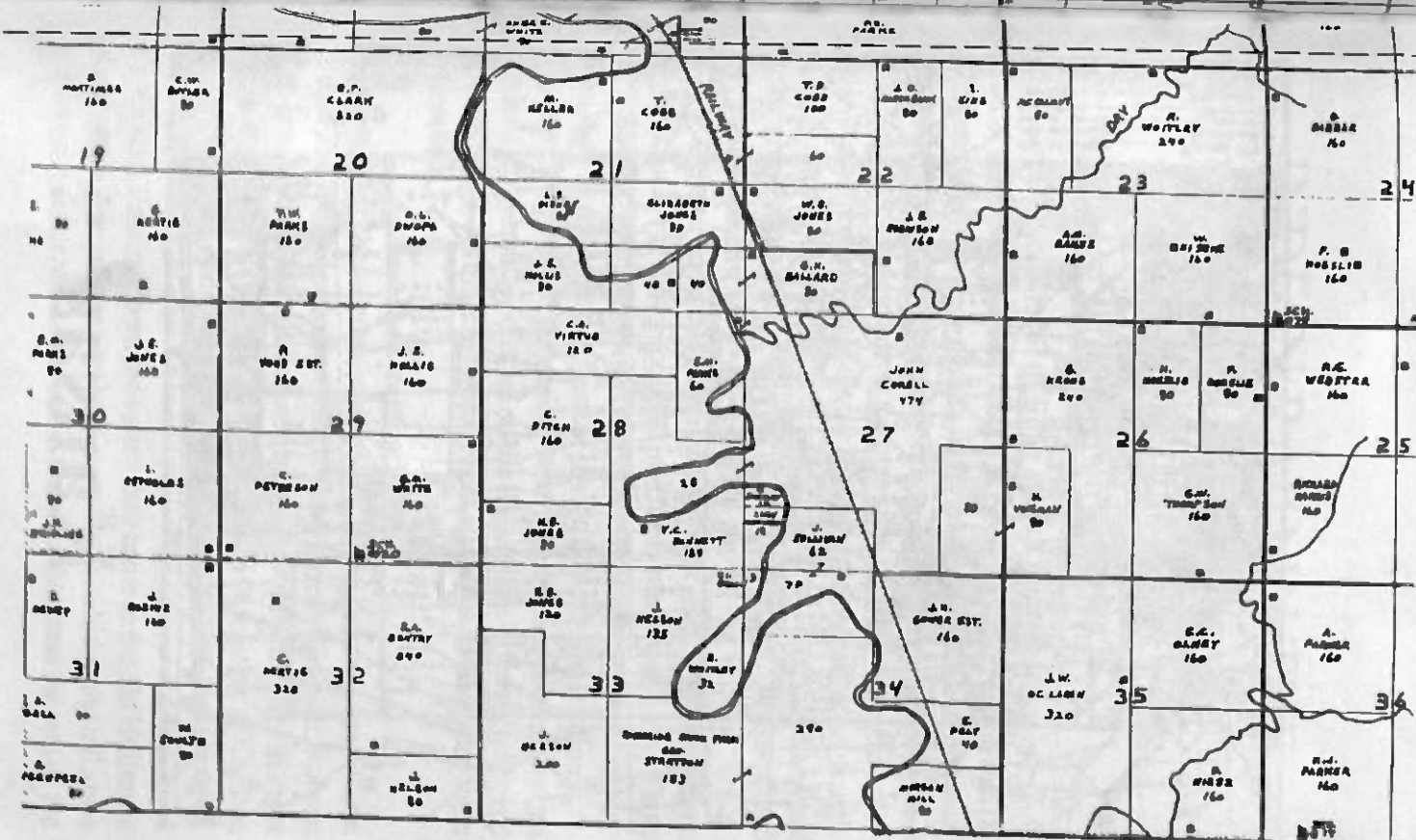
Cloud Co. 1880



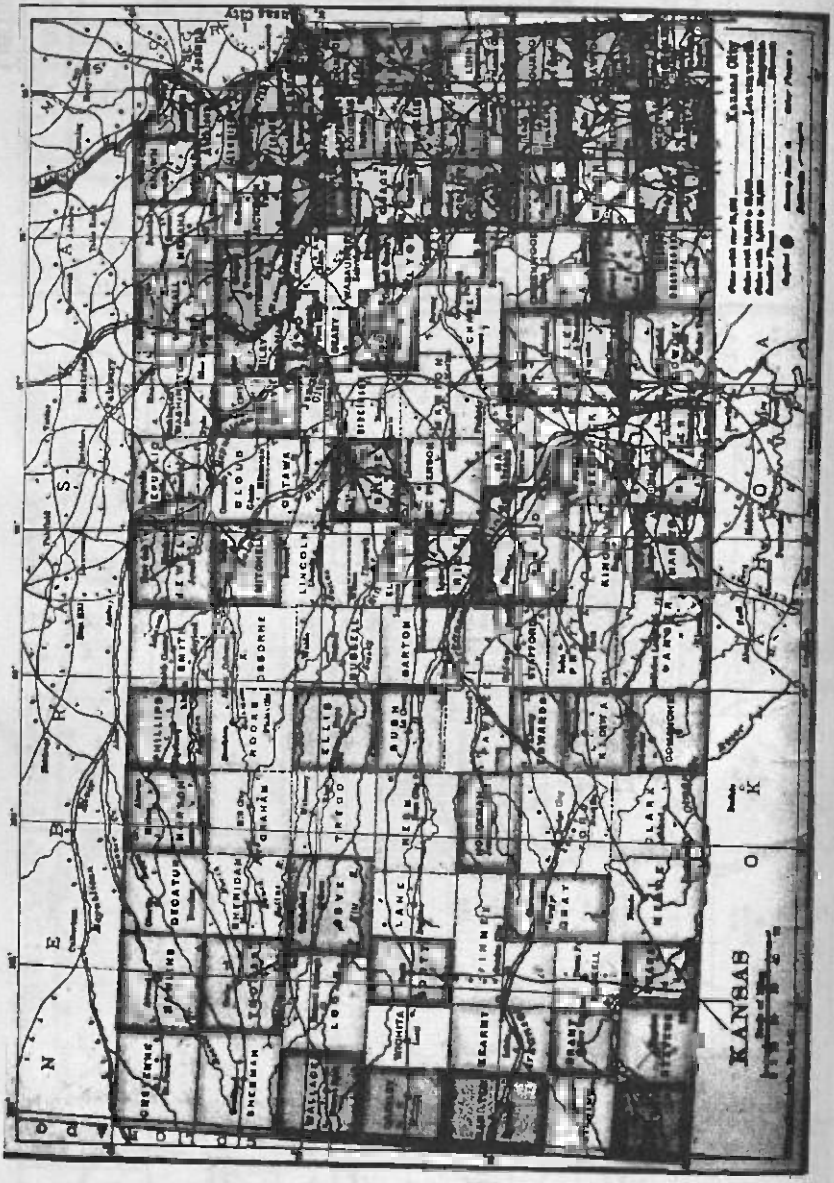
Ottawa Co. 1880

Solomon Valley in Ottawa County 1884





Garfield Twp.


KANSAS
CLOUD
OTTAWA
LINCOLN
MITCHELL
OSBORNE
RUSSELL
BARTON
ROOKS
ELLIS
TREGO
GRAHAM
PHILLIPS
NORTON
DECATUR
SHERIDAN
GOVE
LANE
FINNEY
WICHITA
KEARNY
GRANT
SHERMAN
CHEYENNE
WALLACE
STAFFORD
KINGMAN
PRATT
KIOWA
EDWARDS
COMANCHE
CLARK
MEADE
GRAY

Kansas

INDIAN RAID IN THE SOLOMON RIVER VALLEY

in Kansas October 13, 1868
by Archibald Barnes, Jr.

About the first of October 1868, Captain John Potts, commander of the militia (frontier guard) received information that the Cheyenne Indians were raiding in the northwestern part of the state. Taking his company, which comprised almost every able bodied man who had a gun, and almost all the ammunition there was in the settlement, hurried to meet them leaving the settlers remaining at home without any arms to defend the settlement. It seems that the Indians had no trouble keeping posted as to the movements of the Guard and easily evaded them.

Passing north they (the Indians) struck at a lonely home in the Republican River valley northeast of where Jamestown is now. There they captured a young woman named Sarah White. Taking her with them they started south across the divide to the Solomon River. As they traveled in small parties they were not noticed. The settlers had received no warning of the raid on the Republican River and believed they were safe. As the arms were almost all with the Guard they were defenseless.

Solomon Valley

The first place they struck in the Solomon Valley was near where Glasco is now. At the home of Mr. Misal they shot his son, Robert, but his wound was not serious and he soon recovered. They thought they had killed him and left him as he fell. At the home of Captain Snyder they shot one of his sons several times and left him for dead. His folks found him soon after and pulled the arrows out and saved his life also. Passing down the valley they came to the old Hillhouse place where Annie Sage was herding cattle. She hid in the tall grass and was not discovered. She hid in terror in the grass the rest of the

day and all that night. The next morning, October 14, 1868, she was found by William McDowall who was following the trail of the Indians down the valley. Placing her on his horse, and mounting behind her he took her to the stockade which was on the river about sixteen miles southeast of where he found her and about two miles southeast of where the city of Minneapolis is now.

Shafer

One the same day and at about the same time as the above incident occurred a small band of Indians appeared at the home of George Shafer about two miles east of the Hillhouse place. Mr. Shafer had picketed a mare with a small colt on the prairie some distance from the house. Near them William McDowall had picketed a team of young vicious mules that he had bought to replace a team the Indians had stolen from him the year before. He warned Mr. Shafer that the mules were very vicious and that he was not to try to move them to fresh grass or to handle them in any way without help. He was only to carry water to them and set it down at the end of their ropes. Mr. Shafer agreed to look after them and William rode off up the river with the Militia.

Before reaching the house the Indians stopped to get the mare and mules. They had no trouble getting the mare, but when they tried to get the mules they found that was a different proposition. The mules met them at the end of the rope and drove them off by biting, kicking, and striking a them with their fore-feet. After trying to capture the mules for some time the Indians decided they didn't like mules anyhow. Leaving them they went on to the house.

In the mean time Mr. Shafer had taken advantage of the excitement to get a team of horses hitched to his wagon and with his family and two extra horses had started on the way to the stockade near Minneapolis. After robbing and burning the house, and burning a large pile of new lumber that Mr. Shafer had hauled from Junction City (a distance of seventy-five miles) intending to build a new house, they followed the family for a distance of ten miles before giving up the chase.

Robbins

At the same time another small party of Indians appeared at

the home of Mr. Robbins who lived west of the river, southwest of where the city of Glasco is now. Grandpa Robbins was in the yard with a yoke of oxen and his grandson, Charlie Robbins, who now lives in Glasco and told me this incident, was with him. One of the Indians who spoke a little English said to the old gentleman, "Me want cattle. Old man no need cattle. Me take cattle. No hurt old man." Being unarmed, and no help being near, Mr. Robbins made no object and the Indians drove the oxen away. They did not go to the house and did no other damage on the place.

Morgan

After leaving the Hillhouse place the Indians went about two miles south, where after crossing Mortimer creek on Dave Mortimer's place, they found James Morgan breaking sod for Mr. Mortimer. Mr. Morgan saw them coming and unhitched the team in an attempt to escape. As he tried to mount one of the horses, one of the Indians shot him in the stomach and he fell to the ground and the loose team ran home. Mrs. Morgan who was a bride of only two months, mounted one of the horses and started out to see what had happened to her husband. She met the Indians who were following slowly after the horses. They made her a prisoner and took her along with Miss White whom they had captured the day before over on the Republican River. When Mr. Morgan fell they paid no further attention to him, but left him as he fell. He was not seriously injured and soon recovered.

Karnes

Four miles farther down the river they caught a man named Peter Karnes, alone on the prairie. They killed and scalped him and left his body laying within a stones throw of where the rail road station at Delphos now stands. He was the only man ever scalped by Indians in the settlement. The body was taken to Minneapolis. As there were no ministers there at the time he was buried by the neighbors without a regular religious ceremony. Another man named John Andrews was killed less than a mile from Mr. Karnes by the same band. The bodies of both men were taken to Minneapolis in the same wagon and buried at the same time and place.

About two miles down the river from the old Delphos mill

Alex Smith jr. had planted a small field in a bend in the river that was almost surrounded by water to corn. The corn had been gathered, but as is usual some ears had been overlooked. Mr. John Hardy was with the militia up the river and his family was in the dire need of food. Mr. Smith told Ed Hardy, (John's boy) that he could have all the corn that was left if he cared to gather it. The boy gladly accepted his kind offer. Taking a grain sack he went to the field and dragging the sack behind him on the ground, began to hunt for the overlooked ears and put them in the sack. As he was a small boy and the stalks were tall he could not be seen in the field, neither could he see any of them outside of it. He had gathered one-half bushel of corn or more, when hearing horses feet splashing in the water crept to the edge of the river bank and looked down. He was horrified to see six Indians crossing the river. Silently creeping back in to the field he laid down and stayed hidden until long after dark. Hurrying home he cautiously approached the house, but all was dark and there was no sound within.

Fearfully he opened the door and entered. He called, but there was no answer. Leaving the house he began to search for the other members of the family. Expecting to find them all dead, he called cautiously as he searched. At last he heard his mother answer. She was hidden with the rest of the family in the bushes along the river. She had seen in the starlight and hear him calling, but did not recognize his voice at first and thought he might be an Indian. When he reached her she clasped him in her arms and said, "Thank God you are safe! I never expected to see you alive again. I thought the Indians had killed you, or taken you away captive."

Imagine if you can, the feelings of the fourteen year old boy hiding in the cornfield, and his terror as he made his fearsome way home through the night and searching around the house for his loved ones. How great was the joy of the mother and son when each knew that the other was safe.

Smith

Soon after crossing the river near the cornfield another band numbering seven who evidently had been watching the movements of the first part from Indian Lookout, came riding from the west and joined them. The whole band now numbering thirteen went on down

the river in the direction of the home of Alex Smith Sr. Milt Keller and John Smith who were cutting hay on the river bottom saw them from a distance hurriedly unhitched the team and mounted the horses, intending to warn the Smith family. However, the Indians saw them and headed them off from the place. As they were unarmed they were compelled to leave their horses and take refuge in the under brush under the river bank to avoid death or capture. The horses were easily caught by the Indians and they went on to the Smith place without trying to follow the white men. Mr. Keller ran through the brush and jumping into the river waded in the shallow water upstream one mile to the home of John Hardy and warned the family which took refuge in the underbrush along the river.

The nearest place to where John Smith was hidden was the home of John Virtue. Mr. Smith left his hiding place and went there to warn the family. They all went back to the river and stayed until it was dark.

After warning the Hardy family, Mr. Keller went on to this own place where he found that his wife and boy were safe. Waiting until it was dark, he started with his family for the stockade.

The Hardy and Virtue families started for the same place about the same time. Each family traveled by themselves and all were afoot, the horses having been run off by the Indians. Though each family started from their own home, all arrived at the stockade with a short time of each other early the next morning.

Stockade

The stockade was on the Henry Dresher place two miles down the river from Minneapolis is now. They had to walk about twelve miles to get there.The stockade was called Lindsey at the time , but in 1869 Colonel Kirwin, who was killed by the Indians in 1876, renamed it Fort Solomon.

Smith

Alex Smith Sr., and his son, Alex Jr. were breaking sod on the river bottom about one-half mile east of the house, when the Indians came upon them. They had two yokes of oxen and were unarmed and were easy prey for them. The elder Mr. Smith was shot in the stomach and speared in the mouth. The younger was shot in the back.

Both fell to the ground and leaving them as they fell the Indians went on to the house. Mrs. Alex Smith sr., Mrs. Margaret Smith wife of Alex Smith jr. and Mrs. Mary Ann Smith (wife of Bob Smith who was with the militia) were at the house with three children and saw the attack and the murder. When they saw the Indians start toward the house these women took the children in their arms and running to the river bank jumped off and hid in the underbrush.

The settlers knew that the Indians would never follow a fugitive into any place of concealment and that all who could reach the underbrush were safe. For that reason they always tried to get to the river when in danger of the Indians.

Entering the house after the women had gone, the Indians proceeded to destroy all the provisions they could find that they did not want. They ruined a barrel of molasses by emptying the feather bed ticks and pillows into it and stirring the molasses until they were thoroughly mixed. Then after collecting every article made of cloth they could find and loading their horses with them they vanished. They did not destroy any of the buildings or damage any other property on the place, and did not try to find the women and children. That night Del Corning, who lived on his place on Pipe Creek, east of where Delphos is now, saw the Indians and the white women captive. It was soon after dark. He was well hidden and they did not see him, but as he was alone it would have been suicide for him to have tried to rescue them. They passed within 10 feet of him, and he saw them ride away in a northwesterly direction.

Bob Smith was with the militia when it arrived on the scene the next day (October 14, 1868). The home had been ransacked and everything of value taken away. None of the family was there. All had left during the night. When they went to the corncrib they found Alex Smith Sr., laying inside on the floor. Going to his side, Bob bent down over him and the old gentleman tried to tell him something, but was unable to do so. He died a few moments later while Bob was bend over him. The oxen were grazing about on the place and when the men went to the place the attack had taken place they found that Grandpa Smith though wounded unto death had succeeded in taking the yokes off of the oxen, releasing them from the plow. He had then

crawled one-half mile from the place where he had been struck down to the corncrib, and lived until the next day.

The body of Alex Smith, jr. was not found until almost a week later. In spite of the death wound he had received, he also had crawled one half mile from the place before dying. His body was found on the river bank, at the edge of the water, with his arm around a small tree.

Most of the settlers in the valley had gone to the stockade. Some stayed there six months and a few stayed for a year.

General Custer

The Indians paid an awful price for their raids in Kansas. Even before the one in the Solomon Valley, Generals Custer and Sheridan had been ordered to proceed to the Indian Territory and punish the Cheyennes for the part they had taken in the raids. On October 11, General Custer left Fort Hays with several companies of cavalry and one company of volunteer cavalry that he called The Kansas Volunteers, who had volunteered for the campaign. Before they had gone one hundred miles they were joined by Arthur Brewster, whose sister Mrs. Morgan, was a captive and William McDowall, one of the neighbors. These men stayed with the expedition until the captives were returned (May 1869) and until the campaign was over but did not get back home until September.

Word had been sent to the Indians that a large force of soldiers was coming and that all who were not camped close the Wachita River would be considered as hostile and killed and their villages destroyed. All had heeded the warning and were camped as they had been ordered to be.

Chief Black Kettle

Black Kettle, a Cheyenne Chief had been warning his men for many years that the time was coming when the white soldiers would kill every Indian who took part in raiding a white settlement, and had kept them from participating in the raids. He was the only chief who tried to prevent the raiding and for that had been called a coward by the other chiefs and was not permitted to camp near them. At the time of Custer's attack his camp was the farthest west, and about a mile from the nearest other Indian camp. General Custer knew this. He also knew that the Indians always killed their white captives when

they were attacked by a large force of whites and were likely to take them from them and that the women he sought were not in the camp. Old campaigner that he was he knew all this, but yet he chose this defenseless camp for the attack.

This was the village of the only friendly chief there was in the Cheyenne tribe. Black Kettle had no fear of an attack though he knew that the soldiers were in the country. He was camped where the white men had ordered him to be. He was waiting the coming of the soldiers, and believed that his band was safe. All were sleeping peacefully in the village when Custer's command moved silently under cover of a blinding snow storm, to within one half mile of them and laid down to wait for daylight. He first sent Major Elliot with fourteen men below the village to cut them off from escaping or from getting any help from the other villages.

The first the Indians knew of the presence of the soldiers was when they heard the bugle sound "charge" followed by the shots of the cavalrymen. Rushing from their tepees they were shot down like rabbits. Scarcely a shot was fired in return. They had no time to get arms. It was not a battle, it was murder. One hundred and two men, women and children were killed as they tried to escape. Some babies were killed laying in blankets on their mothers' backs as they fled from the white men. Black Kettle succeeded in getting his squaw on a horse and mounting behind her, but he was killed as the horse went over the creek bank, the squaw was shot by a white soldier as the horse ran up the bank on the other side.

Date of "Battle" Nov. 27, 1868

After the "battle" General Custer ordered all the tepees town down and everything else in the village piled on top of them and everything burned. He then ordered the whole Indian pony herd numbering about six hundred horses, taken to the hills, about two miles away and shot down. After this was done, they rounded up all the survivors they could find hiding in the brush and started back to Camp Supply (Oklahoma) with thirty-four prisoners, all women and children, herded on foot, with them. The men had more pity than the officers and soon began taking the children up on their horses with them, and when the children were all taken care of they took up the

older prisoners . Before they had gone many miles every prisoner was mounted on a horse behind a soldier.

(Have you ever noticed in your histories that when General Custer paraded before the garrison at Fort Hays on his return from that campaign that his "prisoners consisted of about 40 women and children and four chiefs"?) The women and children were almost all survivors of "The Battle of Washita". He did not capture the chiefs in battle, but got them when they appeared for a council preparatory to surrendering the white women captives.

The Cheyenne Indians swore to avenge the awful slaughter on the Washita river and to kill General Custer at the first opportunity. They tried to ambush him in the "devils canyon" on the salt fork of the Red River in Kiowa County, Oklahoma a few months later, but he evaded the trap. It was not until 1876 that the Sioux, who are the parent tribe from which the Cheyennes sprang and have always been their friends and allies, succeeded in luring him into a trap in the Little Big Horn mountains, and massacred his entire company. In that way the Cheyennes were revenged.

The story of the Indian raid in the Solomon River valley in 1868 has been written under difficulties. Seventy-one years have passed since that time and I do not know of a single person now living who had an active part in any of those stirring events. I only know of two persons now living who were old enough at the time to have a clear recollection of them. They are Ed Hardy of Delphos, Kansas and Charles Robbins of Glasco, Kansas. I have talked with both of them and am greatly indebted to them for the information they have given me. Mrs. Charles Stricklett, of Glasco, Ks, Mrs. Kate Shafer-Clark, daughter of George Shafer and Mrs. Mae Smith-Lynch, granddaughter of Alex Smith Sr., have each told me incidents of the raid as they were told to me by the older members of their families in their youth. I have combined the stories told me by those mentioned above, with my recollections of the stories told me in my youth by those who had an active part in the events of those troublesome times.

It is likely that due to the lapse of time, there are some inaccuracies in the story, but I believe it as nearly accurate and complete as it is possible to get it at this late date.

William McDowall, the Indian scout was an uncle to Archibald Barnes. He was the brother of Jessie McDowall who married Archibald Barnes Sr.

This article was written about 1939 and has been a resource concerning the last Indian Raids in the area. Hopefully Uncle Arch will not be upset with this editor's editing of his long and rambling sentences and changing the word from "staid" to "stayed". DO.

MISS WHITE TAKEN INTO CAPTIVITY

From a book, HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY dated 1903. Reprinted in *The Delphos Republican* April 17, 1997. The book belonged to Han Asmussen, grandfather of Mary Jo Haley of Delphos

Words cannot adequately describe the sensations of Sarah Catherine White as she was carried by her brutal assailants about five miles across Buffalo Creek, where fifteen other Cheyennes were seemingly awaiting this marauding fraction of their tribe. Here Miss White was left with a guard, one Indian on the brow of the hill and another at the base. The remaining portion of the band started out in the direction of the river. Left on this desolate hill, awaiting her own unknown fate and suffering bodily torture from the diabolical assault of her inhuman captors, Miss White speculated in her mind as to her mother and the other three children. She reasoned they had been cruelly maltreated and then perhaps annihilated, and thought of her father and brothers as saved because of being away, neither did she know differently, but mourned the former as dead or suffering a worse fate until her release six months later. After her conspirators returned they began the journey westward and after several days travel they reached the headwaters of the Republican, where they joined the tribe with their warriors, squaws and papooses.

Squaws

The squaws were marked in their kind attentions to Miss White and exhibited real Sympathy; as they gathered around the fair young prisoner some of them caressed her and murmured the while "poor papoose, poor papoose", the true mother instinct asserting itself even in the savage breast as they thought of her having been torn from the arms of loving parents.

Mrs. Morgan

About three weeks from the date of Miss White's capture,

Mrs. Morgan, the four weeks bride of James Morgan of Ottawa county, was carried into the same camp. The meeting between these two young prisoners was a pathetic incident. Miss White was completely overcome and could not utter a word. Mrs. Morgan was the first to speak; approaching Miss White she asked: "Sister, how do you like this life?" Miss White could not answer, she knew what the new captive had undergone and their deplorable situations paralyzed her powers of speech. Yet the two young women were company for each other and were allowed to converse together around the camp-fire. And inasmuch as both were doomed to the same conditions it was fortunate for both they were in the same camp. Miss White was of rather a submissive nature for she knew of no other alternative, and was a general favorite among both the braves and the squaws.

Among the stolen property of the tribe was a dress that had been taken from the settlement. This they proffered Miss White as a token of their appreciation, but compelled Mrs. Morgan to wear the native costume. Mrs. Morgan was of an aggressive nature and did not readily yield to their indignities, however, in some instances they seemed to admire her courage and bravery. On one occasion a squaw requested her to help drive ponies. Mrs. Morgan refused, whereupon the squaw struck her a heavy blow. In an instant Mrs. Morgan was in pursuit of her fleeing assailant, caught her and administered a sound thrashing, amidst the yells of approval from the warriors of the tribe we seemed delighted over her bravery. The two young women were together until their rescue by General Custer and his brave followers.

The captives were given a tent each and were the special property of one Indian after they were established in the tribe, but had been exchanged two or three times among the chiefs of the Cheyennes.

Escape plan

They had planned an escape one night but had forgotten to appoint a meeting place and after going about for some time without finding each other, and knowing the least signal would bring the savages down upon them, they each returned to their tents. The following day they devised more complete plans, and met that night at a certain tree as designated. Cautiously, silently, the two prisoners who had

often considered death would be preferable to their situations, if they were not to be rescued, stole out of the camp while the usually alert savages were slumbering heavily and when beyond the confines of the Indian grounds, bounded along toward the government trail like two frightened deer.

They had not gone but a few miles, however, when they heard a low, muffled, rumbling sound as of distant thunder, that seemed to come from the trail just in advance of them. They listened, queried, and in a moment it dawned upon the excited fugitives that a herd of buffalo were coming down the trail, and knowing they would be trampled to death if they did not change their course, sought refuge in the slough of tall grass.

The herd was hours in passing and their escape was retarded. After the buffalo passed they thought best to locate the trail before daylight, that they could resume their journey after nightfall the following evening. But as they started out again the next evening and were passing down the trail a gun was fired, the bullet whizzing over their heads, and in looking around discovered an Indian in pursuit. Dismayed at their ill-omened fate, there was no alternative but to be marched back to their life of slavery. On the return trip they stopped to rest and the savaged dropped asleep with his revolver loose by his side. They were tempted to use it in their defense but thought he might be feigning sleep and kill them or that the other Indians were skulking near by. The slavery and indignities that were imposed upon the young women was made doubly more harrowing after this event and they were watched constantly.

Mr. Morgan

Mr. Morgan was wounded and left for dead at the same time his wife was captured, but was nursed back to life and health by friends in Minneapolis, Kansas, and now lives on his farm in Ottawa county. Mrs. Morgan's brother accompanied General Custer during the winter campaign and was present at the rescue of his sister. He did not recognize her, as the costume and general appearance had entirely changed her personality. In April, when they were rescued Miss White went into Junction City where some young men from Lake Sibley happened to be, and they chartered a carriage and sent the

young woman to her once happy home. Miss White is now Mrs. Brooks, the mother of an interesting family and continues to live in the same vicinity.

Rescue

General Custer obtained the women by a bold stroke. He with his staff rode in to the camp of the Cheyennes and demanded them to care for his horses. His men followed and thus surrounded General Custer demanded the prisoners, and as he did so threw some ropes over the limb of a tree explaining the result of a refusal. The captives were forthcoming and the chiefs were detained as hostages, and later met with a tragic death.

Word was received by Mr. Dutton from his brother, who had consulted an Indian agent, saying: "If the Indians were successful in recapturing the young women, which they would try to do, their fate would be terrible."

Miss White taught school in the primitive log house in Elk township, after her return from captivity.

Mrs. Morgan gave birth to an Indian child several months after her release. The child lived to be nearly three years of age. The author conversed with the physician who was called professionally to the bedside of this child during the illness that preceded its death. In his remarks he said the Indian predominated decidedly, also, that Mrs. Morgan's love for the child was very much like that of ordinary mothers and sincerely mourned the death of her offspring. The little fellow had all the instincts and characteristics of his race, would hide behind doors and corners, creep along the grass and bushes, and exhibited many of their traits.

Sad life

Mrs. Morgan's case was a peculiarly sad one. Mrs. Brooks seems happy with her husband and her several children; but Mrs. Morgan's life became a burden, she was dissatisfied, morose, and unhappy. Three children came to bless their home after her return, but she left her husband and children, was very unhappy until finally her mind gave way under the great mental pressure, and the poor unfortunate woman finally lost her reason and was taken to the asylum for the insane about two years ago, when she died on June 16, 1902, at the

age of fifty-eight years. Thus ended the sad story of a woman whose life was marked by trials and sorrows as is seldom the lot of human beings.

Mrs. White retained the homestead, rearing her family there, and has made a comfortable home, now owning over a section of land. She with her two sons, Lewis J. and William Elmer, operate the farm. Mrs. White says when she hears people complaining of hardships and hard times, she often thinks their knowledge along these lines is very limited.

Footnotes

A.F.A.M.- Masonic Lodge

A. O. U. W. - Ancient Order of United Workmen, a fraternal organization

BALLOU, Dr. A. D.- Albert Darius, b. 10 Nov. 1828 d. 20 Mar. 1899 ae 70 years, buried Delphos Cemetery

BARKER, David-b. 1842 d, 1917 husband of Lydia Barker (1853-1930) Delphos cemetery

BARKER, J. W.-b. 1832 d. 1908 Delphos cemetery

BARNES, Archibald Sr.- b. 1836 d. 1921 Delphos cemetery

BARNES, Jessie, -b. 1836 d. 1912 Delphos cemetery

BARNUM, Levi R.-b 11 Sept d. 12 Oct. 1929 Delphos cemetery

BILLINGS, Geo. N.-b. Dec. 7, 1845 d. June 23, 1930

BILLINGS, Grace-b. Nov, 4 1848 d. Nov 2, 1936

BISHOP, Rev, Joy- husband of Rhoana b. 12 Feb. 1815 d. 24 Sept 1896 Delphos cemetery

BLANCHARD, Joy M.- b. 1829 d. 1908

BOWERS, A. J.-went to Fairview, OK

BROOKS, Sarah C. White - b. 10 Dec 1850 d. 11 May 1939 wife of Erastus O. Brooks -b. 26 June 1843 d. 11 Mar 1918 buried Western Summit/Doc Moore's cemetery Cloud Co, KS

Camp Supply- Army camp in Indian Territory (Oklahoma)

CHASE, Dr. D. W.-b 11 Nov 1819 Cohocton NY Served in Ia. Inft surg.21 d. 18 Jan 1905 Delphos cemetery

CLARK, E.E.-Served in Ill, Inf, pri D. 11

CLARK, James-b. 1846 d. 1922

CLENDINEN, W. Hurd-b. 10 Jan 1836 d, 8 May 1907

CLINGENPEEL, W. E.-1865-1925

CORELL, John-1830-1904 wife Emma 1835-1914

Curculio-A beetle which sometimes destroys fruit-corn weevil.

CUNNINGHAM-I.C. (or G)-Served in Ia inft, 1st lt.C.14

DAVIS, E. N.- 1851-1940 Delphos cemetery

DAVIS,Joseph W.-b. 9 May 1842 d. 24 Dec 1929 wife Lillie P. b. 9 July 1867 d. 10 June 1946 buried Bethel cemetery Cloud Co.

DAVIS, W. C.-1945-1928 Bethel cemetery Meredith twp, Cloud

Co.
DEAN, H. A.-1834-1912 Delphos cemetery
DISNEY, LeRoy-d 24 Feb 1897 age 77 yr 3 mo 12 da Delphos cemetery
DISNEY, Henrietta- d. 31 Jan 1899 age 74 yr 7 mo 11 da Delphos cemetery
DOTY, Andrew- 1851-1931 Delphos cemetery
DOTY, Samuel-d. 10 Oct 1890 age 72 yr 5 mo 12 da Delphos cemetery
DUNCAN, Elisha-1845-1913 Delphos cemetery
EACKER, Helen-b. 11 Oct 1851 d. 20 Apr 1919 Delphos cemetery
EACKER, John-b. 21 Dec. 1822 served in Ill. Inft. pvt. D. 153 d. 21 Dec. 1901 Delphos cemetery
EDWARDS, Albert S.- Co F Ill L.A. Delphos cemetery
Fort Harker-in present Ellsworth county, Ks.
Fort Hays- In Ellis County, Ks.
G.A.R.-Grand Army of the Republic (Civil War Union soldiers)
GEREN, A. D.-served in O cav artificer, M 7
GILBREATH, Henry-Served in Ill inft, sgt, K. 5
HALE, W. A.-husband of Effie 1868-1939 Delphos cemetery
HALLY, Thomas P.-1840-1901, wife Mary 1840-1929 Catholic cemetery
HARDY, Edwin C.-1855-1941, wife Anna 1872-1959 Delphos cemetery
HENDERSHOT, James A.- 1820-1909 Delphos cemetery
HILLHOUSE, James Dean- d. 1901 Delphos cemetery
HULL, Porter C.- b. 21 Oct 1852 d. 7 Dec 1915 wife, Fannie J. b. 15 Jan 1856 d. 2 Jan 1916 Delphos cemetery
ipecac-preparation which causes vomiting
I.O.G.T.- International Order of Good Templar
I.O.O.F-Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge
Jamestown, Ks-settlement in Cloud County 25 miles north
JAQUIER, Frank H.-1862-1938 Delphos cemetery
JONES, H. D. (or B.)- Served in Ill inft sgt D. 111
Junction City, Ks- In Geary County 75 miles south and east of Delphos
KELLAR, M.-Served in Ind. cav sgt. M. S,

KINSEY, Osman Lee-1858-1917 wife Effie May 1863-1933 Delphos cemetery
KISER, W. C.-born ca 1836 came from Missouri and Illinois and left after 1880 for Greenwood Co, Ks.
KNOWLES, Geo.-Served in Wisc. inft pvt E 5
K of P- Knights of Pythias, a labor organization
Lyceum-public lectures or concerts
MCDOWALL, William-an Indian scout who was an uncle of Archibald Barnes, Jr. b. May 24, 1847 England came to U. S. 1853, served in Co B. Rgt U. S. Inf d. Fort Sill, Indian Territory, Nov. 21, 1871
MCHENRY, Dr. James-practiced medicine in Minneapolis
MCINTYRE, Joseph William-b. 28 Mar 1837 d. 6 Nov 1882 wife, Ellen 1842-1921 Delphos cemetery
MORGAN, Anna Brewster-d. 11 July 1902 age 57 yr 7 mo 1 da Her son, Ira Arthur d. Apr 30, 1871 ae 1 yr 4 mo 27 da Delphos cemetery
MORTIMER, David-1837-1925 Served in Mo inft, 2nd lt F.6. Delphos cemetery
NEUMAN, Charles-1847-1931 wife, Sophia 1855-1941 Delphos cemetery
PACKARD, L. R. (orA)-served in Ill inft, pvt. A.32
PAYNE, Dr. Jay H,-1840-1927 Delphos cemetery
PORTER,Thomas D.- 1840-1923 Delphos cemetery
PORTER, Edwin E.-1830-1908 Delphos cemetery
Rebekah Lodge- sister to IOOF Lodge
RICHARDS, Anna McIntyre-b. 17 Mar 1869 d. 29 Aug 1952 Delphos cemetery
RICHARDS, William S.-b. 16 Nov 1864 d, 16 July 1944
ROLLINGS, Robert W.- b. 1852 d. 1941 wife Laura A. 1869-1952 Delphos cemetery
SEXTON, Frank-elected to Ottawa County clerk's office and did not return to Delphos
SHAFER, George-May 1818-Dec 1901 wife Luana 1830-1898 Delphos cemetery
SHIPPEE, James C.- b. 18 May 1834 Served in Ia cav pvt K 1 d. 9 April 1905 Delphos cemetery

tonsorial artist-a barber
tyler-the officer in the Mason lodge who opens and closes the doors of the meetings
UPRR-Union Pacific Railroad
SKINNER, William B.- 1865-1958 wife Emma B. 1869-1932 Delphos cemetery
SLATER, Henry H.- 1824-1905 Phoebe C. 1838-1905 Delphos cemetery
Volstead-U. S. Representative Andrew J. Volstead who sponsored the bill which prohibited the production and sale of alcoholic liquor.
SMITH, Alex- b.6 Jan 1807 d. 13 Oct 1868 Killed by hostile Indians Delphos cemetery
SMITH, Alexander, Jr.-b. 7 Nov 1839 d.13 Oct 1868 Killed in Indian raid near Delphos, Delphos cemetery
SMITH, Bob (Robert)- served in KY inf sgt maj I 4
SNEDECKER-F. H.-d. 9 Nov 1898 Delphos cemetery
SULLIVAN, Clyde A. 1874-1944 Delphos cemetery
TAYLOR, C. S.-served in Ia sgt F 27
TRUEX, Isaac I.-1854-1942, wife Margaret A. 1855-1940 Delphos cemetery
WATERMAN, J. M.-Wisc. cav.adj I. 1. Delphos Republican editor 1909-1912
WEBSTER, Samuel C. b. 28 Feb 1832 d. 16 Jan 1895 served 5th Wisconsin Battery, wife, Mary 1837-1900 Delphos cemetery
WEBSTER, William M-. b. Nov 1848 d. 1 Aug 1917 Delphos cemetery
WHEELER, Willard W.- 1867-1949 Delphos cemetery
WHITE, Benjamin-killed by Indians b. 17 Nov 1814 d. 13 Aug 1868 came to Cloud County,Kansas May 1866 to near White creek which was named for him, buried Fairview/French cemetery Buffalo twp Cloud Co.
WHITE, John C.- b. 1850 d. 1934 father, mother (not named)1846-1927 Delphos cemetery
WHITE, Lewis J.- b. 10 Nov 1848 d. 1 Nov 1933 bur Fairview/French cemetery
WHITE, Mrs. Mary-wife of Benjamin b. 11 Sept 1824 d. 4 Mar

1913 bur Fairview/French cemetery
WHITE, Sarah Catherine-see Mrs. Brooks
WHITE William Elmer-b. 24 May 1862 d. 30 Nov 1933 Fairview/French cemetery
WRC-Women's Relief Corps, auxilliary of the G.A. R.
(Grand Army of the Republic)

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Irvin is a 1950 graduate of Delphos High School. He and his wife, Nelly, who now live in Mokelumne Hill, CA have underwritten the publication of DELPHOS IN THE SOLOMON VALLEY.

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