

HISTORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY.

THE object of this history is to preserve, from the oblivion to which it is so rapidly tending, some account of the experiences of that race of intrepid men and women who paved the way for that remarkable development which this county has so recently experienced, to give some dates and figures of importance, and to record other matters of interest too valuable to be lost. Many of the actors in this drama of colonization have already passed from the stage, and with them has vanished all record of the exciting scenes in which they were participants. The matters herein recorded are, in the main, historically correct, as far as can be ascertained. Doubtless the future will show some errors and omissions which to some extent are excusable, as it is well known that the destruction of the county's court house, in 1869, destroyed all the official records prior to that date. The loss of these records render it exceeding difficult, and, upon some points, absolutely impossible, to reproduce the earliest official movements, when the county was just struggling into existence, especially when they were connected so closely with incidents of importance, some of which have vanished with the life of the participants, or are pictured but faintly on the tablets of memory of the few from whom we have been able to glean information.

INDIAN HISTORY.

The Indian history of this county is very meager. That powerful nation of Indians, called the Pawnees, who held undisputed sway over this country previous to the arrival of the white man, had given place to the Sioux, Cheyennes, Arapahoes and Kaws. These were the tribes with which the pioneers of this country had to deal. Several raids were made by bands composed of one or all of these tribes.

In 1864, these Indians made a raid on the settlers, about the Little Blue in Washington and Marshall Counties; they were armed with bows, arrows, spears and raw hide shields, and were on their way to the Otoe Village on a war expedition. The first place they attacked was on Mill Creek, at the house of John Ferguson, afterward O. S. Canfield's, plundering the house and insulting the women; leaving this place, they took Rufus Darby prisoner, some where in the vicinity of Mr. Wertman's; from here he was marched down to Washington, where another band were plundering the log house of Jesse R. Hollowell; from there they followed down the creek, plundering on their way M. G. Driskell of his household goods. Rich Bond was surrounded and taken prisoner on the mound above John Bond's barn. Andy Oswald was also taken prisoner; after taking them a few miles down the creek, they were released. Many of the citizens took the alarm and started for Marysville in Marshall County. Those living in the southern part of Washington, and the northern part of Clay County, fled south and gathered at the house of Orville Huntress, near the present site of Clay Center. About two hundred of them camped there until the scare was over.

In 1868, another raid was made in Washington, Cloud and Republic Counties. As near as we can ascertain, the only citizens of Washington County who were killed by Indians, were a party of five, who, with a comrade from Clay County, were murdered by the Indians May 20, 1866, near Lake Sibley.

As a general thing, their most violent depredations were committed on the extreme borders of civilization: the reports and rumors of these, coupled with their frequent incursions in and about this county, kept

the settlers in a constant state of anxiety and watchfulness, although their greatest outrages in this county were horse stealing, plundering some settler of his household goods, and insulting the women; but it was not many years before the constant increase of immigration caused them to vanish before the "onward march of civilization." Years ago he was driven—he and his thieving proclivities, his voracious appetite, and unlimited perseverance in begging tobacco and fire water—into the country further west; he has been continually pushed from his place, driven out by the spade and the plow, and kept at bay by the smoke of chimney fires. The exception hardly breaks the rule. A band of picturesque peddlers only may be occasionally seen.

Tradition has not preserved for our willing pen an account of a single war dance, or a solitary white man scalped within the sacred limits of Washington County. The merciless plow-share has already obliterated his deep-worn trail, and the tooth of time has destroyed the last traces of his wigwams and his camps.

EARLY EXPLORERS.

Thirty years ago there was not a vestige of civilization in that part of Kansas now known as Washington County. For untold ages it has been covered with a waving sea of wild grasses; vast herds of buffalo had, for numberless years, wandered almost unmolested across it, and its solitudes had been broken only by occasional bands of nomadic savages in search of prey or plunder.

It was a part of that section of country which old geographers had designated as the "Great American Desert"—"a barren waste, incapable of agricultural production, and uninhabitable."

But it was not destined to always remain a *terra incognita*. The advancing wave of that great tide of civilization which had crossed the Atlantic, and transformed a wilderness into an empire, must at length reach this part of the American Continent, and to-day, millions of men have made this their home, coming from every State of the American Union, and from the territory of every European power.

The first white man who trod the soil of Washington County, was that adventurous Spanish explorer, Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, who commanded an expedition which marched, in 1542, from Mexico to the northern boundary of Kansas. His route was through that part of Kansas now embraced in the counties of Barbour, Kingman, Reno, McPherson, Harvey, Marion, Dickinson, Davis, Riley, Pottawatomie, Washington, Marshall and Nemaha. He crossed the Little Blue, near the eastern boundary of Washington County. He described the soil as "the best possible for all kinds of productions of Spain, for while it is very strong and black, it is well watered by brooks, springs and rivers." Coronado gives the first authentic account of the buffalo, when he says, "all the way, the plains are as full of crooked-backed oxen as the Mountain Serena in Spain is of sheep. He found this country in possession of a powerful and warlike tribe of Indians called the Pawnees. One band of this tribe, called the Pawnee Republic, gave its name to the Republican River.

In 1719, M. Dustine, a French explorer, passed through the State, his route being a little south of this county. He found several Pawnee villages on the banks of the Big and Little Blue.

That part of Kansas now known as Washington County, was crossed by Maj. Stephen H. Long, in 1819 or 1820. The following

extract from the account of this expedition is given, because it relates particularly to that country through which the route lay.

"The country southeast of the Missouri, between the Konzas and the Platte, is drained principally by Wolf River and the Great Nemahaw. These rivers, like the Nodoway and Nishnebottona, which enter the Missouri nearly opposite them, from the northeast, rise in the prairies at an elevation of probably forty or fifty feet above the level of the Missouri. As they descend, their valleys become wider, embosom a few trees, and at length, near their entrance into the Missouri Valley, are forests of considerable extent. The surface of these prairies present a constant succession of small, rounded hills, becoming larger and more abrupt as they approach the bed of the rivers. The soil is deep, reposing usually on horizontal beds of argillaceous sandstone and secondary limestone. * * * * The soil superimposed upon these strata of limestone, is a calcareous loam. Near the river it is inter-mixed with sand; this is also the case with the soil of the high prairies, about the Konzas village. * * * * The prairies for many miles on each side, produce abundance of good pasturage, but as far as our observation has extended, the best soil is a margin, from ten to twelve miles in breadth, along the western bank of the river. In the summer, very little water is to be found in the prairies, all the smaller streams failing.

"Even though the season be not unusually dry, on account of the wood and water, the settlements will be for a long time confined to the immediate valleys of the Missouri, the Konzas and the larger rivers; but, it is probable, forests will hereafter be cultivated in the vast woodless regions, which now form so great a proportion of the country, and wells may be made to supply the deficiency of running water."

In 1823, the first wagon-train crossed Kansas on its way to Santa Fé, and from that time, the whole country has been visited by traders, missionaries, herders hunting stray cattle, and wagon-trains crossing and recrossing from all points of the compass, that part of the country now within the boundaries of Washington County receiving its share of these transitory visits.

In 1845, the Mormons, on their way to their new home in Utah, passed through this county. Their favorite camping-grounds was at what is known as "Mormon Springs," on Ash Creek, three miles south of Washington City. Close to this spring is a high rock composed of red sandstone, upon which has been carved the names of many of these disciples of polygamy, with date of their visit. These mementoes of their presence, have, by the ruthless hands of time and reckless boys, been obliterated, excepting a huge cart wheel, the work and "heraldic sign" of some teamster or ox-driver.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL.

Washington is in the first tier of counties south of Nebraska and west of the Missouri River.

It originally contained part of the Otoe Indian Reservation, situated in the northeast part of the county.

It is bounded on the north by Jefferson and Gage Counties, Neb., on the east by Marshall County, on the south by Riley and Clay Counties, on the west by Cloud and Republic Counties.

Its eastern border is eighty miles from the Missouri River, at its nearest approach. It is 250 miles from the Colorado line, and 180 miles north of Indian Territory.

The county is exactly thirty miles square, and contains 900 square miles, or 576,000 acres of land. The bottom lands are about 8 per cent; upland, about 92 per cent; forest (Government survey), 2 per cent; prairie, 98 per cent; average width of bottoms, one-half mile.

The general surface of the country is undulating. A writer in the *North American Review* gives the following admirable description of the matchless topography of Kansas in general, but applicable in every sense to this county. He says:

"The most perfect display of the prairies is found in the eastern parts of Kansas and Nebraska. It is no exaggeration to pronounce

this region, as left by the hand of nature, the most beautiful country, in its landscape, upon the face of the earth.

"Here the forest is restricted to narrow fringes along the rivers and streams, the courses of which are thus defined as far as the eye can reach, whilst all between is a broad expanse of meadow lands, carpeted with the richest verdure, and wearing the appearance of artistically graded lawns. They are familiarly called the "rolling prairies," because the land rises and falls in gentle swells, which attain an elevation of thirty feet, more or less, and descend again to the original level, within a distance of one or more miles.

"The crest lines of these motionless waves of land intersect each other at every conceivable angle, the effect of which is to bring into view the most extended landscape, and to show the dark green foliage of the forest trees skirting the streams, in pleasant contrast with the light green of the prairie grasses.

"In their spring covering of vegetation, these prairies wear the semblance of an old and once highly cultivated country, from the soil of which every inequality of surface, every stone and every bush, has been removed, and the surface rolled down into absolute uniformity. The marvel is suggested how nature could have kept these verdant fields in such luxuriance after man had apparently abandoned them to waste."

The principal streams that water Washington County are as follows:

The Little Blue River, North and South Coon Creeks, Joy and Spring (otherwise Devil) Creeks, flowing in a southeasterly direction.

Parsons, Riddle, Pete's and Pierce Creeks, flowing south; Camp and Ash Creeks, flowing north; and Mill, otherwise South Fork of Little Blue, *alias* Snake Creek, flowing east.

The county is well supplied with springs, and good well-water can be reached at from ten to sixty feet.

The timber supply of this county is good—better than some of its neighbors. All of the streams have borders, or belts, of timber, varying from forty rods to one-half mile in width.

The streams are so well distributed over the county that the distribution of timber could hardly be better equalized. The native varieties are oak, walnut, hickory, elm, cottonwood, ash, locust and box elder.

MINERALS.

An excellent quality of common and magnesian limestone and also sandstone, are to be found in any part of the county, the southwestern part only excepted.

Some of the best limestone quarries in the country are to be found near Hollemberg, large quantities being shipped to Nebraska and other points outside of the county. Fire and pottery clay, and gypsum, are also to be found in the vicinity of the Little Blue. Sand coal is noticed cropping out in several parts of the county. A few efforts have been made to trace the veins, but, as yet, without success.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

At the January session of the Territorial Legislature at Lawrence in 1857, the boundaries of what is known as Washington County was defined, and it was attached to Marshall County for judicial and municipal purposes. It was then known as Washington Township, Marshall County.

From this time till 1860 the township, being thinly settled, was not directly represented. The township was organized into a county the second Monday in April, 1860, and placed in the Fifth Council District, and was first represented in the last session of the Territorial Legislature in the summer of 1860, by George G. Pierce. D. E. Ballard represented the county the same year at the first session of the State Legislature. It was while George Pierce and D. E. Ballard were in the Legislature that the county was organized and the first county officers were appointed.

Prior to organization into a county, an election was held April 19,

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1859, for the election of township officers, and George Pierce was elected Supervisor, D. E. Ballard Clerk, and William Tarbox, Treasurer.

The first election held in the county was in the spring of 1858, for Representative of the Sixth District. Dr. J. P. Miller received 300 votes; T. S. Vail, Miller's successor, received 58; G. G. Pierce, 59, and D. E. Ballard, 60. Washington Township cast 30 votes. From Wm. Mercer, who was then deputy to J. S. Magill, Marshall County's Assessor, we received the names of the entire voting population of the township at that time, November, 1858. They represent the early settlers and pioneers of Washington County, and are as follows: James McNulty, the very first settler in the county, who arrived in the early part of January, 1857, and settled where he now lives; Ralph Ostrander came in the latter part of 1857; G. H. Hollenberg came in the summer of 1857; one Dr. Baker and J. Van Order, came into Hanover Township in 1858; Rufus Darby, his brother-in-law, Mayland Woodward, and sons, William and James Resin, and James Darby, all of whom settled in the county July 4, 1858; William Tarbox and his brother John, the oldest settlers in Little Blue Township; D. E. Ballard and George G. Pierce, who came on the 28th of April, 1858; John Humes, Philip Zoeller, Ezra Drake, J. P. Hall, E. Porr, G. Triplet, J. Fox, William Hamlin, Peter Mondy, William Mercer, and three others whose names could not be recalled.

The first county officers were elected on the fourth Monday in April, 1860.

The officers for 1862 were elected November 5, 1861, and should have taken office in the following January.

At the first meeting of the County Commissioners, held in the "Company House," in the then new town of Washington, the county was divided into two townships. The new townships were called Washington and Mill Creek Townships. In October, 1862, a new township was formed and called Clifton Township.

On Monday, December 5, 1868, Lincoln Township was formed and the county divided into four townships of equal size, each occupying one-fourth of the county.

On the 5th day of September, 1870, the county was again divided and three new townships formed, viz.: Little Blue, Hanover and Sherman Townships.

On the 2d day of July, 1872, three new townships were formed, viz.: Strawberry, Union and Hollenberg.

Charleston Township was organized January 15, 1874. When the county was organized, William Mercer was appointed County Assessor, but in consequence of not being legally notified he did not qualify, and there was no assessment made that year. In 1861, after having qualified, he resigned and joined D. E. Ballard's company and went into the army, and E. Woolbert was appointed to fill the vacancy.

On the 16th day of March, 1871, the Twelfth Judicial District was created, and Hon. A. S. Wilson was appointed District Judge, and William Hoffhime, Clerk of the District Court.

The first criminal case in the county was that of James McCarty, tried before William Odell, Justice of the Peace, in 1859, for killing one Segman, who was found dead from a stab in the back, by E. B. Cook, in the southern part of what is now Little Blue Township. Suspicion pointed strongly toward McCarty, but there was not enough evidence to convict, and he was discharged. He was afterward tried before Esquire Darby, but with the same result. This was probably the first death in the county. The first marriage in the county was probably that of a daughter of one J. Vanorder, in 1858, in what is now Hanover Township.

Probably the first birth in the county was Michael Cook, son of E. B. Cook, in 1859.

G. H. Hollenberg sold the first goods in the county at his ranche, on the old Fort Kearney road, in 1857.

The first mill built in the county was located on the south side of Mill Creek, just south of Washington. It was built in 1865, by E. Woolbert, for A. Cubison. Some of the ruins can be seen at this date.

John Maylan was the first blacksmith to work at his trade in the county. He erected a shop on the site where Mrs. Penwell now lives, in 1860. He was drowned in Mill Creek during high water in June of the same year.

E. Woolbert was the first Postmaster in the county.

Rufus Darby was the first Justice of the Peace appointed in the county. He received his appointment in 1859.

The county bought the old Woolbert House, in 1867, of E. B. Cook, which cost about \$300. It was remodeled and used as the County Court House until it was burned in the spring of 1869. It was replaced by the county in 1871, and was burned a second time December 15, 1872. The fire was not discovered until under great headway, when nothing could be done except to save a few valuable papers and the furniture on the first floor, being very early Sunday morning. The building was insured for \$2,000, and the present Court House was built in July, 1873, by the insurance company. Local historians are silent on this subject. Suffice it to say there is a mystery surrounding the double destruction of the county property that the future alone will reveal.

PIONEER LIFE.

Pioneer life, in all times, has been characterized by incidents peculiar either to the locality or the make-up of the pioneers themselves.

Western life has been subjected to conditions common to the experiences of all. The primary elements in the composition of those who have battled successfully with the privation and hardships incident to settlements on the frontier without companions, save their "household gods," the inhabitants of the prairie or forest, in human or animal form, away from the echoes of civilization, depending for protection from the savage or border ruffian, and for means of subsistence upon his own right arm, innured to toil, was "pluck," backed by a deliberate purpose to succeed.

Thus endowed, the pioneer, having first determined where his future home should be, proceeds to erect his cabin after the prescribed model: Descriptively, it was composed of round logs, with a door cut out on one side large enough to permit ingress and egress, with a small section cut from an upper and lower of two adjacent logs, on another side, for a window. Several logs were entirely cut away for the fire-place; the cabin was covered with clap-boards kept down by weight poles kept apart by the refuse of clap-board lumber.

The majority of the early settlers came here with but little means; their covered wagons contained their household goods and effects. Lumber was not to be obtained, so in lieu of a cabin, they dug caves in the ground—dug-outs, they were called—covered the same with grass and sod, and in a few hours ensconced their families and effects in these primeval abodes, and became "squatters." After establishing himself, he had from fifty to seventy-five miles to travel, in the heat of summer or in the dead of winter, as the case may have been, to the nearest land office, there to secure his homestead or pre-emption papers. The furniture in these homes was alike unique and peculiar; blocks of wood or benches for chairs, the table sometimes being the "family chest;" the bedsteads were made of two poles, one end of each occupying a common post, the other resting in holes in the adjacent walls, clap-boards serving the purpose of bed-cords or springs.

The cabin or dug-out being completed and furnished, the next thing in order was "breaking prairie" for the first crop. Before this crop matured, or occasionally, being on "fresh breaking," it proved a failure, supplies were drawn from other available sources; failing in these sometimes, much suffering was caused until a crop could be harvested, which was stored away and husbanded with scrupulous care. The timber and prairie generally supplied the "meat-tub" from their then ample store of wild animals, game, etc., in quantity and quality according to the demands. We quote from an article written by Dr. Charles Williamson, describing one of the many cases of extreme destitution; its description is applicable to many or all of those scenes that were to be met with in those early days, when a new-comer, disap-

pointed in harvesting his first crop, was thrown upon the charity of the older, yet warm-hearted, settlers, whom, it is needless to say, were ever ready to lend a helping hand. Dr. Williamson says:

"In one instance, I was traveling with Mr. Raub, of Ash Creek, in February, 1868. At sundown, it commenced storming; we came to a solitary cabin and asked permission to stay in the house that night. I saw that he hesitated. I still urged him to let us stay. Finally, with tears in his eyes, he said, "You are welcome, but we have nothing to eat. For three days have I traveled to get a little meal. I have been to the Republican and back to-day—twenty-five miles—and you see my sack is still empty." We went with him into the house, dividing our provisions with him. When his hunger was appeased, and his cheerful fire had warmed him and made him communicative, he told us his story. He had emigrated from Wisconsin with a family of six children. He was an intelligent, educated and industrious man. He had expended all his means and could get no employment, and was destitute of food and sufficient clothing for the winter. His daughter, a girl fifteen years of age, as I could see, had nothing to wear but an old dress body with a piece of an old tattered government blanket attached to it for a skirt. He said, "I have been, I hope, a Christian for many years, but this evening it was almost in my heart to say that God had forsaken me, but I will never doubt His Providence again." When I left him in the morning, I told him we would return in two days, and to be of good cheer. At Junction City, I went to Mr. Houston, Receiver of the Land Office, and told him of this family's destitution. Through his solicitation amongst the business men of the city, and the kindness of the ladies, our wagon was loaded with provisions and clothing for all the family, and a promise to obtain the necessary grain for his spring planting. To Mr. Raub, late of Ash Creek, a poor man himself, must be given the credit of collecting the aid about the city. It was still very cold, and our team was thin, and to haul these goods back we had to walk twenty miles ourselves. The news had gone in advance of us, and we found him waiting to put up our horses, and a cheerful fire in the house, ready for our reception. As I watched the happy and grateful faces of that family, I forgot I was tired. You know our old friend, Mr. Raub, with his Grecian outline of face, was never a beauty, but as I watched him ministering to the wants of this family that night, with his words of cheer, his generous soul and his warm sympathies shining in his face, I must admit that his plain face, in the future, will ever look handsome to me. We spent a pleasant night with our host. To-day he is a well-to-do farmer, and his hand is ever open to the poor."

As settlers increased in numbers, a common cause was made in meeting the wants of each other, helping for help again. The idea of helping another for pecuniary consideration never obtruded itself in those days of "mutual aid associations."

For the earliest of this county, the chief sources of supply were Junction City, Maysville and Table Rock, Neb., and the going to and returning from market, mill and post office at these points was not considered an easy task: traveling from thirty to forty miles, often in the dead of winter, they were frequently overcome by the intense cold, and becoming bewildered and benumbed, would lose their bearing, and wander aimlessly about, only to sink exhausted and perish in sight of their homes, to be found by their neighbors and buried. This fact was fully verified in the case of William Phillips, as late as the year 1870.

In the early days, the idea generally prevailed that the high prairie was unfit for cultivation, consequently all the farmers lived on the creek cultivating the bottoms, the uplands being used only for range for stock, and a small portion was generally sufficient for that use.

The wide and unpeopled extent of these uplands rendered it very hazardous in traveling from point to point, many cases being related of parties being lost while attempting to do so. In one instance, in 1858, a young man was lost for nearly a week between the head-waters of Mill Creek and the Republican; when found, he was half-demented and wasted to a skeleton.

In those days the farmer raised only corn and a few cattle, which, when marketed, generally at Fort Kearney, a distance of 150 miles, brought good prices; corn bringing from \$1.50 to \$3 per bushel.

No attempt was made to raise wheat until 1860-61. The first successful crops were harvested by M. G. Driskell, Samuel Lynn and E. Woolbert in 1861. At that time there were but two grain cradles in the county.

Freighting was the mode of transit, and any one who could start a toll bridge or a ferry, or lay in a stock of whisky, crackers and herrings, trade in foot-sore cattle and start a ranch, could get rich.

The sparsely settled country at that time presented no flattering prospects for lawyers, doctors and representatives of other professions, consequently, they were few and far between. The judicious exercise of "common sense," as a general thing, rendered the L. L. D.'s presence unnecessary and his absence un mourned, while the hardy pioneer's free intercourse with nature, and her many health-giving attributes, untrammelled by any prescribed fashion, and having "plenty of room to swing himself," caused sickness to be comparatively unknown, and men of "pills and medicine" to seek scenery better suited to their calling.

In the winter, the farmer generally spent his time hunting buffalo and deer, or trapping the otter and beaver, which were plenty at that time, laying by a stock of meat for consumption during the coldest weather. Looking after the educational interests of his little ones was also attended to at this season, the process of which was generally conducted at home, as there were no schools established until about 1863, 1864 and 1865.

Many of the women, who figured so conspicuously as wives and mothers, among these rude and trying scenes, were ladies of education and refinement, who, though surrounded as they were on every side with all the comforts of a pleasant home, bravely sundered the ties that bound them to parents, home and youth's happy scenes, to follow their husbands into the "wilderlands of Kansas," there to endure hardships and suffer privations, the end of which would secure a home for themselves in their declining years, and a brighter future for their children.

In establishing these homes, they were never lax in their attentions to their less fortunate neighbors, but were ever watchful for the interest of their adopted State and county, in the developing of which they have "played" so important a part.

Their latch-string was ever out to the wayfarer, the word "welcome" smiled from every log and chink in their cabin. A vacant chair by their fireside or table was ever ready for their neighbor, and the word stranger was synonymous with friend.

EDUCATIONAL.

The first impulse of the people upon whom devolved the responsibility of giving form to society in primitive Washington County was to inaugurate a system of education which should in the future insure a safe foundation for permanent prosperity. The progress in this direction was at first necessarily slow, but as the population increased, the demands were readily met with, until to-day neat schoolhouses—those monuments to Western progress—adorn every prairie and valley in the county.

To Washington City belongs the honor of having the first school within the borders of the county, although the first schoolhouse was built in Charleston Township, in 1864.

School District No. 1 was organized in 1861, Miss Agnes Halliwell, now Mrs. Phil Darby, being the first teacher. The school was first held in a log cabin, built some time previous by D. Ballard and G. Pierce. District No. 2 was organized in 1864, in Charleston Township, their first schoolhouse being built in the same year. School District No. 1 was the first to issue bonds for the purpose of erecting a schoolhouse. In 1869, bonds were issued for the sum of \$2,200, and what is now known as the old stone schoolhouse was built. A striking

contrast is to be observed between this ancient structure and the elegant schoolhouse just erected in Washington City, at a cost of \$12,000. At present, only the main building and west wing have been completed. Its seating capacity will be 500, and will contain six departments. It is to be heated by steam, and supplied with all the appurtenances of a first-class graded school.

Below we give an extract from the County Superintendent's report for the school year ending July 31, 1880:

Total number of children between the ages of five and twenty	5,370
Total number enrolled in schools	4,105
Average daily attendance	2,281
Total number between the ages of eight and fourteen who have not attended school three months during the year	84
Number of schoolhouses in county	113
Number of districts in county	116
Estimated value of buildings and grounds	\$50,268.00
Average monthly salary, males	25.80
Average monthly salary, females	20.00
Amount paid for teachers during the year	19,893.00
Bonds issued during the year	3,930.00
Present bonded indebtedness	13,216.00

NEWSPAPER HISTORY.

Washington County Republican.—Journalism in Washington County has kept pace with her other interests, material and social. The first newspaper published in the county was the *Western Observer*, the first number appearing March 11, 1869.

Mr. Mark J. Kelley was the editor and proprietor, his office being first in the old stockade court house. At that time, it was a little seven-by-nine sheet, but its advent has been generally considered as the turning-point in the history of the county. As an editor, Mr. Kelley was fair and impartial, generously devoting the columns of his paper to the advertisements of the country. His paper found its way to all parts of the East, and was the means of settling a large portion of this county.

It was sold to George W. Shriner and James F. Tallman, May 21, 1870, its name being changed to the *Magnet*.

On the 25th day of August, 1870, M. J. Kelley and J. O. Young started the *Washington Republican*.

On January 9, 1871, J. O. Young purchased the *Magnet* of George W. Shriner, and M. J. Kelley's interest in the *Republican*, and consolidated the two papers, retaining the name *Washington Republican*.

John I. Tallman bought a half interest in this paper in the winter of 1871, selling his interest to W. P. Day November 2, 1871.

J. O. Young bought out Mr. Day February 17, 1872. On July 25, 1872, J. C. Martin and Perrine Stultz bought a half interest in the *Republican*. J. C. Martin bought the interest of Mr. Stultz, selling out to John Guinn January 30, 1874.

E. N. Emmons was associated with Mr. Martin from April 18, 1873, until September 12 of same year.

Mr. Emmons bought the *Republican* of John Guinn, June 19, 1874. On Friday, July 14, Mr. Emmons enlarged the paper to a seven-column paper.

On the 6th day of October, 1876, Mr. Emmons sold his interest in the paper to J. B. Besack, who still occupies the editorial chair. The paper is Republican in politics; has never missed an issue or been printed on a half-sheet. It has a large circulation, and may be considered a model of local journalism. At this writing, the *Republican* is the official paper of the county.

The only daily paper ever published in the county was by M. J. Kelley and J. O. Young, started October 19, 1870, and continued until after the fall election, November 8, 1870. It was issued in the interest of the Independent Republican ticket of that campaign.

Washington Register.—On the 5th day of April, 1880, Messrs. Williamson & Clark established a newspaper at Palmer, called the *Palmer Register*. It was published at this place until some time in July, of the same year, when it was moved to Washington City. Its circulation, while at Palmer, was about five hundred, but since its removal to the county seat, it has increased to about one thousand.

Clifton Review.—The first copy of this paper was published February 27, 1879, by Messrs. Wellman & Blake; the office was then south of the railroad. May 22, the paper passed into the hands of George Blake, who was sole editor and proprietor until June 29, of the same year, when he sold to C. H. Rice & Co.

On the 9th of October, 1879, A. Dobbins & Co. purchased the paper and moved it to the north side of the railroad.

They retained possession until April 29, 1880, when the present proprietor and editor, Mr. N. S. Hewitt, bought them out. With the exception of the time when the paper was under the control of A. Dobbins & Co., it has always been Republican in politics.

Hanover Democrat.—On the 7th day of November, 1871, Mr. A. B. Bowman established the first newspaper in Hanover and called it the *Hanover Ledger*. He continued its publication until January 20, 1872, when he moved his office to Cañon City, Colo. Soon after, Messrs. Baker & Moore established a paper and called it the *Hanover Caucasian*. In May, 1872, the *Caucasian* passed into the hands of G. H. Hollenberg, who employed a Mr. McHoe as editor and publisher; he soon after resigned in favor of Nat Baker, who changed the name of the paper to the *Hanover Enterprise*. In August, 1872, Mr. P. D. Hart purchased the paper and changed the name to the *Western Independent*. In 1875, Mr. Hart sold the *Independent* to E. N. Emmons, who changed its name again to the *Hanover Sun*. Mr. Emmons continued the publication of the *Sun* until April, 1877, when he sold the office to its present editor and proprietor, Mr. J. M. Hood; it is a neat five-column paper, and has a circulation of about six hundred.

Hanover Pioneer.—In the spring of 1874, August Jaedicke and Louis Moll purchased an outfit and employed Mr. John Walters to edit and publish a German paper called the *Hanover Pioneer*; he ran the paper in the interest of the above-named parties for about one year, when he purchased the office and moved it from the county.

Greenleaf Journal.—On the 15th day of January, 1881, W. H. Besack, of Washington, started the *Greenleaf Journal*, and continued its publication until February 26, 1881, when he sold to Messrs. Moore & Bliss, the present proprietors, who enlarged it to six columns, and, in November following, to eight columns. It has, at present, a circulation of about seven hundred.

RAILROADS.

Union Pacific.—The Central Branch Division of this great system of railroads, extending from Atchison to Logan, 268 miles, and from Downs to Bull City, thirty-eight miles, also from Greenleaf to Washington, seven miles, has about fifty miles of track in this county, through the townships of Little Blue, Sherman and Clifton. It was completed through the county in 1877 and 1878, and has stations at Barnes, Greenleaf, Lynn, Palmer and Clifton, and at Washington. This road connects at Atchison with all the main lines for the north-east and south, affording abundant facilities for the shipment of grain, cattle and produce.

St. Joseph & Western.—This road was extended through the northeast corner of the county in 1872; after crossing the Big Blue River at Marysville, it continues west to the Little Blue near Hanover, and turns abruptly north, following the valley of the river north into Nebraska. It has about twenty miles of track in the county, crossing Hanover and the northeast corner of Hollenberg Township, with stations at Hanover and Hollenberg. Hanover is the end of the east division, where it has established round-houses and machine-shops.

GROWTH IN POPULATION.

In 1860, when the election was held establishing the county seat at Washington, the votes numbered less than 80, the entire population being 383. In 1870, the United States Census gave Washington County 4,081.

In 1874, the population was 7,861; in 1875, it was 8,621; in 1876, it was 9,191; in 1878, it was 10,319, and in 1880 it was 14,910.

The increase in population between the years 1860 and 1870 was 3,698; between 1870 and 1875, it was 4,540; between 1875 and 1876, it was 570; between 1876 and 1878, it was 1,128, and between 1878 and 1880, it was 4,590.

Beginning with 1860, the increase in ten years was 3,698; in fifteen years, 8,238; in sixteen years, 8,808; in eighteen years, 9,936, and in twenty years, 14,527.

POPULATION OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, BY TOWNSHIPS, INCLUDING CITIES AND VILLAGES, IN 1874:

Townships and Cities.	Population.
Clifton.....	886
Hanover.....	998
Mill Creek.....	533
Union.....	211
Little Blue.....	880
Sherman.....	1,298
Washington.....	760
Hollenberg.....	444
Lincoln.....	1,034
Strawberry.....	276

For the Year 1878:

Townships and Cities.	Population.
Clifton.....	1,349
Hanover.....	1,402
Mill Creek.....	782
Union.....	279
Charleston.....	289
Little Blue.....	962
Sherman.....	1,364
Washington.....	1,160
Hollenberg.....	556
Lincoln.....	1,241
Strawberry.....	934

For the Year 1880:

Townships and Cities.	Population.
Clifton.....	1,590
Hanover.....	2,108
Mill Creek.....	1,222
Union.....	535
Charleston.....	466
Little Blue.....	1,526
Sherman.....	2,045
Washington.....	1,836
Hollenberg.....	886
Lincoln.....	1,439
Strawberry.....	1,258

Population of Washington City in 1880, 675; Hanover, 578; Greenleaf, 316; Clifton, 400; Hollenberg, 180; Haddam, 80.

LIST OF POST OFFICES AND POSTMASTERS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Albia.....
Ballard Falls.....	N. Beard.
Barnes.....	Henry Ober.
Brantford.....	Gus Luddell.
Butler.....	M. H. Capwell.
Blocker.....
Chepatow.....	Husleiman.
Clifton.....	William Funnell.
Dewitt.....	H. S. Dewitt.
Greenleaf.....	W. K. McConnell.
Haddam.....	R. Vincent.
Hanover.....	Aug. Jaedicke.
Hollenberg.....	J. W. Clapp.
Hopewell.....	R. J. Adams.
Koloko.....	W. H. Blanchard.
Kimeo.....	W. H. Knight.
Linn.....	F. K. Fisk.
Palmer.....	F. Nadeau.
Reiter.....	C. Kingsbury.
Strawberry.....	J. G. West.
Vining.....	P. A. Wilson.
Washington.....	P. Rockefeller.

CHURCHES.

Washington County has twenty-five church organizations, as follows: Nine Methodist Episcopal; three Presbyterian; two Baptist; six Catholic; two Lutheran; two Congregational and one Christian.

The following are the churches who have houses of worship in the county: The Methodist Episcopal three, namely, at Washington, at Greenleaf and at Clifton; Presbyterian, two, at Washington and in Strawberry Township; Baptist, one at Clifton; Lutheran two, at Washington and Hanover.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Washington.—The following brief history was prepared by H. C. Sprengle and A. Brown, and any irregularities may be attributed to the fact that no records were to be found prior to 1872, the compilers depending entirely on memory to fill the deficiencies:

"This Church was organized in the year 1861, with Revs. R. I. Harford and — Robertson as ministers. These two ministers were then acting in the capacity of missionary circuit riders. Rev. Robertson filled the pulpit the following year, 1862, and was followed by Rev. Buffington, who served the church two years, 1863 and 1864, he being followed by Rev. Taggart in 1865. Rev. James Phillips was the preacher for the years 1866 and 1867; then Rev. E. Chilson for part of the year 1868, when he left, and the pulpit was filled by Rev. M. P. Welty, a local preacher, the remainder of that year and a part of 1869, when Rev. E. J. Fulford was sent as a supply, and remained until the close of 1870. In 1871, Rev. Robertson filled the pulpit for the first six months, and Rev. John Woodburn the last six months. Rev. E. W. Vandeventer was sent by the Conference for the years 1872 and 1873. Rev. E. R. Brown was Pastor for the years 1874–75–76, and was followed by Rev. A. N. See for the years 1877 and 1878. From 1874 to September 8, 1878, the Methodists occupied the Presbyterian Church one-half of each Sabbath, the church services previous to that time having been held in private houses and in the schoolhouse; but during the ministry of Rev. See, a very pretty church building 32x50, with tower attached, was built, and was dedicated September 8, 1878, the then Presiding Elder, Rev. W. J. Mitchell, officiating. In 1879, Rev. J. C. Dana was Pastor, and was followed in 1880 by Rev. Henry Frank, who was transferred to the Minnesota Conference in the middle of said year, and was succeeded by Rev. R. F. Kephart, a transfer from the Minnesota Conference. The first regular Presiding Elder sent by Conference to this part of the work was — Taylor. His successors were in the following order: R. L. Harford, N. Green, G. S. Dearborn, H. Holman, W. J. Mitchell and J. H. Lockwood. Up to the year 1880, Washington was the central point on Washington Circuit, and was made a station by the Conference of that year. The membership now numbers about one hundred and thirty-five. The church is out of debt, and enjoys a reasonable state of prosperity; has a good Sabbath-school with an enrolled membership of one hundred and forty."

The Methodist Episcopal Church, of Clifton.—The Methodist Episcopal Church of Clifton was organized by Rev. J. H. Colt in 1878. The first Board of Trustees elected was S. C. Chester and George W. Seabury, of Clay County; George Funnell, of Washington County; H. Rundle and S. H. Hamilton, who, after being sworn, took steps toward erecting a parsonage, 18x26 feet, which they completed in July, 1878, at a cost of \$400. In March, 1879, Rev. W. J. Mitchell, Presiding Elder of Beloit District, Rev. J. H. Colt, Pastor of the Clifton Circuit, and George Funnell, H. Rundle, G. D. Seabury and S. H. Hamilton, met at the house of S. C. Chester, and took steps toward building a church. They then pledged \$400 for the same, and, in June, 1879, with a subscription of \$800, began building a church at Clifton, 30x50 feet. The building, when completed, cost \$2,000. It was dedicated by Rev. W. J. Mitchell, in November, 1879.

Present Board of Trustees, in 1881, were, S. C. Chester, President; F. H. Bennett, Secretary; George Funnell, Treasurer; H. Rundle and H. D. P. Fergusson.

The Methodist Episcopalals have organizations in Hollenberg Township, at Liberty, at Hollenberg and at Lone Mound Schoolhouse. Mr. J. N. McCurdy, of the Methodist Episcopal Circuit, presides at these places.

Lone Mound and the class at Liberty were organized in 1866, Holenberg in 1878, all by Rev. Phillips from Brown County.

Methodist Episcopal Church of Palmer.—This class was organized in 1871, by J. Shyles and S. C. Chester. Dr. George Wigg was their first preacher. Service was held at that time in a log house at Peach Creek Village. When the town was moved, the church was also moved to Palmer. Two fine lots in Palmer have been purchased, and a church will be erected in the summer of 1882. At present they have about thirty members. Rev. J. W. Porter, of Greenleaf, supplies their pulpit at present.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Lynn was organized in 1871. Rev. Levan was the first preacher. At present they have about thirty members. Rev. J. W. Porter, of Greenleaf, is their Pastor.

Methodist Episcopal Church of Greenleaf was organized in 1877. They are just completing a fine house of worship, to cost about \$4,000. Rev. J. W. Porter is their Pastor.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Chepstow, Lincoln Township. was organized in 1872, at the house of Mrs. A. Wilson. Service was also held at the Roberts' Schoolhouse, No. 45. L. E. Biggs was their first Pastor. In 1878, the church was moved to Chepstow Schoolhouse. They have about twenty-five members. Rev. William Dixon is their Pastor at present.

First Presbyterian Church of Washington.—The following brief account of this denomination at Washington was kindly furnished by Rev. George Hageman: "About the beginning of the year 1866, the Rev. Gary Hickman, a missionary of the Presbytery of Highland, visited Washington and organized a church of ten members. An arrangement was made to secure the services of Brother Hickman until a permanent supply could be obtained, but in those early days the population was unsettled, and before Mr. Hickman had returned to preach to the little organization, four of the members had moved away, and others expected to follow them, and it was thought best to send Mr. Hickman word 'not to come to fill the appointment which he had made.' The few remaining members of the church thus being left uncared for, sought fellowship with the Methodist brethren, and the little organization, weak from the beginning, and having no growth, soon died, and the first Presbyterian Church of Washington, Kansas, became extinct. Almost three years after this, in March, 1869, Rev. W. G. Thomas visited Washington, and finding a few Presbyterian families in its community, made arrangements to preach here a portion of the time, and in the following October he presented a petition to the Presbytery, signed by some Christian people, asking the Presbytery to organize them into a church. Rev. Edward Cooper, then of Atchison, now of Cincinnati, and Rev. W. G. Thomas were appointed a committee to visit Washington, and if the way be clear, to effect an organization. Accordingly, on the 31st of October, 1869, the organization was effected with a membership of fifteen persons. The Lord's Supper was administered, and the Presbyterian Church of Washington, Kansas, entered upon its work. Owing to irregularities about the use of the schoolhouse, where services were held, the public worship was only at irregular intervals. The schoolhouse could be obtained for public worship only once in four weeks, but the little organization grew and waxed stronger. Rev. W. G. Thomas, who had been preaching only temporarily, was elected stated supply for one year, and continued to supply the church for several years. In 1873, the congregation, feeling the need of better accommodations, took the necessary steps for the building of a church, and in January, 1874, a new church was dedicated, Rev. Edward Cooper being present and preached the sermon of dedication. The church was built at a cost of \$2,500. A very precious revival followed the dedication of the new church. Rev. W. G. Thomas continued as stated supply until 1873, when Rev. L. G. Fisher was called to the church and continued to minister to it until the year 1875, when he gave up his labors and removed to another field, and the church was left without a minister. The church was left without stated services for some two years. On the first Sabbath

of June, 1877, Rev. George Hageman, the present Pastor, preached his first sermon in the church from Psalm viii, 4, "What is man that thou art mindful of him?" From the time of Rev. George Hageman's ministrations, up to the present writing, September, 1881, a little over four years, seventy-three persons have been received into the membership of this church, and from a few members it has grown to its present proportions, ninety-seven members."

The sunshine of God's love has rested, and continues to rest upon this church, and it is to be hoped that it shall be still more abundantly blessed in the future.

The Presbyterian Church of Greenleaf was organized in the spring of 1880. Rev. William Thomas was their first and is present Pastor. At present it has about twelve members. Service is held every Sunday in the Greenleaf Schoolhouse.

The Presbyterians in the western part of Strawberry Township formed a class in 1879. At present writing, they are building a fine church, which will cost about \$800.

The Baptist Church of Greenleaf.—The Baptist Church of Greenleaf was organized in the spring of 1877. Some of those who were embraced in the organization: J. A. Barrett and wife and daughter, Ralph Travers and wife, John Simmons and wife, Mrs. Jacob Brown and daughter, J. S. Stone and family and others. Rev. J. F. Randen was their first Pastor. His son, Nelson Randen, and Rev. A. D. Trumble filled the pulpit on several occasions. J. F. Randen supplied the pulpit until 1880; since then the Rev. Charles Clutz. Present membership, thirty.

The several church organizations in Greenleaf have organized a Union Sabbath School, which is largely attended by the young people. Deacon J. Stone is their Superintendent. The Sunday school has an enrolled membership of seventy-five.

The Baptist Church of Lincoln was organized in the fall of 1871. Meeting was first held at the Round Grove Schoolhouse. Elder Turner, of Nemaha County, was their first Pastor. In the spring of 1878, the church was divided, part moving to Greenleaf and part to the Thorman Schoolhouse, in Lincoln Township. Rev. A. D. Trumble is their present Pastor.

The English Lutheran Church of Barnes was organized in August, 1879, by J. Shaurer, at Mr. Ober's store building. A church was built in 1880. J. Shaurer is their present Pastor.

The United Brethren of Lincoln were organized in 1865, at the house of H. Smith. Rev. E. Silvens was their first Pastor.

The Christian Church of Lincoln was organized at the Beverly Schoolhouse in the summer of 1874. Rev. A. P. Evans was their first Pastor. At present they have no regular Pastor. Meetings are held occasionally in the Chapman Schoolhouse.

The Goshen Congregational Church of Lincoln was organized by M. Tenny in the spring of 1876, at the Diamond Schoolhouse. Rev. W. H. Knight is their present Pastor. Membership, about thirty.

The German Lutheran Church of Hanover was organized in 1874, by Rev. Henry Roeoer. Among those who were embraced in the organization were William Kalhoefer, August Jardicke, Fred Runger, C. Soel, Henry Allerhieligen, Fred Allerhieligen, Jacob Mosen, B. Wolfe, J. Loverance, D. Levan, Fred and Henry Brockmeyer and others. Their first Pastor was Rev. Charles Haws.

In 1875, necessary steps were taken toward building a church, which was erected at a cost of \$1,500. As yet it is not quite completed, but will be finished and dedicated in spring of 1882.

At present there are about thirty members. Rev. J. G. Groen Miller is their present Pastor. Service is held every alternate Sunday.

The Catholic Church of Hanover was established in 1870, by the Herman brothers and others.

Father Sweetberg DeMarbeau, from Seneca, and Father Remele, from St. Mary's Mission, came occasionally and read mass. The church consisted then of about ten or twelve families. The east half of the old church was built at this time at a cost of about \$500.

In 1874, Father Weickman took charge, and was the first resident priest. He remained till July, 1876. The church continued in this state of imperfection until the latter part of July, 1876, when Father John Pichler took charge, his first move was to purchase an organ and a church bell, the first in the county, and to commence building a schoolhouse and residence combined. This building was completed in the fall at a cost of \$1,000. School opened in November, 1876, with Miss Mary Cass, a graduate of the Leavenworth Academy, as Preceptress.

In the spring of 1877, the old church was enlarged to twice its original size, at a cost of \$500.

In the spring of 1877, Father Pichler started East on a lecturing tour, endeavoring to induce immigration to this part of Kansas. He returned with a colony of about two hundred families, of almost every nationality, from all parts of the East, who settled in and about Hanover.

The congregation was so enlarged that it became necessary to build a new and large church, and the present fine edifice that overlooks the city of Hanover was commenced. The corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies in the fall of 1877, when from lack of means they rested from their labors. Building was resumed in 1879, and the walls were completed to the roof, when a second drawback was suffered on account of insufficient means. Building commenced again in 1880, and everything was completed at an entire cost of \$10,000.

The church was dedicated October 3, 1880, by Bishop Fink, of Leavenworth.

At present writing, a new stone schoolhouse is being built, 45x64 feet, and to cost about \$8,000. School is now held in the basement of the church. The congregation contains about 250 families, or about 1,200 members.

The French Catholic Church of Greenleaf was established in the winter of 1871, at the house of Sol Lanoux, by Father Molier, of Cloud County, who continued in charge until March, 1880. Up to this time, meetings had been held at Mr. Lanoux's house, when G. Talbot, Sol Lanoux and others purchased the old schoolhouse at Greenleaf, and remodeled it for a church. Since that time, Father Perrier has had charge. The church was purchased and remodeled at a cost of about \$300; about sixteen families are in attendance; service is held every Sunday.

The French Catholic Church of Palmer was established some time in 1879, by Louis Ray and others. Father Molier was their first priest. The same year, Messrs. Pudra, Ray, Adams, Seer and others built a church at Palmer at a cost of about \$700. About thirty families attend service every Sunday.

St. Michael's Catholic Church in Lincoln Township was established in the spring of 1872, at the house of B. Rodgers, by Father Fitzgerald. A church was built in March, 1876, on Section 20, Town 5, Range 4. Father Pichler is their present priest. Membership, about two hundred.

St. Barney's Catholic Church of Strawberry Township was established in April, 1866, by Father Sweetberg DeMorbau, of Seneca. A. Etzbach, John Myers and B. Williams were instrumental in its establishment. Their church was built in 1872, at a cost of about \$400.

The Catholic Church of Clifton Township, the first in the county, was established in the spring of 1866, by J. Bowmaker, T. Kinsley, N. and P. Eslinger. Their first priest was "Father John." A log schoolhouse was built, one of the first in the county, the same year, and services were held in it till 1872, when the new church was built, at a cost of \$1,200. The schoolhouse was then moved to District No. 62.

The Evangelical Association of North America in Hanover and at or in the vicinity of Washington.—In the years 1868, Rev. William Follgate was sent by the Kansas Conference to Washington and Riley Counties as missionary. He continued his migratory labors until the latter part of 1869, when E. K. Trayer and H. Martell were sent to relieve him. In the following year, 1870, the first class was organized at Hanover, with Jacob Warner and wife, Jacob Geh-

ring and Conrad Geothring, C. Berner, P. E., and others as members. In 1871, Rev. Mortell retired, and Rev. Troyer continued in the work alone until 1872, when he was relieved by P. Fricker and Rev. Schesser, who had charge of the mission till 1873, when Rev. Schesser retired. In 1873, Rev. Fricker, who was now alone, conducted a revival at the house of John Lueszler, and quite a number were converted and united with the church, and from the result of this revival a second class was organized, about eight miles southwest of Washington, with J. Lueszler and son Selig, J. Good, the Myers family and others as members. In 1874, at the conference H. Loedman and W. Theiser were appointed to the work, and, in 1875, W. Myers, Mr. Merkt and Mr. Harder were appointed to travel Washington, Riley, Cloud, Marshall and Nemaha Counties. In 1876, W. Myer traveled Washington County alone. In 1878 and 1879, W. Heiser and C. Brand were appointed. In the last year of their labors the church was erected at Hanover, 28x40 feet, costing \$1,800.

In 1880, D. R. Zellner was appointed to this mission. There were four appointments included in this year. A parsonage was built at Washington this year, it having been made a regular appointment, with but few members, however.

D. R. Zellner was again appointed to this work in 1881, and the members increasing, need was felt for a house of worship in the city. Messrs. Welty, Bickel and Potter, members of the church, have interested themselves, and have succeeded in raising by subscription enough to commence building. Up to the present time, Washington County has eight appointments, with about one hundred members; three Sabbath schools, with about seventy scholars. In 1880, about \$600 was raised for different purposes. The work is in good condition. Prospects fair. Prepared by D. R. Zellner.

MISCELLANEOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

Freemasonry.—The Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons has been called the handmaid of civilization. Her members have carried with them into new and pioneer settlements those fraternizing influences which have been found to be of such momentous value even in the habitations of the unlettered savage. The early settlers of Washington County did not constitute an exception to this rule.

Frontier Lodge, No. 104, was chartered Oct. 19, 1871. The following were the first officers: J. C. McCew, W. M.; John McKennett, S. W.; A. S. Markham, J. W. The charter was signed by John M. Price, G. M.; J. W. Hogeboom, Dep. G. M.; J. L. Philbrick, Sen. G. W.; J. W. Peck, Jr., G. W.; John H. Brown, G. S.

The present officers are as follows: J. S. Lowe, W. M.; E. E. Davidson, S. W.; G. W. Johnson, J. W.; J. W. Barley, Treas.; S. H. Maunder, Sec.; Thomas Groody, S. D.; W. H. Collins, J. D.; Charles Smith, Sr. Steward; S. Lynn, Jr. Steward; J. S. Vedder, Tiler. Present membership, forty. Clifton and Hanover each have lodges working under dispensation.

Clifton Lodge, U. D.—C. C. Funnell, W. M.; F. O. Andrews, Sec.
Star Lodge at Hanover.—W. J. Nevins, W. M.; O. H. Jaedicke, Sec.

Knights of Honor.—Keystone Lodge, No. 1,473, was organized March 12, 1879, with twelve charter members. The first officers were: H. C. Sprengle, Dictator; T. M. Achenbach, Vice Dictator; Thomas Haak, Assistant Dictator; R. E. Foote, Chaplain; E. N. Emmons, Reporter; Frank Road, Financial Reporter; P. Darby, Treasurer; A. S. Wilson, Guide; A. G. Murphy, Sentinel; J. B. Besack, Past Dictator; Jacob Miller, Guardian. Present officers are: E. N. Emmons, Dictator; James Deniston, V. D.; Jacob Miller, A. D.; H. C. Sprengle, Chaplain; G. M. Parks, Reporter; Frank Road, F. R.; Thomas Haak, Treasurer; D. M. Evans, Guide; T. M. Achenbach, Guardian; A. G. Murphy, P. D.; J. B. Besack, Sentinel. The present membership is twenty-two. The meetings of the lodge are held in Pythian Hall. The financial condition of the organization is said to be good.

Grand Army of the Republic.—Kearney Post, No. 5, Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Kansas, was organized July 18, 1878. Following names appear on the charter as members: S. H. Maunder, U. S. S., Huron; P. S. Erl, Seventy-ninth Pennsylvania Infantry; A. W. Ellsworth, Eighty-ninth Illinois Infantry; E. D. Moore, Second Wisconsin Cavalry; E. N. Emmons, Sixth Wisconsin Infantry; George W. Sharp, Ninth Kansas Infantry; R. James, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana Infantry; William M. Allar, Fifth Ohio Cavalry; Phillip Rockefeller, Eighth Kansas Infantry; P. R. Childers, Second Iowa Infantry; George E. Ross, Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry; John A. Bell, Twenty-third and Forty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry; G. M. Parks, Fourth Ohio Infantry; M. Stewart, One Hundredth Pennsylvania Infantry; F. M. Cox, Second Pennsylvania Infantry; Charles Smith, Sixty-first Massachusetts Infantry; J. W. Barley, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Ohio Infantry; W. W. Randall, Eightieth Ohio Infantry; E. E. Sheets, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry; R. H. Sheldon, Twelfth Ohio Cavalry; Fritz W. Brown, Twenty-first Illinois Infantry. Signed by J. C. Walkinshaw, Assistant Adjutant General; J. H. Gillpatrick, Department Commander. At present the society has forty-one members and following officers: Thomas Groody, Commander, Charles Smith, Senior Vice Commander; F. M. Cox, Junior Vice Commander; S. H. Maunder, Quartermaster; G. M. Parks, Adjutant; John Pickard, Officer of the Day; D. M. Evans, Officer of the Guard.

Clifton Post, No. 24, G. A. R., was chartered in 1879. Present officers are: M. D. Tenny, Commander; C. H. Rice, Adjutant. Present membership, twenty-eight.

Washington Lodge, No. 76, I. O. O. F.—Was chartered October 12, 1871, the following names appearing upon the charter: G. W. Shriner, John Palmer, J. B. Baumbarger, J. B. Snyder, A. B. Baumbarger; signed by Samuel F. Burdett, Grand Secretary; Isaac Sharp, Grand Master. The present officers are as follows: Nathan Woodbury, Noble Grand; S. F. Scott, Vice Grand; D. R. Spencer, Treas-

urer; W. H. Johnson, Secretary; F. M. Cox, Recording Secretary; W. H. Johnson, Representative to Grand Lodge. Present membership is thirty-two.

Hanover Lodge, No. 155, I. O. O. F.—Was chartered November 5, 1876. Present membership, twenty. Present officers: A. Oswald, Noble Grand; D. Michelson, Secretary.

Clifton Lodge, No. 181, I. O. O. F.—Was chartered 18—. Present membership is twenty-seven. Present officers are: W. A. Little, Noble Grand; G. A. Huston, Secretary.

Laurel Lodge No. 29, K. of P., was instituted June 22, 1880, with the following officers: J. B. Besack, P. C.; J. G. Lowe, C. C.; G. M. Parks, V. C.; E. N. Emmons, P. A.; J. C. Goff, Mat. A.; J. M. Harlan, M. of F.; A. W. Moore, M. of E.; George H. Thiele, K. of R. & S.; S. A. Moore, I. G., and Frank Road, O. G. There were thirty-three charter members. The present officers are W. H. Johnson, C. C.; G. M. Parks, P. C.; J. M. Harlan, V. C.; J. G. Lowe, P.; W. A. Clark, K. of R. & S.; George Hillabrandt, Mat. A.; Dr. N. M. Smith, M. of E.; O. L. Taylor, M. of F.; S. H. Harris, I. G., and Charles Duke, O. G.

The Washington County Horticultural Society.—This auxiliary to the State Horticultural Society was organized April 3, 1880, by Dr. Charles Williamson, a prominent member of the State Board.

"The object of this society is to encourage and promote the growth of fruit, shrubbery, shade, ornamental and forest trees, and hedging for fencing."

Among some of the charter members may be mentioned George C. Penwell, E. J. Weekly and William Cummings.

The following are the officers for the year 1881: President, Dr. Charles Williamson; Vice President, G. C. Penwell; Secretary, E. J. Nason; Treasurer, William Cummins; Trustees, William Nemils, E. J. Weekly and William Bullemore. There are, at present, between fifty and sixty members. Meetings held semi-annually in June and October.

