

Historic Spots

OR

Mile-Stones

in the progress of
Wyandotte County, Kansas

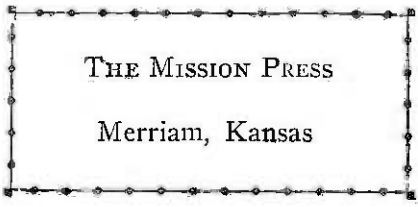
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FOREWORD

History should be written about spots. We all want to see the spot where the event took place. We want to see the rock on which the Pilgrims landed. We want to see the bridge at Lexington where the embattled farmers stood and fired the shot heard around the world. We want to see the place where General Jackson piled up the cotton bales at New Orleans. We want to see the place where General Pickett made his wild charge at Gettysburg.

Every community has its historic spots around which much of the community history can be written. Wyandotte County is the richest of all Kansas counties in these historic spots. The discovery of the Kansas River by Lewis and Clark; the coming of the three Indian Nations—the Shawnees, the Delawares and the Wyandottes; the early day Missions; the establishment of organized government; the establishment of the free school system; all these things took place in Wyandotte County at a time when all the rest, of what is now Kansas, was little known and of less importance.

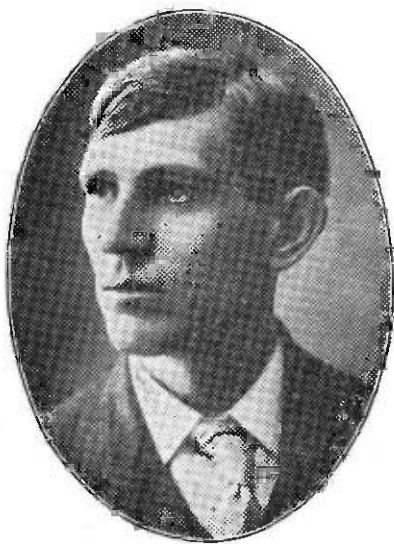
Then came the territorial days when Wyandotte furnished the free state gateway into the Territory and wound up this period by furnishing the Convention Hall in which the constitution of the new state was made.

Wyandotte got away to a flying start and she has always kept the lead in the race of historic importance. She was developed into the most populous county of the state, she welded her numerous little communities into one big city, built a million dollar court house, "The Gateway to Kansas," curbed and bridged the streams that wrought havoc and built a four million dollar highway across the city.

No effort has been made in these pages to write a continuous history of Wyandotte County. The purpose has been to pick the spots where events of historic importance have taken place

and to write the stories that cluster around these spots, hence the title—"Historic Spots."

An effort has been made to make each story complete in itself. This has necessitated some repetition but this could not be avoided without destroying the story. The purpose of these stories, from start to finish, has been to stimulate a pride of citizenship which will lead on to greater achievements.



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HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER ONE

PLACE: Upper Point of the Kansas River.
TIME: June 26th, 1804.
EVENTS: I The Beginning of History.
II The First Boat Yard in Kansas.
III The First Court Held in Kansas.

There is a tradition that Coronado visited Kansas in his wanderings. There are traditions that in prehistoric times enterprising trappers plied their trade on the streams of Kansas. History however, so far as Kansas is concerned, had its beginning on the afternoon of June 26, 1804, when the Lewis and Clark Expedition, "came to and camped in the Point above the Kansas River." (1)

The exploration of the country beyond the Mississippi had long been desired by that eminent statesman Thomas Jefferson. When he came into the Presidency he sent a confidential message to Congress (Jan. 18, 1803) pointing out the possibilities of trade with the numerous tribes along the Missouri river and suggesting that an intelligent officer, with ten or twelve chosen men, fit for the enterprise and willing to undertake it, might be spared from the posts without inconvenience. He thought they might explore the whole line, even to the Western Ocean, have conferences with the nations on the subject of commercial intercourse, get admission among them for trade as others were admitted, agree on convenient depots for the interchange of articles and return with the information acquired in the course of two summers. Incidentally it would advance the geographical knowledge of our country which would be an additional gratification. The nation claiming the territory, regarding this as a literary pursuit, which it was in the habit of permitting within its domains, would not be disposed to view it with jealousy, even if the expiring state of its interests then did not render it a matter of indifference. He added that if the Congress would appropriate \$2,500 "for the purpose of extending the commerce of the United States" it would be considered by the Executive as giving legislative sanction, would cover the undertaking from notice and prevent the obstructions which interested individuals might otherwise throw in the way. (2)

Congress passed the appropriation. President Jefferson did not delay the recruiting of his proposed party for the exploration

1. Coues History of the Expedition, pgs. 32, 35.
2. Messages and Papers of the Presidents, Vol. I, pgs. 352-4.

of the Missouri river country. It was placed in command of Capt. Meriwether Lewis of the First Regiment of infantry with Captain William Clark as second in command. Then came April 30th, 1803 and the treaty of Paris, as a result of which, all of Louisiana fell into the lap of the United States. The expedition gathered at Camp River Dubois, opposite the mouth of the Missouri river, during the winter and spring of 1804, and on May 14th, 1804 the famous "Lewis and Clark Expedition" pushed off on its journey into the unknown.

On June 26th, 1804, after making a distance of 9½ miles for the day, the party landed on the point between the Kansas and the Missouri rivers. Here they spent the next three days resting and recruiting the party. A breastwork of logs and brush was built across between the two rivers, the boats were unloaded, pulled ashore and repaired. Supplies were overhauled. The latitude and longitude were taken. The rivers were measured and their waters weighed and tested. Sundry other observations were made and duly recorded for their reports.

Among the supplies brought ashore was a barrel of whiskey. A soldier, who was detailed to stand guard over it, gave a portion to a fellow soldier and both got drunk. A court martial followed and both men were found guilty. The sentinel was sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on "his bear back." The other soldier was sentenced to receive fifty lashes on "his bear back." A formal record of the trial and punishment was made in the "ORDERLY BOOK" as follows:

Camp Mouth of the Kansas, June 29, 1804.

"ORDERED—A court martial will be set this day at 11 o'clock to consist of five members for the trial of John Collins and Hugh Hall, confined on charges exhibited against them by Sergeant Floyd, agreeable to the articles of war.

DETAIL OF THE COURT

Sergeant Nat Pryor, president.

1. J. B. Thompson
2. John Colter Mbs.
3. John Newman
4. Pat Gass

John Potts to act as Judge Advocate.

The court convened agreeable to order and proceeded to the trial of the Prisoners Viz.

John Collins Charged "with getting drunk on his post this Morning out of whiskey put under his Charge as Sentinal, and for Suffering Hugh Hall to draw whiskey intended for the party."

To this Charge the prisoner plead *Not Guilty*.

The Court after mature deliv(b)eration on the evidence adduced &c are of the opinion that the prisoner is *Guilty* of the Charge exhibited against him, and do therefore sentence him to receive *one hundred Lashes on his bare Back*.

Hugh Hall was brought before the Court Charged with taking whiskey out of a Keg this morning which whiskey was stored on the Bank (and under Charge of the Guard) Contrary to all order, rule or regulation.

To this Charge the prisoner "Pleaded *Guilty*."

The Court find the prisoner *Guilty* and Sentence him to receive *fifty Lashes on his bare Back*.

The Commanding Officers approve the Sentence of the Court and order that the Punishment take place at half past three this evening, at which time the party will Parade for inspection."

Capt. Clark in his diary records for the day that "after making Some arrangements, and inflicting a little punishment to two men we Set out at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 o'clock, and proceeded on."

His diary for the three days says:

Tues., June 26, 1804—*** passed a bad sand bar, where our tow rope broke twice, & with great exertions, we rowed round it and came to & camped, in the Point above the Kanzen River. June 27:—we determined to delay at this Place three or four Days to make observations & recruit the party. Sveral men out Hunting, onloaded our Perogue, and turned her up to Dry with a view of repairing her after completing a Strong redoubt or brest work from (one) river to the other, of logs & Bushes Six feet high, * * we compared the instrumts Took equal altitudes and the meridian altitude of the Suns * * measured the width of the Kansas River by an angle and made it 230 yds $\frac{1}{4}$ wide, it is wider above the mouth The Missouri at this place is about 500 yards wide, 28th June:—took equal altitudes, &c., &c., &c., repaired the Perogue cleared out the Boat suned our Powder (and) woolen articles examined everything. 29th June:—obsvd the distance of the Sun & Moon, took Equal & Maridional Alt and after makeing Some arangements, and inflicting a little punishment to two men we Set out at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 o'clock, and passed on."

Two years went by and Lewis and Clark, having ascended the Missouri river to its source and crossed over the Rocky Mountains and down the Columbia river to the Pacific, made their return journey down the Missouri river. On Monday, August 15th, 1806, Captain Clark wrote in his journal:

"A strong breeze ahead prevented us from advancing more

than forty-nine miles to the neighborhood of Haycabin creek. The river Kansas is very low at this time. About a mile below it we landed to view the situation of a high hill, which has many advantages for a trading house or fort; while on shore we gathered great quantities of pawpaws, and shot an elk. The low grounds are now delightful, and the whole country exhibits a rich appearance; but the weather is oppressively warm, and descending as rapidly as we do from a cool open country, between the latitude of 46 and 49, in which we have been for nearly two years, to the wooded plains in 38 and 39, the heat would be almost insufferable were it not for the constant winds from the south and southeast."

Eight days after this second visit to the mouth of the Kansas river the Lewis and Clark Expedition landed at St. Louis and disbanded. Nineteen years later when the Government gave the Shawnees their reservation in Kansas, it reserved the strip of land lying between the border of Missouri and the Kansas river, described by Captain Clark as having many advantages for a fort. Whether the Clark report had anything to do with this reservation can only be conjectured.

The "Point above the Kansas river," where Lewis and Clark "came to & camped," on June 26th, 1804, is now a part of the Levee in Kansas City, Kansas, and the site of the proposed Terminal Elevator through which it is intended the Kansas wheat will find its way, by boats, to the markets of the world.

Lewis and Clark were not the first white men to visit Kansas but none before their time left any record of their comings and goings so that as far as written history is concerned it begins for Kansas with the landing of this expedition at the mouth of the Kansas river the afternoon of June 26, 1804.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWO

PLACE: Present Site of Bonner Springs.

TIME: The Year 1820.

EVENTS: I The Four Houses.

II Tiblow.

III Bonner Springs.

Following the French explorers, who traversed the country known as the Louisiana Purchase, and who hunted the beaver and other fur bearing animals, came the traders, who established trading posts, which were the department stores of their day, and which carried in stock everything which the hunter or trapper might need. Prominent among these traders was the Chouteau family who established a trading post just below Kansas City, and others along the bank of the Kansas River. (1)

Several of these trading posts were located in what is now Wyandotte county. The oldest, and possibly the principal one of these trading posts, was located at the present site of Bonner Springs on the high ground between the present Union Pacific depot and the present Santa Fe depot. and commanded a fine view of the river. (2) According to Frederick Chouteau, the youngest of the brothers, the "Four Houses" were built in 1820 by his brothers Francis G. and Cyprian Chouteau. (3).

The "Four Houses" were built of logs and were arranged on four sides of a square that they might provide the protection of a fort in case of an attack by the Indians, and the name follows because of their construction. (4) Here the Chouteau's did an extensive business until the coming of the Delaware and Shawnee Indians (5) after which they established other trading posts nearer the settlements and the "Four Houses" were abandoned.

The Four Houses were a going concern as late as 1826. That was the year of the first big flood of the Kansas river, of which there is a record. The Chouteau warehouses below the mouth of the Kansas river were swept away. Chouteau moved a part of his stock to Randolph Bluff and sent his family to the

1. "In 1813 the American Fur Company was formed and the Chouteaus, formerly connected with the Missouri Trading Company, became members. Francis Chouteau was sent to Kansas and was employed for several years in the work." Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 49.

2. Morgan, History of Wyandotte County, Kansas, pg. 319.

3. "The Four Houses were built about 1820 by my brothers." Reminiscences of Frederick Chouteau, Kansas Historical Collections, Vol VIII, pg. 425.

4. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 49.

5. Morgan, History of Wyandotte County, Kansas, pg. 319.

6. Deatherage, Early History of Greater Kansas City, pgs. 245-6.

Four Houses, the name given to the post on the Kaw. (6)

Sometime after the coming of the Delawares, in 1830, Henry Tiblow, a club foot Delaware Indian, opened a ferry across the Kansas river, near the site of the old Four Houses. He lived in a log cabin, on the west side of the present city of Bonner Springs, which was still standing in the year 1911. (7) Tiblow received his education at the Shawnee Mission. (8) For years he was one of the interpreters for the government for both the Delawares and the Shawnees. His name appears in the Official Kansas Roster in the list of appointments for 1837-38 where he is credited to Fort Leavenworth. He was renamed from time to time, the last appointment recorded being for 1859-61 where he is credited to the Delaware Agency. (9) He was also a witness, as interpreter, to the Delaware treaty, made May 30, 1860, relative to the option given the Leavenworth, Pawnee and Western Railroad Co. to the Delaware lands. (10)

With the coming of the Union Pacific, a station was established, near the site of the old Four House. It was named Tiblow, after the interpreter and ferryman. The town was platted in 1870 and grew into a busy community with a brick school house, flourishing business houses and dwellings. In 1885 Bonner Springs was laid out adjoining the town of Tiblow, which it later absorbed taking into the city limits the site of the old Four Houses, the first settlement made by white men in Kansas.

7. Morgan, History of Wyandotte County, Kansas, pg. 320.

8. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pgs. 186-207.

9. Ibid, Vol. XVI, pgs. 726-733.

10. Ibid, pg. 765.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THREE

- PLACE: One Mile Northeast of Shawnee.
TIME: The Year 1825.
EVENTS: I The Coming of the Shawnees.
II The Shawnee Capitol or Council House.

The Shawnees were the first of the "Emigrant Tribes," of Indians, to settle in what is now Wyandotte county, Kansas. At one time the Shawnees were an influential tribe but the victory of General Wayne, (Mad Anthony) in 1794 (1) broke their power and they never recovered their prestige. Some years later Tecumseh, the greatest of all their leaders, aided and abetted by his brother Ten-Squa-Ta-Wa, "The Prophet," attempted to form a confederacy of all the Indian tribes to resist the encroachments of the whites, but the victory of Gen. Harrison at the battle of Tippecanoe (2), not only broke up the confederacy but sounded the death knell of the Shawnees.

After the victory of Gen. Wayne a considerable part of the Shawnees left the United States and moved across the Mississippi into Spanish territory, settling near Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The white man soon overtook them however, and, as usual, wanted the Indian's land. The agent, in charge of Indian affairs, was Gen. Clark, of Lewis and Clark fame. On the 7th of November, 1825, he made a treaty with the Missouri Shawnees whereby they gave up their lands in Missouri, which had been given to them by the Spanish government, for a new reservation to be selected from the lands west of the state of Missouri. The Shawnees selected a strip of land directly west (3) of the Missouri border on the south side of the Kansas river. It was almost thirty years before an official description of this reservation was given. In the treaty of 1854, it was described as follows:

"Beginning at a point in the western boundary of the State of Missouri, three miles south of where said boundary crosses the mouth of the Kansas River; thence continuing south and coinciding with said boundary for twenty five miles; thence due west one hundred and twenty miles; thence due north until said line intersect the southern boundary of the

1. The battle of Maumee was fought August 20, 1794. Wayne routed the Indians, chased them a great distance, laid waste their towns for fifty miles, and compelled them to make a treaty giving up about 25,000 square miles of the land north of the Ohio. Barnes U. S. History, pg. 173.

2. November 7, 1811.

3. Revised Indian Treaties.

Kansas reservation; thence due east, coinciding with southern boundary of said reservation, to the southern shore of the Kansas River; thence along said southern shore of said river, to where a line from the place of beginning drawn due west shall intersect the same, estimated to contain 1,600,000 acres more or less." (4)

By the terms of the 1825 treaty the Shawnees were to be paid \$25,000. Of this amount \$14,000 was to pay for the improvements on their land and \$11,000 was to be in settlement of spoliation claims of various kinds that the Shawnees had against white citizens of the United States. Of this amount \$5,000 was to be expended for domestic animals, implements of husbandry and provisions as soon as the tribe removed to the new lands. In addition to this the United States was to support and keep a blacksmith shop on the new lands for five years, or as long as the President may deem advisable; and to furnish for the use of the Shawnees the necessary tools for the blacksmith shop and 300 pounds of iron annually. (5)

In accordance with the terms of this treaty, the Missouri Shawnees began to move in the fall and winter of 1825 and 1826, settling mainly in what is now Shawnee Township, Wyandotte county. (6) There was a provision in the treaty that the Ohio Shawnees might also share in its terms. About one third of the Ohio Shawnees did move out in 1826 and come to the western country. (7) Among them was the Fish band to which the families of Tecumseh and the Prophet belonged. (8) Just when the Prophet came is not known, but he was here in 1830. Isaac McCoy, on his way to survey the lands of the Delawares, stopped in the Shawnee settlements, in that month, and held a council with them, over which the Prophet presided and acted as spokesman for the group. (9)

About 400 of the Shawnees remained in Ohio and on August 8, 1831 the United States made a treaty with them by which they gave up their Ohio holdings and moved to the new country. (10) The Ohio Shawnees were better traders than their Missouri brethren. They were to receive \$13,000 for their improvements and the United States was to pay the expense of their removal and keep them in provision for one year after

4. *Ibid.* pgs. 786-88.

5. Article 4 of the Treaty.

6. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 163.

7. *Ibid.* pg. 164, note.

8. *Ibid.* Vol. X, pg. 386.

9. McCoy, History of Baptist Indian Missions, pg. 404.

10. Revised Indian Treaties, pgs. 789-92.

their arrival. They were to have a saw mill and a grist mill, built in the best manner, and to contain two pair of stones and a good bolting cloth. Also a blacksmith shop (to contain all necessary tools) and a blacksmith to be employed by the United States as long as the President may deem proper. They were to be given as presents 200 blankets, 40 ploughs, 40 sets of horse-gears, 150 hoes, 50 axes and Russian sheeting sufficient for 50 tents. Another provision of the treaty was that they were to have 2 cross cut saws, 4 grind stones annually, 10 hand saws, 10 drawing knives, 50 files, 50 gimlets, 20 augers of different sizes, 10 planes of different sizes, 2 braces and bits, 4 hewing axes, 2 dozen scythes, 5 frows, and 5 grubbing hoes. Joseph Parks, who was described as a $\frac{1}{4}$ blood Indian was to be given 640 acres of land in Ohio.

The Wapauhkonetta band moved from Auglaize county, Ohio to Kansas in 1832 in care of James B. Gardiner, leaving their old homes September 20 and reaching the Shawnee reservation in Kansas about Christmas time, having suffered much from cold and hunger. The Hog Creek band was moved from the same locality to Kansas in the summer of 1833, under the care of Joseph Parks, (11) in safety and without suffering. (12)

Although the Shawnees lived in Kansas for a matter of about forty years their stay here was uneventful. The Methodists, both North and South, the Baptist and the Friends maintained missions among them but with small success. Isaac McCoy described them in 1835 as follows:

"Generally their dwellings are neat, hewed log cabins, erected with their own hands, and within them a small amount of furniture. Their fields are enclosed with rail fences; and sufficiently large to yield them corn and culinary vegetables plentifully. They keep cattle and swine, work oxen, and use horses for draught; and own some plows, wagons and carts." (13)

The treaty of Nov. 7, 1825, and the beginning of the migra-

11. Capt. Joseph Parks is described in the 1831 treaty as a one-fourth blood Indian. He brought the Hog Creek band of Shawnees to Kansas in 1833. He was the Captain of a Shawnee company in the Seminole war. He represented the Shawnees in Washington where he presented their claims against the government. He was chief of the tribe for many years. He was a member of the Methodist church and of the Westport Masonic lodge. He died April 3, 1859, aged sixty-six years, and was buried in the Methodist cemetery at Shawnee. A fine monument, bearing Masonic emblems, marks his last resting place. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 186 and Vol. X, pg. 400.

12. Harvey's History of the Shawnee Indians, pgs. 230-33.

13. Annual Register of Indian Affairs, Vol. I, pg. 23. (1835)

tion of the Shawnee Indians to the territory, afterwards to be known as Kansas, called for a new seat of government, around which the activities of the Shawnee nation would center. This was known as the Council House. It was located about a mile north and a little east of the present town of Shawnee. The building was erected on what is now described as the southwest quarter of section 2, township 12, range 24. There had been an earlier council house, a temporary one, a small cabin on another site, but it was never regarded as the real seat of Shawnee government. (14)

Rev. Isaac McCoy gives us a description of this council house. He says: (15):

"Most of the tribes have each a council house. That of the Shawnees is a hewn-log building, erected by themselves about thirty feet wide and eighty feet long, and one story high. It contains one apartment only, without either upper or under floor. There is a door in each end, but no window, excepting three small holes on each side, about as high as a man's head when seated, resembling the apertures of the use of small-arms in a block house. Openings in the roof allow the smoke of the fire on the earth, in the center, to escape. The roof is a kind of very ordinary shingling with boards. The only seat is a continuation of hewn logs laid along the walls. The sides of the building are kept in place by cross-beams resting upon two rows of wooden pillars. On one side of one of the pillars nearest one of the doors is carved in relief the figure of a rattlesnake about five feet long, and on the other side the likeness of a snake without the rattle. On two opposite sides of one of the pillars nearest the other door are carved, in relief also, uncouth resemblances of the human face, somewhat larger than life, partially painted, and with a twist of tobacco tied to the pillar crossing immediately above each figure. On each of two opposite sides of a pillar in the interior is carved as above the figure of a turtle, colored so as to increase the resemblance to the living animal. Metal is inserted for eyes; from which, on the late occasion, I discovered a person wiping the dust, and increasing their brilliancy by rubbing."

There was a strong spring near this council house and for years after the building had disappeared the place was known as the council house spring and was a popular camping place for

14. Connelley, *History of Kansas*, pg. 228.

15. *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, pg. 529.

the settlers who passed through the country. For years this land has been in the possession of the McAnany family. When it was enclosed, and became a pasture, the tramping of the cattle and the washing down of the soil filled the spring up and it has not flowed for many years. (16)

With the building of the Methodist church at Shawnee, in 1840, the council house seems to have been abandoned and the Shawnees met for council in their log Methodist meeting house. (17) That the building had entirely disappeared by 1858 is evidenced by a story told by Rev. Joab Spencer. (18) In that year he was making his home with Charles Blue Jacket, who was soon to be elected the Head Chief of the tribe. One day he noticed a large piece of squared timber lying in the barn-lot, having a turtle in relief on each of two opposite sides. They were the size of large land turtles or tortoises. The work had been well done. Asking Blue Jacket for an explanation he was told that it was a post from an old council house of the Shawnees that had stood on the Blue Jacket land.

By 1854, the Shawnees numbered about 900 souls, including the white men, about twenty in number, who had intermarried into the nation and were therefore adopted as Indians. (19) The reservation contained approximately 1,600,000 acres of land or about 1,700 acres each. This was too much land for an Indian to have, especially when white men wanted it, so there was another treaty. (20) By this treaty the Shawnees gave up seven eighths of their reservation. For the surrendered portion they were to receive the sum of \$829,000 or about 48 cents per acre. The remaining 200,000 acres were to be allotted. Each person, adult or child, male or female, was to receive 200 acres. Those who did not want their lands in severalty, but who wished to maintain their tribal relations, could hold their lands in common, 200 acres to be set off for each member in the group. Most of the Shawnees took their land in severalty but some did not. There was no provision in the treaty whereby the allottees became citizens. Disputes arose as to whether the lands were now taxable or not. Law-suits were numerous. Congressional investigations were held. Special statutes were passed. Gradually the Shawnees drifted to the Indian Territory. The Shawnee had made his last stand.

16. Interview with Mrs. Patrick McAnany, Sept. 1, 1934.

17. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. X, pg. 389.

18. Ibid.

19. Porter vs. Winalow, 5 Kansas 867.

20. Charles Blue Jacket vs. County Commissioners of Johnson County, 3 Kansas 300-303.

After Kansas became a state Johnson county sought to tax the lands which the Shawnees had taken in severalty. Chief Charles Blue Jacket, acting for himself and for other Shawnees, instituted an action in the District court to enjoin the county commissioners from selling the Shawnee lands for delinquent taxes. The court found against the Shawnees and this finding was sustained by the supreme court of Kansas in 1865. (21) An appeal was taken to the supreme court of the United States where this decision was reversed. That tribunal found that the Shawnees were an independent nation, having their own laws, usages and customs. That they had been recognized as such by the United States and that they had never surrendered to the United States nor to the State of Kansas their national existence and their right to regulate their own affairs in their own way. (22)

Evidently the supreme court of Kansas did not take kindly to this slap on the wrist for in a subsequent case it said: (23) "If may seem to border very closely upon the ludicrous, if not upon the ridiculous, to see the government of the United States gravely treating with a few half-naked, half-starved savages, as though these savages were a great nation, and then having it seriously claimed that the treaty, thus made, is a part of the supreme law of the land, paramount to an act of congress, or to any constitution or law of any one of the states."

In the briefs, filed in this case in the supreme court of Kansas, is the testimony of Chief Blue Jacket which gives interesting information about the Shawnee customs and their methods of government. In part it said: (24)

"That he is the Shawnee Head Chief and has held that position four years next New Years day; Graham Rodgers held that office before me for about two years; Pascal Fish, a Shawnee, was his predecessor for about one year; Capt. Joseph Parks was his next predecessor for about six years. Graham Rodgers is now second chief of the tribe. The Shawnees have a council of five men, elected for one year; they have a sheriff elected for one year and a clerk of the council elected for one year. The Shawnees have an interpreter for the tribe, appointed by the government of the

21. *Charles Blue Jacket vs. County Commissioner of Johnson County, Kansas*, 294.
22. *The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wallace, 737.
23. *Porter vs. Winslow*, 5 Kansas, 367.
24. *Charles Blue Jacket vs. County Commissioners of Johnson County, Kansas* 300-303.

United States; Matthew King, a Shawnee, holds that place at present. The Shawnees have a place of meeting of their council and head men for transacting business, which at present is a vacant house on my premises owned by me as a head right. I am forty-eight years of age. The Shawnees keep the same organization now that they always did within my recollection. The number of the Shawnees belonging to the tribe is about 860, exclusive of absentees, of which there are between 1,100 and 1,200. The Shawnee council meets at a stated time—the first Monday in each month. The powers of the tribe in council are regulated by custom. This tribe have their own customs and their own regulations, by which they are governed. We have customs governing the commission of offenses by one Shawnee against another. The council try the offenders; the head chiefs carry into effect the decision fixed upon by the council. One case of murder has been so tried, the defendant found guilty and the punishment fixed by the council was death; the sheriff executed the sentence; this was in 1856 or 1857. This custom of trying offenders is still kept up. We have a national school fund and a school fund of our own. The interest on the former is \$5,000.00 per year. We have the mission school under the direction of the Friends or Quakers. The old Shawnee mission school was done away with some two or three years ago on account of a non-compliance with contract; the Sunday school there is kept up. If one Shawnee is indebted to and refuses to pay another Shawnee, the latter complains to the council, who order their clerk to issue a writ notifying the defendant to appear at the next regular council day. The council hear and determine the case and order the party to pay, which might be taken out of the next annuity. The last annuity from the government was paid in 1863. The United States has an agent for us, residing among us, as has always been the case. Mr. Abbot is the present agent. * * * The head men or chiefs get their office by vote of the Shawnee people over seventeen years. L. Flint is our present sheriff. We meet at a vacant house on my land where we have met for six months; we have been in the habit of meeting at different places. When the agent calls a council, we meet at DeSota where he resides; we formerly met in a church at Shawneetown. We have met at Tucker's, at Capt. Kuler's building and in the parsonage. No change in the regularity of the meetings for several years. Some time, five years

ago, we had a written book, used eight years, showing the powers of the council. * * For stealing we make the guilty party pay double the value. We have tried no case of stealing within my recollection. Shawnees do not steal much. We try to do in our organization just what we have always been doing. We don't owe much. The debts were all settled up when the big payments were made by the government. The Shawnee council do not pretend to control my property—ponies, grain or head right. There are six or eight adopted Shawnees among us. Some whites have married Shawnee women. They do not tax a poor tax among us. Our council never grants divorces. A Shawnee can divorce his own wife if he has any fault to find. Some times Shawnees are married by ministers. * * * We have a custom in old times as to marriage; this custom prevails among a portion of the tribe, and among another portion they must get married by ministers. The Shawnee council still recognize those who are married according to the old custom as man and wife. The council lets the Shawnees do as they please as to marriage. As to heirs, in the first place they go to the council if there is any question as to who are heirs, and the council investigate and decide who are heirs; the two chiefs certify to it."

Although Blue Jacket and his fellow Shawnees eventually won their suit with Johnson county, it did not end litigation. Gradually the Indian titles to the land were extinguished and the remnant of the Shawnee tribe found a new home in the Indian Territory. They had been in Kansas approximately four decades.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER FOUR

PLACE: One-half Mile North of the Kaw's Mouth.
TIME: The Year 1826.
EVENT: The "Caleece" Ferry, or the First Gateway.

The barrier, raised by the Missouri river, stopped the tide of emigration that pushed across Clay county Missouri. The thrifty farmers and traders who lived in Clay county and the Platte Purchase, wanted to reach the Indian trade in Kansas and so were not long in finding a gateway into this virgin territory.

In 1825 a road was laid out from Liberty, Mo. to the mouth of the Kansas river. The same year Richard Linville started a ferry across the Missouri river. In 1826 Linville sold his ferry to an old Frenchman named Calisse Montarges, commonly called "Caleece." This was the first gateway into the territory of Kansas and "Caleece" continued to run this ferry until 1830. "Caleece" came to this part of the country soon after the war of 1812 as a French trapper and *voyager*. He was one of the eccentric characters known all along the river and his must have been the most popular of all the ferries. (1)

The landing place on the Kansas side of the river was about a half mile north of the mouth of the Kansas river where "Caleece" took a claim and built a cabin. (2)

Dr. John Arthur, long a resident of Wyandotte county, used to tell a story about this ferry which showed the character of the early day traffic across this border. The father of Dr. Arthur came to Liberty, Missouri in 1825 and built a small grist mill and a still house. Having a surplus of both flour and whiskey he contracted a quantity of it to the Chouteau trading post a few miles above the mouth of the Kansas river. A wagon was loaded with three barrels of whiskey and several sacks of flour. One of the slaves, named Solomon Arthur, started, with two yoke of oxen, for Chouteau's by way of the "Caleece" ferry. The loaded wagon and one yoke of oxen were put on the boat and the second yoke were left for another trip. The boat started with two men at the oars, Mr. "Caleece" at the rudder, Solomon the slave, and a stranger, with a gun and an ax, who wanted to cross to the Kansas side. As soon as the boat left the Missouri shore the stranger proceeded to knock in the heads of the three whiskey barrels and dump the sacks of flour into

1. Deatherage, History of Greater Kansas City, pg. 187.
2. Kansas City Sun, February 28, 1913.

them. This destroyed both products. The men at the oars and the ferryman at the rudder had all they could do to attend to the current of the Missouri and the slave did not dare interfere with a white man, even if he could have left his oxen. When the boat reached the Kansas side the stranger jumped ashore and bidding the men good bye, disappeared into the woods. The slave returned to Liberty and reported the disaster. An investigation satisfied his master that the stranger had been hired by a dealer at Westport, who had been supplying Chouteau with a similar line of goods, and who resented the proposed competition. (3)

The ferry rates in those early days were high. One of the schedules preserved shows the following rates:— (4)

For a loaded wagon and team	\$2.00
Empty wagon and team	1.50
Loaded cart and team	1.00
Dearborn, or gig,, and horses .....	.62½
Man and horse .....	.37½
Single person .....	.18¾
Horses each .....	.18¾
Sheep, hogs and cattle each .....	.3

3. *Ibid.*

4. Deatherage, *History of Greater Kansas City*, DE. 1876.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER FIVE

PLACE: The Kansas River North of Turner.

TIME: The Year 1827.

EVENTS: I The Cyprian Chouteau Trading House.
II Outfitting of Fremont "The Pathfinder."

When Brevet Captain John C. Fremont set out in the summer of 1842, with Kit Carson as his guide, to explore the unknown territory between the frontier of Missouri and the Rocky Mountains, he completed his preparation at, and began his journey from, the Cyprian Chouteau trading house on the right bank of the Kansas river in Wyandotte county, Kansas. Fremont's own story is told in a Senate document from which we quote: (1).

REPORT OF THE EXPLORING EXPEDITION TO THE ROCK MOUNTAINS IN THE YEAR 1842 BY CAPTAIN J. C. FREMONT

"Agreeable to your orders to explore and report upon the country between the frontiers of Missouri and the South Pass in the Rocky Mountains, and on the line of the Kansas and Great Platte Rivers, I set out from Washington City on the 2nd day of May, 1842, and arrived at St. Louis, by way of New York the 22nd of May, 1842, where the necessary preparations were completed, and the expedition commenced. I proceeded in a steamboat to Chouteau's landing, about four hundred miles by water from St. Louis and near the mouth of the Kansas river, where we proceeded twelve miles to Mr. Cyprian Chouteau's trading house, where we completed our final arrangements for the expedition.

Bad weather, which interfered with astronomical observations, delayed us several days in the early part of June at this post, which is on the right bank of the Kansas river, about ten miles above the mouth and six beyond the western boundary of Missouri. The sky cleared off at length and we were able to determine our position in longitude 94 25 46 and latitude 39 5 57. The elevation above the sea is about 700 feet. Our camp, in the mean time, presented an animated and bustling scene. All were busily occupied in completing the necessary arrangements for our campaign in the wilderness, and profiting by this short delay on the verge of civilization, to provide ourselves with all the little essentials to comfort in the nomadic life we were to lead for the ensuing summer months. Gradually, however,

1. Senate Document 174, 28th Congress, 2nd Session.

everything—the *material* of the camp, men, horses and even mules—settled into place, and by the 10th we were ready to depart.

We were all well armed and mounted, with the exception of eight men who conducted as many carts, in which were packed our stores, with the baggage and instruments, and which were each drawn by two mules, and a few loose horses, and four oxen, which had been added to our stock of provisions, completed the train. We set out on the morning of the 10th which happened to be Friday—a circumstance which our men did not fail to remember and recall during the ensuing journey. Mr. Cyprian Chouteau, to whose kindness, during our stay at his house we were much indebted, accompanied us several miles on our way, until we met an Indian, whom he had engaged to conduct us to the ocean of prairie which, we were told, stretched without interruption almost to the base of the Rocky Mountains.

From the belt of wood which borders the Kansas and in which we had passed several good-looking Indian farms, we suddenly emerged on the prairie. * * In about ten miles we reached the Santa Fe road, along which we traveled for a short time and encamped on a small stream; having traveled about 11 miles. (2)

The Chouteau Trading Post was situated in Section 13, Town 1, Range 24, north and a little east of where the village of Turner now stands in Wyandotte county, Kansas. (3). That it was a more important place in 1842 than the Chouteau or Westport Landing below the mouth of the Kansas river can be readily surmised, else the Fremont journey would have been outfitted at the later place. According to J. C. McCoy it was founded in 1827. In an address at the 25th anniversary of the founding of Wyandotte City, Mr. McCoy said: (4)

"Four years before this date (1826) the most westerly trading post of the American Fur Company, in charge of Francis G. Chouteau, five miles below this point was swept away by the great flood which occurred in the Missouri River in that year, and soon afterwards (1827) was re-established on the south bank of the Kansas river about six miles above its mouth."

2. On page 587 Capt. Fremont gives his astronomical observations. It is headed: "Encampment at Chouteau's Lower Trading House, Right bank of the Kansas River, 700 feet above the level of the Gulf of Mexico. June 9, 1842."

3. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 574. Also Deatherage, History of Greater Kansas City, pgs. 332-33.

4. Kansas City Journal, Feb. 17, 1882.

In the same address Mr. McCoy tells of visiting the Chouteau Trading Post in 1830 when on a surveying trip with his father Isaac McCoy. At that time the surveying party forded the Kansas river at this place on their way to Leavenworth.

Golden Silvers, one of the earliest white settlers of Jackson county, Missouri, has also left testimony as to the importance of this post.

"One of the headquarters for these traders was Chouteau's trading-post, on the Kansas river, ten miles above its mouth. During the spring floods, when the principal freighting was done, the Missouri river boats brought cargoes direct from St. Louis to Chouteau's, which was a formidable rival, as a depot of supplies, of Westport now in Kansas City." (5)

Frederick Chouteau also tells that we (the Chouteaus) in 1828 and 1829 built some trading houses, four or five miles above Wyandotte, for trading with the Delawares and Shawnees. (6) He places these houses, however, on the north side of the river but as the Shawnees were on the south side of the river it is natural to suppose the house intended for them would be on the south side of the river where McCoy and others located it.

When the Rev. Thomas Johnson came in 1830 to establish his mission among the Shawnees he selected a site near this trading post. (7)

How long Cyprian Chouteau continued to run this trading post is a matter of conjecture.

He married Nancy Francis, daughter of John Francis, hereditary chief of the Shawnees and lived with the tribe. (8) He probably continued to run the trading house until the Shawnees began to move out in the fifties. That he was still living in the neighborhood as late as March 30, 1855 is shown by his testimony before the Special Committee of Congress to Investigate the Troubles in Kansas. On June 26th, 1856 he appeared before the Committee and testified: (9)

"On the 30th of March, 1855, I was a resident of

5. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 320.

6. Ibid, Vol. VIII, pg. 423.

7. "A man named Chouteau had a trading post on the south bank of the Kansas river, a few miles back from its mouth, and not far from him, the young people, (the Johnsons) went into the big timber and erected a double two story log house and started housekeeping with a mission and a school." Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XIV, pg. 189.

8. Kansas City Star, March 23, 1934.

9. House report No. 220, 34th Congress, 1st Session, pg. 429.

Kansas Territory and have lived in it some twenty or twenty two years. I was one of the judges of election appointed by Governor Reeder, for the seventeenth district, and served as such on the day of election. The election was held at the Shawnee Methodist meeting house."

The records also show that Cyprian Chouteau was a judge at the election of November 29, 1854 and that he was one of the Commissioners appointed by the 1855 Legislature to lay out certain territorial roads. No matter when it closed its doors the outstanding fact remains that it was at the Chouteau Trading post that Fremont began his voyage of discovery and this alone marks it as worthy of a place among the Historic Spots of Wyandotte county.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER SIX

PLACE: Near Stony Point School House.

TIME: The Year 1830.

EVENT: The Delaware Agency Building.

The Delawares began to come to Kansas in 1830, settling mostly in what is now western Wyandotte and eastern Leavenworth counties. Their new reservation not only embraced the land between the Missouri river and the Kaw but stretched across Kansas to the buffalo country. They came originally from Ohio and brought with them a knowledge of agriculture, and many of the habits of industry. They opened farms, built houses and cut roads along the ridges and divides; erected a frame church at what is now the village of White Church. The population of



THE DELAWARE AGENCY BUILDING

Probably built in the early thirties, of hewn logs and years later covered with clapboards. Stands one-fourth mile southeast of Stony Point school house. Now (November 1934) used as a stable. The oldest structure in the state of Kansas.

the Delaware tribe when it first settled in Kansas was about 1,000. It was afterwards reduced to 800. This was in consequence of contact with the wilder tribes who were as hostile to the short haired Indians as they were to the whites. Still the Delawares would venture out hunting the buffalo and beaver, to be inevitably overcome and destroyed. The Government finally forbade them leaving the reservation. The effect of this order was soon apparent in the steady increase of the tribe, so that when

they were removed in 1867, they numbered 1,160. (1).

The Delaware Agency, the home of the Indian agent and the place where the government payments to the tribe were made, was built in what is now described as N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 16, Town 11, Range 24. It is about a quarter of a mile south and a quarter of a mile east of the Stony Point school house. It was built of oak logs, hewn and duck billed at the corners and chinked with stone between the logs. The main part was approximately 20x30 feet, and was divided into two rooms. There was also an ell approximately 12x15 feet. A fire place was built in one end of the main structure connecting with a stone chimney at the end of the building. An outside stairway rested on this chimney and formed an entrance to the low loft under the roof. It was covered with shaved shingles. One of the stories that has been handed down by the Delawares is that it cost \$1,200. There is no record as to when the building was built. There is a story, that seems to lack any verification, that the first Delaware pay house was built much further east, (2) but the Delaware activities soon settled in the neighborhood of the Grinter ferry or the Delaware Crossing as it was frequently called, and it is probable that the Agency soon located in the more central locality. The Delawares do not seem to have settled at all in the east end of their reservation so none of them had to be dispossessed when in 1843 the Tribe sold the 39 sections between the two rivers to the Wyandottes.

When the Delawares moved away in 1867, and the building ceased to be used as an agency, it came into the possession of a man named Aiken, who sided the building over and used it as a residence. It was used as a residence up to a few years ago when it was turned into a hay barn and a general storage house. It is still standing (1934). It is in a remarkable state of preservation and is undoubtedly the oldest structure on Kansas soil.

1. Statement of J. G. Pratt, Indian agent and missionary.
2. "Governor Walkers house stood on what are now lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 in block 4 Sunnyside Addition to Kansas City, Kansas. The grounds and garden enclosed with the house included the remainder of block 4, the north half of block 5, lots 1 to 25 inclusive in block 5, and all streets and alleys included in these bounds. His house had been the old Delaware pay house, where the Delawares came to receive their annuities from the agents. . . . The heavy door which had a square hole cut in it, through which the agent passed out the money to the Delawares, was always retained in use by Governor Walker." From the Provisional Government. page 64, note 1.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER SEVEN

- PLACE: One Mile Southeast of Victory Junction.
TIME: The Year 1830.
EVENTS: I The Coming of the Delawares.
II The Delaware Capitol.
III The Grave of Ne-Con-He-Con.

Up to the year 1825 the Kansas Indians, more frequently known as the Kaws, claimed an ill defined hunting ground on the north side of the Kansas river. Some remains of supposed Kaw villages have been found in Wyandotte county, but these have been classed as "prehistoric." The "Four Houses," built on the site of Bonner Springs, in 1820, by the Chouteaus, were for trading purposes with the Kaws and the trappers who visited their territory. By a treaty, made in 1825, the Government pushed the Kaws twenty leagues up the Kansas river. (1) The real purpose back of this treaty was not to restrict the Kaws, but to make a place where the eastern Indian tribes might be colonized peaceably if they would, forcibly if necessary.

By a treaty, made in 1818, the Delawares had given up their lands in Indiana and had moved onto the James fork of the White river in southwestern, Missouri. (2) Here in Council Camp on the James fork of the White river, on September 24, 1820, a new treaty was negotiated. Final conclusion was had at Council Camp in the fork of the Kansas and Missouri rivers, on the 19th of October, 1820. (3) By the terms of this treaty the Delawares were to be given, as their permanent residence, the country in the fork of the Kansas and Missouri rivers, extending up the Missouri river to Camp Leavenworth, and running westward to the eastern limits of the Kaw land. In addition to this the Delawares were to have an outlet ten miles, extending along the entire northern boundary of the Kaw reservation. This was to give the Delawares access to the buffalo feeding grounds in what in later day parlance has come to be known as the "short grass country." The treaty contained the usual warranties that "the United States hereby pledges the faith of the Government to guarantee forever, the quiet and peaceable possession and undisturbed enjoyment of the same against the claims and assaults of all and every other people whatsoever."

That the Council Camp on the White river was switched to

1. Revised Indian Treaties, pg. 410.

2. *Ibid.* pg. 327.

3. Revised Indian Treaties, pg. 305.

the Council Camp in the fork of the Kansas and Missouri rivers, before the treaty was completed, would indicate that the Delawares were not trading "sight on seen," but were spying out the land before signing the treaty.

Here the Delawares, to the number of 1,000, (4) were slowly colonized, their settlements being made mostly in the western part of Wyandotte and the eastern part of Leavenworth counties. Here they were allowed to stay until a plausible excuse could be found for making them move on.

May 6, 1854, a new treaty was made with the Delawares. (5) It provided for the cession to the Government of the ten mile outlet strip for which the Government was to pay the sum of \$10,000. It set aside a diminished reserve for the Delawares, starting at the Wyandotte lands and extending 40 miles westward. In 1843 the Delawares had sold 39 sections of their land on the east side of their reservation to the Wyandottes, and these 39 sections were reserved, as well as four sections about to be sold to the Munsees. The rest of the reservation, as described in the treaty of 1829, was to be surveyed by the Government, and sold at public sale, the proceeds, after paying the expense of the survey and sale, to be held for the benefit of the Delawares.

The lands, lying west of the Diminished Reserve, were surveyed and sold, as provided in the treaty, the sale resulting in a scandal which called for a Congressional investigation. (6)

That the Delawares were fast learning the ways of the white man was evidenced by Article 6 of the treaty, which provided, that five of the "old chiefs," three of whom signed the treaty, should have \$10,000 out of the trust fund in equal shares of \$2,000 each, payable annually in amounts of \$250.00 until the full amount had been paid. (7) Evidently the noble red man had learned to suck eggs but had not yet learned how to hide the shells.

One article of the treaty of 1854 had provided that if the Delawares desired it, the Diminished Reserve might be surveyed and assigned to each person or family. (8) By 1860 the Delawares had been persuaded that this was desirable. It is a notable feature of most Indian treaties, that it is proclaimed that the thing about to be done is to be done because the Indian

4. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1226.

5. Revised Indian Treaties, pgs. 340-45. Treaty made May 6, 1854; ratified by the Senate July 11; proclaimed July 17.

6. House Executive Documents, 33 Congress, 2nd Session, No. 50.

7. The five chiefs were—Captain Ketchem, Sarkoxey, Segondyne, Neconhecond and Kock-ka-to-wha.

8. Article 11 of the Treaty.

desires it. On May 30th, 1860, a treaty was made at Sarcovieville, on the Delaware reservation, providing for the survey and allotment of the Diminished Reserve. (9) Each member of the Delaware tribe was to be assigned 80 acres of land, to include in every case, as far as practicable, a reasonable portion of timber. Provision was made for holding in common land for some of the absentee Delawares, who might return. The balance of the land was to be sold to, or rather the Leavenworth, Pawnee and Western Railway was to have the privilege of buying, the rest of the land at \$1.25 per acre, payment to be made in gold or silver coin. (10) All this was to be done for the benefit, and at the request of the Indian, who had never seen a railroad, but who wanted one.

Something of the Delaware activities is shown by Article 5 of the treaty which provided for six reservations as follows: 320 acres of ground where the mill, and the school house and Ketchum's store now stands; 320 acres where the Council House now is; 160 acres where the Baptist Mission now is; 160 acres where the Agency House now is; 40 acres where the Methodist Episcopal Church South now is; and 40 acres where the Methodist Episcopal Church North now is. These tracts with the improvements, were to be disposed of when the objects for which they had been reserved had been accomplished, in such manner and for such purpose as the Secretary of the Interior should determine to be just and equitable for the benefit of the Delawares.

Article 6. of the treaty, provided that the United States should indemnify the Delawares in the amount of \$30,000 for timber that had been cut off the reservation by the whites, and \$9,500 for ponies and cattle that had been stolen by the whites, since the last treaty.

The Chiefs again came in for their share of the spoils, John Conner, principal chief, being given 640 acres of land and Sar-cox-ie, Chief of the Turtle band, Ne-con-he-con, Chief of the Wolf band, and Henry Tiblow interpreter, each receiving 320 acres of land.

A survey of the land, under this treaty, disclosed 223,966.78 acres, which would go to the Leavenworth, Pawnee and Western at a price of \$286,742.15. The promoters, back of that project, did not have the gold or silver coin in which payment was to be made, and so on July 2, 1861 another treaty was made

9. Revised Indian Treaties, pgs. 345-350;

10. Article 2 of the Treaty.

whereby the railroad company was to give a mortgage on the land to secure the payment of the purchase price. (11). Thus by a clever piece of high finance the railroad promoters got possession of the Indians land without the expenditure of a dime.

By 1866 the time had come for the final push. Accordingly a treaty was made on July 4th, (12) whereby the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to sell all of the remaining part of the reservation, except the mill reservation and the quarter section upon which the Council House and blacksmith shop was built, to the Missouri River Railroad Company, or to other responsible parties, for a price of not less than \$2.50 per acre. (13) It will be noted that the price of Indian land had gone up 100% in five years, but the treaty was made, according to its own terms, because the Delawares had expressed a wish to move from their present reservation. In order that all future holders of Delawares lands might have a Government title, all the Delaware lands were deeded in trust to Alexander Caldwell; who gave a deed to each Indian, holding an allotment under the treaty of 1860. The lands remaining unsold and unoccupied were then sold at \$2.50 per acre to the railroad syndicate. (14) According to the patent 92,598.33 acres were given to Caldwell in Wyandotte County. (15)

Thus were the Delawares railroaded out of Kansas. J. G. Pratt, the Government agent, transferred the tribe, during 1867 and 1868 to a new location in the Indian Territory, and with a few exceptions, where there had been intermarriages with the whites, none of the blood is left in Wyandotte county.

The Delawares numbered 1,000 when they came to Kansas. According to J. G. Pratt they brought with them a knowledge of agriculture, and many of them habits of industry. They opened farms, built houses and cut out roads along the ridges and divides. (16) McCoy who surveyed their lands in 1830 says of them: "The eastern part was tolerably well cultivated by the Indians. The United States erected grist and saw mills for them, fenced and plowed 105 acres of land, erected a school house and other buildings, and furnished them cattle. Their farms and cabins were scattered along the military road which led to Ft. Leavenworth and among the tribe were industrious,

11. Revised Indian Treaties, pgs. 350-362.

12. Ibid. pgs. 362-369.

13. Article 2 of the Treaty.

14. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. VIII, pg. 190.

15. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book K., pg. 817.

16. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1086.

intelligent men, who were glad to give up the chase for the farm and the tomahawk for the plow; but to the majority, who subsisted chiefly by the chase, there was a greater charm in the war or hunting party bound for the Western plains than any the harvest field or the work shop could afford."

The ten mile outlet strip gave the Delawares access to the great plains where they were brought into contact with the wild tribes of Central Kansas, who were as hostile to the short haired Indians as they were to the whites. The losses from this contact reduced the tribe to 800 and finally the Government forbade their leaving the reservation. (17) It does not follow that the Delawares always got the worst of these battles. In 1832 Chief Suwaunock led his warriors to the Pawnee village on the Republican (now a state park) and destroyed it. The next year the two tribes made peace at Ft. Leavenworth. (18)

That the Delawares were in demand as scouts, guides and trailers in the various expeditions across the plains is evidenced by the frequent references to them and their work. (19) Fremont had a party of 12 of them, under command of Isaac Johnnycake, in one of his exploring trips. (20) Having reached California, Fremont found it necessary to communicate with Senator Benton in St. Louis, and Sagundal, one of his Delaware guides, became his messenger, and crossed the plains alone and delivered the message. He was pursued by the Comanches, on one part of his trip, and narrowly escaped with his life. He brought home with him the scalp of the Comanche chief, as a souvenir, and on his safe return the Delawares held their last scalp dance, on the Edwin Taylor farm north of Edwardsville. (21)

During the civil war the Delawares enlisted in the Union army. The statement is made that in 1862 there were 170 Delawares in the service. (22)

The principal men or ruling chiefs, among the Delawares, during their 37 years stay in Kansas, as shown by their treaties with the Government were: Ah-lah-a-chick, or James Conner; Capt. John Conner, head chief in 1860; Kork-ke-to-wha, or John Sarcxie, chief of the Turtle band; Kock-kockquas, or Captain Ketchum; Na-ko-mund or Captain Anderson; Ne-con-he-con, chief of the Wolf band; Ne-she-pa-na-cumin, or

17. *Ibid.*

18. Connelley, *History of Kansas*, pg. 230.

19. *Kansas Historical Collections*, Vol. VIII, pg. 190.

20. Morgan, *History of Wyandotte County*, pg. 44.

21. Connelley, *History of Kansas*, pg. 281.

22. *Kansas Historical Collections*, Vol. XII, pg. 191, Note.

Charles Journeycake; Andrew Miller, Pendoxey, or George Biollet, Quar-cor-now-ha, or James Secondyne (sometimes spelled Secondine or Secundine) Rock-a-to-wha, Chief of the Turkey band, and Henry Tiblow, the interpreter. Na-ko-mund had a village near where the town of Edwardsville now is and Secondine had his village at the Grinter ferry or Delaware crossing.

The Government built the Delawares a grist mill, a saw mill and a school. The other activities of the Delawares, of which more or less incomplete records have been preserved, were, the Methodist Mission and the White Church, the Baptist Mission of 1832 and the Pratt Mission of 1848. The Government Agency building was built a little south and east of the present Stony Point school house. It still stands, (1934) the oldest building in Wyandotte county, and probably the oldest structure in Kansas.

Among the outstanding families among the Delawares was the Journeycake (sometimes spelled Johnnycake) family. There were two brothers, Isaac and Charles, both chiefs. (23) Isaac was one of Fremont scouts. (24) He probably lived in the neighborhood of Linwood on the Union Pacific as this station was first called Journeycake and afterwards changed to Stranger and then Linwood. Charles Journeycake lived at the edge of the timber where the prairie begins about fifteen miles west of Wyandotte. His place was a station on the stage line between Wyandotte and Leavenworth in 1858. (25) Early day maps locate him just north of present Maywood. (26) He was born December 16, 1817. He was converted while young and baptised by Johnston Lykens of the Shawnee Baptist Mission in 1833. His biographer says, "He was the first Delaware baptised in the 19th century and, except his mother, the only Christian of his tribe." Also, "it seems highly probable that Charles Journeycake was the first person baptised in what is now the State of Kansas." He began preaching as a young man not only in his own language, but in the dialect of several other tribes. For many years he declined ordination, insisting that baptism be cared for by the missionaries. In 1872, after the tribe had re moved to the Indian Territory, he was ordained and became the

23. Ibid. pg. 190.

24. Morgan, *History of Wyandotte County*, pg. 44.

25. Ibid.

26. On August 18, 1877, Charles Journeycake, then a resident of the Indian Territory, sold 320 acres of land in Section 34, Town 10, Range 23, Wyandotte County, Kansas, to Anderson L. Barker. See Book K., pg. 596. Book 1, pg. 560-61 and Book 2, pg. 115. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Kansas.

pastor of a church at Alluwe." (27) In October 1861, he was elected a chief of the tribe. (28) In 1860 his daughter Nannie married J. G. Pratt's oldest son Lucius. (29) After the death of her husband Mrs. Pratt became the wife of a man named Bartles, after whom Bartlesville, Oklahoma was named. At the opening of the Baptist Seminary in Kansas City, Kansas, Mrs. Bartles started a fund of \$2,500 for the Library to be a memorial to her father and the father of her first husband, the Missionary and the Chief, to be known as the Pratt-Journeycake Library." (30)

Mrs. Bartles started this fund by deeding 80 acres of her Delaware allotment to the Baptists Seminary. The Seminary sold the land thus starting the fund. (31)

The seat of Government for the Delaware Nation was the Council House. It stood on the divide south and east of the present Victory Junction on Highway 40, in the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 5, town 11, range 23, on land now (1934) owned by H. J. Miller. The 320 acres surrounding it were exempted from the treaty of 1854. By the treaty of 1866 the quarter section, on which the Council house and the blacksmith shop were built, were exempted. The building was burned down soon after this date. Notwithstanding the treaty exemptions the land went to the railroad. William Honeywell, born in 1861 the son of a white father and a Delaware mother, now a resident of Kansas City, Kansas, remembers visiting the spot with his father both before and after the fire. He also remembers that Conrad Wensler was the blacksmith. On February 4, 1934, the writer, with Mr. Honeywell, and others, visited the site of this old Council House. The sod had been just broken up and the upturned rock and brick and burned plaster plainly marked the location of the old structure.

It was here in this Council house on the 18th day of December, 1862, that the chiefs and counsellors of the Delaware tribe of Indians adopted a code of laws for the government of the nation. These laws are set out in full in the Extra Census Bulletin entitled "The Five Civilized Tribes," published in connection with the 1890 census. They consist of ten articles, each with numerous sections and are interesting as showing the progress the Delawares had made toward a government of law. They read:

27. The Indian Chief by Mitchell, pgs. 29-55.

28. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XII, pg. 190.

29. Ibid. pg. 187.

30. Students Life, 1926-27, pg. 14.

31. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Kansas. Book P, page 524; Book 662, pg. 91; Book 655, pg. 582.



DELAWARE DELEGATES TO WASHINGTON, 1867.

1. James Ketchum. 2. James Connor. 3. John Connor. 4. Charles Journeycake. 5. Isaac Journeycake. 6. John Sarcoxie, Sr. 7. John Young. 8. Charlie Armstrong. 9. Agent Pratt. 10. Henry Tiblow. 11. Black Beaver. 12. John McDanniel, (Cherokee). This picture is reproduced from the Extra Census Bulletin (1890) of The Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory.

LAWS OF THE DELAWARE NATION OF INDIANS.

The chiefs and counsellors of the Delaware tribe of Indians convened at the council house, on the reservation of said tribe, the eighteenth day of December, A.D. 1862, do hereby adopt the following laws, to be amended as they think proper:

ARTICLE I

1. A national jail shall be built upon the public grounds upon which the council house is now situated.

2. Any person who shall steal any horse, mule, ass or cattle of any kind, shall be punished as follows: for the first offense the property of the offender shall be sold by the sheriff to pay the owner of the animal stolen the price of said animal and all costs he may sustain in consequence of such theft. But if the offender has no property, or if his property be insufficient to pay for the animal stolen, so much of his annuity shall be retained as may be necessary to pay the owner of said animal as above directed, and no relative of said offender shall be permitted to assist him in paying the penalties of said theft.

For the second offense the thief shall be sent to jail for thirty-five days, and shall pay all costs and damages the owner may sustain on account of said theft.

For the third offense the thief shall be confined in jail three months, and shall pay all costs and damages as above provided.

3. If any person shall steal a horse beyond the limits of the reserve and bring it within the limits thereof, it shall be lawful for the owner to pursue and reclaim the same upon Presenting satisfactory proof of ownership, and, if necessary, receive the assistance of the officers of the Delaware Nation. And it is further provided that such officials as may from time to time be clothed with power by the United States agent may pursue such offender—either within or without the limits of the reserve.

4. Whoever shall ride any horse without the consent of the owner thereof shall for the first offence pay the sum of ten dollars for each day and night that he may keep such animal, and for the second offence shall be confined in jail for a term of twenty-one days, besides paying a fine of ten dollars.

5. Whoever shall reclaim and return any such animal to the rightful owner, other than the wrong doer, as in the last section mentioned, shall receive therefor the sum of two and fifty hundredths dollars.

6. In all cases of theft the person or persons convicted of such theft shall be adjudged to pay all costs and damages resulting therefrom, and in the case of the final loss of any animal stolen, then the offender shall pay the price thereof in addition to the costs and damages as provided in a previous section.

7. Whoever shall steal any swine or sheep shall for the first offence be fined the sum of fifteen dollars; ten dollars of which shall be paid to the owner of the sheep or swine taken, and five dollars to the witness of the theft.

For the second offence the thief shall, in addition to the above penalty, be confined in jail for twenty-eight days.

And for the third offence, the thief shall be confined four weeks in jail, and then receive a trial and bear such punishment as may be adjudged upon such trial.

8. Whoever shall steal a fowl of any description, shall for the first offence pay to the owner of such animal the sum of five dollars.

For the second offence, in addition to the above penalty, the thief shall be confined in jail for twenty-one days.

The witness by whom such theft shall be proven, shall be entitled to receive such reasonable compensation as may be allowed to him, to be paid by the offender.

9. A lawful fence shall be eight rails high, well staked and ridged. If any animal shall break through or over a lawful fence, as above defined, and do any damage, the owner of the enclosure shall give notice thereof to the owner of such animal, without injury to the animal. The owner of such animal shall therefore take care of the same and prevent his doing damage; but should he neglect or refuse so to do, the animal itself shall be sold to pay for the damages it may have done.

But if the premises be not enclosed by a lawful fence as above defined, the owner of the enclosure shall receive no damages; but should he injure any animal getting into such enclosure, shall pay for any damage he may do such animal.

10. Every owner of stock shall have his or her brand or mark put on such stock, and a description of the brand or mark of every person in the tribe shall be recorded by the national clerk.

ARTICLE II

1. Whoever shall maliciously set fire to a house shall, for the first offence, pay to the owner of such house all damages which he may sustain in consequence of such fire; and in addition thereto, for the second offence, shall be confined in jail for a term of twenty-one days.

2. Should human life be sacrificed in consequence of any such fire, the person setting fire as aforesaid shall suffer death by hanging.

3. It shall be unlawful for any person to set on fire any woods or prairie, except for the purpose of protecting property, and then only at such times as shall permit the persons so setting the fire to extinguish the same.

4. Whoever shall violate the provisions of the last preceding section, shall for the first offence, be fined the sum of five dollars, and pay the full value of the property thereby destroyed; for the second offence, in addition to the penalty above described, the offender shall be confined in the jail for a term of thirty-five days, and, for the third offence, the same punishment, except for the confinement in jail shall be for a period of three months.

5. Any person living outside the reserve cutting hay upon the land of one living on the reserve shall pay to the owner of such land the sum of one dollar per acre, or one-half of the hay so cut.

6. No person shall sell any wood on the reserve, except said wood first cut and corded.

ARTICLE III

1. Whoever shall find any lost article shall forthwith return the same to the owner if he can be found, under the penalty imposed for stealing such article for a neglect of such duty.

2. Whoever shall take any article of property without permission of the owner, shall pay the price of the article so taken and receive such punishment as the judge, in his discretion, may impose.

ARTICLE IV.

1. Whoever shall take up any animal on the reserve as a stray, shall, within one week, have the description of such animal recorded in the stray book kept by the council.

2. If the owner of said stray shall claim the same within one year from the day on which its description was recorded, he shall be entitled to take it after duly proving his property, and paying at the rate of five dollars per month for the keeping of such animal.

3. The title to any stray duly recorded, and not claimed within one year from the date of such record, shall rest absolutely in the person taking up and recording the same.

4. Whoever shall take up a stray, and refuse or neglect to record a description of the same as provided in section one of this article, shall be deemed to have stolen such animal. If the same be found in his possession, and shall suffer the penalties inflicted for stealing like animals. The stray shall also be taken from him and remain at the disposal of the council, and a description of the same shall be recorded in the stray book.

ARTICLE V.

1. If a person commit murder in the first degree, he shall, upon conviction, suffer the penalty of death. But if the evidence against him shall be insufficient or if the killing be done in self-defence, the person doing the killing shall be released.

2. Whoever shall, by violence, do bodily harm to the person or another, shall be arrested and suffer such punishment as may on trial be adjudged against him, and should death result from such bodily harm done to the person by another, the offender shall be arrested and suffer such punishment as may be adjudged against him.

3. Whosoever shall wilfully slander an innocent party shall be punished for such slander at the discretion of the judge.

4. Whoever being intoxicated or under the influence of liquor shall display at the house of another, in a dangerous or threatening manner, any deadly weapons, and refuse to desist therefrom, being commanded so to do and put up such weapons, either by the owner of the house or by any other person, shall for the first offence, be fined the sum of five dollars and pay all damages that may accrue; for the second offence, shall be confined in jail for thirty-five days, be fined twenty dollars, and pay all damages as aforesaid.

5. Officers shall be appointed to appraise all damages occurring under the last preceding section, who shall hear all the evidence and render judgment according to the law and the evidence.

6. Whoever shall, being under the influence of liquor, attend public worship, or any other public meeting, shall first be commanded peaceably to depart, and if he refuse, it shall be the duty of the sheriff to arrest and confine such person until he become sober, and the offender shall pay a fine of five dollars.

7. It shall be the duty of the sheriff to attend all meetings for public worship.

8. No member of the Delaware Nation shall be held liable for any debts contracted in the purchase of intoxicating liquors.

9. The United States agent and the chiefs shall have power to grant license to bring merchandise to the National Payment for sale, to so many traders as they may think proper for the benefit of the nation.

10. It shall be unlawful for any person to bring any kind of drinks, except coffee, on or near the payment ground; and any person who shall offend against this section shall forfeit his drinkables and his right to remain on the payment ground.

11. It shall be unlawful for any person to bring within the reserve more than one pint of spirituous liquors at any one time. For the first offence against this section the offender shall forfeit his liquors and pay a fine of five dollars; for the second offence he shall forfeit his liquors and pay a fine of ten dollars; and for the third offence, he shall forfeit his liquors and be fined the sum of twenty-five dollars.

12. Any person who shall find another in possession of more than one pint of liquor at one time upon the reserve may lawfully spill and destroy the same, and shall use such force as may be necessary for that purpose. Should the owner resist and endeavor to commit bodily harm upon the person engaged in spilling or destroying said liquor, he shall be taken into custody by the sheriff, and be punished as an offender against the law.

13. The sheriff may lawfully compel any man, or number of men, ministers of the gospel excepted, to assist in capturing any person who shall violate these laws.

14. Whoever shall offer resistance to any capture or arrest for violating any of the provisions of these laws, shall be punished for the original offence for which he was arrested, but also for resisting an officer.

ARTICLE VI

1. All business affecting the general interest of the nation shall be transacted by the council in regular session.

2. All personal acts of chiefs, counsellors, or private individuals in such matters as affect the General interest of the nation, shall be considered null and void.

3. Whoever shall violate the last preceding section, by undertaking in private capacity and manner to transact business, shall be imprisoned in the national jail for a period of not less than six months nor more than one year, and shall forfeit his place in office or position in the nation, which place or position shall be filled by the appointment of other suitable persons.

4. Counsellors shall be appointed who shall take an oath faithfully to perform duties to the nation, and for the neglect of such duty others shall be appointed to fill their places.

5. Should a counsellor go on a journey, so that it is impossible for him to attend the meetings of the council regularly, he may appoint a substitute who shall act for him in his absence.

6. Certain days shall be set apart for council and court days.

7. The chiefs and counsellors shall appoint three sheriffs, at a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum each; one clerk, at one hundred dollars per annum, and one jailer at a salary of one hundred dollars per annum, whose salaries shall be due and payable half-yearly and in case either of the above officers shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the duties of his office he shall forfeit his salary, and his office shall be declared vacant and another shall be appointed to fill the office.

8. The chiefs and counsellors shall semi-annually, in April and October, make an appropriation for national expenses, which appropriation shall be taken from the trust fund, or any other due the Delawares and paid into the treasury.

9. There shall be a treasurer appointed annually on the first day of April, whose duty it shall be to receive and disburse all monies to be used for national purposes but the treasurer shall pay out money only on the order of the chiefs and counsellors, and for his services he shall be paid five per cent on the amount disbursed.

ARTICLE VII.

1. It shall be lawful for any person before, his or her death to make a will and thereby dispose of his or her property as he or she may desire.
2. If a man die leaving no will to show the disposal of his property, and leave a widow and children, one-fourth of all his property shall be set aside for the payment of his debts. Should the property set aside be insufficient to pay all his debts in full, it shall be divided away among his creditors pro rata, which pro rata payment shall be received by his creditors in full satisfaction of all claims and demands whatever.
3. If the property so set apart for the payment of debt is more than sufficient to pay all debts, the remainder shall be equally divided among the children.
4. The widow shall be entitled to one-third of the property not set aside for the payment of debts, and the remainder shall be equally divided among the children.
5. If a man die leaving no widow and children his debts shall first be paid out of the proceeds of his personal property, and the remainder, if any, with the real estate shall be given to the nearest relative.
6. Whoever shall take or receive any portion of the property belonging to the widows and orphans shall be punished as if he had stolen the property.
7. The council shall appoint guardians for orphan children when they deem it expedient so to do.

ARTICLE VIII

1. If a white man marry a member of the nation, and accumulate property by such marriage, said property shall belong to his wife and children, nor shall he be allowed to remove any portion of such property beyond the limits of the reserve.
2. Should such white man die in the nation, having no children, all his property shall belong to his wife after paying his debts.
3. Should such white man lose his wife and have no children, one half of his personal property shall belong to him, and the other half shall belong to his wife's nearest relatives.
4. Should such white man be expelled from the reserve, and the wife choose to follow her husband, she shall forfeit all her right and interest in the reserve.

ARTICLE IX.

1. No member of the nation shall lease any ground to persons not members of the nation.
2. Should a white man seek employment from any member of the nation he shall first give his name to the United States agent, and furnish him with a certificate of good moral character, and also a statement of the time for which he is employed and the name of his employer.
3. The employer shall pay all hired help according to the agreement. Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of these laws on the reserve shall be punished as therein provided.
4. All white men on the reserve disregarding these laws shall also be expelled from the reserve.

ARTICLE X.

1. Whoever shall forcibly compel any woman to commit adultery, or who shall commit rape upon a woman, shall for the first offence be fined the sum of fifty dollars and be imprisoned in jail for thirty-five days. For the second offence he shall be fined one hundred dollars and be confined three months in the national jail, and for the third offence he shall be punished as the court shall see proper.

About a quarter of a mile to the southwest of the Council House one of the tribal cemeteries was located. Old settlers recall that many burials were made in this plot but the grass now covers the place and the only grave that can now be located is that of Ne-Con-He-Con, one of the tribal chiefs. He was buried in a metallic coffin. Twice vandals opened the grave and broke

into the coffin, doubtless stimulated by the stories of buried treasure. Marble head and foot stones mark the spot. The head



THE GRAVE OF NE-CON-HE-CON.

Photo taken by E. F. Heisler after vandals had removed the coffin from the grave.

stone has been broken but the inscription can still be deciphered. It reads :

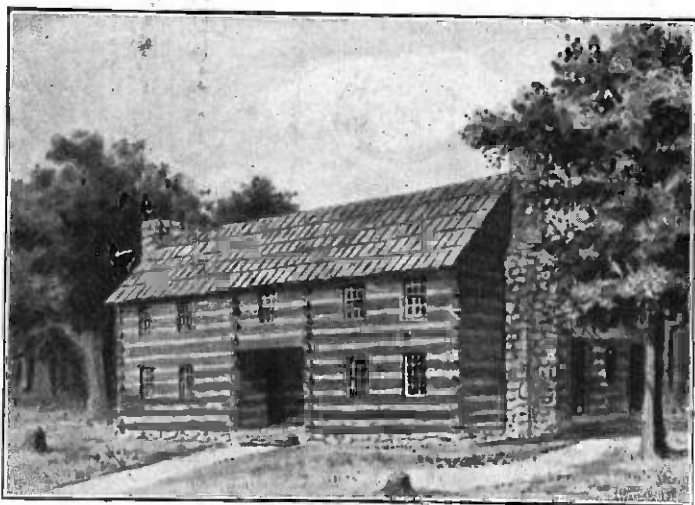
In memory of
Capt. Ne-Con-He-Con
Born, January, 1809
Died, May, 1863

Was elected Chief of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, Oct. 1853
He was a true friend to his people and to the U. S. Government
An honest upright man

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER EIGHT

PLACE: One Mile Southwest of Turner.
TIME: The Year 1830.
EVENTS: I The Cradle of Civilization.
II The First Shawnee Mission.
III The Beginning of Methodism in Kansas.

It became the fixed policy of the Government, during the administration of President James Monroe, to extinguish the Indian titles to the lands east of the Mississippi River and to remove the several tribes from these lands to new reservations in the west. The country west of the boundary of Missouri was uninhabited, except by wandering tribes, and by treaties with these tribes their rights were extinguished. On November 7, 1825 a treaty was made with the Shawnees whereby they were



THE FIRST SHAWNEE MISSION.

Building erected in 1830 by Thomas Johnson. From a drawing made by C. P. Bolman, from a description furnished by W. H. Chick of Kansas City, Mo.

given a reservation on the south side of the Kansas River, and the migration to the new Caanan was begun. (1). By the year 1830 most of the scattered bands of the Shawnees had been brought to the new home. (2). Similar treaties were made with other tribes and these tribes became known as the

1. Revised Indian Treaties.
2. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. X, pg. 386.



REVEREND THOMAS JOHNSON

Founder of the first Shawnee Mission near Turner. Builder of the Shawnee Manual Labor School. Delegate to Congress from the Provisional Government. President of the first Territorial Council of Kansas.

"Emigrant Tribes" to distinguish them from the Plains Indians, who were first in the territory.

The first effort to establish a Christian mission among the "Emigrant tribes," as far as the record shows, belongs to Isaac McCoy. He was a Baptist minister who began missionary work among the Indians, in Indiana, in 1817. He had an idea that if the Indians were removed from the vicinity of the white settlements greater progress might be made in elevating them. He took this idea to Washington with him, in 1824, where it was



THE TURNER MONUMENT.

Bishop Hendrix, of the M. E. Church, South, dedicating marker on site of first location of the Mission, at Turner, Kan. Bishop Hendrix is in the act of pressing against the tablet the seal of John Wesley. (Courtesy of Kansas State Historical Society.)

received with favor by the officials as it furnished a plausible excuse for doing what had already been determined upon. (3)

In 1830 Mr. McCoy was appointed as one of the Commissioners to look the territory (now Kansas) over with a view of finding suitable locations for such tribes as had not yet been provided for. On his return trip he came to the Shawnee settlements on the Missouri state line. (4) Here he met the Prophet, and upwards of twenty Shawnees, in Council, and interviewed them on the subject of establishing a mission among them. The Council desired time to reflect upon the proposal. Others wanted the establishment of a school and to them Mr. McCoy promised that on his return he would begin im-

3. *Ibid.*, Vol. VIII, pg. 73.

4. *Ibid.*

The next move came from Mr. George Vashon, the Shawnee Indian Agent. In July 1830, he wrote to the Rev. Jesse Green, Presiding Elder of the Missouri Methodist District, that the Shawnees were asking for missionaries. (6) On September 16, 1830, the Missouri Conference met at St. Louis and it was decided to answer the call from the Shawnees. A Missionary Society was formed and the Rev. Thomas Johnson was selected for the work. He married and he and his bride started for the Indian country on their honeymoon. They selected a site in the big timber, near the Cyprian Chouteau trading post, and began



THE TURNER MONUMENT.

Group at the dedication of the Turner Monument. (Courtesy of Kansas State Historical Society.)

the erection of a building which was to serve both as a home and a school. That the Johnsons lost no time in getting to their new field of work is evidenced by the fact that they were on the work on the 22nd of November, 1830. It was on that date that Isaac McCoy returned and he wrote in his diary that he found that during his absence Rev. Thomas Johnson had visited the Shawnees and an agreement had been made to establish a school with the Fish party. McCoy adds—"In this matter I felt a disappointment which I could not remedy; but I was resolved to carry out the design of establishing a mission." (7).

The mission building is thus described by the Rev. Joab Spencer:— (8),

6. Ibid. pg. 160.

7. McCoy's History of Baptist Indian Missions.

8. Annals of Kansas City, pg. 446.

"The first location was near the present town of Turner, about seven miles west of Kansas City, Mo. He immediately began the erection of a double two-story log building. The house consisted of two rooms, distant from each other about fifteen feet; the space between the rooms being used as a hall. The west room was used as a school room and chapel, the east one as a general reception and family living room. The second story was divided into living and sleeping rooms for the employees and guests. Just when this house was ready for occupancy, we cannot ascertain, but probably not later than the spring of 1831."



MRS. STINSON.

Indian woman who attended the first Shawnee Mission when a child. Was present at the dedication of the monument.

The place was known as the Shawnee Methodist Mission. It was successful from the start and the work was continued in this building for nine years. In 1838, the Methodist Conference, which met at Booneville, decided to build a manual training school. (9) The new school was located on the prairie in Johnson county just a little west of the Missouri state line. This

was ready for occupancy in October, 1838 and the Johnsons moved to the new location. (10)

The old building disappeared and for fifty years the place was forgotten. Then Mr. E. F. Heisler, of the Kansas City Kansas Sun, rescued it from oblivion. Through his efforts the old site was re-located, and a granite marker five feet high and three feet wide, was erected by the Methodist Episcopal church, and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on June 26, 1917. (11) A bronze tablet, ten by eighteen inches, was inserted on the north face of the monument, bearing this inscription:—

"This monument marks the site of the first mission house erected for the benefit of the Shawnee Indians by Reverend Thomas Johnson of the Methodist Episcopal church in 1830. The mission was removed to the site southwest of Westport, Missouri in 1839. Methodism in Kansas began on this spot. Erected by the Kansas Methodist Historical Society in 1916."

The monument stands about three quarters of a mile southeast of the town of Turner. The land is owned (1934) by Mr. Charles Partonmar, and is described as the N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 24, town 11, range 24. Since the monument was erected the land has been planted to a peach orchard. This hides the monument completely from view. Some day, as Kansas City continues to grow, this tract will no doubt be platted and become a part of Kansas City, then this spot will no doubt become a part of the park system of the city.

10. Ibid.

11. Ibid, Vol. XIV, pg. 197.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER NINE

PLACE: The Kansas River Just West of Muncie.
TIME: January, 1831
EVENTS: I The Grinter Ferry.
II The First Permanent White Settler.
III The First Kansas Post Office.

On May 8, 1827, Colonel Henry Leavenworth located Cantonment Leavenworth on the present reservation of Fort Leavenworth. It was intended for and at once became, the western depot for Government supplies. These supplies came up the river in boats and from this point were distributed, where needed, to the surrounding territory west and south. Military expeditions to the west and south also started from this point. Recognizing the need of a ferry across the Kansas river the Government sent a young man, named Moses Grinter, with instructions to open and operate such a ferry. (1) He arrived in January 1831 (2) and built a rope ferry (3) across the river at approximately the northwest corner of Section 28, Town 11, Range 23, Wyandotte county, Kansas. The charges for the ferry service was 50 cents for a passenger and two dollars for a wagon. (4).

Mr. Grinter made his home in the adjoining section on the North, 21-11-23. where he built a log house. In 1836 he married Anna Marshall, a Delaware woman, (5) and raised a family of ten children. In 1859 he built a substantial brick house about a quarter of a mile north of the ferry. (6) and here he died on June 14, 1878. (7) in the house overlooking the ferry he had established 47 years before. By common consent he is awarded

1. "Moses Grinter went to Kansas in 1828. He served a short time in the regular army at Ft. Leavenworth, then was appointed to operate a ferry boat across the Kaw river." *Kansas City Times*, Sept. 26, 1932.

2. "He was sent from his home in Beardstown, Ky., by the United States Government to locate a ferry across the Kansas river. He arrived at Secudine, on the Kansas river, about nine miles west of the Missouri line in January, 1831." Morgan, *History of Wyandotte County*, pg. 88.

3. Wm. H. Coffin in writing of 1855, says: "Making our way by a straight Indian trail, thirty miles to the Delaware Crossing of the Kansas river, on a rope ferry, we were within a few miles of the Friend's mission." *Kansas Historical Collections*, Vol. VII, pg. 327.

4. Under date of Dec. 11, 1836, Mary Walton Blanchard, wife of Ira D. Blanchard, in charge of the Delaware Baptist mission, wrote: "We are 16 miles from Shawnee and the Kaw is one-fourth mile wide between us and the ferriage for a single person 50 cents and for a wagon 2 dollars." This letter in the Pratt collection at the State Historical Society.

5. Goodspeed, *Wyandotte County and Kansas City*, pg. 623.

6. *Kansas City Sun*.

7. Goodspeed, *Wyandotte County and Kansas City*, pg. 169.



THE GRINTER FERRY.

Upper view, the brick residence built in 1858 by Moses Grinter, the first permanent settler in Wyandotte county, as it stands today, overlooking the site of the old Grinter Ferry.

Center, left to right, Moses Grinter, Anna Marshall Grinter, Mrs. Henry C. Kirby, their daughter and last survivor of a family of ten children.

Lower, the Grinter Chapel and cemetery where many of the clan are buried. (Courtesy of the Kansas City Kansan.)

the distinction of being the first permanent white settler in Wyandotte county.

Up to the year 1842 the ferry was reached from both the north and the south by Indian trails but in that year the Government laid out and established a military road from Cantonment Leavenworth on the north across the Kansas river at Grinter's ferry and on to Fort Scott and the Government posts beyond. (8) Grinter's ferry is often spoken of as being on the military road between Leavenworth and Fort Scott. True it was, but the ferry was there eleven years before the road was surveyed. (9)

The entry to the ferry from the north is now known as DeFries road. To reach the site of the old ferry follow highway 32 about a mile beyond Muncie to its junction with the DeFries road. The ferry site is just below the junction of these two roads. Up the hill about a quarter of a mile and on the west side of the DeFries road is the old Grinter brick home. The writer sat one day on the porch of the Grinter home with Mrs. H. C. Kirby, last surviving member of the Grinter family, and heard her locate the ferry site. "The landing was right down there," she said, pointing to the right of the intersection of the DeFries road with highway 32. The blacksmith shop and the stores were on this side of the ravine. On the other side of the ravine was the Indian village of Secondine."

Frequent references are found to this ferry in the early day records and the correspondence of individual travelers. It is generally spoken of as the Grinter ferry (10) but sometimes as the Delaware Crossing, the Delaware Agency Crossing, or Secondine or the Military Ferry. (11) These names are all descriptive of the same spot.

In 1864 the Union Pacific established a station at Secondine. When a later survey was made and the road bed was moved down nearer the river, Secondine was abandoned and the station of Muncie was established approximately a mile further east.

When the lands sold by the Delawares to the Wyandottes

8. "The road as surveyed, started from Fort Leavenworth, crossed Five Mile creek south of the fort, then on south and east to the Kaw, or Kansas river, at what was called Grinter's Ferry. From there it run through Shawnee Mission south to Little Santa Fe, etc." The Why of Ft. Scott, pg. 11.

9. "A commission under Col. S. W. Kearney and Capt. M. Boone, 1st Dragoons U. S. Army, were sent out from Washington to locate this road, and the survey was finished in 1842 and a report thereof sent to Washington by Charles Dimmock, government civil engineer." The Why of Ft. Scott, pg. 34.

10. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IV, pg. 360.

11. Ibid, Vol. IX, pg. 559.

were surveyed in 1844 the east line of the diminished Delaware reservation fell just a short distance east of the Grinter ferry, leaving the ferry and the village of Secondine in Delaware territory.

Speaking of the population of Kansas in 1854. Andreas, page 82 says, "Delaware Post Office, ten miles above the mouth of the Kansas river, where were three trading posts, a blacksmith shop, etc., with a white population not to exceed a dozen."

In an article appearing in the New York Tribune, June 28, 1854 this spot is described as follows: (12)

"Delaware—a post office, is on the Kansas river, ten miles from its mouth; it contains two or three trading posts, a blacksmith shop, etc. The post office was established in 1849, James Findley being appointed postmaster, and he still holds the office. The Kansas is here some two hundred yards wide over which is a ferry."

In the Kansas Historical Collections is an article on Kansas postal history by E. J. Dallas, (13) which says:

"Delaware, established February 10, 1855, James Findley, Postmaster. Name changed to Secondine, February 1st, 1856. Abolished 1859."

I do not know how to reconcile these two statements. Either date would make this the first post office in Kansas outside of a military post. James Findley, who is named in both articles as the postmaster, was an Indian trader and kept a variety store. He was one of the delegates who helped form the Provisional Government in 1854. (14) In 1858 he was a resident of Westport but came back to help his old neighbors hold the election on January 4th of that year and acted as one of the clerks but did not vote. (15)

Isaac Mundy, the blacksmith, also came from the Delaware Crossing as a delegate to the convention which made the Pro-

12. Ibid. Vol. I and II. pg. 266.

13. Ibid. pg. 253.

14. "James Findley was an Indian Trader at that time and lived at the Delaware Crossing. He traded with the Delawares and the Shawnees. I have this information from many sources and from the Indian Territory and from John G. Pratt. Russell Carr also says James Findley lived at the Military Ferry. He was an Indian Trader. He kept a variety store and traded with the Delawares." Provisional Government. pg. 34. note 3.

15. Report of the Board of Commissioners for the Investigation of Election Frauds, appointed January 13, 1858.

visional Government. (16) He was also one of the judges at the election on January 4, 1858 and in his testimony before the Legislative Investigating Committee testified that he had resided at Delaware Crossing about thirteen years. (17) He is buried in the cemetery at White Church.

Wyandotte county was singularly free of the border troubles that infested the newly organized Kansas Territory. They raged to the west and the south but do not seem to have dipped down between the forks of the two rivers. But once does Wyandotte figure in these hectic events and then the fault was not with Wyandotte. Delaware Crossing was a voting precinct at the election held January 4, 1858 for state officers under the Le-compton constitution. A board of commissioners was appointed after this election to investigate election frauds. In its report the board said of this precinct, page 14:

"This precinct is in the Delaware Indian Reserve. The elections are held at the crossing of the Kansas river by the Leavenworth and Westport road. The precinct is commonly known as Delaware Crossing. James C. Grinter, Isaac Mundy and Theodore F. Garrett were the judges and James Findley of Westport and William Wilson the clerks. Forty three votes were polled. The ballots were not counted, but were said by Garrett to be all Democratic. The names of the voters were written on three pages of cap paper and a certificate stating that all the votes were Democratic at the bottom of the last page signed by all the judges and clerks. The officers of election put this certificated list into the ballot box with the ballots. The lid of the box (which had been used as a money box at the Agency) was fastened on with screws." (18)

16. "Isaac Mundy was a blacksmith for the Delawares and lived at the Delaware Crossing. This was a point where the Military Road from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Scott crossed the Kansas river. His house is marked on one of the old maps of the Wyandotte Purchase although it was on Delaware land. Russell Garrett says, 'I remember Isaac Mundy well. He was a blacksmith for the Delawares. He had a shop and lived at what was called at that time the Military Ferry. He lived at Westport before he was appointed blacksmith for the Delaware Indians.' Provisional Government, pg. 34, note 2.

17. I reside at Delaware Crossing, Kansas Territory; was there at the election on the 4th of January, 1858; have resided there about thirteen years; was one of the judges of the election there on the 4th of January for the election of state officers and members of the Legislature." Testimony of Isaac Mundy, Jan. 26, 1858. Page 90 of Committees Report.

18. Report of the Board of Commissioners for the Investigation of Election Frauds, appointed 13th of January, 1858.

The returns were then given to John D. Henderson (19), a special mail agent for delivery to J. Calhoun, the President of the Lecompton Convention. When the returns were counted some days later it was found that the vote from the Delaware Crossing had jumped to 379 which would elect all the Democratic candidates to the Legislature from Leavenworth county. In the Legislative investigation which followed both James C. Grinter (20) and Isaac Mundy (21) testified that but 43 votes were cast at the election. The committee at first could not find the returns but they received a grape vine message that they were hidden under a wood pile in Lecompton. A search warrant was sworn out and the returns from Delaware Crossing, together with other fraudulent ones, were found in a candle box under the wood pile. Both Grinter and Mundy again appeared before the board and testified that but 43 votes had been cast at the election and that the purported returns found in the candle box were spurious. (22) In its findings the board said:

"The returns from Delaware Agency precinct were honestly made out by the officers of the election, and subsequently three hundred and thirty six names were forged upon them, by or with the knowledge of John D. Henderson; and that John Calhoun was *participes criminis*, after the fact." (23)

19. "J. T. Henderson, late editor of the Leavenworth Journal, had been Secretary of the convention forming the Lecompton constitution. Now he was charged with tampering the returns from Delaware Crossing." Richardson, *Beyond the Mississippi*, pg. 102." "Delaware Crossing, in Leavenworth county, was a famous point in those days and Jack Henderson a notorious character. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. X, pg. 172, note. "Henderson, one of his (Calhoun's) tools, who had recently got an appointment from Buchanan obtained the returns from Delaware Crossing from the judges of election there, avowedly to bring them to Calhoun, and changed the returns." Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. X, pg. 198, note 3.

20. Report of the Board of Commissioners for the Investigation of Election Frauds, pg. 89.

21. Ibid. pg. 90.

22. Ibid. pgs. 108-111.

23. Ibid. pg. 21.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TEN

PLACE: Stony Point School House Site.

TIME: The Year 1831.

EVENT:—The Delaware Methodist Mission.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was the first to establish missions among the emigrant Indian tribes in Kansas. The first mission was established in 1830 among the Shawnees on the south side of the Kansas river near the present site of Turner. Very soon afterwards another mission was established on the north side of the river among the Delawares. According to the Register of Indian Affairs, published by Isaac McCoy in 1835, this mission was begun in 1831. (1) Methodist missionaries in the Indian country at this time were the Johnson brothers, Thomas and William, whose assignment for the year 1831 was to the Kansas missions. (2) Some accounts credit the beginning of the Delaware mission to Thomas and others to William, but both names are carried in the list of "Apostles" on the memorial window of the "White Church," the church which grew out of this missionary work and which stands today as the sole survivor of missionary work among the Delawares.

In 1832 the Indian Missionary district was created and William Johnson and Thomas Markham were appointed to the Delaware mission and school. (3) In 1833, 34 and 35 Edward T. Peery was appointed to the Delaware mission and school. In 1836 he was again appointed but this time the appointment ran to the Delaware mission and no where again is there any mention made of the school, the appointments running to the Delaware mission as long as the tribe remained in the territory. (4)

The first report of the school appears in 1833 with the terse statement that the school enrollment was five whites and twenty seven Indians. The 1834 report was that the Delaware school had twenty four native children who were learning well. (5)

In 1834 the Rev. John Dunbar came to Kansas as a Presbyterian missionary and for a time staid at Cantonment Leavenworth. While waiting for a location he visited some of the other missionaries in the territory. He kept a journal, which has been

1. Annual Register of Indian Affairs, 1835, Vol. 1, No. 1.
2. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 225.
3. Ibid, pg. 226.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid, pg. 203.

published by the Kansas Historical Society. (6) Under the date of June 14, 1834, he records that he had visited the several Methodist missions among the Kickapoos, Delawares and Shawnees and that the Delaware mission was 23 miles below on the Kansas. (7) On July 3rd he says—"Walked down to the Delaware mission 23 miles distant. On our arrival we introduced ourselves to the Methodist brother, a missionary at this station. He had commenced his work with the Delawares five or six months previous to our visit. He has a school of about 20 scholars. A church has been gathered among these people by the missionaries at the Baptist mission house among the Shawnees. Among those whom he records as present at this meeting was, "Peery of Delaware mission, Methodist." (9)

With Rev. Dunbar on his visit of July 3rd went another Presbyterian missionary, Rev. Samuel Allis. Of this visit he says:—(10) "July 3d. I left with Brother Dunbar to visit the Delawares or their missionary arrived at 4 p.m. Distance 22m stopt at the house of Mr. Perd (Peery) Methodist missionary. The Delawares number about 1000 souls, have also a Government teacher and blacksmith who are pious men, there are 40 church members."

In the office of the State Auditor at Topeka, there is a plat of the survey of the Delaware diminished reserve. This plat locates mission buildings on section 3, township 11, range 23. These buildings are supposed to have been those of the Delaware mission established by the Methodist Episcopal church. (11) This location is about two miles west of White Church and approximately the distance from Ft. Leavenworth that Rev. Dunbar and Rev. Allis found it when they footed it down from the Cantonment on the 3rd of July, 1834. This map and testimony fix pretty definitely the site of the original mission building.

At the 1837 Methodist conference L. B. Stateler was appointed to the Delaware mission, and reappointed at the 1838 and 1839 sessions. (12) He arrived at the mission on October 9, 1837 and not being satisfied with the location selected a new site and proceeded to build new buildings. The story is told by his biographer as follows: (13)

6. *Ibid.*, Vol. XIV, pg. 570.

7. *Ibid.*, pg. 576.

8. *Ibid.*, pg. 587.

9. *Ibid.*, pg. 589.

10. *Ibid.*, pg. 693.

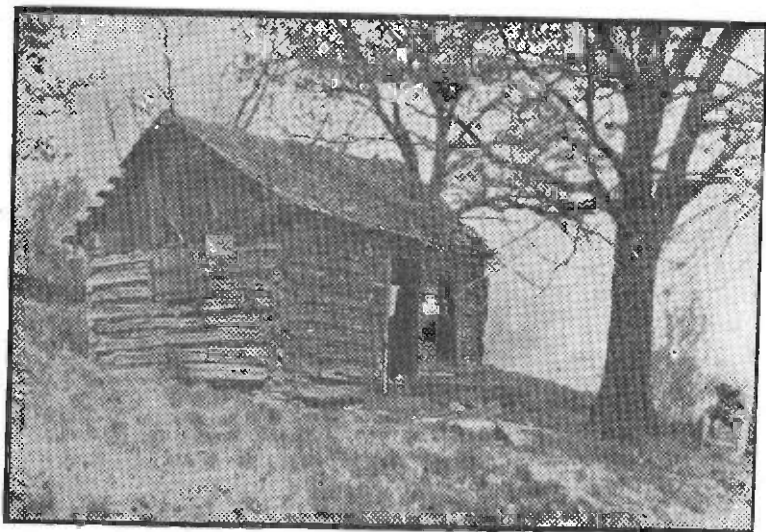
11. *Ibid.*, Vol. IX, pg. 574.

12. *Ibid.*, pgs. 226-227.

13. *Life of Stateler*, pgs. 86-87.

"The location of the Delaware mission was first made at a place where there was a fountain of water and the soil was good, with a view of making the school as nearly self supporting as possible. But it was not central, and after consultation it was decided to erect another building in a more central locality."

"The missionary led the way, and, attended by a number of the leading Christian men, went into the woods, felled



A PIONEER CABIN.

Typical of the early day homes built in Wyandotte county.

the trees, scored and hewed them, and with their own hands built a comfortable house."

"After the new house was completed, at a later date, a large shed was made on one side which was used at the time of the camp meetings, which were held there annually for many years and which resulted in great good to the Indian."

The new location was on the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 20, town 11, range 24, Wyandotte county, and a short distance southwest of the present Stony Point School house. (14) So far as is now known only one scholar who attended the old mission school has left behind any story connected with it. Mrs. Melinda Wilcoxon was one of the last survivors of the

14. Plat of Delaware survey.

Delawares in Wyandotte county. She was born in 1830, was a grand niece of Chief Ketchum, married a white man and stayed with her husband's family when the tribe moved away. She died in January, 1911. A little more than a year before her death she said in an interview—"When I was about ten years old the government agents started me in school where Stony Point now is. Father Stateler was the teacher." (15)

After the building of the Shawnee Manual Training School the Methodists endeavored to concentrate their school activities at that place. In 1844 an agreement was made with the Delawares that for a period of ten years they would devote all of their school fund for the education of their children at the manual training school. (16) In educational matters the Delawares did not make as commendable progress as some of the other tribes and their indifference in sending their children to the manual training school, was a great disappointment to the Superintendent, Rev. Thomas Johnson.

15. Morgan, *History of Wyandotte County*, pg. 45.

16. *Kansas Historical Collections*. Vol. IX, pg. 204.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER ELEVEN

- PLACE: 20th Street, Kansas City, Kans., Extended.
TIME: The Year 1831.
EVENTS: I The Shawnee Baptist Mission.
II The First Printing Press in Kansas.
III The First Newspaper in Kansas

If Twentieth street in Kansas City, Kansas, were extended a couple of blocks across the county line into Johnson county, it would reach approximately the site of the old Shawnee Baptist Mission, established in 1831, by Johnston Lykins. It was in 1825 that the United States made a treaty with the Shawnees giving them a strip of country, on the south side of the Kansas River, twenty five miles wide and one hundred and twenty miles long, containing approximately 1,600,000 acres of land. (1) During the next half dozen years, or so, the scattered bands of the Shawnees were gathered on this reservation, settling mainly on just the northeast corner of the reservation near the Kansas and Missouri rivers, their most popular settlements being in what is now Shawnee Township, Wyandotte County. (2)

How the Baptists came among the Shawnees with their Mission is told by Isaac McCoy, Baptist missionary, Indian commissioner and surveyor, in his History of Baptist Indian Missions:

"On the 16th of August (1830) we set out to make the surveys for the Delawares, as I had been instructed by the Secretary of War * * As we passed through the Shawanoe settlements adjoining the line of the state of Missouri, through the politeness of Major John Campbell, United State Agent, acting for the Shawanoes and the Delawares, I had an interview in council with upwards of twenty Shawanoes, on the subject of establishing a mission among them. The celebrated Shawanoe prophet, the brother of Tecumseh, who figured in the last war, was present, and, in behalf of the rest, responded to my remarks, professedly approving the proposition, though no doubt he secretly was opposed to everything like education or religion. They were desired to reflect on what I had proposed, and to be prepared to answer me, as I would repass that place on my way home.

A white man by the name of Fish, who had lived with the Shawanoes from a small boy, and was in all respects identified

1. Revised Indian Treaties.

2. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX. pg. 163.

with them, had become principal of a clan which had lived many years in the state of Missouri, and which was in a good degree civilized. I took Fish to the house of Captain Anthony Shane, a half bred and who was the United States interpreter; and on his informing me that he and his party desired a school for the instruction of their youth, I assured him that he should be furnished with one; and whatever might be the answer of the rest of the nation to my proposals, he might rest upon the establishment of a school for his party. I would immediately begin to make preparations for it, and on my return his wishes should be met with as little delay as possible." (404-405)

On the 22nd of November I returned to this place, when Captain Cornstalk and Captain William Perry, chiefs, met me, to deliver the decision of the nation, which was favorable to the establishment of the school proposed. * * * But unfortunately for my plan, while I was absent in the wilderness, the Rev. Mr. McAlister and the Reverend Thomas Johnson, of the Methodist denomination, visited the Shawanoes, and made similar propositions. The main body of the Shawanoes objected, because, they said, they intended to accept the proposition I had made them. The result, however, was an agreement that the Methodist should establish a school with Fish's party. In this matter I felt a disappointment which I could not remedy; but I was still resolved to carry out the design of establishing a mission in the nation." (405)

Following the narrative, as set out in the McCoy history, we find that the Baptist Board appointed Mr. Johnston Lykins, a son-in-law of McCoy, to locate among the Shawanoes, agreeably to the McCoy arrangements and that after a liberal allowance was made for his support, he set out, with his family on June 9th, 1831, for the Shawanoe settlements. Temporary quarters were found with the subagency. The Shawnees apparently took but little interest in the matter and the Missionary Board was a great distance away, so there were delays, but by September 1832, affairs were so well advanced that a small school of Indian children were receiving instruction from Mr. Evans the teacher, and religious exercises were held in the mission building for the benefit of the Shawanees. (4) McCoy records that by August, 1834 there was a church of sixteen members, four of whom were Delawares, and that regular meetings for religious worship were held at the mission house.

Neither the church nor the school seems to have made much

3. Ibid. pgs. 404-405.

4. Ibid. pg. 453.

progress. The Shawnee wanted neither religion nor education. Three years went by and McCoy recorded in his Annual Register for 1837 that the church had 29 members consisting of 11 whites, 5 Delawares, 3 Shawanoes and 1 Osage; that two native members had died; and that the English school taught at the Mission had been suspended for want of a teacher. The



THE SHAWNEE BAPTIST MISSION.
From an old print.

1838 Register repeats the church statistics but says nothing about the school. (6)

The policy of the Baptists seems to have been to center their church activities, at this Mission and converts made among the Delawares, and other tribes, were enrolled as members of the Shawnee church. The Delawares broke away in 1841 and organized a church of their own at the Delaware Mission. (7) A distinctively Shawnee Baptist church was later organized and in 1848 a meeting house was built about three quarters of a mile southwest of the old Mission at the present site of the Morrison

5. Annual Register of Indian Affairs, 1837, No. 3.

6. Ibid, 1838, No. 4.

7. Kansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. II, pg. 230.

SIWINOWE Kesi bwi.

PALAKO WAHOSOTOTA NAKOTE KESIBWI—WISIELBI, 1811.

J. LYKINS EDITOR.

NOVEMBER, 1811.

BAPTIST MISSION PRESS

SIWINOWEAKWA Nekimto, Sakinuki
paho cawibakeapo hokekilomwi. Owano-
ke neketashitolapa, kwakwekaphe ken-
howaselapwipi nawakwa noko wiba-
kanta. Skiti ketalatalimolapwi howase li-
amimowa, chena manwe laniwawwa.
Kieiwekenti.

**Hopakekiliwewa Tapalamalikwa Sici-
nawilimulata.**

Siwinwike sakimeki laniwawwa palako
peace msiloke, hoanome miti. Mosiwe
upapakeeiko peace laniwawwa. Hopa-
nekeke pilohi makoloboke kiskea miti
kianuwile, Tapalamawalece. Hoano-
ko milakhe howase Fawekunko milko-
wawice litwaele. Skiti cieke wiekoti-
kke mosi nakon weponimiwi. Fawekita-
ke piese kwali netiwike cone wicice na-
motake wience matkwitoke. Cieke pwi-
ei ponikke comi cawekinke upapakeeiko
pipambake. Kekikikeke mawise
hikwalamika Tapalamalikwa chena wi-
ae nicabiwike ketasanihawanani. Ta-
palamalikwa hawi ihwalani selaniwike
wanakiseeke kokwahikwise walmiwaweko
pwienakiseeke, wahukimo hieebake.

Skiti lalanimowita, Siwinwike sekun-
wewa, chena manwelaniwawewa weh-
mimaniwi rawekinke. Paketikke palo-
cehe wanitiwenbakewewe.

Kieiwekenti.

OPAKEKILIWEWA LAPWIMILANE

Sakinohok, hipibawa kwikwenski
weikowawa; pieakwi hikwe kilwewa
yipnaski weikowawn.

Howakesako Tapalamalikwa mawakea
omawa macike chena wawasike. Tapala-

malikwa palowe loce helipimih Wanita
belere; pieakwi homimotiwilo eamimito-
thakoco wabape laniwawelece.

Ehano eselaniwawee calowase lapwi
hakoco Tapalamalikwa wiso howase ihil-
walamakoco matalamakoco otihlanime.

Iiwekimwe elane pocelakho skota, che-
na miti cinapobo?

Hinakote tukitawiloke cipamba, chena
miti cinapobo?

Kuo eski weali nehati milikwihe wae
kilakoco wawile ihilphee, kokwanabi kie-
ce wawesihile miti cibibiekebe.

Tawo eseliwazi nahilwiki oecilikomile,
wahimilakwile.

Lapwimikwe hemi wiaselapwile, obile
pieakwi wamibeni okweteni, imicela-
pwile hokeale.

Sikelatuki pakeluwawa nahilwiki ose-
kealupile oecilikomile.

Nieswanuki kelike laniwawewa wake-
tanibewe.

Tatalauke case kitanobota hipale eam-
mace kuanooce miti hominkii.

Waninabeni hocicikikio otasekawa
waki lapwilewano micoke wice eisatua.

WICHATEWA.

Enawaske Tapalamalikwa nakote
mahelurke hosihle, chena nakote mahel-
hkwale. Chena Tapalamalikwa omelile
elanelo nele hkwale; wehwewee. Ta-
palamalikwa miti nitalalatinwile elanele
wensokwa gulece; maweso hkwaw-
wenesihke helanche. Tapalamalikwa
hawi elane noko hikwawiyich himabike
wahankotobaniwe weihwe; wiso labiej-
keiko inswa. Waki mawehwale nace-
pule wepinilalece wewiwikibkile loce
otilalamihle; kiskea miti oecilikomeke.

THE SHAWNEE SUN.

A reproduction of a page of the first newspaper published in Kansas.
(Courtesy Kansas State Historical Society.)

Ridge station on the Strang line. A burial ground was established near the church. (8)

The school was a going concern in 1854. Harvey, in his History of the Shawnees (9), under the date of 1854 says: "At the Baptist Mission are good comfortable buildings, and I suppose near one hundred acres adjoining to and at some distance from the farm where the school is kept."

Wilson Hobbs, who came to the Quaker Mission in 1850 said of his Baptist neighbor: (10)

"The Baptist Mission was * * * under the superintendence and care of Dr. Barker and wife. They had no school, but a few Indian children were cared for and educated in the family. Doctor Barker preached, regularly every Sabbath at the little frame church at the roadside near by, sometimes in the Shawnee and at other times in the English language, with an interpreter. His congregations were usually very small and consisted chiefly of a little membership of Indians which he had built up around him. The chief work of this mission was in the service of Doctor Barker as a physician to the Indians. He was well informed in medicine, and the only physician in the territory. He did all the practice among the Indians, outside of their own means of cure."

By the treaty of 1854 the Shawnees were to take their lands in severalty. A number of reservations were made in the treaty. Among them was one whereby 160 acres of land was set aside to the American Baptist Missionary Union, to include the improvements where the superintendent of their school resides. (11) When the land ceased to be used it was to be sold at public sale to the highest bidder, the Missionary Union to be paid the value of its improvements. (12) Two acres of land was also reserved to the Shawnee Baptist church including the meeting house and grave yard. (13) In 1855 the Mission was abandoned.

The outstanding feature of the Shawnee Baptist Mission was its printing plant. Rev. Jotham Meeker came to the Mission in December, 1833, bringing a printing press with him from Cincinnati. It was taken off the boat at Independence, Mo., and transported by team to the Mission. (14) This was the first

8. Rev. J. T. Crawford, Baptist Church Historian.

9. Page 278.

10. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. VIII, pg. 266.

11. Article 2 of the Treaty.

12. Article 6 of the Treaty.

13. "The description of the 2 acre tract of ground is the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 5 and in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 8, Town 12, Range 25."

J. T. Crawford, Church Historian

14. Kansas City Times, Oct. 16, 1929.

printing press to be set up on Kansas soil and from it came a long list of publications, in both English and various Indian languages.

Rev. Meeker kept a diary, now in the possession of the Kansas Historical Society. From its pages we find that it took him until March 1st, 1834 to get his print shop ready for business and on that day he began to set type on a book in the Delaware language, from copy prepared by Ira Blanchard, the Baptist Missionary to that tribe. On February 24, 1835 he printed the first issue of the Shawnee Sun, a small four page, 6¾ by 10¾ inch, paper in the Shawnee language. This was not only the first newspaper published on Kansas soil but was also the first newspaper anywhere to be published exclusively in an Indian language. (15) Until 1837 Rev. Meeker continued to run this printing plant, printing small booklets in eight different Indian dialects, the Shawnee Sun, and the 1835, 1836 and 1837 issues of Isaac McCoy's Indian Register. (16) In 1837 Rev. Meeker removed to where Ottawa, Kansas now is located, and John G. Pratt took his place as printer at the Shawnee Mission. Pratt ran the printing plant until 1844, when it was abandoned and the press came back into the possession of Rev. Meeker at Ottawa.

Some years ago the Olathe Chapter of the D. A. R. determined to mark the site of the old Mission. Arrangements could not be made for a site on the grounds of the original Mission buildings and so the marker was erected on the site of the church building at the Morrison Ridge station. It was unveiled on the 16th of October, 1929 (17) and bears this inscription:

TO COMMEMORATE BAPTIST MISSION
TO SHAWNEE INDIANS. FOUNDED 1831.
FIRST PRINTING 1833. MOVED TO
THIS SITE 1848. PLACED BY THE
OLATHE CHAPTER D. A. R. OCTOBER 16. 1929.

15. Kansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. II, pg. 339.

16. The Missionary Board declined to publish it (The Annual Register) and McCoy bought the paper and paid Meeker for the printing. History of Baptist Indian Missions, pg. 482.

17. Kansas City Star, Oct. 15, 1929. Kansas City Kansan, Oct. 16 and 17, 1929. Kansas City Times, Oct. 16 and 17, 1929. Northeast Johnson Co. Herald, Oct. 17, 1929. Johnson Co. Democrat, Oct. 24, 1929. Olathe Mirror, Oct. 24, 1929.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWELVE

PLACE: The White Church Neighborhood.

TIME: The Year 1832.

EVENTS: I The First Church in Kansas.

II The Delaware Cemetery.

III The Wise Memorial Park.

Undoubtedly the first church organization in Kansas was that of the Delaware Methodist Episcopal Church. The generally accepted tradition is that Thomas Johnson, after establishing his mission on the south side of the Kansas river, crossed the river in May 1832, to establish a similar mission among the Delawares. (1) Isaac McCoy, who began the publication of the Annual Register of Indian affairs in January 1835, places the date in 1831. A publication, made within less than four years is better authority than a hundred year old tradition, so 1831 should be taken as the proper date for the establishment of the mission. The mission and the church organization, while intimately connected, were separate institutions. The next year, 1832, the Methodist conference created the Indian Missionary District, with Thomas Johnson as superintendent, and assigned William Johnson, a brother of Thomas, and Thomas Markham to the Delaware Mission and school. The year 1832 is accepted as the year in which the church was organized although no report for the year can be found. For the years 1833 to 1836 inclusive, the appointment went to Rev. E. T. Peery. The first report extant is that for the year 1833, which shows that there were 5 whites and 27 Indians in the Society, indicating that the church was making progress among the Delawares. (2) The 1834 annual report of the Missionary Society contains the following:

"Delaware, a gracious work of religion—forty church members, several of whom officiate as exhorters, regular in attendance at preaching and other means of grace. The school has twenty-four native children, who are learning well. In the Sabbath-school are fourteen male and ten female scholars, conducted by three teachers and one superintendent. The children are catechized in the duties and doctrines of Christianity." (3)

In a letter published in the Christian Advocate, July 31, 1835, Thomas Johnson said:

1. Program "Centennial Celebration of the White Church Mission," published May 29, 1932.

2. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 226.

3. Ibid. pg. 203.

"The Delaware Mission is still gaining ground, and the members of the Society appear to enjoy much of the influence of religion, though they are greatly persecuted by the pagan part of the nation."

Under date of July 24, 1843, Rev. E. T. Peery wrote to the Western Christian Advocate: (Letter published, November 10, 1843.)

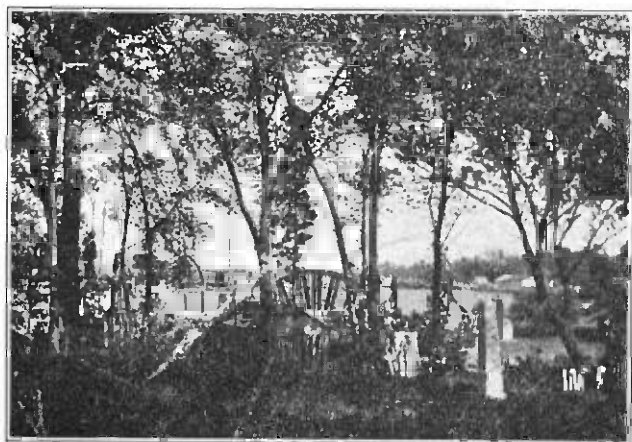
"With the Delawares we have about one hundred church members, and perhaps over one third of that number have died happy in the bosom of the Church since the commencement of our operations among them, besides fifteen who have passed through our society to the Baptists. We have also at this place a good meeting house which is finished, and furnished with two good stoves by the Indians themselves. We have our meetings regularly three times a week."

The ups and downs of this church for twenty five years is taken from the general minutes of the church:—(4)

Year	Missionary	Number in the Society	
		White	Color'd Indian
1833	E. T. Peery	5	27
1834	E. T. Peery	7	50
1835	E. T. Peery	5	70
1836	E. T. Peery	4	86
1837	Learner B. Stateler		90
1838	L. B. Stateler, Abraham Millice	2	74
1839	L. B. Stateler		
1840	L. B. Stateler		
1841	L. B. Stateler		186
1842	L. B. Stateler		
1843	E. T. Peery, John Peery	4	98
1844	N. M. Talbott, J. T. Peery	3	108
1845	N. T. Shaler, W. D. Collins		
1846	N. T. Shaler, W. D. Collins	1	50
1847	N. T. Shaler		50
1848	B. H. Russell	1	56
1849	J. A. Cummings	1	56
1850	L. B. Stateler, N. T. Shaler	7	89
1851			
1852	J. Barker		
1853	J. Barker	5	
1854			

1855	N. M. Talbott	6	65
1856	N. T. Shaler	9	63
1857	N. T. Shaler	6	58
1858	N. T. Shaler	11	64
1859	N. T. Shaler	10	66
1860			

There is no record as to when the first church building was built. That it was built of logs and that it stood in what is now the Wise Memorial Park adjoining the present Stone Memorial Church at White Church is well established.



THE DELAWARE CEMETERY.

From a picture taken about the year 1910.

"This church did duty until 1844 when it was destroyed by fire. It was replaced by a frame structure about forty by sixty feet. The frame was of black walnut, obtained from the black walnut trees in the neighborhood, and the lumber sawed in a saw mill which the Government had provided for the Delawares in accordance with its treaty. The shingles were hand shaved and came from St. Louis by boat. This church was painted white which not only gave it its name but fixed that for all time as the name for the neighborhood.

One feature of the old time Methodists was the camp meeting. The Wyandots held them in the forests of Ohio and introduced them in Kansas. The fine grove adjoining the White Church was especially adapted for these services and they soon became a regular feature of the Delaware church. Governor Walker in his diary writes:

Sunday, July 19, 1846—Girls went to the Delaware camp meeting.

Monday, July 20, 1846—Went to the Delaware camp meeting and returned in the evening.

Friday, August 8, 1851—Our neighbors all gone to the camp meeting at Delaware.

Just south and adjacent to the White Church is the old Delaware burial ground. When the surveys were made this proved to be located in the west $\frac{1}{2}$ of the southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 31, Town 10, Range 24. It is without doubt the oldest of all Wyandotte county cemeteries and adds materially to the interest in this historic spot. Many of the noted Delaware chiefs and leaders of the tribe are buried here as well as many pioneer white settlers. Although the Delawares migrated to the Indian Territory in 1868, many members of the tribe continue to make visits to this old cemetery to pay their respects to their former chiefs who are buried here.

Among the inscriptions found on the monuments in the old cemetery are those of three Ketchums—"Capt. Ketchum, Chief of the Delaware Nation 28 years, a member of the Methodist Church. E. P. South, 22 years, born in Tuscarawas Co. O., 1780, died July 11, 1837, aged 77 years. Charles Ketchum, born, December 1811, died, July 20, 1860, one of the Chief Counselors of the Delaware Indians and by his death the Nation met with an irreparable loss, a member of the M. E. Church, 26 years, ordained Deacon by Bishop Simpson at St. Louis, 1852. Rev. Jacob Ketchum, died June 28, 1866, aged 42 years.

The new church was built a few rods to the south of this burial ground, and faced the east. Scarcely was the new church completed when the split came in the Methodist church on the question of slavery and the Methodist Church South was organized. The "White Church" affiliated with the church South and for the time being the Northern church withdrew from the Delaware field.

The split in the Methodist church brought into prominence the Ketchum family among the Delawares. There were two of them of prominence at this time—The Reverend James Ketchum and the Reverend Charles Ketchum.

Rev. James Ketchum was born in 1819. He was a convert to the Methodist Episcopal faith in youth, preaching in his own language at White Church. (6) He is also listed as one of the interpreters for the M. E. church South. Government maps locate

his land as being just east of the site of the present White Church. He was one of the signers of the treaty for the removal of the tribe from Kansas and went with the tribe to the Indian



THE FIRST "WHITE CHURCH."

Frame structure which replaced the original log church. Destroyed by cyclone.

Territory in 1868. There he continued to preach, and was considered one of the most eloquent orators in the Delaware tribe.

Rev. Charles Ketchum was born in 1811 in Indiana and moved to Wyandotte county in 1831. He joined the Methodist church in 1832 and became one of its preachers. He is described in the *Outposts of Zion* as follows: "Ketchum is a large, portly Indian, of manly appearance and address; illiterate, but of good intellect and fluent in speech, possessing a fine voice and able to make the vigorous intonations of the Delaware language ring with effect upon an audience, even when not understood. Ketchum stood firm in the division, though threatened with the loss of his head; built a church himself and kept the little remnant of our flock together. He is an Indian in thought and feeling and may be characterized by some Indian instability, but, upon the whole he deserves the respect of his tribe and of the church. He is settled upon a good farm, maintains a place in the conference, and labors with his people." (8)

Charles Ketchum joined the Missouri Conference in 1850. In 1852 he was ordained as a Deacon. In 1856 he was appointed

to the Leavenworth, Wyandotte and Delaware Circuit. In 1857 he was appointed pastor to Quindaro, Wyandotte and Delaware. In 1856 he was appointed to the Delaware Indian Mission. In 1859 he was appointed to Delaware. (9) He died July 20, 1860 and is buried in the White Church cemetery.

That the Ketchum, or northern branch of the Methodist Church, had a church building in 1860 is evidenced by the Delaware treaty of that year. Article 5 of that treaty provided, among other reservations, for 40 acres where the Methodist Episcopal Church South now is and 40 acres where the Methodist Episcopal Church North now is." These tracts were to be disposed of, when the objects for which they had been preserved had been accomplished, as the Secretary of the Interior should determine. As the promoters of the railroads eventually got all the land, there is nothing to determine from this treaty, where either of these churches were located.

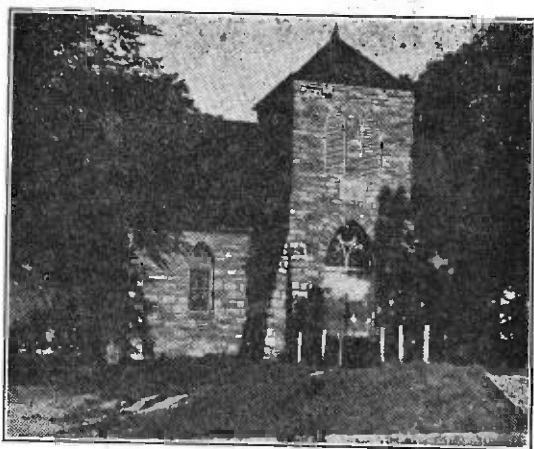
A Ketchum story is told by Rev. L. B. Stateler in his journal. He tells of the capture of a fort located where Louisville, Ky. now stands and the killing of all the inmates except a mother and her little girl who were lead away in captivity. The mother, not being strong enough to travel as fast as the march, was tomahawked but they carried the little girl with them away to their distant home in the North. She was reared among the Indians, but never forgot her home. She married an Indian by whom she had one daughter. In the course of time the daughter grew up and married a Delaware Indian. She raised up quite a family of sons, who were almost like white men, their complexions were so fair. They were men of intelligence, and spoke English very readily. When the Missionaries came among the Delawares they found this white woman, then a venerable woman of seventy years, living in a comfortable hewed log house like any other civilized woman. She was the first to welcome the Missionaries when they came. She could converse in Indian, French and English and made a good interpreter. She and her daughter and grandchildren were the very first to come and unite with the Church, and thus formed a little nucleus. The grandsons subsequently became very ready interpreters and two of them afterwards became preachers of the gospel. The family name of the grandsons was Ketchum. The two preachers were Charles and James Ketchum. (10)

The original "White Church" did duty for twenty two years.

8. Outposts of Zion, pg. 296.

9. Dates of appointments taken from Conference Minutes.

It was destroyed by a cyclone, May 11, 1886. For twenty years the White Church neighborhood was without a church building. Rev. H. C. Kirby, who came to the M. E. Church, South in 1888, now recalls (11) that when he came the ruins of the old White Church still covered the ground; that the M. E. Church South, the M. E. Church North and the Presbyterians were each holding services in the school house; and that the congregation of all three would not make enough for a good sized country congregation.



THE STONE MEMORIAL CHURCH.
The Third White Church. Dedicated in 1906.

The M. E. Church South never did have a full title to the ground where the old "White Church" stood. In 1884 it secured a title to an undivided one half interest in the acre on which the church stood. (12) In 1901 Robert Wise, who owned the adjoining land including the Delaware cemetery, proposed to the church to deed to it the ground on which the cemetery was located in exchange for its undivided one half interest in the acre on which the old church had stood. This was accepted and the ownership of the old cemetery site was passed to the church. (13) The church later secured a loan from the M. E. Church South building fund and the present stone church was erected. It was dedicated on July 29, 1906 by Bishop Hendrix of the M. E. Church South. (14)

10. Life of L. B. Stateier, pgs. 101-103.
11. From an Interview, March 20, 1934.
12. Book 20, pg. 232, Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County.
13. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County. Book 284, pg. 373 and Book 286, pg. 64.
14. Kansas City Star, July 30, 1906.

In this church is a fine memorial window. The inscription reads:

"In Memory of Our Twelve Apostles to the Indians from 1830 to 1856 and Their Heroic Wives." The names of the twelve are then given as follows: "Thomas Johnson, William Johnson, Thomas Markham, Edward T. Peery, L. B. Stateler, N. T. Shaler, B. H. Russell, Jas. A. Cummings, Nathan Scarritt, D. D. Doffelmeyer, J. Barker, N. M. Talbot."

The stone church was built on the cemetery ground deeded to the church by Robert Wise. In 1914 a cemetery association was organized known as the White Church Cemetery of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, Wyandotte Circuit, and the trustees of the White Church deeded to this organization the west 152 feet of the cemetery grounds. (15)

On November 4, 1931, the congregation of the "White Church" voted to withdraw from the Methodist Church, and immediately thereafter organized a Community Church. (16) The Rev. S. L. Stapp took charge immediately upon the organization of the Community Church.

On June 10, 1932 the trustees of the M. E. Church South deeded the church property to the trustees of the Community Church. (17) and so after a record of an even hundred years the Methodists passed officially out of the White Church neighborhood.

On February 5, 1934, Marietta Wise, widow of Robert Wise, deeded a strip of land adjoining the church and cemetery on the south to the White Church Community Church, for a park and playground to be known as the "Wise Memorial Park." (18) As this includes the site on which the old "White Church" stood it now brings the sites of the three historic churches under a common ownership, that of the White Church Community Church.

15. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County. Book 533, pg. 463.

16. Program "Centennial Celebration of the White Church Mission," published May 29, 1932.

17. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County Book 852, pg. 214.

18. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County. Book 866, pg. 452.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTEEN

PLACE: Edwardsville.

TIME: The Year 1832.

EVENT: The Delaware Baptist Mission Established.

On the 10th day of August, 1832, the Rev. Charles E. Wilson who had been appointed by the Baptist Board of Missions, the preceding spring arrived at the Shawnee Baptists Mission, just south of the imaginary line that now separates Wyandotte and Johnson counties. (1) The Baptist missionary contingent in the Indian country at this time seems to have consisted of the Rev. Isaac McCoy, who was a good deal of a rover, and his son-in-law, Dr. Johnston Lykins, who was busy in the erection of the buildings at the Shawnee Mission, which had been authorized by the Mission Board. Evidently there was a discussion among the missionaries as to where the new arrival should locate but nothing had been decided upon before Rev. McCoy set out on a trip to Arkansas. (2) McCoy returned from his Arkansas trip the 24th of September. (3) In his journal of October 3rd, he wrote: "Before I returned he (Wilson) had decided, with himself, to settle among the Delawares, on the North of Kanza, and he was there on my return. I should have been better pleased if Brother Wilson had left his location to be decided in a council with his missionary brethren."

Wilders Annals and the Kansas Historical Collections, (4) both credit Dr. Johnston Lykins with having located the Delaware Baptist Mission November 26, 1832, but in view of the McCoy manuscripts it would seem that the credit should go to Rev. Charles E. Wilson and that the time was somewhere between the 10th day of August, when he reached the frontier, and the 24th day of September, the date of McCoy's return from Arkansas.

Rev. Wilson stayed with the Delawares until the 13th day of December, 1832, when it was decided that he should repair to the Choctaws. (5). What followed is told by McCoy: (6)

1. History of Baptist Indian Missions, pg. 450.
2. McCoy's Journal, Oct. 3, 1832.
3. History of Baptist Indian Missions, pg. 455.
4. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XII, pg. 424.
5. History of Baptist Indian Missions, pg. 455.
6. Ibid.

"We resolved, however, not to abandon the Delawares, but to afford them such assistance as our opportunities would allow. It was on the 23rd of February, 1833, when Mr. Lykins, accompanied by Mr. French, made a visit of three days among them, with a view of instituting preaching among them regularly, and of establishing a school. He wrote the board, proposing to employ a school teacher, and to hire an Indian family, with whom he had formed an acquaintance, to prepare a little food once a day for such scholars as should attend from their homes. A young man, Mr. I. D. Blanchard, though not a member of our church, had gone among the Delawares from benevolent motives, and was studying the Delaware language with a view of being useful to them. Him Mr. Lykins designed to employ as a teacher. We also sought and obtained the necessary permission from the Government. These movements were submitted to the consideration of the board, and approved. On the 21st of April Mr. Blanchard was baptised."

Mr. Ira D. Blanchard, whom Dr. Lykins annexed and baptized, had preceded Rev. Wilson in the Delaware field acting however in an individual capacity. In a letter to Isaac McCoy, under date of September 6th, 1831, Mr. Lykins had written to him (7):

"Blanchard arrived here on Saturday. The board gave him no encouragement. He is now at the Delaware towns. Says he will study the language and labor at his own expense. I do not know what to say to him or what to do in his case. Blanchard manifests a great desire to be engaged and to be useful and he has certainly spent considerable money with that in view."

In his journal of February 12, 1833, McCoy wrote:

"A Mr. Blanchard has spent nearly a year and a half among them (Delawares) on his own resources, in the study of their language, which he has pretty thoroughly acquired * * *. Mr. Lykins and he expect to visit those Indians in the course of a few days in order to a commencement of operations."

From this time on Baptist activities among the Delawares seem to have centered around Blanchard and his school.

McCoy's journal is full of reference to the Delawares but they all have to do with Blanchard and his school. It would appear that the first building erected by the Baptists at this mission was a dwelling house for Blanchard. On February 6th, 1834, McCoy wrote: "Mr. Blanchard and I concluded that he had better endeavor to obtain leave of the Indians to erect a dwelling for himself. He did so and they consented." Later in the month he wrote: "Mr. B. has purchased some material for the house and it is expected that it will be put up as soon as possible."

On July 3rd, 1834, two Presbyterian missionaries, Rev. Dunbar and Rev. Allis, visited the Methodist Mission among the Delawares. Rev. Allis recorded in his journal that "there is also a Mr. Blanchard employed by the Baptist Board, did not see him." (8) On the 25th of July, Rev. Dunbar attended a meeting of missionaries at the Shawnee Baptists meeting house. Among those whom he lists as being present was, "Blanchard Baptist teacher among the Delawares." (9)

In January 1835, Isaac McCoy began the publication of the *Annual Register of Indian Affairs*. It was printed at the Shawnee Baptist printing plant and is an encyclopedia of Indian activities. Of the Baptists activities among the Delawares he said: (10)

"The Delaware Baptist Mission was commenced in 1832. This mission is under the superintendence of Mr. Lykins, missionary among the Shawnoes. Other missionaries at the Shawnee station also visit this. The converts here are members of the church at Shawnee Mission School—Ira D. Blanchard, teacher. Formerly imparted instruction in English to a few youths at their homes. Recent arrangements have been made for the erection of a school house, and for a regular school in English. A small comfortable dwelling has been erected for the residence of the teacher. Besides those who occasionally attend to receive instruction at his residence, Mr. Blanchard attends at three other places. Twenty can read tolerably well, and two can also write."

The announcement in the 1835 Register that arrangements had been made for the erection of a school house seems to have been somewhat premature. On February 5, 1835, we find

8. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XIV, pg. 693.

9. Ibid. pg. 589.

10. *Annual Register of Indian Affairs*, 1835, Vol. I, No. 1.

McCoy writing—"Negotiations relative to the Delaware school have not been terminated until now. I have this day obtained the required certificate from the Agent, R. W. Cummings, that the Del chiefs desire the school, and this in addition to our other papers closes the long and troublesome matter." On March 10th, 1835, he records—"The Board have made an appropriation of \$500 for buildings to be erected at Delaware mission. This work will, with permission of providence, soon be commenced." On June 4th he wrote—"I have just now returned from a journey to the Delaware mission house on which I set out yesterday. In order to see some what to settle some difficulties between some of the Indians and the men who were at work on the buildings." On August 16th he wrote—"Spent a night at our Delaware mission. Buildings there are in progress for the opening of a school."

In a report to R. W. Cummings, Agent, on September 10, 1835, (11), appears the following statement regarding the Delaware station:

"Located north of the Kanza river at Nah Co Muds village. Teachers, Mr. D. Blanchard and Mrs. Blanchard (12) and Miss Case. Buildings, 1 dwelling house 20 feet by 18 1½ story high, good hewed logs, stone chimney, clapboard nailed roof, 2 glass windows, 2 doors and shutters, plank floors and plastered cracks. * * * There are also under contract to be completed in a few days another dwelling precisely similar to the foregoing, also, a school house 20 feet square of good hewed logs."

In the 1836 Annual Register, McCoy says: (13)

"School—Ira D. Blanchard and Mrs. Blanchard, Teachers. Comfortable log dwelling and school house are nearly completed. The school which is expected shortly to be opened in the new building will be taught in English. At the same time, instruction in Delaware will be imparted, so far as the Indians desire it."

In the 1837 Register McCoy says: (14)

School—Ira D. Blanchard and Mrs. Blanchard teachers. Early in 1837 an English school at the mission house was opened under encouraging

11. From McCoy Collection with the State Historical Society.

12. Ira Blanchard married Mary Walton, a missionary teacher, in 1835. *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, Vol. I, pg. 90, note.

13. *Annual Register of Indian Affairs*, 1836, pg. 29.

14. *Ibid*, 1837, pg. 21.

prospects, which was subsequently suspended. It will be resumed soon. Forty five, mostly adults have been taught to read their own language upon the new system."

In the 1838 Register McCoy says: (15)

School—Mr. I. D. Blanchard and Mrs. Blanchard, teachers. Ten scholars instructed in English. Mr. Blanchard has also taught about 50 Delawares, chiefly adults, to read their own language. Has compiled and printed three small books, embracing some hymns, and is revising a Harmony of the Gospels, which is nearly out of press: all upon the New System. The above prints he has introduced among the people, with great success."

In January 1840, Blanchard reported to the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions. "Our mission affairs were never so prosperous before. Our meetings are full. Last Sabbath all could not find seats. * * * Our school is full, so that we have been obliged to refuse many applicants the last four weeks. Our present number is 16." (16) In March 1841 he wrote (17) that the Delaware chiefs opposed the gospel so that few or none attend religious worship, except those who are pious. "There is, nevertheless, he said, "the fullest evidence that the Lord is owning our unworthy efforts. Four are now waiting an opportunity of publicly avowing their faith in Christ and we have reason to hope that several more are not far from the kingdom of God."

Eventually the Blanchard mission school faded out of the picture. One of the traditions that has come down with the years is that the flood of 1844 caused the Delawares to move away from the river valley near Edwardsville and that this caused the school to be suspended. It had been permanently abandoned by 1848 for in that year Rev. John G. Pratt hauled the logs away and re-erected some of the buildings, on the new mission site he had established four miles to the northwest. (18)

For nine years after the organization of the Delaware mission it had no church connected with it. The Baptist brand of church membership was too Puritanical and straight laced to be popular with the Indians. What few Delaware converts there were, belonged to the church connected with the Shawnee Mission. A Baptist Church was constituted at the Delaware

15. Ibid. 1838, pg. 65.

16. Baptist Missionary Magazine, Vol. XX, pg. 127.

17. Ibid. Vol. XXI, pg. 173.

18. Interview with J. C. Pratt, July 10, 1895.

Baptist Mission on April 5, 1841. It started off with twenty six members. Of these Ira D. Blanchard, Mary W. Blanchard and Sylvia Case were teachers at the mission school. The others judging from their names, were all Delawares. All came with a letter of dismission from the "Potawatomie Baptist mission church held at the Ottawa Baptist mission," which was evidently the official title of the Shawnee church. (19) At the first meeting held after the organization, on the 24th of April, 1841, at the house of Brother Thomas T. Hendrick in the Mohekunnuk Settlement Ind. Ter. it was decided that the church ought to bear a name and so it was unanimously voted that it should ever hereafter be called Delaware and Mohegan Baptist Mission Church (20). A committee was then appointed to "Wait upon brother Towsey, to exhort and admonish him, for disorderly walk as a christian; and for neglecting his duty generally, in not attending to the ordinances of the Church of Christ, particularly in the branch to which he professes to belong." (21) It was further agreed "that they would patiently wait a little longer upon brother, Pahi-pa-ta-tauk-thy, before they would conclude to excommunicate him from this Church." (22) From this time on, as long as the church minutes have been preserved, there seems to have been a pretty steady procession of "suspension from church privileges," "dropped from fellowship, on account of improper conduct," requests to keep back from communion till the church should be more entirely satisfying of his repentance," etc. Intoxication seems to have been one of the big stumbling blocks in the way of the church sinners. Some of the members were dismissed for the purpose of organizing the Stockbridge Baptist Mission Church. (23) Apparently the church and the mission school ceased to exist about the same time.

Perhaps the church did not die with the mission but continued to live on. The minutes of the church, now in the archives of the State Historical Society, tell that on November 19, 1843, J. G. Pratt and Ira Blanchard were ordained. They also tell of the dismission in 1844 of a number of the brethren at Stockbridge for the purpose of organizing a distinct church. This was the year that J. G. Pratt, who for a number of years had been the printer at the Shawnee Baptist Mission, organized a mission among the Stockbridges. This was a small band of

19. Kansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. II, pg. 230.

20. Ibid, pg. 233.

21. Ibid.

22. Ibid.

23. Ibid.

Wisconsin Indians who had settled among the Delawares just south of the present city of Leavenworth. Pratt stayed with the Stockbridges until 1848 when he opened a Delaware mission a few miles to the northwest of the site of the old mission and the Blanchard school. The Stockbridge Baptist church, which had been organized in 1845 with Rev. Pratt as pastor, now disbanded and asked to be merged with the Mission Church at Delaware. A reorganized church seems to have been made about this time which carried on its roll only the names of those who were known to be in good standing in both churches at the time of the reorganization. The list is small but on the roll are the names of Charles Johncake, Betsy Zeigler, Cornelious Charles and Sally Hendrick, who were listed as charter members of the first Delaware church formed in 1841. The church may have taken on new life when Pratt reorganized the Baptist mission but there is no record that the Delawares carried the church with them when they removed to the Indian Territory some years later. A new Baptist church was organized among them some years after they reached the Territory and Charles Journeycake was ordained and became its pastor. This much of a legacy, at least, was left the Delawares from the original Baptist mission.

In 1859 Miss Clara Gowing came from Massachusetts as a teacher to the Pratt mission. The next spring she visited the site of the old mission which she described as follows: (24)

"The distance was about four miles, most of the way through timber land, the wilderness all around. Large trees lay where they had fallen, sometimes lodged against other trees, and sometimes lying full length on the ground, moss covered and going to decay. The old mission site was not as pleasant nor as healthy as the present mission.

"We drank from a spring where a stump had been burned out and placed over it to hold the water. It was a fine draught. From a creek beyond we watered our horses; then went on to the Kansas river, a half mile further, and looked over into the Shawnee country."

The location of the old mission, as given by McCoy to Indian Agent Cummings, was north of the Kanza river at Nah Co Muds village. (25) Mr. E. F. Heisler, the veteran editor of the Kansas City Sun, who did more in his day than all others

24. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XII, pg. 188.

25. Na-Ko-Mund, or Mud, was also known as Capt. Anderson, Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1226.

to fix the location of early historic spots, located this site at the spring on the Williamson farm, a little north and west of the business part of Edwardsville in the S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 26-11-23. It is less than a quarter of a mile from Highway 32 between Edwardsville and Bonner Springs.

The exact spot where the mission building stood is located by Mr. Roy Williamson who owns the place. The road out of Edwardsville to the north soon makes a sharp turn to the west. In an interview with Mr. Williamson in April, 1934 he pointed out the spot just north of the road and west of this turn. "When I came here," he said, "there was the remains of an old foundation here and Major Pratt once told me that it was here that he got the logs for his mission."

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER FOURTEEN

PLACE: Intersection of U. S. Highways 50 and 69.
TIME: The Year 1836.
EVENT: The Shawnee Quaker Mission Established.

The Quaker, or Friends, unlike other denominations, did not try to make converts to their faith in their missionary work among the Indians. Neither did they try to build up a church following. While regular religious services were held, at their missions, the missionary work was confined, almost exclusively, to the maintenance and conduct of a school and family, into which the Indian children were received, educated, and all their wants supplied. This doubtless accounts for the fact that the Quakers were the most successful of all denominations in their missionary work. (1)

As early as the year 1808 the Quakers had a mission among the Shawnee Indians who were domiciled in the state of Ohio. After the Ohio Shawnees had concluded their treaty with the Government (2), by which they agreed to dispose of their Ohio lands, and take, in part payment, a tract of land west of the Mississippi, and after the emigration to the new reservation had been made, the Quakers sent a deputation of three to visit them in their new homes. Following the report of this deputation the Friends yearly meeting in 1834 decided that a suitable family should be placed among the Shawnees to superintend the work, and that a suitable school be kept regularly, with at least twenty five scholars, who were to be taught the use of letters and the domestic arts.

A valuable tract of 320 acres was leased of the Indians. Two natives were employed to build two houses of hewn logs, twenty feet square, one and a half stories high, with a brick chimney in each end, and a third house of the same dimensions as a school and meeting house, to be warmed by a stove. When the Shawnees lands came to be surveyed it was found that this land was the south one half of Section 7, Town 12, Range 25, Johnson county, Kansas, and that the buildings were located in the northeast corner of the southeast one fourth of the south west quarter. The Santa Fe trail ran along the eastern

1. Unless otherwise noted the statements in this chapter are taken from "The Friends Establishment in Kansas Territory," published in the Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. VIII, pgs. 250-271.

2. August 8, 1831.

end of the farm and the Government blacksmith shop was on this trail. (3) Today U. S. Highway No. 50 runs along the north side of the farm and U. S. Highway 69, along the east side. The Mission high school occupies the northeast corner of the old farm. The site of the old mission buildings is approximately a half mile east of the town of Merriam and a quarter of a mile south of Highway No. 50

In 1837 Moses Pearson and wife, of Ohio, were employed as superintendent and matron and moved out in wagons, with their family, to take charge. The amount expended that year for salaries, travelling expenses, freight, etc., is reported as \$756. A meeting was established and held regularly twice a week with a few of the Shawnees in attendance. Fifty acres of ground was fenced, broken out and put under cultivation. From this time on the school numbered from fifteen to forty five scholars, who were boarded, lodged, and clothed at the expense of the Friends church.

In 1842 Thomas H. Stanley, and his wife Mary, took charge of the mission. In 1844, the year of the big flood, crops failed and there was great destitution among the Indians. Eastern Quakers contributed so freely, that more funds were received than were needed for relief work. Permission was obtained from the donors to use the surplus for new buildings, which were much needed, and in 1845 a building was erected 24 by 70 feet in ground area, three stories high, the basement, which opened on the north side at the ground level, being finished for the first floor. There were sixteen rooms. All floors were similarly divided and there were three stairways from each floor. (4) The first floor contained the kitchen, dining room and cellar. The upper floor had school rooms and dormitories, with four rooms in the middle of the building for the family.

Superintendent Stanley, and his brother James the assistant superintendent, went into the forest, chopped and hauled the logs to a saw mill on the Kansas river, hewed the framing timbers, and did most of the work in erecting the building. The shingles and lath were froxed out. The floors were of oak, the siding and all interior finish, doors, door frames, and window frames were of walnut. Joists and studding were mortised. The ceilings were low, being only seven feet high. The house faced the south and stood lengthwise east and west. (5)

In 1850, when Wilson Hobbs came to the school, he found

3. Johnson County Democrat, Nov. 22, 1933.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

about forty children, all of whom were Shawnees but one, who was a Stockbridge. The school ordeal as described by him was as follows:

"They, (the pupils) were received without preparation, and came ragged, covered with filth and vermin, with long hair, and the habits of uncivilized life upon them, and with no knowledge of the English language."

"The service to a new pupil was to trim his hair closely; then, with soap and water, to give him or her the first lesson in godliness, which was a good scrubbing, and a little red pericarpate on the scalp, to supplement the use of a fine toothed comb; then he



THE SHAWNEE QUAKER MISSION.
From an old drawing.

was furnished with a suit of new clothes, and taught how to put them on and off. They all emerged from this ordeal as shy as peacocks just plucked. A new English name finished the preparation for the alphabet and the English language. The children were not allowed to speak the Shawnee language among themselves except when absolutely necessary. The object of this rule was to force the knowledge and use of the English upon all as soon as possible. Our school books were all in this language."

The course of study embraced reading, writing, arithmetic, geography and English grammar. When pupils desired learn-

ing beyond this course they were sent to Ohio or Indiana where they could have the opportunities of better white schools and of civilized society. Very many of the older pupils accepted these privileges, and remained away from their parents two or three years. Except on Saturdays and Sundays the children were kept in the school six hours each day and the progress made in learning was very fair. When not in school the boys were kept at such work about the house or farm as was needed to be done. The girls were kept in the sewing room, except such as were detailed for dining room and kitchen work. The boys did not like to work and the teachers found it hard to keep them at it. The parents were not pleased at seeing them at work as they had not yet reached the stage of civilization where labor was crowned with respect.

The thoroughness with which work was done at the mission is illustrated by the yearly report for the year 1849 which said:

"There has been made about 500 pounds of butter, 600 pounds of cheese; 84 pounds of wool spun. 42 yards of linsey woven blankets; 32 yards of rag carpet, and a piece of linsey for dresses made; over 500 pairs of stockings knit, 130 garments made up for the girls and over 100 pair for the boys; also 50 sheets and towels, etc. for house use; one beef, 7,000 pounds of pork, salted on the farm; over 60 acres of corn and vegetables cultivated; 56 children in school, 30 of whom can read the Scriptures, and seem more interested in reading them than in any other book; most can write and cipher; 20 can read and spell easy lessons; 6 are in the alphabet."

Gradually the character of the school underwent a change until it became a school for Indian orphans generally. In addition to the Shawnees it received and instructed children from the Wyandottes, Stockbridge, Ottawa, Seneca and Brothertin tribes. All Indian children in attendance at one time were orphans except two.

In 1862 the school was closed down and the personal property was sold bringing \$1,111. Soon after this the Shawnee chiefs offered to pay the expense of reopening the school by an appropriation from their school funds. By this arrangement the Quakers were to receive \$80.00 per scholar per annum for a number not to exceed fifty. The pupils were to receive board, clothing, tuition and medical attention. The school reopened in April 1863 with an average attendance of 43. It went up to 76 the next year, of whom forty five were orphans. Great advance

in the prices of every article necessary for the support of the school caused it to close down again.

On April 1st, 1805 the school reopened under a new agreement with the Shawnee Council whereby the Quakers were to be paid \$31.25 per quarter for the education and care of forty Shawnee children. This arrangement seems to have lasted until November 1868 when the school closed. It was opened again for a few months in 1869.

In 1870 at the yearly meeting of the Friends Society it was decided to sell off all property, belonging to the mission and to close up affairs in Kansas. By the treaty of 1854 the Friends were given the use of the 320 acre tract of land, where the mission was. When it ceased to be used for school purposes it was to be sold and the Friends were to be paid the value of their improvements. (6) These improvements brought \$5,000. The personal property brought \$2,349.06 more. Thus closed the missionary work of the Friends among the Shawnees.

The treasurer of the Society at the next yearly meeting made a report as to the money he had received, in any way relating to the Shawnee mission with an account of the investments he had made of the funds:

Received, November 17, 1870, of the United States	
the value of improvements on land sold.....	\$5,000.00
Less exchange	7.50
	<hr/>
	\$4,992.50
Received, July 28, 1871, six months interest on \$5,000	
of bonds bought	\$ 293.04
Received, May 28, 1871, of committee from sale of per-	
sonal property	1,186.31
Received, September 27, of committee, from sale of	
personal property	1,162.75
	<hr/>
	\$7,634.06
Invested:	
November 17, 1871, United States 6s of 1881...	\$4,500.00
Premium	503.35
July 28, 1871, United States 6s of 1881, premium	291.42
Cash	2,339.83
	<hr/>
	\$7,634.60

The order of the yearly meeting as to the disposition of this money was that it should be invested in permanent stocks, and that the interest should be expended by another Indian Com-

mittee, which was engaged in a wider field of effort to help on the work of Indian civilization.

In 1871 the old mission was torn down. The spring just northeast of the house site, and some door yard trees, are all that remain of the old familiar markings. New houses are built around the spot. The grave yard has been uncared for for many years; there is no longer a fence to protect it, and the weeds and grass hide the few headstones that remain. (7)

On Sunday afternoon, November 11, 1923, the Olathe chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, conducted a service on the old mission ground and unveiled a red granite boulder marking the site of the mission building. (8) The inscription on it reads:

TO COMMEMORATE THE FRIENDS MISSION TO
THE INDIANS. FOUNDED 1834. PLACED BY OLATHE
CHAPTER D. A. R. NOVEMBER 11, 1923.

6. Kansas Historical Collections Vol. VIII, pg. 265.

7. Johnson County Democrat, Nov. 22, 1923.

8. Ibid.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER FIFTEEN

TIME: November 1836.

PLACE: 3818 Ruby, Kansas City, Kansas.

EVENT: The Grave of the Shawnee Prophet.

The one outstanding character among the Shawnees was Ten-Squa-Ta-Wa, "The Prophet." Next to Tecumseh, his brother, he was the greatest of the Shawnees. He was the commander of the Indian forces at the battle of Tippecanoe, where the overwhelming victory of Genral Harrison, scattered the Indian warriors like leaves before an Autumn wind and effectually broke the confederacy that Tecumseh had been forming. The Indians engaged in this battle with all the enthusiasm that superstition could inspire, assured by, "The



TEN-SQUA-TA-WAH.

Known as the Prophet. Reputed brother of Tecumseh. Buried in Kansas City, Kansas. (From the portrait by Catlin.)

Prophet" that he had the power to change the powder of the white man to ashes. Ten-Squa-Ta-Wa placed himself on an eminence out of harms way and encouraged, singing and dancing to conciliate the great spirit. But all was in vain. The Indians were killed in great numbers and the reputation of "The Prophet" sank never to rise again. (1)

After a council with the Indians, General Harrison wrote to the War Department: "The Prophet is impudent and audacious, but is deficient in judgment, talents and firmness." (2) At one time he lived in Canada where he was reported to be a pensioner of the British government. (3)

1. Kansas Historical Collections. Vol. IX. pg. 165, note.

2. Life of Tecumseh, by Drake (1856), pg. 142.

3. "The British government has granted a pension to his (Tecumseh) widow and family. It is understood they now reside in the vicinity of Malden, where also lives, supported in like manner by a British pension, the celebrated prophet, possessing however, no longer any influence of consequence among the Indians." History of General W. H. Harrison (1821), pg. 439.

Thomas Jefferson and John Adams in their declining years, established a rather voluminous correspondence. In this correspondence is a letter from Mr. Jefferson in which he discusses constant communication with the Great Spirit; that he was instructed by Him to make known to the Indians that they were created by Him distinct from the whites, for different purposes, and placed under the "Prophet." He says: (4)

"The Wabash Prophet is more rogue than fool, if to be a rogue is not the greatest of follies. He rose to notice while I was in the administration, and became a proper subject for me. The inquiry was made with diligence. His declared object was the reformation of his red brethren and their return to their pristine manner of living. He pretended to be in different circumstances, adapted to their nature and destinies; that they must return from all the ways of the whites to the habits and opinions of their forefathers; they must not eat the flesh of hogs, of bullocks, of sheep etc; the deer and the buffalo had been created for their food; they must not make bread of wheat but of Indian corn; they must not wear linen or woollens, but dress like their fathers, in the skins and furs of animals; they must not drink ardent spirits and I do not remember whether he extended his inhibitions to the gun and gunpowder, in favor of the bow and arrow. I concluded from all this, that he was a visionary, enveloped in their antiquities, and vainly endeavoring to lead back his brethren to the fancied beautitudes of their golden age. I thought there was little danger of his making proselytes from the habits and comforts they had learned from the whites, to the hardships and privations of savagism, and no great harm if he did. We let him go on, therefore, unmolested. But his followers increased until the British thought him worth corrupting, and found him corruptible. I suppose his views were then changed; but his proceedings in consequence of them, were after I left the administration, and are, therefore, unknown to me nor have I ever been informed what were the

4. Jefferson's Correspondence, Vol. X, pg. 171.

particular acts on his part, which produced an actual commencement of hostilities on ours."

The Prophet is reputed to have come to Wyandotte county from Cape Girardeau, Mo., in 1828. McCoy, the Baptist missionary, found him here in 1830 and tells of a council he held with the Shawanoes in that year at which the Prophet presided.

When the "Prophet" came to Kansas he settled in what is now Shawnee Township, Wyandotte county, on the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 32, Township 11, Range 25. This is directly east of the Junction school building and south of the Maple Hill cemetery. The place was known as the Prophets town. About a year before his death "The Prophet" moved into a house recently vacated, at the White Feather spring in the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 30,, Township 11, Range 25 more than a mile northwest of the Prophets town. Here he died in November 1836 and was buried near the house in which he died." (5)

In his dying hours the "Prophet" was visited by Dr. C. A. Chute, of Westport, Mo., who wrote Isaac McCoy of the visit. The letter is among the McCoy papers in the State Historical Society. He says of this visit: (6)

"In November last there died in the country of the Shawnees, a few miles from this point, the Shawnee Prophet Tensqu (atawa), generally reputed to be a twin brother of Tecumseh. He had been sick several weeks when he sent for a gentleman connected with the Baptist mission to visit and prescribe for him. At the same time with this gentleman I also called to see him. I went accompanied by an interpreter, who conducted me by a winding path through the woods till we descended a hill at the bottom of which, secluded apparently from all the world was the Prophet town or (4) huts, built in the ordinary Indian style, constituted the entire settlement. The house of the Prophet was not distinguished at all from the others. A low portico covered with bark, which we were obligated to stoop to pass under, was erected before it, and a half starved dog greeted us with a growl as we entered. The interior of the house which was lighted only by the half open door, showed at the first view the taste of one who

5. Kansas City Sun, March 5, 1909.

6. Extract from a letter from Chief Blue Jacket to E. F. Heister, Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XIV, pg. 194.

hated civilization. Two or three platforms built against the wall served the purpose of bedsteads, covered with blankets and skins. A few ears of corn and a quantity of dried pumpkins (a favorite dish of the Indians) were hanging on poles overhead; a few implements of savage domestic, as wooden spoons and trays, pipes, etc. lay scattered about the floor, everything indicating poverty. One corner of the room, close to an apology for a fireplace, contained a platform of split elevated about a foot from the floor and covered with a blanket. This was the bed of the Prophet. Here was fallen savage greatness. I involuntarily stopped for a moment to view in silence the spectacle of a man whose word was once law to numerous tribes, now lying on a miserable pallet, dying of poverty, neglected by all but his own family. He that exalted himself shall be abased. I approached him. He drew aside his blanket and disclosed a form emaciated in the extreme, but the broad proportions of which indicated that it had once been the seat of great strength. His countenance was sunken and haggard, but appeared—it might have been fancy—to exhibit the soul within. I thought I could discover, in spite of the guards of hypocrisy, something of the marks which pride, ambition and the workings of a dark designing mind had stamped there. I inquired of his symptoms, which he related particularly and then proposed to do something for his relief. He replied that he was willing to submit to medical treatment, but was just then engaged in contemplation, or study, as the interpreter called it, and he feared that the operation of medicine might interrupt his train of reflection. He said his study would occupy three days longer, after which he should be glad to see me again. Accordingly in three days I repaired again to his cabin, but it was too late. He was speechless and evidently beyond the reach of human assistance. The same day he died."

For more than sixty years the Prophet slept in an unmarked grave. Then E. F. Heisler, the veteran editor of the *Kansas City Sun*, went to the Indian Territory and induced Blue Jacket, the Shawnee chief, who as a youth of twenty had attended the

funeral, to come to Wyandotte and locate the grave. (10) On his arrival at the Fifth Avenue hotel, in Argentine, the morning of September 24, 1897, he was greeted by a large gathering of old settlers and other distinguished citizens, who had been brought together, by the Wyandotte County Historical Society,



CHARLES BLUE JACKET.

Shawnee Chief and Methodist Minister. As he appeared when he returned to Wyandotte to locate the grave of the Prophet for E. F. Heisler.

to meet the old chieftain. Many of them had known Blue Jacket when he was a citizen of Kansas and although he had not seen any of them for more than a quarter of a century he readily called them by name.

Before leaving the Fifth Avenue a picture was taken of Blue Jacket and his guests. A procession was then formed and went to the site of the Prophets Town just south of Argentine.

10. Charles Blue Jacket was born in Michigan in 1816 and came to Kansas when the tribe was removed from Ohio. His grandfather was a white man who was captured by the Shawnees, when a boy, brought up in the tribe, became a chief and was commander of the allied forces at the battle of Maumee. Charles was licensed to preach in the Methodist church in 1859. He went to the Indian Territory with the tribe in 1871, and died there October 29, 1897, from the effects of a cold contracted when he came to Wyandotte to locate the grave of the Prophet for E. F. Heisler. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 183 and Vol. X, pg. 397.

Blue Jacket located the spring where the Prophet built his house, but said it was not here that the Prophet was buried but near a spring about a mile to the northwest. (11)

The next day Blue Jacket, Mr. Heisler, and possibly some others, went to the White Feather spring, now within the corporate limits of Kansas City, Kansas. What followed was told to the writer some years ago by Mr. Heisler. He said:

"When we had located the White Feather spring Blue Jacket said this was the place. He went up onto the south bank a few rods from the ravine and said—'The house stood right in here. We carried him out in this direction,' said he, pointing to the northwest. Then he walked out towards the northwest, possibly a distance of seventy-five or a hundred yards and stopping said—'We buried him right in here.' Thus was the grave of the Prophet located within a radius of a few rods. Near enough for an Indian buried in his blanket more than sixty years before.

In modern phraseology the location would be described as the alley back of 3818 Ruby Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas. Mr. Heisler caused a temporary marker to be erected on the spot indicated by Blue Jacket. Time has destroyed this marker and again the Prophet sleeps in an unmarked grave. Various civic organizations have at times agitated the question of marking the spot. Some day, perhaps, a city park will include the White Feather spring and a suitable marker will be erected to mark the resting place of the one outstanding Shawnee who came to Wyandotte county.

11. Rewritten from the files of the Kansas City Sun, the Argentine Republic and the Kansas Tribune, the week of Blue Jacket's visit.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER SIXTEEN

PLACE: Unknown.

TIME: The Year 1837.

EVENT: The Delaware Moravian Mission Established.

That the Moravians or United Brethren established a mission among the Delawares in Kansas in the year 1837 seems well established, but its location or history cannot be determined.

Rev. Stateler, the Methodist missionary, records in his journal for December, 1837 (1)

"About the first of December a small band of Delaware Indians, who had been living in Canada, came in. A number of them are Christians. They brought their missionary with them. His name is Jesse Vogler. He is a minister of the Moravian Church and appears to be a man devoted to the cause of God and missions. He left his family in Canada, and like a good shepherd, came with his flock to this land, intending to get his family in the spring."

Under date of Sunday December 24th, 1837, Rev. Stateler writes in his journal:

"We held meeting with our people, assisted by Brother Vogler."

In his Annual Register of Indian Affairs, for 1838. (2) Isaac McCoy states that the Moravians commenced a mission among the Delawares in 1837 and that the Missionary was Rev. Jesse Vaughler. In his History of Baptist Missions, published in 1840, McCoy says: (3)

"The United Brethren (Moravians) have recently transplanted a mission of theirs among them (the Delawares) from Canada to this Place."

A recent writer in the Kansas Historical Quarterly (4), in speaking of the work of Ira D. Blanchard, the Baptist teacher, and his translation of the *Harmony of the Gospel* into the Delaware tongue, credits the original compilation to Rev. Zeisberger of the Moravian Mission.

In the Official Roster for Kansas (5) 1840, J. Christopher Miksch is listed as teacher, Moravian Mission, Delawares. Munsees or Christian Indians.

In a history of Jackson county, Missouri, published in 1881, there is a statement that in 1855 Isaiah Walker, lived in the old

1. Life of Stateler.

2. No. 3.

3. Page 565.

4. Vol. I, pg. 90, note.

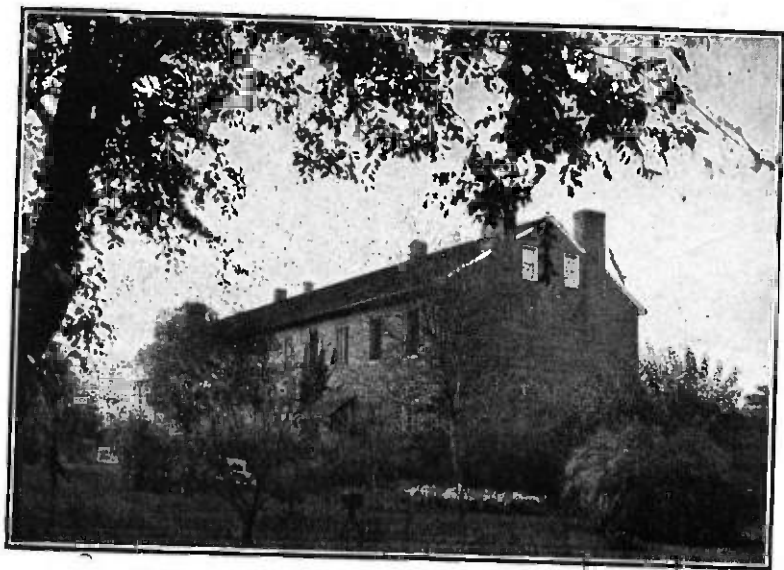
Moravian Mission house built for the Stockbridge Indians at Muncie town. (6) The Stockbridges never lived at Muncie but were domiciled near Leavenworth. On the government maps of the 1855 survey there is an irregular tract of 59.8 acres, lying partly in section 14 and partly in section 15 of town 11, range 24, which is marked as "Isiah Walker's Field." This is about a mile and a half northeast of the present location of Muncie. This was doubtless the site of the Moravian mission for the Delawares.

Aside from these fleeting references there is seemingly nothing of record telling of the location or of the success or failure of this particular mission. The church records are said to be in Bethlehem, Pa., and were they available they might throw some light upon the site and history of "The Lost Mission."

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER SEVENTEEN

TIME: October, 1839.
PLACE: Northeast Corner Johnson County.
EVENTS: I Shawnee Indian Manual Labor School.
II The Territorial Capitol of Kansas.

The schools established by the Methodist church, upon a small scale, among the Shawnees and other Indian tribes in Kansas, were found to be limited in their influence, expensive in their support, and difficult of management. So it was decided that the separate schools should be discontinued and the children of the several tribes be brought to a central institution for their education. This led to the building of the Shawnee Indian



THE SHAWNEE MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL.

The principal Mission building, Shawnee Mission, one of the three buildings now standing. The first territorial legislature held its sessions in this building in 1855.

Manual Labor Training School, the best known and the most successful of all church activities among the Indians, and the forerunner of Haskell Institute at Lawrence, and the other modern day Indian schools.

The Methodist Conference, which met at Booneville, Mo., September 26, 1838, decided to build a manual training school which was to be patronized by the six tribes among which the church labored. (1) A committee of three was appointed whose duties it was to erect suitable buildings; employ competent teachers, mechanics, a farmer, and such other persons as might be necessary; and to exercise a general supervision over the institution and report to the conference annually. The committee was instructed to erect two buildings, to serve as school houses and teachers residences, each to be 100 feet long and 30 wide and two stories high, with an ell running back 50 feet by 20, and two stories high. They were also to erect buildings for four mechanics, with shops, and such other buildings as they might judge necessary. (2)

The committee consisted of the district superintendent, Rev. Thomas Johnson, Rev. Jerome C. Berryman and Rev. Jesse Greene. Rev. Johnson was the active member of the committee.

The location selected for the manual labor school was in a beautiful valley about three miles southwest of Westport, Mo., and on the California road. Work on the new building was begun by Mr. Johnson about the first of February, 1839. At this time he had 400 acres of land enclosed, 12 of which was planted in apple trees, it being the first orchard set out in Kansas, and 176 acres was planted in corn. Upwards of 40,000 rails were made in a short time by the Shawnee Indians. About forty hands were employed, and the buildings were soon under way. Brick kilns were put up for the burning of brick, although some brick was shipped from St. Louis. Lumber was shipped from Cincinnati. The two large brick buildings, erected at this time, were on the south side of the California road. The east building was used as a school house and dormitory for the boys and as the home of the superintendent. The west building, a hundred yards away, served as a boarding house, with a large dining hall and table capable of accommodating between 200 and 300 people at a time. Between these two buildings and near the road was a fine spring. Log houses and shops went up all over the place. Blacksmith shops, wagon shops, shoemaker shops, barns, granaries, and tool houses were erected; and a brick yard, a saw mill and a steam flour mill were added to the mission. The latter was capable of grinding 300 bushels of wheat per day. (3)

School was opened in the new building in October 1839. There

1. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 172.

2. Ibid, pg. 173.

3. Ibid. pg. 174.

were 72 scholars the first year distributed among the Indian tribes as follows: Shawnees, 27; Delawares, 16; Peorias, 8; Pottawatomies, 7; Kansas, 6; Kickapoos, 3; Chippewas, 2; and Gros Ventres, Munsies and Osages, 1 each. Four teachers were employed at first, and others were added later as they were needed. Here the Indian boys were trained to earn their



THE SHAWNEE MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL.

The old dormitory, Shawnee Mission, one of the three buildings now standing. The executive offices of Kansas territory in 1855 were in this building.

future bread. If a boy showed special talent for any one trade he was encouraged to perfect himself therein, under the most practical instruction. Young Indians became adept farmers, smiths, brick masons, carpenters. Other useful trades were taught. Girls were trained to spin and weave, to cook and sew, to keep house. The mission came to have well over a hundred pupils each season. (4)

Ten colored children, belonging to the slaves owned by Rev. Johnson and who worked on the mission premises, were enrolled in 1843. (5)

In 1811 Rev. Jerome C. Berryman was appointed to take charge of the school and remained in charge until 1847. Dur-

4. *Ibid.*, Vol. XVII, pg. 423.

5. *Ibid.*, Vol. IX, pg. 177.

ing the year 1845 another large brick building, 100 feet in length and 20 feet in width, and two stories high, was begun. It was located on the north side of the California road. This building had a piazza the whole length, with the exception of a small room at each end taken off the piazza. This building served as the girl's home and boarding school. The superintendent and his family also occupied this building. (6)

When the Methodist Church was rent asunder in 1845, over the slavery question, all Kansas missions fell to the church South. (7)

In 1847 Thomas Johnson was returned as superintendent of the manual labor school, which position he held until the school was discontinued. (8) In 1848 he organized a classical department in connection with the school which was called the Western Academy. This was attended by the young sons and daughters of the white settlers near by, (9) and by a score or more of young people, of both sexes, from across the line and from distant parts of Missouri. (10)

The opening of Kansas for settlement by the whites in 1854, the border troubles which followed, and the treaties by which the Indians sold their lands and moved away, proved the death knell for the manual labor school. The shops were dispensed with, and disappeared. In 1855 but two tribes besides the Shawnees had children in attendance at the school. These were the Wyandots and the Ottowas. The 1862 report showed 26 male and 26 female Shawnee children, between the ages of seven and sixteen, in attendance. These were taught ordinary English branches. In 1864 the school was finally abandoned. (11)

During the civil war the old brick buildings were used as barracks for soldiers. The Kansas militia of twelve to twenty thousand men was mobilized at the old mission in October, 1864, by Governor Carney, and used in repelling the Price raid. (12)

THE TERRITORIAL CAPITAL

President Pierce signed the bill which opened Kansas for settlement on May 30, 1854. The first governor, Andrew H. Reeder, arrived in the territory October 4, 1854, and established the executive offices at Fort Leavenworth. (13) This was the

6. *Ibid.*, pg. 179.
7. *Ibid.*
8. *Ibid.*, pg. 180.
9. *Ibid.*, Vol. XVII, pg. 423.
10. *Ibid.*, Vol. IX, pg. 181.
11. *Ibid.*, Vol. XVII, pg. 430.
12. *Ibid.*, pg. 431.
13. *Ibid.*, Vol. VIII, pg. 331.

seat of government for about fifty days, but the accommodations proved unsuitable and on November 24, 1854, Governor Reeder removed his office to the large and roomy buildings at the Shawnee Manual Labor School. At this time there were no white settlements in Kansas except at Forts Leavenworth, Scott and Riley, and at the Indian missions and agencies, and all of the latter were comparatively small establishments. Superintendent Johnson was very reluctant to consent to Governor Reeder's



THE SHAWNEE MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL.

The girls' dormitory. Erected 1845. (Courtesy Kansas State Historical Society.)

application, but from most obvious necessity he finally did so. (14)

The Governor, and the other officers who accompanied him, were given lodging and office rooms in the mission buildings, and they took their meals at the boarding department of the mission family. In accordance with the Governor's proclamation an election was held on March 30, 1855, for members of the first territorial council and house of representatives. There

14. *Ibid.*, pg. 333.

were thirteen members of the council and twenty-six members of the house. (15) Rev. Johnson was chosen as a member of the council and his son, A. S. Johnson, a young man barely of age, was chosen as a member of the house. After this election the Governor issued a proclamation convening the legislature at the town of Pawnee on the 2nd day of July, 1855. On June 27, 1855 the Governor removed his office from the mission and established it at Pawnee.

The two houses of the legislature met at Pawnee, unseated all of the free state members, except two, and passed a bill transferring the territorial capital from Pawnee to the Shawnee Mission. Governor Reeder vetoed the bill but it was passed over his veto, and on July 12, 1855, the executive offices were again established at the mission. Thomas Johnson had been elected president of the council. He had already had sufficient experience in the diversion of his missionary establishment to the uses and abuses incident to the affairs of territorial government and so opposed the adjournment, but the Shawnee Mission was the only place in the new territory where a legislature could be accommodated.

The legislature took possession of the east building at the mission, the house with its twenty-six members occupying the chapel on the first floor, and the council with its thirteen members occupied the corresponding room on the second floor. Some of the adjoining rooms on the two floors were used as committee rooms. There were not accommodations enough at the mission for all the members of the legislature and so some of the members were forced to go to Westport.

This legislature passed an act adopting the statutes of Missouri and providing they should have full force and effect in the Territory of Kansas. This of course legalized slavery in the territory. The free state partizans dubbed these laws as the "bogus statutes of 1855" and as such they are known to this day.

On August 8, 1855 the legislature, by vote in joint session, located the permanent capital of the territory at LeCompton. The executive offices were not removed from Shawnee Mission however until some time between the 11th of December, 1855 and the 20th of April, 1856. (17)

15. *Ibid.* pg. 334.

16. *Ibid.* Vol. VIII, pg. 337.

17. *Ibid.* pgs. 338-339.

THE MISSION MEMORIAL PARK.

After the Church South abandoned the Shawnee Mission the title to the property became vested in Rev. Thomas Johnson. The steps leading to this were told by Rev. Joab Spencer as follows: (18)

"In the treaty of 1854, the Shawnee Indians gave one section of their land to Thomas Johnson, and two sections and \$10,000 in ten annual payments to the Church, for the education, board, clothing of a certain number of children for the term of ten years. For prudential reasons, the treaty shows that all three sections were granted to the Church, but with the understanding that the Church deed one section to Mr. Johnson. After the treaty, Mr. Johnson proposed to the Mission board to do the work named in the treaty for one section of the church's land, and \$1,000 a year, thus leaving one section to the Church clear of all trouble and expense. He carried out the contract with the Church and government for five or six years, and then the war closed the school, though A. S. Johnson continued to live there.

"... Then the war came and the government decided to confiscate the whole tract—all three sections. The Johnsons were at a heavy expense defending. They were loyal, and on establishing valuable and acquired interest, through the influence of Senator James H. Lane, they succeeded in having all three sections patented to them. To save the Church's interest, Mr. Johnson secured patents to all and settled with the Church for its interest, paying, I think \$7,500."

On the night of January 2, 1865, Rev. Thomas Johnson, then living on a farm two and a half miles from Westport, was called to his door and murdered by a remnant of the Quantrill band. (19) He was buried in the mission cemetery, about a quarter of a mile southeast of the mission buildings. A marble shaft was erected, over his grave, which bears this inscription: (20)

Rev. Thomas Johnson
The Devoted Indian Missionary
Born July 11, 1802
Died January 2, 1865

He built his own monument, which shall stand in peerless beauty long after this marble has crumbled into dust
A MONUMENT OF GOOD WORKS.

Gradually the mission property passed out of the ownership of the Johnson family, as the children married and moved away. For years it was neglected. At one time its largest building was used as a road house. Agitation began to secure the property for the state. The property owners refused to sell at any price. The 1921 Legislature passed a statute under which property possessing unusual historical interest might be condemned and taken for public purposes. It was not until the closing hours of the 1927 Legislature that an appropriation of \$48,230 was made for the purchase of the acreage surrounding the three brick buildings.

The property is now under the control of the Kansas State Historical Society. The buildings have been repaired, restored and beautified and the grounds landscaped. The Shawnee Indian Historical Society, a local organization, has assisted in the work, and has gathered together a most valuable collection of early day mementos which are displayed in the main building, making a museum of history which adds materially to the interest in this "Historic Spot."

18. Ibid. Vol. IX, pg. 190.

19. Ibid. Vol. XVII, pg. 432.

20. Ibid. Vol. IX, pg. 181.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER EIGHTEEN

PLACE: The Town of Shawnee.

TIME: The Year 1840.

EVENTS: I The Shawnee Indian Methodist Church.
II The Shawnee Indian Cemetery.
III The Shawnee State Park.

For ten years after Rev. Thomas Johnson opened his mission in the woods near Turner, the Methodist had no church building but held church services in the school building. (1) In 1840 the Rev. L. B. Stateler was transferred from the Delaware mission to the Shawnee mission. He thought that the time had come for the Shawnees to have a central church and so he proceeded to build one. He had no money for building purposes and so he persuaded his church members to hew the logs and solicited money from friends across the line in Missouri with which to buy lumber and other necessary articles. The site selected was in a grove about four miles west of the Manual Training school. Later the town of Shawnee, a rather important place in the early days, grew up around this church.

A hewed log building twenty-five by fifty feet—double length of logs—was agreed upon. The house was put in good condition, the rafters made of poles and covered with short boards, which were riven by hand and bailed on; joists were put across, and the building was ceiled overhead. The cracks were "chinked" with pieces of wood and daubed with mortar. The building had one large door and nine windows. (2)

The building was in the southeast corner of the present town of Shawnee and stood about six hundred feet east of the "Big Spring." (3) The building faced the north. A door in the south end of the building opened out onto the camp meeting ground and the cemetery. A parsonage was connected with the church. Camp meetings were held annually on the church grounds which were attended by the Methodists from the other tribes. (4)

This building stood until the latter part of the Civil War. In the meantime a brick church had been built by the South Methodists about three hundred feet west of the Big Spring. (5). After the burning of the business part of Shawnee, by Quantrill, in October, 1862, several companies of soldiers were

1. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 104.

2. Life of L. B. Stateler, pg. 104.

3. Program 65th Anniversary Shawnee Sunday School, Oct. 9-14, 1928.

4. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 170.

5. Program 65th Anniversary Shawnee Sunday School, Oct. 9-14, 1928.

stationed at Shawnee. According to Mr. Darby O'Day, who has lived on the townsite of Shawnee since 1859, these soldiers tore down the old church and used the logs to build a corral for their horses. (6)

By the treaty of 1854 the Church was given five acres of ground where the church building stood which included the cemetery grounds. Just when the first burial in this cemetery was made cannot be determined. One stone has been preserved (name obliterated) which bears the date of 1842. The stone which marks the grave of Nancy, daughter of J. & C. Parks, states that she was born Sept. 15, 1831 and was aged 6 years. This might have been a removal from some other burial place or the cemetery may have been started before the coming of the church building in 1840. Many burials, of both whites and Indians, were made in this cemetery in the early days. Among them was Capt. Joseph Parks, who died in 1859. For many years he was the leading spirit among the Shawnees. (7) He was a member of the Masonic lodge at Westport, Mo., and his monument, which still stands, bears the Masonic emblems.

For many years this cemetery was neglected. Cattle pastured on the grounds; monuments were broken down; and grave sites were obliterated. In 1934 less than an acre of the original five came under the control of the Kansas State Historical Society and this is now enclosed with a substantial fence.

6. Interview had September 1, 1934.

7. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. X, pg. 400.

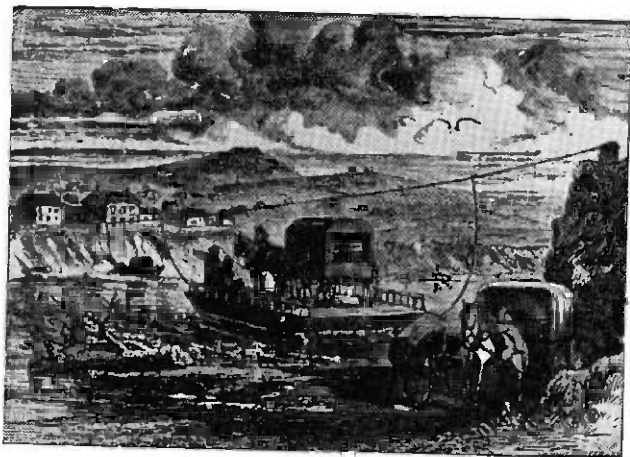
HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER NINETEEN.

PLACE: Present Intercity Viaduct.

TIME: November, 1843.

EVENT: Establishment of the Wyandot National Ferry.

Public ownership of public utilities came to Kansas with the Wyandots. The first public utility in Kansas was the Wyandot National Ferry. It was established in November 1843, before the Wyandots bought their lands of the Delawares, and it belonged to the Wyandot Nation up to the time of the treaty of 1855. (1)



TYPE OF EARLY DAY FERRY.

Reproduced from Richardson's Beyond the Mississippi. Published in 1867.

The ferry was located a short distance above the mouth of the Kansas river, just about the present terminus of the intercity viaduct. It was described by a man who crossed it on the 21st of April, 1860 as follows:

"We crossed the Kay at Wyandotte. In those days there were no bridges, so we had to ferry over on one of those flat-bottomed scows such as are in use today for carrying sand from the steam dredges in the Missouri and Kansas rivers. A heavy cable was stretched across

1. Testimony of Joel Walker, Isalah Walker and Charles B. Garrett, before S. D. Le Compte, Judge First District, in the case of the United States of America vs. Willis Wills. 1857. Manuscript in the archives of the State Historical Society.

the river on which ran two pulleys from which ropes were attached to each end of the boat. When the ferryman was ready to start he wound the rear rope so as to head the boat up stream and the current would propel the boat to the opposite shore. This was a slow process—as only one team at a time could be carried, but was the best we could do in the Far West of fifty years ago." (2)

Once a year the Council which was the governing body of the Wyandot Nation, elected a ferryman. He was paid a salary and whatever tolls he collected went into the treasury of the Nation. A visitor to the Wyandot Indian Agent in 1846 tells of his meeting with the ferryman:

"A walk of a mile, through the woods on the river bank, brought us to the mouth of the Kansas, or Kaw river, a stream ferried by a tall, good specimen of a full blood Wyandotte, who received the toll with a look as if to say, 'Your money's no account, and I've a mind to toss you in the river for offering it; our attempts at conversation failed.'" (3)

Evidently there were no charges made for ferriage for the Wyandots. In his brief in the case of *Armstrong vs. Walker*, 2 Kansas 211, ex-Governor Wilson Shannon said:

"The ferry was established by the Wyandottes in the winter of 1843-4, was a national ferry, established by them as a nation for the use of all the Wyandottes and the ferryman was paid by the year out of the same fund. It was intended as a free ferry for the Wyandottes."

Frequent references are made by Governor Walker, in his diary, to the ferry. The following are extracts from his journal: (4)

"Jan. 27, 1846. Attended Council to day but done very little of important business. Agreed to employ Tall Charles another year to keep the ferry."

"Feb. 10, 1846. Paid Tall Charles, ferryman, \$45.00, leaving him a balance due him for 1845 of \$55.00."

"July 7, 1846. C. G. G. and Peter Buck arraigned for violently taking the ferry boat from her moorings in the absence of the ferryman; the former fined \$5.00 and latter \$2.50."

"May 8, 1847. Attended the sale at the council room of the goods, chattels and effects of Nofat, deceased."

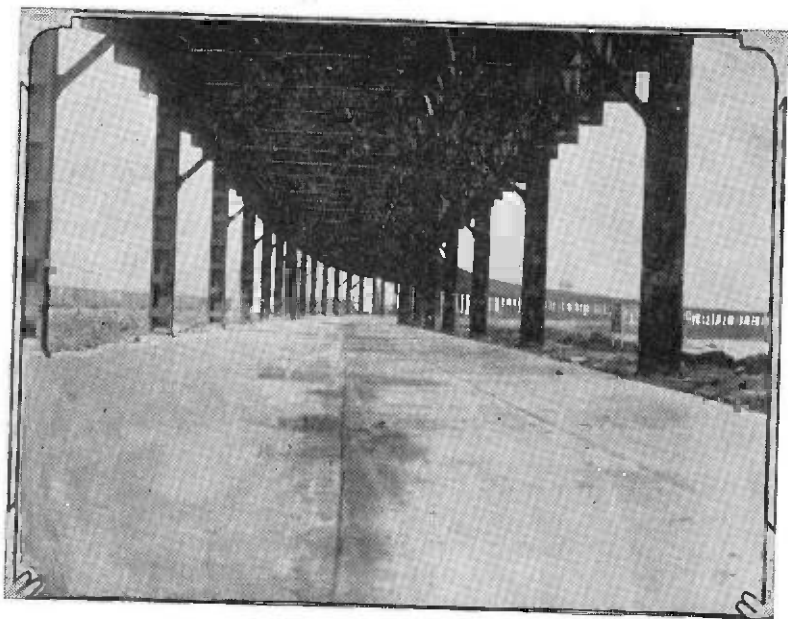
2. Personal Recollections of Charles Raber found in Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XVI, pg. 316.

3. Louis H. Gerrard in *Wa-to-yah*, pg. 2.

Bought nothing. The company then proceeded to the ferry, hauled out and upturned the old boat for repairs. G. A. and myself assorted our lumber."

"Dec. 27, 1847. Went to H. Jaquis's and spent a part of the day, the election of a ferryman being the principal topic of conversation, the candidates are D. Young, Tall Charles, Charles Split-The-Logs."

"Dec. 28, 1847. Council met at James Washington's. Proceeded to the election of a ferryman, and resulted in the election of D. Young."



THE INTER CITY VIADUCT.
Site of the old Wyandotte National Ferry, established in 1843. A double deck structure.

"Jan. 17, 1848. No ferrying, the river being frozen over."

"May 3, 1848. Settled with M. Goodyear for lumber for the use of the ferry by the council, \$27.50."

"June 4, 1848. Mrs. W(alker) and Sophia state that on their return from K(ansas City) they found at the ferry a dozen or more people waiting to cross and among them was John Charloe, very drunk, and had been severely beat."

"Dec. 12, 1848. At 2 o'clock the joint meeting proceeded to ballot for a ferryman. After several ballots

all the candidates were dropped except D. Young and Tall Charles and the final ballot on these two stood thus: D. Young 16; Tall Charles 7. Majority 9 votes. Adjourned."

"July 28, 1849. Attended a special election of ferryman, vice D. Young resigned; and George Steele was elected."

"Nov. 17, 1850. Today the council and legislative committee met in joint session to elect ferryman for the year 1851 * * * when Isaac Brown was duly elected."

"Feb. 18, 1851. The Kansas river has about run dry; there not being water enough to float the ferry boat, and consequently no ferrying."

"In the evening learned that the ferry was now passable."

Dec. 14, 1852. Attended the joint meeting of the council and legislative committee and elected Nicholas Cotter ferryman for 1853."

March 9, 1853. Sent Dudley to Kansas City, who shortly afterwards returned and reported that the ice above the ferry had broken loose and stove in the ferry boat and carried her off down the river, with a negro on board."

"May 26, 1853. Diable. Those *drunken vagabondish* ferrymen have lost the ferry boat. They say some one or two broke the lock last night and took the boat, no one knows where. This is provoking. The rascals have been drunk and lost the boat themselves. Now we have another *embargo*."

"May 29, 1853. Our ferry boat was found and recovered near Randolph."

"Dec. 20, 1853. Harriet and Baptiste set out for Kansas, but on arriving at the ferry found the floating ice so thick and running so rapidly the ferry boat could not cross. So they gave it up and came home. Mr. Dofflemeyer (5) then proposed to Harriet that if she would go back with him, as he wanted to go over, he would venture with the ferry boat, and make the attempt to cross. They went and succeeded in crossing."

"June 5, 1854. Lost our ferry boat again."

"June 17, 1854. Heard of the recovery of the ferry."

4. Nebraska State Historical Collections, 2nd Sec., v. 3.
5. Mr. Dofflemeyer was the Methodist Missionary.

"June 21, 1854. We have had no mail for nearly two weeks for the want of a boat to cross the river. Although the boat was caught at Richfield, about forty miles from here, yet our worthless council and still more worthless ferryman take no steps towards getting it bro't up again. A pretty set of fellows to want to maintain a separate government."

So important did the Wyandots regard their National Ferry that it was made one of the exemptions in the 1855 treaty whereby the Nation ceded its land to the Government. The treaty reads: (6)

"Four acres at and adjoining the Wyandot ferry, across, and near the mouth of the Kansas river shall also be reserved and together with the rights of the Wyandots in said ferry, shall be sold to the highest bidder, among the Wyandot people, and the proceeds of the sale paid over to the Wyandots."

In the allotments made by the Commissioners on the part of the Government to carry out this treaty the ferry site is described as follows:

"285 Wyandott Ferry Tract. Commencing $2\frac{1}{2}$ poles East of the S. W. Cor. of the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 10, Tp. 11 S. R. 25 E.; thence North 30 degrees E. $59\frac{3}{4}$ poles; then East $9\frac{1}{2}$ poles to the N.W. bank of the Kansas river; thence up and along said bank south 30 degrees W. 80 poles to a point on a rock marked W.F.C. (Wyandotte Ferry Company); thence West $9\frac{1}{4}$ poles; thence North 30 degrees E. $20\frac{1}{4}$ to the beginning. Containing 4 acres."

The Journal of the Wyandot Council, beginning with the date of October 27, 1855, did not go to Washington but eventually came into the possession of the Kansas Historical Society. That Journal has several references to the ferry including its sale. The record shows: (8)

"Nov. 9, 1855. The council paid Adam Brown one hundred and eighty dollars for acting as ferryman for nine months."

"Nov. 13 to 22, 1855. Ferry expenses of Joel Walker 79.00. Ferry expense to Northrup & Chick, \$22.15. John D. Brown for repairs on ferry house, \$35.00."

"Sept. 1, 1856. Convened this day, present Geo I.

6. Article 2 of the Treaty.

7. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XV, pg. 158.

8. Ibid, pgs, 41-42.

Clark, Silas Armstrong, John D. Brown, John Hicks and Peter D. Clark. The commissioners met the council this day and the chiefs and commissioners ordered the four acres of ground attached to the ferry to be sold to the highest bidder on Monday the fifteenth (15) day of the present month according to the treaty of 31st January 1855." "R. Robitaille, Clerk. Geo I. Clark, Principal Chief."

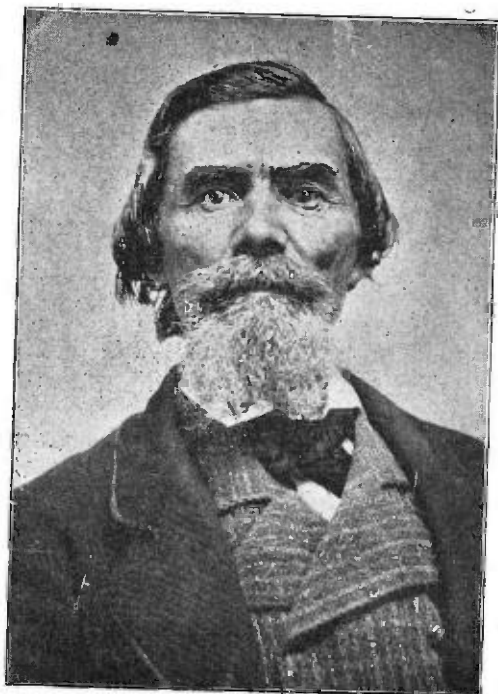
"Sept. 15, 1856. The Wyandotts council convened this day according to adjournment, full board of chiefs present, Geo I. Clark, presiding. In accordance with an article in the treaty between the U. S. Government and Wyandott Indians in date of 31st January, 1855, and according to advertisements affixed in three public places in Wyandott, was sold the four acres of land attached to the Wyandott ferry, this day and adjudged to Isaiah Walker, the highest bidder, for the sum of seven thousand dollars, payable one-half, say three thousand five hundred (\$3,500) dollars, payable on the 31st of next October, and the other half, say three thousand five hundred (\$3,500) dollars, payable one year from said 31st October next without interest, and Charles B. Garrett becomes his security for the full fillment of the conditions of the sale. A plat of said lot of land has been made by Lot Coffman, Esq., one of the commissioners. R. Robitaille, Clerk. Geo I. Clark, Principal Chief."

Nov. 3, 1856. Silas Armstrong hire of flat boat, paid \$61.50. Thomas Smart for crying of ferry sale (paid) Silas Armstrong \$5.00. National ferryman, J. H. Cotter, paid \$199.54.

Thus the first public utility in Kansas passed into private hands. At first thought it would seem that Mr. Walker paid a pretty stiff price for the ferry but we are told that the receipt of tolls for the single year 1857 amounted to \$7,000, the entire purchase price, and that the charges were not exorbitant, but reasonable (9)

In the archives of the State Historical Society there are a number of pages of testimony purporting to have been taken before S. D. Lecompte, Judge of the First District, in the case of the United States of America, Territory of Kansas vs. Willis Wills. Joel Walker, Isaiah Walker, Charles B. Garrett, George B. Thomason and Samuel E. Forsythe, the ferryman, were the

witnesses. From this testimony we gather that in 1857 one Willis Wills claimed the land on the east side of the Kansas river where the ferry landed and demanded one half the proceeds of the ferry. Being unable to enforce his demand Wills cut the ropes and let the ferryboat, with the yoke of oxen it was transporting, go down the river. Evidently Wills was under arrest for this offense. What disposition was made of the case is not known.



SILAS ARMSTRONG.

Head chief and one of the most noted men of the Wyandot nation.

The testimony in the Wills case also discloses that in purchasing the ferry that Isaiah Walker was acting for a syndicate which explains the fact that on April 28, 1858, Walker deeded a half interest in the ferry tract to Charles B. Garrett, Joel W. Garrett, Samuel E. Forsythe and the heirs of Joel Walker, deceased. The consideration as expressed in the deed was \$7,000.
(10)

The Territorial Legislation of 1855 gave Silas Armstrong the

sole power and exclusive authority to run a ferry at the mouth of the Kansas river, and for two miles up said river. (11) Armstrong was one of the council that sold the Wyandott ferry to Isaiah Walker. He was also one of the bidders at the sale, his bid being for \$6,950.00. (12) Some time after the sale to Walker, Armstrong went into the Territorial Court and asked for a restraining order to stop Walker's use of the ferry he had purchased.

He alleged that by virtue of the Act of 1855 he was invested with the sole power and exclusive authority to run a ferry at the mouth of the Kansas river. He further alleged that he owned the land on both sides of the river where the Walker ferry was located. He (Walker) replied setting up the establishment of the ferry, the Wyandott Treaty and the sale to him under the terms of the treaty. The case was continued from time to time, but judgment was finally rendered in favor of Armstrong. Walker appealed to the Supreme Court. That court held that the bill was defective in that there was no allegation that Armstrong had the means for transporting passengers and freight, or in other words that he had established a ferry. That there was an implied obligation to furnish the necessary means of travel for travelers and that until Armstrong was prepared to serve them he had acquired no right to prohibit others from doing so. The court further held that there was no evidence that the Wyandotts had a right of landing on the South bank of the river unless the landing was at the mouth of a public highway. The case was reversed and sent back. (13)

As there were no public highways, as yet, on the south side of the river this would doubtless have put the Walker ferry out of commission but in the meantime a pontoon bridge had been thrown across the river and the value had gone out of the ferry. (14)

With the coming of the pontoon bridge the ferry tract lost its value. Taxes were unpaid and it went to a tax sale; executions were levied against it; and partition suits were filed, making a complicated proposition as to who had the title. The Missouri Pacific cut through it with its right of way and Third street and Ferry street each took a bite out of it. Finally the remnant was platted as the "Ferry Tract Addition" and became a part of Wyandotte City. (15)

11. Statutes of 1855. Pgs. 795-6.

12. Walker vs. Armstrong. 2 Kansas 192.

13. Ibid, pgs. 215-220.

14. Goodspeed, Wyandotte County and Kansas City.

15. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County Plat Book.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY

PLACE: Seventh and Minnesota. Kansas City, Kansas.

TIME: The Year 1843.

EVENTS: I. The Wyandot City of the Dead.
II. Fort Conley.

Sandwiched between the public library, the Masonic Temple, and a row of modern office buildings and fronting on the principal street of Kansas City, Kansas, lies the Wyandot city of the dead. It is known as the Huron cemetery and in it lie buried many of the prominent men of the old Wyandot Nation. Many famous chiefs, Warpole, Tauramee, George I. Clark, Big Tree, Serralias and Squeendchtee are buried there. Here lies Squire Grey Eyes, the early day preacher, and Charles Garrett, a soldier of the War of 1812. Such ancient dates as 1848, 1851 or 1855 takes one's imagination back so far that the occasional shrill motorcycle whistle or other kindred street noise is needed as a reminder that this burial spot is in the heart of a busy city.

In 1843, the Wyandots, who had been teased into ceding their Ohio lands to the Government, came to Kansas, 700 strong, to occupy the lands along the eastern border of the territory, which they thought the Shawnees had sold to them. The Shawnees repudiated the agreement, however, and the Wyandots found themselves homeless and in a strange land. The Government, doubtless acting upon the suggestion made by Lewis and Clark in their 1804 report, that this was a good place for a fort, (1) had reserved the strip of land lying between the western boundary of Missouri and the Kansas river. Some of the Wyandots secured homes in Westport, but most of them camped upon this government strip. The Delawares, nephews to the Wyandots, owned the land on the north side of the Kansas river and they came to the relief of their homeless uncles, sold them 36 sections of land, and threw in 3 others for good measure, all lying in the fork of the two rivers—the Kansas and the Missouri. The Wyandots at once began to move onto their new lands, the first home being occupied December 10, 1843. (2)

Death began its work early among the tribe. While still in camp on the east bank of the Kansas river an epidemic carried

1. Under date of June 28, 1804, Capt. Clark wrote in his journal: "The high lands come to the river Kansas on the upper Side at about a mile, full view, and a butiful place for a fort, good landing place."

2. Letter from Lucy B. Armstrong, published in Wyandotte Gazette December 29, 1870.

away 60 members of the tribe (3) and they were buried on what was then Delaware soil. The place selected for a burial ground was the hill overlooking the Kansas river, about a half mile from its junction with the Missouri.

The spring of 1844 was warm and very dry until May, when it began to rain and continued to rain for six weeks, rain falling every day. The result was that the Kansas river rose so high that what is now the First Ward of Kansas City, Kansas was covered with fourteen feet of water; the Missouri backed up to the mouth of Live creek; Jersey creek was backed up to the crossing on the Parallel road. The long continued rains were succeeded by dry and hot weather, and the overflowed vegetable matter decomposing, caused much sickness among the Wyandots, and by the last of November 100 of them were dead, being one-seventh of the whole number that had come to the country only fifteen months before. (4)

This burial ground was enclosed (5) and although there were burials at Quindaro and Oak Grove, this place remained the principal burying ground for the Wyandots as long as they continued to reside in Kansas. In writing of this cemetery in the year 1890, (6) Mrs. Lucy B. Armstrong, the most remarkable woman of the tribe, said: "To the best of my recollection and belief I think that between the years 1844 and 1855 there were at least four hundred interments there and most of those graves are not perceptible and cannot be identified or ever found. There was no tombstones placed there in all those days."

The Wyandots wanted their lands in severalty, and in 1855 they worked out a plan whereby they could cede their reservation to the Government which in turn would survey, assign and reconvey by patent in fee simple the lands to the individual members of the tribe. The treaty was made on January 31, 1855. It provided for the ceding to the Government the lands the Wyandots had purchased from the Delawares, but with four specific reservations. A part of Section 2 of the treaty read:

"The portion now enclosed and used as a public burial ground, shall be permanently reserved and appropriated for that purpose."

3. Statement found among the papers of Lucy B. Armstrong.

4. Andreas, *History of Kansas*, pg. 1228.

5. The treaty of Jan. 31, 1855 reads: "The portion now enclosed and used as a public burying ground."

6. *Wyandotte Gazette*, June 4, 1890.

It would be hard to conceive of a more direct and positive dedication of a tract of land to a public use than given in this single sentence.

The Commissioners, appointed to make the allotments as provided by treaty, did their work. In their report they described this allotment as being No. 282, Public Burial Ground. It was described by metes and bounds, the irregular shape, no doubt, being due to the fact that the commissioners took the treaty to mean what it said and followed the fences which sur-



LYDIA B. CONLEY.

The heroine of Fort Conley, who with her sisters, saved the Huron Cemetery.

rounded the enclosure. (7)

Gradually the Wyandots wound up their tribal affairs but the minutes of the National Council show that the National Grave Yard was not forgotten. The following are a few extracts from the official journal (8):

November 12, 1857:—Among the bills allowed at

7. The description read: "Commencing 28 poles South of the NE cor. of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 10 T 11S R 25 E thence South 16 degrees 1 minute West 31 poles and 15 links, thence East 11 poles and 8 links, thence North 16 degrees 30 minutes 27 poles and 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ links, thence North 71 degrees West 10 poles and 18 links to beginning."
8. Book now with the Kansas Historical Society.

this meeting was one for "Repairs to National Grave Yard—paid to Mathew Mudeater \$50.00.

February 2, 1858:—"The Council has decided that an advertisement in the public newspapers should be published to prohibit strangers to the Wyandot nation from being buried in the Wyandot National burying ground near Wyandott City.

March 2, 1858:—"The Council has decided to get tombstones for all the members of the Wyandott Nation who have died and who have been Chiefs of the Nation in their life time who died in this country."

April 9, 1859:—"On motion Mathew Mudeater was appointed a committee of one to ascertain how many graves of deceased Chiefs could be found in Wyandott and Irwin P. Long he appointed a committee of one to have tombstones furnished for as many as can be found, the amount to be paid for said stones to be appropriated out of the monies due the Wyandott's from the United States."

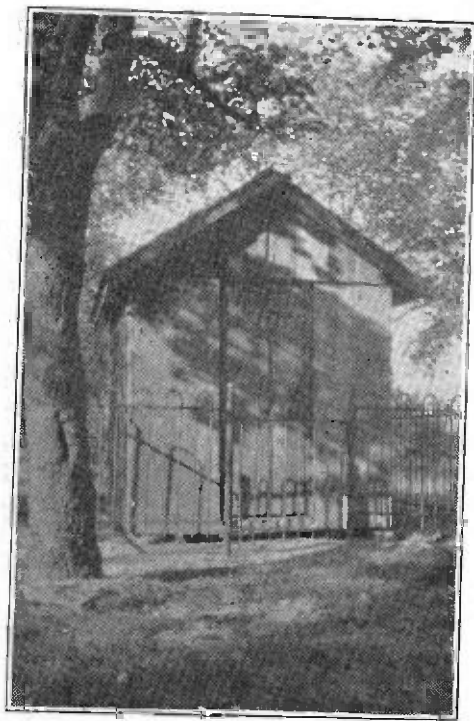
May 17, 1859:—"On motion Irwin P. Long and Hiram M. Northrup were appointed a committee of two to make a contract with a stone cutter for tombstones for the deceased Chiefs of the Wyandott Nation."

Burials never ceased in the old cemetery. A large number of the Kansas dead from the bloody battle field of Westport were laid to rest in this hallowed spot. (9) As the years went by fewer and fewer new graves were opened however and neglect and decay began to creep in. Then commercialism and greed raised its ugly head. Some Kansas City business men with more commercialism than historic pride, forgot that sentiment plays a large part in the lives of many of us, and tried to have the "eye sore," as they termed it, sold. They caused to be slipped through Congress an item in the Indian appropriation bill which authorized the Secretary of the Interior to make a sale. This was June 21, 1906. The item is tucked away in the middle of a 65 page printed bill and read as follows:

"That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby au-

9. Statement of V. J. Lane. Col. Veale, in his report of the battle of the Blue says: "On the morning of the 24th (1864) we gathered together our dead and took them to Kansas City, where we obtained coffins for them and on the morning of the 25th, we buried them in Wyandotte on Kansas soil.

thorized to sell and convey, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, the tract of land located in Kansas City, Kansas, reserved for a public burial ground under a treaty made and concluded with the Wyandotte Tribe of Indians on the 31st day of January, 1855. And authority is hereby conferred upon the Secretary of the Interior to provide for the re-



FORT CONLEY.

Built by the Conley sisters during the seven years war.

moval of the remains of the persons interred in said burial ground and their reinterment in the Wyandotte Cemetery at Quindaro, Kansas, and to purchase and put in place appropriate monuments over the remains reinterred in the Quindaro Cemetery. And after the payment of the costs of such removal, and also after the payment to any of the Wyandotte people, or their legal heirs, of claims for losses sustained by reason of the purchase of the alleged rights of the Wyandotte tribe in a certain ferry named in said treaty, if, in the

opinion of the Secretary of the Interior, such claims or any of them are just and equitable, without regard to the statute of limitations, the residue of the money derived from said sale shall be paid per capita to the members of the Wyandotte tribe of Indians who were parties to said treaty, their heirs or legal representatives." (10)

But the desecration was not to be permitted. Two girls, Lyda and Hellena Conley, lineal descendants of the Wyandottes, heard of it and determined to save the graves of their ancestors from spoliation. The Commissioners appointed by the Secretary of the Interior were preparing to remove the tombstones. They could only remove the tombstones for as Miss Lyda Conley said: "What is there left of an Indian buried fifty years ago in his blanket?" The two girls took possession of the cemetery. The gate was padlocked and placarded with "Trespass At Your Peril" signs. A little house or fort was built and there the girls took their stand, vowing death to any one who dared to enter the cemetery to attempt to remove the bodies.

One of the girls, Miss Lyda, had studied law and it now seemed a special providence that she had done so. She filed a suit in the Federal court against the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner appointed by him, to restrain them from selling or interfering with the cemetery. Slowly the case dragged its way through the lower courts to the supreme court of the United States. These sacred precincts had never been invaded by a woman but Miss Conley was given a special permission to present her case. Here, too, her plea fell upon unsympathetic ears. The Germans were not the first to discover that a treaty was only a "scrap of paper." The supreme court of the United States beat them to it. In its opinion the court said: (11)

"The United States maintained and protected the Indian use or occupation against others but was bound itself by honor, not by law."

"That the words 'shall be permanently reserved and appropriated for that purpose,' like the rest of the treaty, were addressed only to the tribe and rested for fulfillment on the good faith of the United States—a good faith that would not be broken by a changed

10. Fifty-ninth Congress, Sess. 1, Chapter 3504, Vol. 34, pg. 348.

11. Conley vs. Ballinger, 216 U. S. 84.

believeth by Congress to be for the welfare of the Indians."

"That the plaintiff cannot establish a legal or equitable title of the value of \$2,000, or indeed any right to have the cemetery remain undisturbed by the United States."

While the battle in the courts was going on the two girls were subjected to all sorts of persecutions and petty annoyances. A Federal judge threatened incarceration for contempt of court; a U. S. Marshal thundered; the girls were arrested and hauled into police court on the charge of disturbing the peace; and Fort Conley was burned, but another fort rose on its ashes and the girls stayed on the fighting line. Finally an aroused public sentiment made itself felt. It was well voiced by the venerable Lucy B. Armstrong who said: (12)

"To remove the burying ground now would be to scatter the dust of the dead to the winds. What a sacrilege! I remember with reverence many of the good Wyandottes buried there, and my heart protests against such a desecration of that sacred ground. Such a sale is repugnant to every sentiment we cherish for our dead, as well as being offensive to the highest impulses of a Christian civilization."

In 1913 Congress repealed the obnoxious statute, (13) and the seven years' war was at an end.

The Conley girls had won their fight. Their story is a romantic one. Their great grandfather was Isaac Zane, who was captured by the Indians, and who married an Indian wife. His son, Isaac Zane, came to Wyandotte county in 1842. He saw how conditions were and when he returned to Ohio warned the tribe not to move but he died before he could persuade them against making the change. His wife, the grandmother of the Conley girls, was a remarkable woman. She had fourteen children of her own, but did not hesitate to undertake the raising of six other children who needed parents. The mother of the Conley girls, who was named Elizabeth Burton Zane, was just a child when the family came to Kansas. She was educated in a convent and married an Englishman named Conley. Both Mr. and Mrs. Conley and one daughter are buried in the Huron cemetery, and it was over and around their graves that the Conley girls waged their seven years' battle.

In 1916 Congress passed a bill appropriating \$10,000 for the

12. Kansas City Times, July 13, 1911.

13. Sixty-Second Congress, Sess. III, Chapter 44, Vol. 37, pg. 668.

preservation and improvement of the Huron cemetery. (14) It described it as "a tract of land in the city of Kansas City, Kansas, owned by the Government of the United States, the use of which was conveyed by treaty to the Wyandotte Tribe of Indians as a cemetery for the members of said tribe." Of course this statement (owned by the Government of the United States) is not true but it brought the money, the improvements were made and Kansas City's most historic spot has been preserved and will stand as a monument to the two Indian maids who dared to defy the Government in order to preserve the graves of their ancestors from spoliation by unhallowed hands.

On March 20, 1918, an agreement was made by the Government and Kansas City, Kansas whereby certain improvements were to be made in Huron Cemetery by the Government and others by the City.

In addition to this the Government was to pay \$1,000 to the City and the City in turn agreed:

"To forever maintain, care for, preserve the lawns and trim the trees and give the grounds the same and usual attention that it gives to its city parks within the main part of the city, and particularly Huron Park adjoining the Cemetery; and that the City of Kansas City, Kansas, will furnish police protection equivalent to that furnished for the protection of Huron Park; and furnish all electrical energy free of charge for the maintaining of the electric lights, as provided for in the plans and specifications, maintaining and keeping in place all globes and fixtures, and give said Cemetery any and all care that a park of its nature in the heart of a city should demand."

This agreement was signed by Henry B. Peairs, Superintendent Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kansas, for and in behalf of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and H. A. Mendenhall, Mayor for the City of Kansas City. Approved by the Office of Indian Affairs, April 17, 1918, by E. B. Merritt, Acting Commissioner.

14. Sixty-Fourth Congress, Sess. I, Chapter 468, Vol. 39, pg. 544.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-ONE

PLACE: Near 23rd and Washington, Kansas City, Kan.
TIME: April, 1844.
EVENT: The Church in the Wilderness.

The first Mission ever founded by the Methodist Episcopal Church in the world was that at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, in the Wyandot Nation in 1816. It was both church and school. Most of the Wyandots who came to Kansas were educated there. It not only brought the gospel and the school to the Wyandots, but it also gave them a training in agriculture that placed them far in the lead of all the "emigrant" tribes. The improvements on the Mission farm were appraised at \$5,000. When the Wyandots decided to move, in 1843, fifteen hundred dollars of this appraisal was expended by the Missionary for a parsonage in the new land and the remainder was paid over into the church funds. (1)

The Wyandot Church was erected in 1824 by the U. S. Government at a cost of \$1,333. A school house, and a farm, one mile square, was government property and a Mission was supplied there by the Methodist Church. When the territory was sold the preparations for the departure centered around the church and there was an affectionate farewell full of pathetic interest. Grey Eyes, in behalf of his people, bade an affectionate farewell to the concourse of white people present. In a pathetic manner he discoursed upon all of the familiar scenes of a home no longer theirs and with mournful voice he bade farewell to graves of ancestors, which they were about to leave forever. He closed his valedictory with allusion to an object that was yet dearest to them—the church where they had worshipped. At the conclusion of Grey Eye's address, the farewells were spoken, and then began the forming of the wagon train; the Indian chiefs on horseback, and hundreds following on foot, began the long march, and on the seventh day they reached the wharf at Cincinnati and here they took boats for their new home. (2)

1. "When the Wyandots ceded their Ohio lands to the United States Government the improvements of this mission farm were appraised at \$5,000. Under a treaty stipulation and the money paid by the Government to the treasurer of the Methodist Episcopal church, excepting \$1,500 expended by the missionary who accompanied the Wyandots when they moved in 1843 from Ohio to this state then Indian territory in a parsonage near to my home in Wyandot, Kan. By an unjust stipulation of the Wyandot treaty of 1855, this parsonage was alienated to the Methodist Episcopal church South, a grief to me who remembered how my father and other missionaries had toiled to make that mission farm." Found among the Lucy B. Armstrong papers.

2. Kansas City Kansan. June 4, 1929.

Just as the fabled Trojans, when escaping from their ruined city, carried with them their household gods, so the Wyandots, 700 strong, carried with them their Methodist Church organization as they journey to the new land they were to possess. How they brought this organization with them is told by Lucy B. Armstrong: (3)

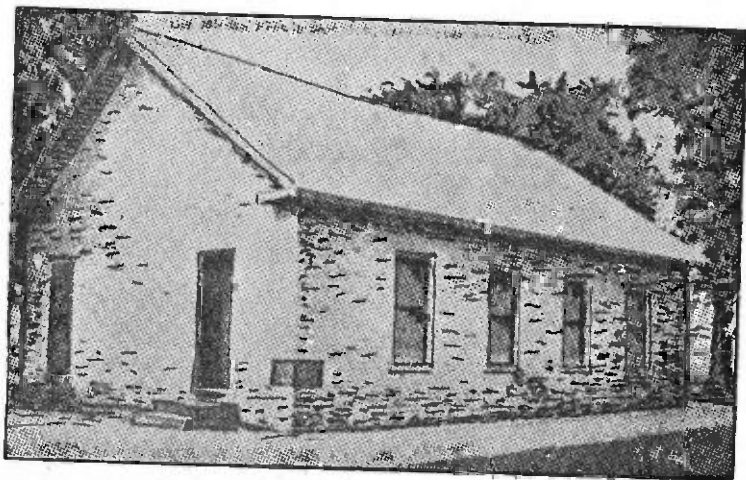
"When they moved to this country there were 200 church members in a population of 700 Wyandots. This I have in an affidavit made by the Rev. James Wheeler, who was their missionary seven years and came with them to the West. Yes! Two hundred generally faithful and spiritual church members, all in the habit of attending prayer meetings and class meetings. There were five classes and nine class teachers. Two local preachers, one of them Rev. Esquire Grey Eyes, an ordained deacon, and seven class exhorters, and whether a missionary was with them or not, two public services and all the class meetings were held every Sabbath and prayer meeting every Wednesday night and preaching, or two exhortations every Friday night. These meetings were kept up as they moved to this country, on the route, and while they were encamped on the land between the Kansas river and the Missouri state line, waiting for almost three months to know where was to be their new home, and all this notwithstanding that many of them were sick."

When the Wyandots reached the Kansas border they found that the Government, as usual in its dealing with the Indians, had failed in its treaty stipulation. There was no land for the Wyandots and as far as the record now shows there was no effort on the part of the Government to carry out its treaty agreements. The tongue of land lying between the Kansas river and the Missouri state line was Government land and here the Wyandots made camp, spending the summer and fall in tents, a mode of life to which they were not accustomed. By December, 1843, their negotiations with the Delawares had been completed and the Wyandots became the owners, by purchase and gift from the Delawares, of thirty-nine sections of land between the fork of the Kansas and Missouri rivers. Here they began to build their houses and simultaneous with it the building of a church. The story of this church in the wilderness is told by Mrs. Armstrong: (4)

3. Found among the Lucy B. Armstrong papers.

4. Wyandotte Gazette, Dec. 29, 1870.

"Esquire Grey Eyes, an ordained local preacher, a good speaker, was the most active and zealous of their preachers and exhorters, and though not at all educated, was very useful and influential. At the close of one of the meetings in January, 1844, he said to some of the brethren, 'I want to build a meeting house.' Said one, 'You have no house for yourself yet,' for he was living in camp. 'I want a house for my soul first,' he replied, and he persuaded the men of the nation, whether church or not, to meet together in the woods, cut down trees, hew logs, and haul them to a place near Mr. Kerr's present residence. (5) The United States



THE FIRST WYANDOT CHURCH.

Building at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, where the Wyandots worshipped before coming to Kansas. The organization which met in this church was transplanted to Kansas. (Courtesy Kansas City Kansan.)

Government had not paid the Wyandots for their homes in Ohio, and they had no money to pay for lumber or work; so they made clapboards for the roof and puncheons for the floor and seats. In the latter part of April we worshipped in the house, the minister standing on a strip of the floor laid at the opposite end of the building from the door, and the people sitting on sleepers not yet covered. On the first Sabbath in June the first quarterly meeting in the terri-

5. The Kerr residence in 1870 stood at what is now 2300 Washington Boulevard.

tory, for the Wyandots, was held in the house, it being finished. Those were halcyon days. Though we heard not 'the sound of the church bell,' our ears were not pained, nor our hearts grieved by the sound of the axe or gun on the Sabbath. Though our church was rude and the seats uncomfortable, yet they were always well filled with worshippers and God was there."

The log church was used until 1847 when a brick church was erected on what is now known as the Mary A. Grindrod tract, near Tenth and Walker. The money was raised by subscription. The Wyandot Council appropriated \$500.00, out of the National annuity. Governor Walker, in an affidavit made in 1861, (7) says, "Our neighbors over in Missouri subscribed liberally." The last mention of the old log church that has been found is in the diary of Gov. Walker, under date of November 30, 1847:—"The Council met today. Adjourned at 4 o'clock, p. m. to meet the National Assembly at the old church. Under date of December 20, 1847, Governor Walker writes:—"Rev. L. B. Stateler preached. Then a subscription was opened for the finishing (of) the church and subscriptions were liberal."

The division of the Methodist Church over the subject of slavery brought its troubles to the Wyandot church. The Indian Mission conference, to which this church was attached, belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the missionary, Rev. E. T. Perry, who now came to the church, had his appointment from that conference. The majority of the church membership were not in favor of the church South. For a time Rev. Peery kept the church record in the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church but the inevitable break came and Rev. Peery proceeded to organize the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Sixty-five members of the church body went into the new organization. This left ninety-five members who adhered to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Some of those who went with the new church later returned to the old church.

The church trouble reached the point where it became a matter of national concern and a convention of the Wyandot Nation was called to deliberate. The only record we have of this convention is in the diary of Governor Walker:—

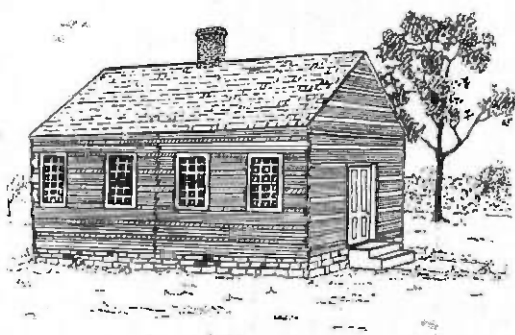
"August 30, 1848. Sent for S. Armstrong for consultation about the schism (and the) cantankerous

6. Rev. Wheeler.

7. Found among the Lucy B. Armstrong papers.

capers of the abolitionists. Appointed Friday, Sept. 1 for a National convention at the camp grounds for the discussion of the question, North or South."

"Sept. 1st. Pursuant to notice the Nation assembled at the camp ground and at 12 o'clock proceeded to organize by the appointment of James Washington, President and John Hicks, Senior Vice President; and W. Walker, Secretary. The object (of the Convention) being to determine whether the Nation will declare for the Southern division of the M. E. Church, or the Northern. After an animated discussion by S. Armstrong, W. Walker, M. R. Walker, J. D. Brown, F. A. Hicks, David Young and others in favor of the South, and J. M. Armstrong, G. I. Clark, Esq. Grey Eyes in favor of the North, a preamble and reso-



THE WYANDOT LOG CHURCH.

From a drawing by W. R. Honnell from descriptions given by those who had seen the old log church.

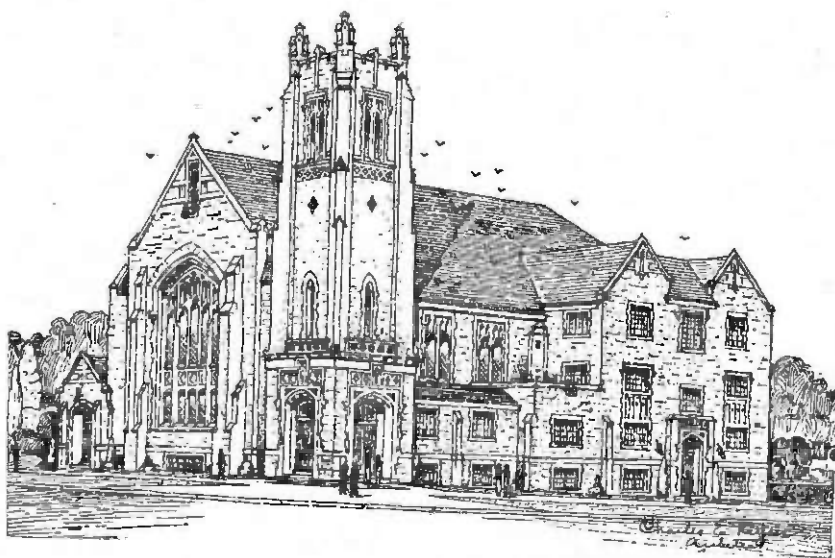
lution (were) adopted by which the Nation declared for the South."

"Sept. 7. Today the church members were to assemble at the new brick church to vote on the question "North or South" but unfortunately the members refused to attend, and so ended the affair. A rather severe rebuke to the agitators." (Provisional Government pages 260-61).

The official board of the original church in July 1848 petitioned the Ohio conference for a missionary and Rev. James Gurley was sent to them. Gov. Walker, who was very pronounced in his dislike of the adherents of the old church, wrote

in his diary, under date of December 1, 1848:—(8) "Mr. James Gurley, the preacher sent by the Ohio annual conference to preach abolitionism to the Wyandots, has just arrived. So I suppose we are to have religious dissensions in full fruition."

The adherents of the new church, though numerically less than the adherents to the old church, took possession of the brick church and the adherents of the old organization were forced to withdraw from the building. The Indian agent, a man named Hewitt, ordered Rev. Gurley out of the territory which order he obeyed. For this, and other misdeeds, the Agent was removed.



WASHINGTON AVENUE CHURCH.

The \$250,000 structure at Seventh and Washington, descendant and successor to the "Church in the Wilderness."

In January and February, 1849, the old church held a revival. From the converts at this revival, and the return of some of those who had gone with the new church, the church membership in March, 1849, numbered 130. (9) For a time this congregation worshipped in dwelling houses and then it built a log church a couple of miles to the northwest of the brick

8. The Provisional Government, pg. 268.

9. Found among the Lucy B. Armstrong papers.

church. On the night of April 8, 1856, both the brick church and the log church were burned by incendiaries.

Among the papers left by Lucy B. Armstrong there are two affidavits that are interesting sidelights on this pre-war church tragedy. One is by Governor William Walker as follows:—

(10)

"This division brought on a considerable of dissension among the members of the church increased by influences from abroad; some adhered South and some North; this became so intense it diffused itself among Wyandots who were not members of the church, thereby increasing the intensity of the controversy. A portion of the official members petitioned the Ohio annual conference to send them a preacher, which that conference did in the person of Rev. James Gourley; this, as was to be expected, instead of allaying, only increased the turmoil. The bitterness of the controversy, spreading among the disorderly and immoral, religious meetings could not be held without serious annoyance and disturbance. In this state of affairs the Indian Agent, deeming Mr. Gourley's operations a moving cause of these disorders, ordered him to leave the Wyandot territory, which order he obeyed. That portion of the membership that adhered to the Northern organization then erected a log church about two miles west of of the new brick church costing, as near as affiant can judge, between five and six hundred dollars; that some time in April, 1856, both the log and brick churches were burned to a heap of ruins by persons to affiant unknown. The cost of the brick church, with its seats, lights and other fixtures, affiant thinks could not have been less than \$2,500."

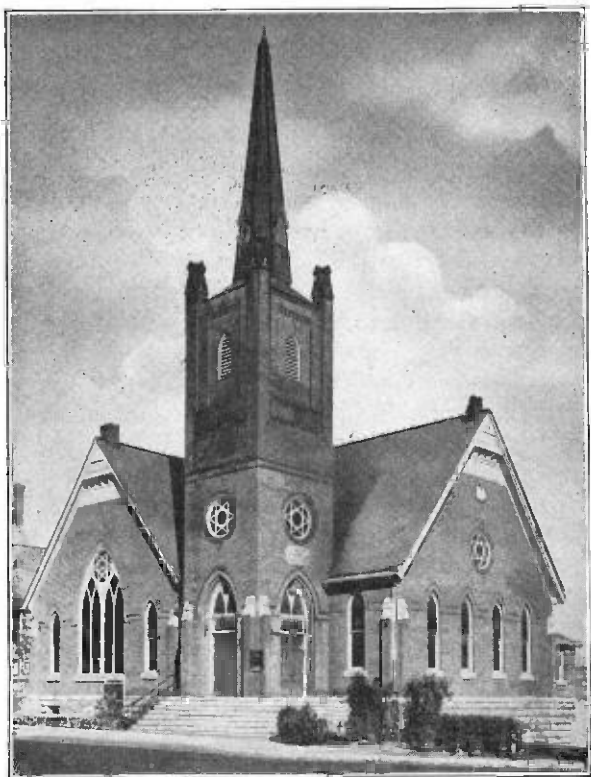
The other affidavit is signed by seven persons and reads as follows:—(11)

"That through the influence of the United States agent to the Wyandotts, and one or two pro-slavery men, the church membership was divided in 1848, about sixty-five members seceding from the Methodist Episcopal church and uniting with the church South, while the remainder, amounting to about ninety-five members adhered to the old organization and the Me-

10. Sworn to before Stephen A. Cobb, Notary, Jan. 14, 1861.

11. Signed by John D. Brown, Matthew Mudeater, I. W. Brown, W. M. Johnson, John Sarrahass, Jacob Whitecrow and Ed. T. Vedder and sworn to before A. D. Bartlett, Notary, May 12, 1866.

thodist Episcopal church That whenever the missionaries of the Methodist Episcopal church attempted to hold services in the said church, the services were disturbed and interrupted by persons, who were influenced by the said opponents of the Methodist Episcopal church, who threw stones and other missiles against the building; that for the sake of peace the



SEVENTH STREET METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH. SOUTH.

A descendant from the Wyandot Church in Ohio.

members of the Methodist Episcopal church ceased to hold their meetings in the brick church for the time being, hoping that with a change in the administration of the United States Government and the appointment of a new United States agent to the Wyandotts, a different and more peaceable state of affairs would be ushered in, when they could peacefully re-enter

the church and regain the parsonage which had been taken possession of by the missionary of the church South. That after that the United States agent expelled the missionary of the Methodist Episcopal church from the territory, though he had given no cause for his expulsion; that for some time the members of the Methodist Episcopal church held their meetings in dwelling houses and grounds; that subsequently they built a log church with their own hands about two miles away from the brick church and worshipped in it; that after the organization of the Territory of Kansas, the difficulties were augmented by the location of the Surveyor General's office for Kansas and Nebraska on the present site of Wyandotte city; that the clerks in the said office were generally dissipated and that they caused a grog shop to be opened near their office which very much increased the state of lawlessness which had previously obtained in the neighborhood; that neither property nor life was secure; that on the evening and night of the 8th of April, 1856, both the brick and the log churches were burned down by incendiaries to us unknown; that we believe that this state of society was brought about by the United States Indian Agents and other Government officers who fostered a spirit of persecution against all anti-slavery churches and persons; that the said brick church at the time of its destruction was worth \$3,000; and that the log church and its contents were worth \$1,500; that the Wyandots now have no church, and are too poor to build one; and that their graveyards need strong and substantial enclosures which they are unable to build; and that they worship in dwelling houses."

Claims were presented to Congress by the M. E. Church for the value of both of these buildings, the claim being that the destruction was due to the failure of the government to protect the Wyandots under their treaty. The effort to collect was unsuccessful.

Before the burning of the two churches the 1855 treaty had been made which gave two acres of land to each branch of the church. These allotments, when completed, gave to the Methodist Episcopal church the two acres where the log church had stood and to the church South the two acres where the

brick church had stood. (12) Neither church ever rebuilt on these allotments. Before its log church burned, however, the Methodist Episcopal church had converted a part of its property into a cemetery and this remains as the historic "Old Quindaro Burial Ground." Several times the Methodist Episcopal descendants of the "Church in the Wilderness" have erected new and more substantial church homes, the last being the



LUCY B. ARMSTRONG.

The one outstanding woman of the Wyandot Nation. She was the daughter of the Missionary and the wife of John M. Armstrong. She is buried in the Old Quindaro Cemetery.

beautiful structure at Seventh and Washington known as the Washington Avenue Church.

The adherents to the church South made no effort to rebuild on the site of the brick church.

12. Reservations under Second Article of Treaty: "283 Methodist Church. Commencing at the SE corner of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 31 T. 10 S., R. 25 E.; thence North 26- $\frac{2}{3}$ poles; thence East 12 poles; thence South 26- $\frac{2}{3}$ poles; thence West 12 poles to beginning, containing 2 acres."

"284 Methodist Epis. Church South. Commencing 46 poles North of the SW cor. of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 4 T. 11 S., R. 25 E.; thence North 17 poles 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ links; thence East 17 poles 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ links; thence South 17 poles 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ links; thence West 17 poles 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ links to the beginning. Containing 2 acres."

The land later passed to the Grindrod family and a building was erected on it that for years was used as a detention home by Wyandotte county. The foundation walls of the old church are said to have formed a part of the foundation for this building.

A new site for a church was secured from Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Northrup at the Northwest corner of the National cemetery. A frame building, called the white church, was commenced and completed in the winter of 1855-57. The church did not receive a deed to the property, however, until Dec. 31, 1860. The city of Wyandotte had been platted in the meantime and the church property occupied the corner of Huron Place, bounded on the north by Minnesota avenue and on the west by Seventh street. (13)

The work of the church South was practically suspended during the Civil war. It was revived again in 1867. (14) About the year 1870 a brick church was commenced on the same lot at Seventh and Minnesota. This building was put in condition for occupancy but was never completed or dedicated. It stood about fifteen feet above the street and was described as follows: —“The church at Huron Place was 64 by 80 feet, walls 20 feet high, ceilings 35 feet in center. An alcove was in one end for the pulpit; a tower at each corner of the other end with a large vestibule between the towers. The first floor of one of the towers was used for a pastor's study, and the other for coal bin. There was one room in the building which was quite roomy but not very convenient; the building was never finished and had been condemned and tied together with huge iron rods for years before we ceased to use it.” (15)

For several years it was rented to Wyandotte county for a court room. (16) It was only abandoned for this purpose when the county moved into the new court house on the opposite corner of Seventh and Minnesota.

In 1886 a new church site was secured at the corner of Seventh and Nebraska. The old church site was sold on March 30, 1887 for \$25,000. The materials in the old church were reserved and used in the building on the new site. The new church and parsonage, when completed, cost \$24,000. The new church was dedicated June 17, 1888 and became known officially as the Seventh Street Church. (17)

13. History of the Seventh Street Methodist Church South, pg. 34.

14. Ibid, pg. 36.

15. Ibid, pgs. 38-43.

16. Ibid, pg. 43.

17. Ibid, pgs. 45-46.

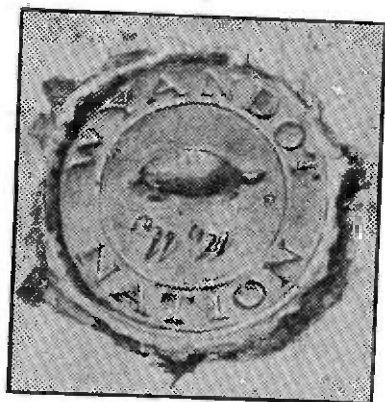
Thus the two descendants of the "Church in the Wilderness," after years of trials and tribulations, came at last to be housed, within a couple of blocks of each other, on the "Seventh Street Trafficway."

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-TWO

PLACE: 4th and State, Kansas City, Kan.
TIME: The Year 1844.
EVENTS: I The Wyandot Capitol.
II The First Free School in Kansas.
III The First Sunday School.
IV. The Provisional Government.

I. THE WYANDOT COUNCIL HOUSE.

The Wyandot Nation was all that the word nation implies. Its government can be described as a representative democracy. A council was elected annually which performed all the functions of government—legislative, executive and judicial. It made the laws; hired and fired those who were to execute them; de-



THE SEAL OF THE WYANDOTS.

Official documents of the Wyandot Nation were authenticated with the seal of William Walker, head chief of the Nation and afterwards Provisional Governor. The seal was slightly smaller than a silver quarter. It bore the symbol of the big turtle clan of which Walker was a member. Now in the possession of Mrs. Lillian Hale, a niece of William Walker.

cided disputes; granted divorces; punished for breaches of the peace; and tried, condemned and executed for murder. When any question out of the ordinary came up a Convention of the Nation was called and in this all the adult members of the Tribe, male and female, participated.

The Council held regular weekly meetings and special meet-

ings whenever needed. At first, after coming to Kansas, it seemingly had no fixed place of meeting. Gov. Walker in his diary, records with a good deal of regularity the times and places of the meetings of the Council. Sometimes they were at the school house, sometimes at the church, sometimes at the company store, and often at the homes of the various members. He first speaks of the Council House under date of Dec. 4th, 1851:—"Attended meeting at the Council House. A little over thirty attended. Not a quorum."

From this time on all reference to the Council meetings in this diary are at the Council House. School closed in the old building in the spring of 1852, so we have the approximate time when the Council took over the school house building and made it the seat of government. One of the speakers at the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Wyandotte City was Dr. J. P. Root. In speaking of Wyandotte as he first knew it in 1856, he said:—

The Council House of the Nation was located about sixty feet north of the present northeast corner of Kansas Avenue and Fourth street." (1)

The building, which eventually became the Council House of the Wyandot Nation, was built for a school house, the money coming from the school fund of the Nation, secured to the Wyandots by the treaty of March, 1842. (2) It was built in 1844 by J. M. Armstrong. It was a frame building with double doors.

Russell B. Garrett, who was one of the delegates to the convention which organized the Provisional Government, says in his letters: (4)

"The building in which the Convention was held was a little one-story, frame building, built and used for a school house and a Council House. It stood on what is now the center of Nebraska avenue and Fourth street."

Mrs. Sarah Dagnall gives the following description of the building:— (5)

"I can't tell the size. It had three windows on each side and two in the east end, and two in the west end—with the doors between those in the west end. I remember it stood that way—east and west. It was a

1. Kansas City Journal, February 17, 1882.

2. Andreas, *History of Kansas*, pg. 1228.

3. Wyandotte Gazette, Dec. 29, 1870.

4. The Provisional Government, pg. 32, note.

5. Ibid.

frame building, and plastered. Always had a large box stove, as we had only wood to burn in those days. The furnishings were of the most common kind—benches and common chairs, with one large square table. I can remember the table well, because they used to keep the money—gold and silver—stacked up on it during a payment time. The bulk of the money was kept at the Agency building, across the street. Once during a payment a box containing \$1,000 was stolen, they supposed—never was found—so we were short that much."

That it was built in the woods and was surrounded by hazel and alder brush we know from Gov. Walker's diary. Under date of Aug. 8, 1846, he wrote:

"Five of us assembled at the school house to clear up the grounds by grubbing the hazel and alder brush, hauling away tree tops thrown down by the tornado and fixing seats for our approaching "green corn feast" and "barbecue."

In the call for the election under the proposed Topeka Constitution Wyandott precinct, at the Council House in Wyandott City is designated as a voting place. (6)

After the Wyandotts had made their treaty with the Government in 1855 whereby they were to have their lands in severalty, they began to close up the affairs of the Nation and to dispose of the common property. Two extracts from the Journal of the Council show the disposition of the Council House.

"October 14, 1856. The first business before the Chiefs was a discussion taken by the appointing Esquire Ladd and Mr. Patterson to appraise the public property in Wyandott City consisting of Council House, Dwelling house and jail and blacksmith shop tools—and furthermore they have decided to let Silas Armstrong have the Council House on proper condition of his putting the building in good repair for the use of the Council."

"Oct. 22, 1856. The Council has decided to sell the public buildings in Wyandott City for the amount of the appraisement made by Esquire Ladd and Mr. Patterson."

"The dwelling house was appraised at three hundred dollars and fifty cents and the Council house at

seventy-five dollars and the jail at forty-five dollars. The dwelling house was sold to Isaac W. Brown for \$312.50, payable one-half at the first payment and the other half at the next following payment. Silas Armstrong bought the Council house and jail for \$120.00, payable half at the first payment and the other half at the next following payment. All as per their several notes of hand." (7)

Thus the Capitol of the Wyandot Nation passed from its control. Writing in 1870, Mrs. Armstrong speaks of the building as "occupied lately as a carpenter shop." (8) Like some other early day Capitols in Kansas, nothing remains of its former greatness save memories.

II. THE FIRST FREE SCHOOL IN KANSAS.

On July 1st, 1844, John M. Armstrong opened the first free school in Kansas, in the frame building in the woods, now described as the east side of Fourth street, between State and Nebraska avenue, Kansas City, Kansas. The expense of the building had been met out of the School funds secured to the Wyandot Nation by the treaty of March, 1842. (9)

The school was managed by Directors appointed by the Wyandot Council, whose members were elected annually by the members of the Nation. White children were admitted free. (10) J. M. Armstrong was a lawyer, but there was no demand for his services at that time, and so he became the first teacher in the school. He taught the school until 1845 when he went to Washington as the representative of the Wyandot Nation to look after their claims. Rev. Mr. Cramer, the Methodist minister, succeeded him. He was followed by Robert Robitaille, one of the chiefs of the Nation. (11) Governor Walker's diary for March 3, 1846, reads:—"Council today. Directors employed Mr. Robitaille to take charge of Mr. Kramer's school."

The next teacher was Rev. R. Parrott of Indiana. Mrs. Lucy B. Armstrong taught the school from December, 1847 to March, 1848. Miss Anna H. Ladd, who came to the territory with the Armstrongs, followed. Then came Mr. and Mrs.

7. Journal of the Wyandot Council now in library of the State Historical Society.

8. Wyandotte Gazette, Dec. 29, 1870.

9. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1228.

10. Ibid.

11. Ibid.

Armstrong again. Mrs. Armstrong was teaching the school when her husband died in April, 1852 at Mansfield, Ohio, while on his way to Washington to prosecute the claims of the Wyandots.

The school was closed in the old building April 16, 1852 and was resumed later in Mrs. Armstrong's dining room. The next winter it was removed to the Methodist Episcopal church three quarters of a mile west of Mrs. Armstrong's home, and was continued there until the church was destroyed by incendiaries April 8, 1856. (12)

The school system, thus started, was expanded by the Wyandots and before their tribal government ceased to function there were four school districts in the Nation managed by the Directors appointed by the Council.

III. THE FIRST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Among the papers of Lucy B. Armstrong is one that tells the story of the first Sunday School. We give it in full:

"The first Sabbath school organized in Wyandot was in June, 1847, through the instrumentality of Miss Martha Bigelow, a daughter of Rev. Russell Bigelow, a former missionary to the Wyandot Indians, and Miss Hester A. Zane, a member of the Wyandot nation. These young ladies collected money for a library by subscription and had a library purchased by the Methodist Book Concern in Cincinnati, and a Sabbath school was organized in the first school house built in Wyandot in 1844, afterwards known as the Council House, near Fourth street, east side, between Kansas and Nebraska avenues. The superintendent was the Rev. R. M. Parrot of Indiana, then teacher of the school taught in the school house; secretary, J. M. Armstrong; teachers J. M. Armstrong, Lucy B. Armstrong, Martha Bigelow, Hester A. Zane, Martha R. Walker, Irwin P. Long and one or two others. The next November the Sunday school was moved to a brick church just completed, half a mile west of the school house and J. M. Armstrong was the superintendent from that time until his death in 1852. This school was moved from place to place, being held in four different church buildings and two school houses and one dwelling house since its organization, but it never went entirely down, though suspended

the latter part of 1856, and the first months of the war, during the absence of the superintendent who succeeded Mr. Armstrong."

IV. THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

One of the most interesting chapters in Kansas history has to do with the organization of the Provisional Government for the Territory of Nebraska, which was made at the Wyandot Council House on July 26, 1853. The Wyandots were the most civilized of all the Indian tribes that came to Kansas. They had followed the practice of adopting white captives into their tribe so long that when they came to Kansas in 1843 it is said there was not a single one in the tribe who could lay claim to being a full blood Indian. (13)

The gold find in California in 1849 brought a steady stream of people through the Indian country and demonstrated that the great highway to the Pacific would start from the mouth of the Kaw. The Wyandots saw that along this highway must be settlers and that these settlers must live on Indian lands. They knew that the white man not only wanted their lands but that he would get them. To enhance the value of their lands then, it was necessary that white men should be given the liberty of settling in their vicinity, and so the Wyandots moved in the matter of securing a territorial government. On the 12th of October, 1852, an election was held at the Wyandot Council House and Abelard Guthrie was elected as a delegate to Congress from Nebraska Territory. There were 35 votes cast and Mr. Guthrie received them all. (14)

In a statement made in writing at a later date concerning this matter, Governor William Walker said:

"The first movement looking to an organization of this Territory was made in 1845. Senator Douglas, then Chairman on Territories, reported a Bill for that purpose; but the measure not meeting with much favor with the Senate, was laid aside and but little more said about the measure till the summer of 1852, when a few daring and resolute spirits in the Wyandot nation determined on making a demonstration in favor of its organization, by concerting measures for holding an election for a delegate to Congress. But a serious

13. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XV, pgs. 93, 184, 185.

14. Diary of Gov. Walker, Oct. 12, 1852.

question at home had to be solved: Who would go, if elected, and run the risk of having to pay his own expenses to, at and from Washington, as it was extremely doubtful whether the delegate so elected would be admitted to a seat. Mr. A. G. (Abelard) Guthrie, a man of talents and some experience in public life, having done the state some service, in other responsible positions, offered his services and was duly elected amidst the opposition of Government officials, the military, especially."



WILLIAM WALKER.

Head Chief of the Wyandots and Provisional Governor of the Territory of Nebraska.

At the instance of Senator Atchison, Mr. Guthrie was threatened with arrest by the officers at Fort Leavenworth for an attempt at "revolution." This threat he disregarded. Seeing that Guthrie was not to be intimidated, it was determined to have a new election for delegate to Congress, to be held at the Fort. Guthrie stood for delegate in this election, and he defeated the

military candidate by a vote of 54 to 16. Opposition to Guthrie at home then ceased, but it was revived at Washington when he appeared there.

Mr. Guthrie presented his credentials to Congress upon his arrival in Washington, but that body refused to recognize him as a delegate, but his arrival started an agitation which forced the question of the organization of the territory to the front, so he accomplished something by his mission.

Encouraged by what had been accomplished the Wyandots determined to try again and so called a convention to meet at the Council House at the time of the Green Corn Feast to organize a provisional government. The date was fixed for August 9th, 1853. The other tribes, and the white men in the government employ, were notified of the proposed meeting. The Benton democracy, over in Missouri, determined that the provisional government when made should be in the interests of the Benton scheme for a transcontinental railroad and so took time by the forelock and called a railroad convention to meet at the Wyandot Council House July 26th. (15) Governor Walker's diary is the only written report of that convention. He says:—

"July 26, 1853. At noon a messenger was sent for me to attend the Railroad convention. I saddled my horse and rode up to the Wyandott Council House, where I found a large collection of the habitants of Nebraska."

"The meeting, was called to order and organized by the appointment of Wm. P. Birney of Delaware, president, and Wm. Walker, Sec'y. A committee was then appointed to prepare resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. James Findley, — Dyer, and Silas Armstrong were appointed."

Mr. Dyer, it seems, had come prepared for just such an emergency and so he was given the right of way.

The preamble to the resolutions sets out that it is the will of the people of the United States that the Mississippi valley and the Pacific ocean should be connected by a railroad and then sets out some of the principles that should be followed in its construction. (17)

The first resolution declared that the central route embraces

15. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. VII, pg. 102.

16. The Provisional Government, pg. 27.

17. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. VII, pg. 107.

all the advantages and affords all the facilities necessary to the successful prosecution of the great enterprise.

The second resolution declared against the policy of giving grants of land to a corporation for the building of railroads or for any other purpose.

The third resolution cordially approved of the Thomas H. Benton plan for a railway.

The fourth resolution regretted the failure of the passage of the bill to organize Nebraska territory and called on Congress for its earliest possible passage.

The fifth resolution was expressive of grateful acknowledgement of the Hon. Thomas H. Benton and the Hon. Willard P. Hall, for their generous and patriotic exertions in support of the rights and interests of the territory.

The sixth resolution declared against taxation without representation and called upon the citizens of Nebraska to meet in their respective precincts on the second Tuesday in October and elect a delegate to represent them.

The seventh resolution provided that the Convention appoint a Provisional Governor, a Provisional Secretary of State, and a Council of three persons, and that all election returns be made to the Secretary of State and by him opened and the votes counted in the presence of the Governor and Council on the second Tuesday in November next and that a certificate of election be issued by them to the persons having the largest number of votes.

Up to this point the resolutions are written in the same hand writing, which is presumed to be that of Mr. Dyer, who was the chairman of the resolutions committee. There is some evidence to show that they were prepared some days in advance of the Convention.

The next resolution is in the handwriting of Gov. Walker. It declared that while we earnestly desire to see this territory organized, and become the home of the white man, we as earnestly disclaim all intention or desire to infringe upon the rights of the Indians holding lands within the boundaries of the territory.

The next two resolutions are in the handwriting of Abelard Guthrie. They declared that the people of Nebraska Territory were not unmindful of the services rendered by their late delegate to Congress, the Hon. Abelard Guthrie, tendered to him their sincere thanks and profound gratitude, and declared in

favor of the convention nominating a suitable person to represent Nebraska in the 33rd Congress. (18)

To quote from Gov. Walker's diary again:—

"In accordance with the resolutions adopted, the following officers were elected as a provisional government for the territory: For provisional governor, William Walker; Secretary of the territory, G. J. Clark; councilmen, R. C. Miller, Isaac Mundy and M. R. Walker."

"A. Guthrie, late delegate, was nominated as the candidate for re-election. Adjourned."

"Saturday—Well by action of the convention Tuesday last I was elected Provisional Governor of this territory. The first executive act devolving upon me is, to issue a proclamation ordering an election to be held in the different precincts of one delegate to the 33rd Congress."

"Monday, August 1, 1843. Issued my proclamation for holding an election in the different precincts in the territory on the second Tuesday in October, for one delegate to the 33rd Congress."

The anti-Benton democracy of Missouri concluded to take the delegateship of Nebraska territory away from the Benton followers and so brought out Rev. Thomas Johnson of the Shawnee Manuel school as an opposing candidate. (19) Gov. Walker says:—

"Tuesday, Oct. 11, 1853. Attended the election for delegate to Congress, for Wyandott precinct. Fifty-one votes only were polled. A. Guthrie, 33; Tom Johnson, 18."

"The priesthood of the M. E. church made unusual exertions to obtain a majority for their holy brother. Amidst the exertions of their obsequious toots it was apparent it was an uphill place of business in Wyandott."

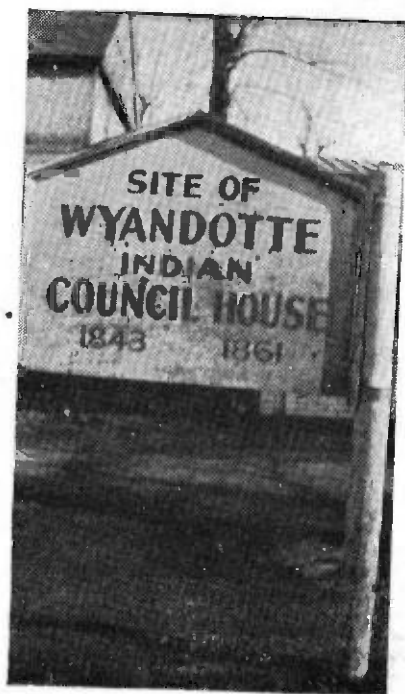
"Monday, Oct. 31, 1853. I suppose we may safely set down Tom Johnson's election for delegate as certain. It is not at all surprising when we look at the fearful odds between the opposing candidates. Mr. Guthrie had only his personal friends to support him with their votes and influence, while the former had the whole power of the Federal government, the pres-

18. *Ibid.*, pg. 37.

19. *Ibid.*

ence and active support of the Commissioner of Indian affairs, the military, the Indian Agents, Missionaries, Indian traders, etc. A combined power that is irresistible."

The Territorial Council canvassed the returns and issued a certificate of election to Mr. Johnson, who went to Washington and asked for a seat as a delegate. Mr. Guthrie contested on the ground of fraud. Another Johnson from Iowa



SITE WYANDOT COUNCIL HOUSE.

Here at 4th and State, Kansas City, Kansas, the Wyandots met. Here the first free school in Kansas was opened. Here the Provisional Government was formed.

brought a delegation to Nebraska City and their votes were cast for him. He, too, asked for a seat in Congress. The House refused to recognize any of the contestants, but the battle was on and out of it grew the Douglas bill for the organization of the two territories of Kansas and Nebraska which President Pierce signed May 30, 1854. (20)

The duties of the Provisional Government seem to have been finished when it gave Mr. Johnson his certificate as a delegate to the 33rd Congress, but although its days may have been few it succeeded in putting Kansas on the map. The net results of this movement were well summed up by W. E. Connelley, as follows:

Now, what did the movement started here by Abelard Guthrie and supported by the Wyandot Nation do?

It forced the hand of the slave-power.

It forced the slave-power to release its deadly hold on Kansas—free territory by the Missouri Compromise.

It forced the organization of Kansas and Nebraska Territories.

It precipitated the final conflict between freedom and slavery.

It caused the defeat of slavery in the new territory of Kansas. Its defeat here caused its overthrow in America.

It caused the formation of the Republican party.

In fact, the movement started here in Old Kansas—Kansas City, Kansas—changed the destiny of this Nation.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-THREE

PLACE: Sec. 10, T. 11, R. 23, Wyandotte Co., Kansas.
TIME: The Year 1848.
EVENT: The Pratt Mission.

For twenty years the Rev. John G. Pratt conducted a boarding school for the Delaware Indians, under the auspices of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society. The site of this old mission is about twelve miles west of Kansas City, Kansas in the N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10, Town 11, Range 23. The buildings were a half mile south of the present Reidy road.



THE PRATT MISSION.

The second Delaware Baptist Mission. Build in 1844. Functioned until 1867.

Rev. Pratt was one of the best known of all the early day missionaries to the Indians. He was born at Hingham, Mass., Sept. 9, 1814 and graduated from Andover Seminary in 1836. He had learned the printer's trade. On March 29, 1837, he married Olivia Evans and they started almost immediately for the Indian Territory, where Pratt was to succeed Jotham Meeker, as the printer at the Shawanoe Baptist Mission. Meeker

1. Kansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. I, pg. 94.

2. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XII, pg. 184, note.

kept a diary and on May 11, 1837, he recorded in his terse style—"Mr. and Mrs. Pratt arrived from Massachusetts."

Mr. Pratt remained at the Shawnee-Mission until 1844 when he took charge of the Stockbridge Mission near Ft. Leavenworth. On Nov. 19, 1843, he was ordained as a minister in the Baptist church. He had also become skilled in treating the ailments common to a frontier population, and so he became teacher, preacher and doctor for the community. The Stockbridge Mission was abandoned in 1848 and Rev. Pratt then came to Wyandotte county and revived or re-established the Delaware Baptist Mission. The old mission stood on the present site of Edwardsville. Mr. Pratt's own story of the absorption of the old into the new was as follows:—(3)

"In 1848 I moved the buildings of the mission school up to where I now live. It was a log building. I moved the logs and put the building up in the same form as it stood at the river. It stands now where I then placed it. It forms the middle portion of my house, and it is clapboarded over the logs like the other portion of the frame building." (4)

Mr. E. F. Heisler, in an issue of the *Kansas City Sun*, June 18, 1915, said:

"About the year 1847, the Baptists bought a frame house, partly completed, from a Mormon elder, after the building had stood for some time unoccupied and not finished. The building was fitted up and was occupied by the Rev. J. G. Pratt as the Delaware Baptist Mission. A school was established, which was attended by the Indian children. The attendance ranged from 30 to 75, and occasionally some of the children of the whites, who lived among the Indians, attended here."

The place was described in 1854 as follows:—(5)

"The American Baptist Mission, at Brigsville, near Delaware Post Office, where the Rev. John G. Pratt, aided by Miss E. S. Moore and three other female assistants, taught an Indian school of some thirty children of the Delaware tribe and carried on a small farm of twenty acres. There was here a dwelling house, church and school house, and a few sheds and outbuildings."

3. *Ibid.*, pg. 183, note.

4. "The center part of this building 22x22 feet, was built on the present site of Edwardsville." *Kansas City Sun*, Apr. 27, 1900.

5. Andreas, *History of Kansas*, pg. 82.

Miss Clara Gowing of Reading, Mass., who came to the school as a teacher in 1859, described the place more in detail. She said:— (6)

"The mission buildings consisted of five houses and the stables. A large square house with an "L" was occupied by Mr. Pratt and family, the lower part being the family dining room; over it was a chamber and beyond the dining room was the kitchen. Part of the house was originally a log church at the Shawnee-Mission, and was the first building used for worship in the country. Another large square house was used as a dormitory for the school. There was also a long school house divided by folding doors. All these were frame buildings facing south; a small house formerly used for the school but then in use as a wash house or laundry, the usual smoke house of that part of the country, and stables built of logs, completed the group that was known through the territory as



REV. CHARLES JOURNEYCAKE



REV. JOHN G. PRATT

The Missionary and the Chief in memory of whom the Pratt-Journeycake Library was founded at the Baptist Theological Seminary by Nannie Bartles, daughter-in-law of the one and only daughter of the other.

the Baptist, or Pratt's mission. The location was on rising ground on the border of the timber land and rolling prairie. About a quarter of a mile away, on a hill, was the chapel, a frame building, but not strong enough to bear the bell which had been given to the mission, and so it was hung on a frame work in Mr. Pratt's back yard, rung to call the meals, school and daily worship. Its tones were gladly heard far away, and served the purpose of a town clock to all within its sounds."

According to the Kansas Baptist for November, 1930, this bell was cast in 1844 for the Baptist Mission near Muncie cemetery at Leavenworth. It came with Rev. Pratt to the Delaware Mission in 1848. It afterwards was taken to Ottawa University where it went through a fire which destroyed the building in which it was housed. The clapper is now in the museum of the State University at Lawrence.

The Delawares requested the Government to set aside a part of their annuities for educational purposes, to the amount of \$25.00 per year for each pupil in school. This was to clothe, feed and furnish the pupil and sustain the teacher, leaving the deficiency to be furnished by the mission board. (7)

When Miss Gowing went to the mission in 1859, Mr. Pratt was receiving a salary of \$500.00 per year. Previous to this he had received only \$300.00. He then received \$50.00 a year for each Indian child in school. This was to cover clothing, food, books and medicines for children that were hard on shoes and required much medicine. (8)

In the school was taught all the elementary branches of an English education, together with algebra, natural philosophy and some academic branches. (9) Pupils who completed the course here were urged to go back east to complete their education. Among those who were sent to Granville College in Ohio was Nannie, the daughter of Chief Charles Journeycake. She was a quarter blood Delaware and remarkably beautiful (10). To the same college went Rev. Pratt's son, Lucin. Perhaps propinquity had something to do with it, but at any rate, Miss Gowing's records that "during the spring vacation of 1860 Mr. Pratt's oldest son, Lucius, married Nannie, daughter of Charles Journeycake. There was quite a wedding in the afternoon. The bride was dressed in white muslin, with veil and orange blossoms, and looked very pretty. The ceremony was followed by an elaborate supper, the wedding supper being a prominent feature of a white, or "strong" marriage as the Indians termed it." The record of this marriage in the Probate Judge's office reads: (12) — "I, John G. Pratt, minister of the Gospel do hereby certify that on the 1st day of March, A. D. 1860 I solemnized the rites of marriage between Mr. Lucin B. Pratt and Nancy M. Journeycake both of the Delaware Reserve

7. Andreas, *History of Kansas*, pg. 1253.

8. *Kansas Historical Collections*, Vol. XII, pg. 186.

9. Andreas, *History of Kansas*, pg. 1253.

10. *Ibid.*

11. *Kansas Historical Collections*, Vol. XII, pg. 187.

12. Book 1, pg. 30.

at the home of Charles Journeycake in said county. John G. Pratt, Pastor of Delaware Mission church."

Neighborhood tradition is that the Pratt family was not overjoyed at this alliance. Be that as it may, it was through this alliance that a lasting monument has been erected to the memory of Rev. Pratt. When the Delaware lands were allotted, Nannie Pratt received a patent to 80 acres of Wyandotte county land. (13). After the death of her husband, Nannie Pratt married a man named Bartles, after whom the town of Bartlesville, Okla., was named. Just before the opening of the Baptist Seminary at Kansas City, Mrs. Bartles started a fund of \$2,500 for a library to be a memorial of her father and the father of her first husband, the missionary and the chief, to be known as the "Pratt-Journeycake Library." In addition to this, in 1923 Mrs. Bartles deeded her 80 acres of Wyandotte county land as an initial gift of a fund with which to build a fireproof building to house the "Pratt-Journeycake Library." (14)

With the abandonment of the Stockbridge Mission, the church voted to disband and become merged with the Mission Church at Delaware; which was accordingly done at a meeting held at Delaware, Aug. 12-13, 1848. Twenty-one names were enrolled as the Delaware Church membership at that time and John G. Pratt appears as the pastor. (15). No doubt the place of meeting for this church was the chapel, described by Miss Gowing, as a part of the mission buildings, that it lived as long as the mission flourished; and that it closed down with the mission.

Among the Pratt papers in the State Historical Society the following memorandum:

Exhibit of property belonging to the Delaware tribe of Indians found upon Section 5 and 8 of T 11. S of R. 23 E. and valued as follows to wit:

1 Council House, 22x36 2 story frame	\$500.00
1 Log Building	50.00
1 Frame Dwelling 16x24 1 story	200.00
1 Black Smith Shop 20x20 1 story	75.00

The date is October 26, 1866 showing the Council House did not burn down until after that time.

The final payment to the Delaware, before they moved to

13. The record (Book P., pg. 524) shows this to be the E. ¼ of the S. E. ¼ of Section 4, Town 11, Range 23.

14. Student Life Baptist Theological Seminary. 1926-7, pgs. 13-14.

15. Kansas Historical Quarterly. Vol. II, pgs. 249-50.

16. Kansas Historical Collections. Vol. XII, pg. 184. note.

their new home in the Indian Territory, was evidently made by Agent Pratt at the Delaware Council house, which stood a mile, or more, to the northwest of the Pratt mission. It was witnessed by Mr. Elbert S. Catlin, now (1934) a citizen of Leavenworth. In writing of the event, under date of September 20, 1934, Mr. Catlin said:

"At the last payment to the Delawares before they moved to the Indian Territory, I was visiting at Major J. G. Pratt's house and he invited me to go to the Agency building with him to see the payment. It was located as I remember west of Major Pratt's home nearly a mile, in heavily timbered country. The Indians were all camped in the vicinity. Merchants were there from Leavenworth to sell them equipment needed on their trip. Black Richards (a brother of John F. Richards) to sell them harness. A representative of the Caldwell Wagon Co. to sell them farm wagons, and a number of horse dealers to sell them horses. Being quite young at the time the scene made a lasting impression upon me."

In 1864, Mr. Pratt was appointed U. S. Indian agent to the Delawares, serving in that capacity until the tribe moved to the Indian Territory in 1867-68. (16). A part of the land on which the mission was located was patented to Mr. Pratt and here he continued to reside the remainder of his life, esteemed and respected by all. He died April 23, 1900.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-FOUR

PLACE: Intersection Louisa Smith and Parallel Roads
TIME: January, 1852.
EVENT: First Burial in Old Quindaro Cemetery.

When the Methodist Church split on the slavery question it brought trouble to the church in Wyandot. The church that the Wyandots had brought from Ohio, when the Nation moved to Kansas, was split in twain. Two separate organizations were maintained and two church buildings were erected. The adherents of the Methodist Episcopal church, or the church North, being shut out of the brick church, built before the split, built a log church just north and east of the present junction of the Parallel and Louisa Smith roads, and within the territory that was afterwards incorporated as Quindaro. It was known as the log church to distinguish it from the brick church which was in possession of the church South.

By the treaty of 1855 the Wyandott Nation reserved two acres of land for each branch of the Methodist church. (12). The part reserved for the Methodist Episcopal church was a strip 26 2-3 rods north and south and 12 rods east and west in the South-west quarter of Section 31, Town 11, Range 23, and was designated on the official report of the Commissioners as allotment No. 283. (13). It is bounded today on the south by the Parallel road and on the west by the Louisa Smith road and is universally known as the "Old Quindaro Cemetery."

April 8, 1856, both church buildings were burned by vandals. The Methodist Episcopal church never rebuilt on this two acre tract. The church moved elsewhere and the ground was given up wholly for cemetery purposes. Many prominent Wyandotts are buried there. Among them is Matthew R. Walker, and Lydia, his wife. This distinguished couple occupied a very important place in the early history of Masonry in Wyandotte county. It was at the Walker home, now the site of the North East Junior High school, where the preliminary meetings were held which culminated in the organization of Wyandotte Lodge No. 3, A. F. & A. M. Later when the Eastern Star was organized Mrs. Walker became the first Worthy Matron and the newly organized Chapter took her Indian name, Mendias, as its own.

Lucy B. Armstrong, one of the outstanding figures of the Wyandotte Nation, is also buried here, together with her children.

Here, also, is buried Rev. Eben Blachley, the Presbyterian minister, who started the school for negroes at old Quindaro, which has grown into the present Western University.

Here, also, is buried Vincent J. Lane, one of the best known and most distinguished of all the pioneers who settled Wyandotte county and shaped its early day history.

The first burial in this hallowed ground was in January, 1852, when Eliza S. Witten, wife of Rev. James Witten, the missionary, was buried near the log church. (3). A plain white stone marks her grave, but the letters on the stone are scarcely legible, but they disclose that she died Jan. 3, 1852, aged 53 years, 6 months and 14 days.

The next burial, of which there is a record, was that of Katie Sage, alias Sally Crane, alias Sally Between the Logs, alias Sally Frost. The story of Katie Sage is gathered from ten letters written by her brother Charles, bearing dates from April 2nd, 1848 to April 16, 1853. (4). When a small child she was stolen from her Virginia home, by horse thieves, out for revenge, and given by them to the Indians. In 1848 her brother, Charles Sage, was a resident of Van Buren, now Cass county, Missouri. He tells in one of his letters of his reelection to the office of Magistrate and in another he describes himself as follows: "I am a Jeffersonian Democrat in polittick and for Cass and Butler and my Religious principles is Northern Methodist of Weslian stamp." In 1848 Sage was at Fort Leavenworth and while there "a half breed Wyandot Indian" told him there was a white woman living with them that had a nose (spelled Noise) and features resembling his. Thinking this might be his long lost sister "Caty," Sage made the journey, 32 miles from his home, to visit her. He found her unable to speak English and ignorant of her origin. It was with difficulty that he talked to her through an interpreter. A brother, Samuel, who lived at Foresethe, two hundred miles away, was sent for, and on his arrival he recognized the woman, by a burn on the thigh, and some other marks, as his long lost sister. She had been adopted into the Turtle tribe and claimed the whole tribe by adoption and they claimed her as a grandmother. She had been married three times. Her first husband was named Crane, the head chief of the Nation. By him she had one child, which died in infancy. Her second husband was Between the Logs, who was also a head chief. Her third husband was named Frost. She had been a widow for about twenty years. The oldest Indian in the Nation told that between fifty and sixty years before the "Cherrykee Indians" in one of their an-

nual visits to the country brought her to them as a present, as was usual in that day with the Indians, and that when they got her she could not talk.

There was some talk about Katy going to visit her mother in Virginia but she finally declined to go, partly on account of the distance and because it would be no satisfaction to see her people and not be able to talk with them.

Sage tells of his arrangement with a half breed of the tribe to write the history of his sister for him. Later in the correspondence it develops that this half breed was William Walker, now known as Governor Walker. In the early part of 1851 an epidemic of sore eyes spread among the Wyandots. Walker was among those afflicted and so the work was not commenced. Sister "Caty" was also afflicted, and went blind. Sage made various efforts to have Walker write her story, but without success.

On January 21, 1853, Katie Sage died at her residence in Wyandot of "newmomy fever," aged 66 years and 14 days. In his closing letter, Sage writes: "I went to her grave, alone, and viewed her last resting place and felt thankful that I had the privilege of seeing her grave. tell Sister Anna she was buried by the side of the wife of James Witten that rode the circuit in Lee County when her and Sister Pegga was in Lee County. She was truly a pious woman and a Methodist, and through all the changes of the Church adhered strictly to the old Church and is buried at the Church of the old Methodist in the Wyandot Nation."

One of the early burials in this cemetery was that of Marcia Lane, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent J. Lane, in November, 1857. The Lanes were residents of Quindaro and members of this church. On the death of the daughter they were assigned a burial lot in the cemetery by the church, and here the daughter was buried.

In 1874 the Quindaro Cemetery Association was organized. It platted five acres of ground adjoining the Old Wyandot Burial Ground, to which it annexed the two acres of the old cemetery. It said in its dedication plat it did this "for the purpose of preservation and improvement." (5)

In January, 1905 Mrs. Lane died and was buried by the side of her daughter in the Old Wyandot Burial Ground. The Quindaro Cemetery Association demanded pay from Mr. Lane for her grave and threatened to have the body removed unless the demand was met. Mr. Lane went into court and asked for an injunction to restrain the cemetery association from carry-

ing out this threat. This injunction was granted, the court finding that Mr. Lane had title to the property and that the cemetery association had no right to exact from him the payment of any sum of money whatever or to interfere in any manner with the bodies there buried or with his possession of the burial lot. (6)

When Mr. Lane died, some years later, he was buried in this historic ground by the side of the daughter and the wife.

On January 20, 1926, the Quindaro Cemetery Association filed a supplemental plat of its cemetery grounds in which it included and asserted its ownership of this two acre tract.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-FIVE

PLACE: Site N. E. Junior High, Kansas City, Kans.
TIME: The Year 1854
EVENTS: I. The Coming of Masonry to Kansas,
II. The Coming of the Eastern Star.

Masonry came to Kansas almost with the opening of the territory for settlement. It was on the 30th day of May, 1854, that President Pierce signed the bill creating the territories of Kansas and Nebraska. Outside of a few missionaries, Indian agents, U. S. soldiers and government employees, numbering in all less than 800, there were no white men in the territory of Kansas, which at that time stretched to the summit of the Rocky Mountains.

In July, 1854, the Masonic Grand Lodge of Missouri issued a dispensation for the organization of Kansas Lodge U. D.



THE MATTHEW R. WALKER HOME.

It stood on the present site of the Northeast Junior High School. Here the first Masonic Lodge meeting in Kansas was held. (From History of Kaw Lodge No. 272, A. F. & A. M.)

On the 11th of August, 1854, there was a meeting at the home of Matthew R. Walker, now the site of the Northeast Junior High School, attended by eight Master Masons. Here a Masonic lodge was duly organized with J. M. Chivington as worshipful master, Matthew R. Walker, as senior warden and Cyrus Garrett as junior warden. These officers were installed by Bro. Piper, Deputy Grand Master of Missouri.

Masonic tradition is that there were not members enough to fill all the stations and that Mendias, the wife of Walker, acted as tyler for the group. This was the first Masonic lodge ever convened on Kansas soil.

The charter members were Jacob Branson, John M. Chivington, Lewis Farley, Cyrus Garrett, Russell Garrett, L. C. Matthews, A. P. Searcy and Matthew R. Walker.

John M. Chivington, who was installed as master, was a Methodist Episcopal Missionary to the Wyandot Church. He preached to his congregation, through an interpreter, in a log church which stood on the site of the Old Quindaro Cemetery. He is described as being 6 feet, 4 inches high, weighing over 200 pounds without an ounce of surplus flesh, with a large head surmounted with a huge shock of coarse, hazel brown red hair. He later became grand master of Colorado Masons and a colonel in the civil war.

Matthew R. Walker, who was installed as senior warden, belonged to the celebrated Walker family so prominent in the affairs of the Wyandot Nation. He was born in Ontario, Canada, June 17, 1810, and belonged to the Big Turtle Clan of the Wyandots. His Indian name was Rah-hahn-tah-seh, or "Twisting the Forest." He was made a Mason at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, before the Wyandot Nation came to Kansas. He was one of the leading business men among the Wyandots. When the provisional government was organized in 1853 he was named chief justice. He was probate judge of Leavenworth County when it included that territory, north of the Kansas river, now included in Wyandotte. He was a member of the territorial legislature when the capitol of the territory was at Lecompton. At one time he was senior grand warden of the Grand Lodge of Kansas. He died October 15, 1860 and was buried in the Old Quindaro Cemetery.

Cyrus Garrett, who was installed as junior warden, belonged to the Garrett family, which was related to the Walker family by marriage. He was an active member of the Nation and his name is found frequently in the early day records.

Kansas Lodge U. D. raised five members while working under this dispensation. They were George I. Clark, principal chief of the Wyandots, two more members of the Garrett family—Edward and Henry—, D. Dofflemeyer, the Methodist missionary, and William Walker, the provisional governor of the Territory of Nebraska. Wm. Barnett was received by affiliation, thus making a membership of fourteen.

In May, 1855, a charter was granted this lodge by the Grand

Lodge of Missouri, and it became Kansas Lodge No. 153. The first meeting under this charter was held July 27, 1855, at which time Matthew R. Walker was installed as master, making him the first master who ever presided over a regularly constituted lodge of Master Masons in Kansas, under a charter granted by a legally constituted Grand Lodge.

On the 27th of December, 1855, there was a meeting of the Masonic lodges in the Territory of Kansas at Leavenworth City. Three lodges were represented—Smithton of Doniphan County, Leavenworth and the lodge at Wyandotte. Out of this meeting came the organization of the Grand Lodge of Kansas and Kansas Lodge No. 153 of Missouri became, Wyandotte Lodge No. 3 under the jurisdiction of Kansas.



MATTHEW R. WALKER.

Prominent Wyandot and the first Master to preside over a regularly constituted Masonic Lodge in Kansas. He is buried in the old Quindaro Cemetery. (From History of Kaw Lodge No. 272. A. F. & A. M.)

The year 1856 brought seven initiates and three affiliates to the new lodge. Then came the rush to the new town of Wyandotte in 1857 and the lodge added ten affiliates and two initiates that year. In 1858 there were five initiates and seven affiliates. In 1859 there were four initiates and one affiliate. In 1860

there were two affiliates and one initiate bringing the total up to twenty-four initiates and thirty-four affiliates before Kansas became a state.

From this humble beginning this one lodge has grown to a membership of more than two thousand with a fine temple of its own where its meetings are held. The important part its members played in the building of Wyandotte County was told by the veteran, V. J. Lane, at its 43rd anniversary in 1897:

"One of its members, an erudite and educated gentleman was chosen as provisional governor of Kansas, another member was elected lieutenant governor under the Topeka constitution, three of its members were chosen to assist in framing the present constitution of the state under which Kansas was admitted to the Union, another was selected as chief justice under the provisional government, another of its revered members was elected and served as lieutenant governor under the Wyandotte constitution, one of its members was chosen president of the Wyandotte Constitutional Convention, five of its members were elected, commissioned and served gallantly as colonels of their respective regiments during the War of the Rebellion, one of its members was made a brigadier general by President Lincoln, had charge of a division at the Battle of Stone River, was badly wounded and left on the field as dead. He subsequently recovered, was made consul to Vienna by General Grant and served his country in this capacity for fourteen years, wrote the most valuable consular report ever received at the state department and was instrumental in having pork introduced into Germany, three of its members were elected to seats in the national house of representatives, another member was honored with an appointment as minister plenipotentiary to a foreign country, and a majority of our senators and representatives have been selected from the membership of Wyandotte Lodge.

The motto of Kansas is *Ad Astra per Aspera*—to the stars through difficulties. It applies forcibly to the career of this lodge. It was founded under adverse circumstances and difficulties and tradition says at a time when good timber for Masonic purposes was so scarce that it became necessary for our sainted sister, whose portrait adorns these walls to officiate as tyler.

It managed, however, in its infancy, to struggle through the greatest financial depression the world has ever seen, and a drought of many long and weary months duration, fought its way through and withstood the assaults of two wars, withstood the ravages of a multitude of omnivorous, grasshoppers

that swept all vegetation from the face of the country, conquering and overcoming every obstacle in its pathway until tonight it stands out clear and brighter than any other star in the galaxy of Kansas Masonry."

The Eastern Star also came to Kansas by the way of the Walker home. This organization was first known as the American Adoptive Rite of the Order of the Eastern Star and the local organizations were called Constellations. On July 26, 1856, John W. Leonard, grand secretary of the organization, gathered a small group of men and women, most if not all of whom were Wyandots, at the Walker home, and organized a Constellation. Mrs. Lydia B. Walker, wife of Matthew R. Walker, and reputed tyler for the first Masonic lodge, was



LYDIA B. WALKER.

Wife of Matthew R. Walker. First Matron of an Eastern Star Chapter in Kansas. She gave her Indian name of Mendias to this Chapter. She is buried in the Old Quindaro Cemetery.

installed as worthy matron. Matthew R. Walker was installed as worthy patron. Mrs. Walker gave to the Constellation her Indian name, "Mendias," meaning "soft spoken woman." Mr. Leonard was compelled to remain with the Wyandots for two months waiting for the next boat, this being the only kind of

public conveyance at that time. During this time he drilled the officers in their work, which was dramatized and very complicated.

The charter given to this Constellation was dated at "Lodge-town, Kentucky, July 28, 1856" and was signed by Robert Morris, grand luminary" and John W. Leonard, grand secretary." How much work was done under this charter cannot now be determined as all records have been destroyed.

On April 12, 1872 another chapter of the Eastern Star was organized and became known as Floral Chapter No. 9. In 1876 a Grand Chapter was organized in Kansas and the next year Floral Chapter came under its jurisdiction. On March 13, 1878, the two chapters became merged, when Mrs. Lydia B. Walker presented her twenty-two-year old charter to the Floral Chapter. The Grand Chapter was petitioned to recharter the two organizations as Mendias No. 1 which was done.

There is no record extant of any living organization of the Eastern Star that antedates July 28, 1856, so Mendias No. 1 stands today as the oldest of all Eastern Star organizations.

Years went by and when Fowler, the packer, came to Kansas City, the Fowler mansion took the place of the Walker home where Kansas Masonry and the Eastern Star first saw the light in Kansas. In time the Fowler mansion became the home of the Baptist Theological Seminary and this in turn gave way to the Northeast Junior High School.

Kansas Masons should mark the spot that all may know that this is indeed historic ground!

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-SIX

PLACE: The Kansas River.

TIME: From 1854 to 1887.

EVENT: Kansas River Ferries in Wyandotte.

Although ferrying has long since become a lost art, there was a time when it flourished in Wyandotte county. The first Territorial legislature passed a law providing for a pretty thorough regulation of the ferry industry. (1) One feature of this law gave the county commissioners the authority to license ferries, fix the amount of the license fee, and regulate the charges for ferry service. Unfortunately Journal A., of the county commissioners proceedings for Wyandotte county, has not been preserved. If this book could be found, no doubt it would furnish much additional information covering the decade preceding the coming of the bridges over the Kansas river. A record has been found, however, of at least eleven ferries over the Kansas river between its mouth and the western boundary of the county. Their names and locations were as follows:

1. The Wyandot National Ferry Near the river's mouth.
2. The Silas Armstrong Ferry Near the river's mouth.
3. The Willis Wills Ferry Near the river's mouth.
4. The Santa Fe Road Ferry SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 20-11-25.
5. The Eureka Ferry SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 18-11-25.
6. The Muncie Ferry SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 23-11-24.
7. The Grinter Ferry NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 28-11-24.
8. The Touley Ferry SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 29-11-24.
9. The Keeler Ferry Between ranges 23-24.
10. The Chouteau Ferry NE 35-11-23.
Alias the Campbell.
11. The Tiblow Ferry NE 23-11-25.
Alias the Parish;
Alias the White.

The oldest of these ferries, and probably the most important, was the Grinter ferry, established in 1831. The next in point of time and importance was the Wyandot National Ferry, just above the mouth of the Kansas river. It was owned and operated by the Wyandot Nation as a public utility. As both of these ferries have been described in other chapters of this book it will not be necessary to mention them again here.

THE SILAS ARMSTRONG FERRY

The Territorial Legislature of 1855 granted to Silas Armstrong the right to maintain a ferry at the mouth of the Kansas river with the exclusive privilege of landing on both sides of the river for a distance of two miles from the mouth. (2) So far as the evidence goes Armstrong never made use of this grant. The only act of his that has been preserved was an assignment of an interest in this franchise to David E. James and William Weer with whom he was connected in the promotion of a town site on the strip of land lying between the Kansas river and the Missouri state line. Silas Armstrong died in December, 1865.

On February 12th, 1866 the Wyandotte and Kansas City Bridge Company was incorporated to build a bridge across the Kansas river at Wyandotte. The company made a contract with R. S. Twombly and R. W. Hilleker to construct a permanent first class Howe truss bridge across the Kansas river at the foot of Third street in Wyandotte City and the contractors at once commenced work. (3).

On April 10th, 1866, the heirs and assigns of Silas Armstrong filed their petition in the District Court (4) setting out the grant to Armstrong in 1855 and alleging that they, his heirs and successors, were entitled to the exclusive right to run a ferry. That the defendants, who had no interest in the ferry, were building a bridge within the ferry limits and were obstructing the approaches to the ferry by piling material on the roadway and that if the defendants were not restrained and such a bridge was built, as contemplated, then the ferry franchise would become absolutely valueless.

Judge David Brewer heard some testimony, took the matter under advisement, and a few days later issued an injunction forbidding the bridge company from obstructing the approaches to the ferry but refusing the injunction to stop the building of the bridge. The plaintiffs took an appeal from this ruling to the Supreme Court where in due time the decision of the lower court was affirmed. (5).

The plaintiff's next had Hilleker, the bridge builder, cited before the court for contempt, alleging that he was building

2. Laws 1855, pp. 795-796.

3. Answer filed in Bartlett vs. Cooper, case No. 846, District Court, Wyandotte county.

4. Bartlett vs. Cooper.

5. Affirmed Oct. 1, 1866.

the abutments for the bridge in the line of the ferry's track across the river. Judge Brewer refused to hold Hilleker for contempt and handed down a written opinion in which he said: (6).

"The right to run the ferry boat must be protected. Wherever in good faith the owners of that franchise had placed the line of their boat they must be protected in that line and if it is not possible to build a bridge without blocking that line then in my judgment no bridge could be built till the franchise ends or was condemned. It appears from the testimony:

"1st that the owners of the franchise had not in the past so located their ferry line at one point as to indicate that as their chosen landing.

2nd that at the time of the location of the bridge line they had no ferry boat running and had not possession of any landing.

3rd doubtful whether even at the time of commencing the work they had a ferry boat running or had occupied any landing.

4th Questionable whether their ferry line was not selected with the design of conflicting with the bridge line."

On June 12th, 1866 the Armstrong claimants made a fresh attack, filing a new suit in the name of the Wyandotte Bridge and Ferry Company. (7). In this petition they not only claimed under the Armstrong grant but alleged that under an Act of February 25th, 1864, that Armstrong had been given the right to build a bridge across the Kansas River and that he had the right of operating a ferry; that such a bridge had been built at the identical spot where the defendants were now building by the Wyandotte Ferry and Bridge Company (8) to whom the Armstrong rights had been assigned. That such bridge had been destroyed by an Act of God and that a ferry had been placed in its stead to accommodate the public until the bridge could be rebuilt. That the present corporation had been made on the 9th day of March, 1866. and that the rights of all claimants had been merged in it. That it owned all the land on the south side of the river for a long distance both above and below the point of crossing of defendant's bridge. That defendants were wholly irresponsible for damages and that their

6. From files in Bartlett vs. Cooper, District Court, Wyandotte County.

7. Wyandott Bridge and Ferry Co. vs. Wyandott and Kansas City Bridge Co., case No. 850. District Court Wyandotte county.

8. The Wyandott Ferry and Bridge company was incorporated Aug. 16, 1865, by Wm. P. Overton and others.

incorporation and pretended stock was worthless, etc. Wherefore they asked for an injunction to stop the building of the bridge.

Judge Brewer made short work of this application saying that another action between the same parties was pending. An appeal was taken and a case made for the Supreme Court was printed.

The Wyandotte and Kansas City Bridge Company then bought out the Armstrong claimants giving them \$4,000.00 worth of paid up stock for all their claims. (9) The Gazette in its issue of October 3, 1866, carried this news item:

"Settled—The difficulties between the old Wyandotte Ferry Company and the Wyandotte and Kansas City Bridge Company has ben amicably settled, the Ferry Company coming in as members of the Bridge Company and all formerly conflicting interests being now united. So we go. The bridge will soon be in passable order."

The Armstrong ferry grant figures in still another Wyandotte county lawsuit. William Weer was the surviving member in the old partnership between Silas Armstrong, John Calhoun and William Weer, and acting under a law passed to facilitate the settlement of the estates of deceased partners, he had taken over full control of the partnership properties. The heirs of the deceased partners came into court and secured the appointment of a receiver on the ground that by reason of his intemperate habits that Weer was incapable of managing the properties. The parties plaintiff were practically the same as in the two former lawsuits against the bridge company. Not withstanding, their former allegations that the Armstrong interests had been merged into the corporation last suing, they again as individuals claim the Armstrong ferry. The allegation runs—"That there is a valuable ferry franchise belonging to the parties of which the defendant has a one eighth interest and no more. That said ferry is for the transit of passengers, etc., across the Kansas river by the means of boats and that the landing for such on the south side of said river is through some portions of said land and that said ferry is now in actual operation and large amounts of toll being secured there from."

This suit like its predecessors evidently had the effect of mak-

9. Agreement dated Oct. 2, 1866, was filed in the case of Bartlett vs. Cooper, District Court, Wyandotte county.

ing the other fellow come across as it was subsequently dismissed by consent. (10)

THE WILLIS WILLS FERRY

In the original platting of Kansas counties that part of Wyandotte east and south of the Kansas river was a part of Johnson county. The Journal of the Johnson County Commissioners of April 10, 1858, carries this minute: (11)

"Ordered by the court on application of Willis Wills that the said Wills be and he is hereby authorized and duly licensed to establish and keep a ferry on the Kansas river near the mouth of said river opposite the city of Wyandotte for a term of twelve months from this date, at the following rate of ferriage to-wit—for each footman ten cents, man and horse fifteen cents, loose horses ten cents, cattle ten cents each, buggy and one horse twenty-five cents, two horse wagon and horses fifty cents, each additional horse ten cents, and that said Wills pay into the county treasury the sum of Seventy-five dollars for said license. Whereupon the said Willis Wills came forward and executed the bond to the Territory of Kansas in due form and on producing the Sheriff's receipt for said sum of \$75.00 license was duly licensed in according therewith."

Willis Wills occupied a quarter section of land in the bottom between the Kansas river and the Missouri state line September 10, 1854. (12) Later Silas Armstrong claimed the land by virtue of one of the Wyandotte floats and much litigation followed. Two suits of Armstrong's against Wills (13) were pending when Wills died October 15, 1858. (14).

Claudius Kiefer, who came to Wyandotte in 1857, was associated with Wills in a ferry boat called the "Lizzie" that ran from Wyandotte to Kansas City. (15). Possibly the ferry across the Kansas was part of the same venture.

SANTA FE ROAD FERRY

Wyandotte City and Quindaro were born about the same time and were rivals from the start. The first work of Wyandotte

10. David E. James, et al vs. Wm. Weer, case No. 883, District Court, Wyandotte county. Filed Sept. 14, 1866.

11. Commissioners Minutes Johnson county, pg. 12.

12. From petition in case of Willis Wills, Jr., et al vs. George B. Wood, et al. District Court, Wyandotte county.

13. Silas Armstrong vs. Willis Wills. No. 65 and Silas Armstrong vs. Willis Wills, No. 74, District Court, Wyandotte county.

14. Wills Wills, Jr., et al vs. George B. Wood, et al. District Court, Wyandotte county.

15. Kansas Historical Collections Vol. XIV, pg. 93.

dotte was to build a road to tap the Santa Fe trail. To do this it was necessary to establish a free ferry across the Kansas river (16). Quindaro not to be outdone by its rival, built its own road and put in its own ferry over the Kansas river. At the 25th anniversary of the founding of Wyandotte City, the story of the two ferries was told by one of the speakers as follows: (17).

"Wyandotte and Quindaro were for some time rival towns. Both surveyed and opened roads to Southern Kansas through the Shawnee reservation, aiming thereby to secure the trade and travel from that region. Committees were appointed by the respective cities to confer and fix upon a point where a joint ferry could be established for the accommodation of both cities. A certain point was suggested by one committee, and rejected by the other, as being too far east. If located there, the travel would go to Wyandotte. A point was then designated by the other committee. This was objected to as being too far west. If located there travel would surely go to Quindaro. The points designated were about one mile apart. No intermediate point for a ferry could be agreed upon. Compromise was wrong in principle. Result: a free ferry maintained by each."

Something of the rivalry between the two towns can be gathered from the files of the Western Argus, published at Wyandotte. In its issue of June 3, 1858, it said:

"FREE FERRY—People who supposed passengers and teams are crossing on the so called Quindaro Free Ferry *gratis*, by attempting to do so will find themselves slightly mistaken."

"Settlers in Southern Kansas will remember that the Wyandotte Free Ferry (Southern Road) is now in complete operation. Travelers will find no detention at this ferry."

In its issue of July 8, 1858, it said:

"The Wyandotte Free Ferry is in active operation, the boat made 84 trips yesterday. When the bridge is completed look out for an increase in travel."

The town boomers of Old Wyandotte evidently did not take care of their ferryman for we find on October 12, 1858, Mr. Glick introducing a petition in the town council on behalf of a Mr. Stevens "for the payment by the Town of the amount due him for services performed as ferryman on the free ferry across the Kansas river, he being unable to collect the same from the

16. Kansas City Sun, Jan. 9, 1893.

17. Kansas City Journal, Feb. 17, 1882.

citizens by whom he was agreed to be paid." The petition was laid on the table.

The road marked out by Wyandotte did not receive official recognition until October 7 1859 when it was regularly laid out. It is designated on the official plat as the "Santa Fe Road." (18). It reached the Kansas river in the SE quarter of Section 20, Town 11, Range 25 at the point where Nineteenth street now hits the river.

This ferry soon gave way to a toll bridge. In 1858, a bridge company was organized at Wyandotte with Daniel Killen as superintendent, Thomas J. Barker as treasurer and J. W. H. Watson as secretary. That same year the company bridged the Kansas river at the crossing of the Santa Fe road. It was built on piles, and was all made of native timber. The contract was let for about \$28,000 and the money was raised by subscription. (19). This was the first bridge across the Kansas river and was known as the "Southern Bridge," and the structure which took its place still bears the same name.

THE EUREKA FERRY

Vincent J. Lane in writing of the early days of Quindaro (20) says that during the spring and summer of '57 the people of Quindaro built a road to Lawrence and laid out one to Osawatomie, and established a free ferry at what is now (1876) the John H. Matton's place, with a view to competing for the wholesale trade of the Territory.

On the 30th of March, 1857, Abelard Guthrie, on behalf of the Quindaro Company, entered into a written agreement with Aaron W. Merrill whereby Merrill was to keep the Company's ferry, called the "Eureka Ferry," lately established on the Kansas river about four miles below the Delaware Ferry. Merrill was to ferry all persons across the river free of charge who might desire transportation and to keep sufficient help at all times that this might be done expeditiously and in a skillful manner. In addition to this Merrill was to cut out and keep in repair the approaches on both sides of the river. For this service Merrill was to receive \$100.00 per month. The company property, it appears by the contract, consisted of a flat boat, a skiff, 2 picks and 2 shovels, which Merrill was to protect and keep in repair. Merrill operated the ferry for seven months.

18. Wyandotte County Road Record A, pg. 4.

19. Goodspeed, Wyandotte county and Kansas City, pg. 361.

20. Wyandott Herald, July 6, 1876.

when the agreement was terminated. Merrill sued the company claiming a balance due him on his wages. (21) What purported to be a copy of the agreement was attached to the petition. On the trial of the case Merrill received a judgment but the supreme court reversed the case and sent it back for a new trial. (22) No further trial was had and the case was subsequently dismissed at Merrill's cost.

It was not until 1870 that the road marked out by the people of Quindaro received official recognition. It then appeared on the official plats as the Madison Pewet road. (23) This plat shows the road as reaching the Kansas river in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 18, Town 11, Range 25 at a point designated on the map as "The old ferry." This is at the point where 33rd street now reaches the river.

THE MUNCIE FERRY

The first ferry up the river from the "Eureka Ferry" was the Muncie Ferry. It was located some where between the old mouth of Muncie Creek and a point due east of the town of Muncie. Like some of the other river ferries its history would be lost were it not for the record of its incorporation. This shows that on June 8, 1867, John Smith, William Rutledge, William Rawson, Nathan J. Gault and Charles S. Glick were granted a charter under the name of the Muncie Ferry Company. (24) This ferry was described as being on land of John Smith on the Kansas river opposite Sections 14 and 15, Town 11, Range 25 East. The capital stock was \$500.00 and this was divided into shares of \$50.00 each. The principal office was to be at Muncie.

Old settlers recall that a rock landing was made for this ferry and that the road leading down to it was known as the "Ferry Road."

THE TOOLEY FERRY

The next ferry up the river from Grinter's was the Tooley Ferry, which seems to have been an important early day crossing. The plats made of the survey of the Shawnee Indian reservation in 1854, show the Tooley Ferry as being on the

21. Merrell vs. Charles Robinson, Abelard Guthrie and Samuel N. Simpson, partners under the name of the Quindaro Company, No. 24, District Court, Wyandotte county.

22. Guthrie vs. Merrill, 4 Kansas 159.

23. Wyandotte County Road Record B, pg. 10.

24. Record in office of the Secretary of State.

SE¼ of Section 31, T. 11, R. 24, or a little over two miles west of the Grinter ferry. The landing on the south side of the river is shown to be on land owned by the Tooley family. Tooley, who operated the ferry, was a Shawnee Indian and a leading member of the Fish band. John Speer tells of going up to Lawrence on Sunday the 17th of May, 1855, on the steamer, "Emma Harmon," and a Christian Indian of the Shawnee, named Tooley, who took part in the services that were held on the boat. He also tells how in 1856 Tooley ferried him across the river when he was fleeing from the proslavery forces. (25)

As early as May, 1857 the following advertisement appeared in the Leavenworth Herald and ran for several months:

"Tooleys Ferry on the Kansas river. Nearest route from Leavenworth to Westport and to the Shawnee lands. On Cedar and Mill creeks.

There is now in operation a good Ferry boat at Tooley's, on the Kansas river, with attentive hands to cross persons with safety and promptness. A good boat will always be kept and no pains spared to accommodate the public. All persons crossing the Kansas river to or from the Shawnee lands or from Westport and Kansas City to Leavenworth City and the northern portion of Kansas will find this ferry the very best and nearest route."

The legislature of 1859 passed an act authorizing Charles Tooley to keep a ferry across the Kansas river at or near the east line of Section 32-11-24 and the exclusive right and privilege of keeping a ferry within the distance of one mile on each side of the east line of said section 32 for a term of twenty-five years. (26)

This location puts the Tooley ferry about a mile further down the river than the one shown on the 1854 map and very close to the Grinter ferry.

In November 1860, Theodore Garrett, and forty others, petitioned for a county road from Silas Armstrong's to a point near Delaware ferry and thence on the nearest and best route to "Tuley's" ferry. The county commissioners approved the petition, viewers were appointed and the road laid out. The survey is given by poles and chains and this shows that the "Tuley" ferry was about three quarters of a mile above the

25. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. VII, pgs. 495-6.

26. Laws of 1859, Chapter 75.

Delaware ferry. (27) This is the last mention that has been found of the Tooley ferry. Old settlers in the neighborhood of Muncie all know about the Grinter ferry but none of them seem to have ever heard of the Tooley ferry.

THE KEELER FERRY

About three quarters of a mile above the old site of the Tooley ferry was the Keeler ferry. About all that is known of this ferry is that in 1860 the legislature (28), granted Charles G. Keeler authority to maintain a ferry across the Kansas river where the range line divides ranges 23 and 24 East. The Act granted special privilege for one mile up and one mile down stream for ten years. This location is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south east of Edwardsville in Johnson county and immediately north of the junction of the two branches of the Santa Fe railroad.

THE CHOUTEAU FERRY, ALIAS THE COOK, ALIAS THE CAMPBELL

A little over a mile above the Keeler Ferry was the Chouteau Ferry. The road maps in the office of the County Clerk of Wyandotte county locate this ferry directly south of Edwardsville in section 35, Town 11, Range 23. On August 3rd and 4th, 1869, the "Kouns" road was surveyed. The road enters Edwardsville from the north and goes on south about a half mile to a point on the Kansas river marked on the map as "Ferry." (29) The next year, November 15, 1870, the "G. W. Galloway" road was opened. (30) The petition for the road asked that it start from the "Shoto ferry" on the Kansas river. (31) The survey, as shown by the records, started at the "Chouteau Ferry," being the same place shown on the maps as the terminus of the "Kouns" road. (32)

The Chouteaus were a numerous family and much land on the early day maps in Johnson county appear in their names. When the Chouteau ferry was first opened is not known. Charles Carpenter, an old resident of Wyandotte county, tells the story that in April, 1857, his father and mother started to Lawrence by boat and that the boat grounded at Chouteau's ferry, and that the passengers were compelled to leave it and make the rest of the journey overland.

The territory bordering the Kansas river on the south was

27. Goodspeed. Wyandotte county and Kansas City, pg. 191.

28. Laws of 1860, pg. 272.

29. Wyandotte County Road Record A, pg. 216.

30. Commissioners Minutes, Book C, pg. 115.

31. Ibid. pg. 89.

32. Wyandotte County Road Record B, pg. 82.

a part of Johnson County until the organization of Wyandotte county in 1859. On April 10th, 1858, the Commissioners of Johnson county received two petitions asking for ferry licenses. One from I. May and 55 others, asked for a license to Wm. Chouteau to run a Ferry Boat on the Kansas river at or near the place now known as Chouteau's ferry. The other petition was from Jonathan Gore, and 37 others, asking that a license be granted to W. W. Cook to establish a ferry at the same point. The Commissioners granted Chouteau a three months license for \$12.50 and provided for a committee to investigate and report at the next meeting of the board. (33) In September the committee reported that after examining the lines of the land of each party they found that Chouteau had decidedly the better right to the ferry. (34)

The next year the parties were back again. In February, Cook was given a three months license. (35) In April Chouteau was asking for a license. (36) This time the board ordered a survey made. The committee to whom the matter was referred reported (37) that they found that the road beaten from Olathe via Monticello to this ferry was three rods on the southwest quarter of Section 35 that lays on the river and so found for Chouteau. A license was then granted to Chouteau who was ordered to pay back to Cook the unearned part of his license fee.

In 1861 Stephen S. Start was granted a license to keep a Ferry across the Kansas river at the crossing known as Chouteau's Ferry. (38)

On December 23, 1862, Frederick Chouteau, William Chouteau, Benjamin I. Chouteau, Francis Chouteau and John M. Owens formed a corporation known as the Chouteau Ferry Company. The capital stock was \$1,000 with shares at \$20.00 each. The ferry was to be located on the state road leading from Leavenworth to Ft. Scott where the same crosses the river on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 35-11-23, in Johnson county. The south landing was on land owned by Frederick Chouteau. This charter was filed with the Secretary of State on January 8, 1863. On May 8th, 1863, the company filed an amended charter, identical with the first, except for the addition of Talbot Kelley as one of the incorporators. (39)

33. Commissioners Minutes, April 10, 1858, pgs. 25, 27 and 28.

34. Ibid., Sept. 2, 1858, pg. 47.

35. Ibid., Feb. 21, 1859, pg. 102.

36. Ibid., April 26, 1859, pg. 138.

37. Ibid., May 25, 1859, pg. 147.

38. Ibid., Jan. 7, 1861, pg. 255.

Stephen Start must still have had some connection with this ferry for upon his application in March, 1863, rates were established at the Chouteau Ferry, by the Johnson county commissioners. (40)

In 1864 a license was granted to the Chouteau Ferry Company by the Commissioners of Johnson county, upon the payment of \$40.00. (41)

On March 25, 1867, the Campbell Ferry Company was chartered to operate across the Kansas river at a place known as Chouteau's Ferry, being at a point where the public highway leading from Monticello to Leavenworth crosses the Kansas river. (42) On July 8th, 1867, James Campbell was given a license by the Johnson County Commissioners to run the Chouteau Ferry for the year and the license was fixed at \$40.00. (43)

The journals of the Wyandotte county commissioners show that licenses were granted to A. J. Campbell, without a fee, for the Chouteau Ferry in 1872, 1873, 1874 and in 1877. Also that in 1878, a license was granted to George W. Sparks. Also that in 1879 a license was granted to W. V. Brown. Also that in 1882 a license was granted to W. M. White. The July 9, 1882, license to White is the last entry found and evidently marks the close of the Chouteau Ferry.

THE TIBLOW, ALIAS THE START AND TREMBLEY, ALIAS THE PARRISH, ALIAS THE WHITE

Morgan in his history of Wyandotte county in writing of Tiblow, now Bonner Springs, says: (44)

"For many years a ferry was operated by Henry Tiblow, a club footed Indian and official interpreter for the United States. He lived in a log cabin which still stands on the west side of the city."

C. L. David, an early day settler left behind him a manuscript of the early days in Bonner Springs. This was published in the Bonner Springs Chieftain of January 24, 1935. Of Tiblow he said:

"Henry Tiblow, an Indian chief and interpreter, owned and ran a ferry across the river about two hundred yards east of the Santa Fe railroad bridge that spans the river. The

39. Corporations, Vol. 1, pgs. 204-5.

40. Commissioners Minutes, Mar. 31, 1865, Book B, pg. 30.

41. Ibid, May 2, 1864, Book B, pg. 108.

42. Corporations, Vol. 1, pg. 314-15.

43. Commissioners Minutes, July 8, 1867, Book B, pg. 293.

44. Morgan, History of Wyandotte County, pg. 220.

ferry was well patronized, as there was a daily stage coming and going on the road from Leavenworth to Olathe, and on to Fort Scott, Kansas. The stage stopped here for dinner with all their passengers, at a log house about 100 yards east of the electric railway car barn. It was said that Henry Tiblow made a barrel of money on this ferry. They say his prices for crossing the river was \$2.50 for team, wagon and man, single being \$1.25; boatman 50c. I talked with a man that said he worked some for Tiblow on this same ferry, and he had known him to take in \$75.00 a day, for weeks at a time. At one time during the war there was a regiment of soldiers to be taken across and they were waiting on the west bank for their turn and the Indians gathered in on both sides of the river to see the soldiers and hear the band play."

Frequent references are found which indicate that the Tiblow crossing on the Kansas river was a well known place but no reference has been found to any early day ferryman other than Henry Tiblow.

The Johnson county records recite that on September 5, 1863, (45) Jacob Trembly and Start were given a license for a ferry across the Kansas river about the middle of section 32-11-23 for three months at the rate of \$40.00 per annum. In January 1864 rates were fixed by the board for ferriage at the Start & Trembly ferry. (46)

On December 20, 1863 the Parrish Ferry Company was incorporated. (47) Henry Tiblow was one of the incorporators the others being Henry D. Smith, Isaac Parrish, Charles B. Garrett and Sam Parsons. This company was to establish a ferry across the Kansas river six chains above the center of section 32-11-23. The landing on the south side of the river was on land owned by the incorporators and written consent was had of the owners of the land for the north landing. Nothing more is found concerning this company until January, 1866 when I. Parrish, President of the Parrish Ferry Co., applied to the Johnson county board for a ferry license and was refused. "it being within the bounds of an established ferry." (48) This would indicate that the Parrish ferry never existed except on paper. Six months later the board again gave Start & Trembly a three months license upon the payment of \$5.00. (49)

45. Commissioners Minutes, Sept. 5, 1863, Book B, pg. 62.

46. Ibid. Jan. 5, 1864, Book B, pg. 84.

47. Corporations. Vol. 1, pg. 10.

48. Commissioners Minutes, Jan. 5, 1866, Book B, pg. 185.

49. Ibid., July 9, 1866, Book B, pg. 185.

February 1, 1869, "W. B. White and Thomas Dunfree were granted a license across Kansas River opposite Tiblow station for \$10.00. Bond \$500.00. Tolls were fixed at: Footman, 10c; Sheep and swine, 3c each; Man and horse, 25c; 2 horse team, 50c; 4 horse team, 75c. (50)

In April, 1869, the Johnson county board granted a license to Thomas Dunfree and W. B. White to run a ferry across the Kansas river at Tiblow station where the Olathe and Leavenworth road crosses the river. The fee was fixed at \$10.00 per year. (51) In 1870 the license for the ferry at Tiblow was given to W. B. White. (52) Again in 1873 W. B. White was given a 1 year license at Tiblow. (53)

White seems to have alternated with his licenses between Johnson and Wyandotte counties. The minutes of the Wyandotte board for March 7, 1870 recite (54) that the Board granted a ferry license to Wm. B. White to run a ferry across the Kansas river at Tiblow station, said White having given a sufficient bond to the state of Kansas for one year from February 1, 1870, which was filed. A year later under date of March 6th, 1871, the minutes recite that "W. B. White was granted a ferry license to run a ferry at Tiblow station for one year from March 6, 1871, said White having given a good and sufficient bond to the county for the faithful discharge of his duties as Ferryman." A license to White was renewed in the years, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1878, 1879 and 1880.

In 1883, a license was granted to Charles Jensen to operate a ferry over the Kansas river at Tiblow, free of charge. This license was renewed in the years 1884, 1885, and 1886.

On February 8, 1887 a license was granted to F. M. Downs and C. L. David to operate a ferry at Bonner Springs for one year. There was no charge. This license was revoked September 5, 1887. (55) This appears to be the last official mention of a Kansas river ferry in Wyandotte county.

From "Caleece" at the mouth of the Kansas river in 1826 to the Bonner Springs license in 1887, a stretch of 61 years, covers the ferry period in Wyandotte county. By that time the bridges were all here and the ferry boat followed the ox yoke into the discard.

50. Ibid., April 29, 1869, Book B, pg. 401.

51. Ibid., April 4, 1870, Book B, pg. 489.

52. Ibid., April 9, 1873, Book C, pg. 306.

53. Ibid., Book C, pg. 12.

54. Ibid., pg. 89.

55. Ibid., Book H, pg. 159.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-SEVEN

PLACE: The Missouri River

TIME: From 1857-1924

EVENTS: Missouri River Ferries in Wyandotte County

After the "Caleece" ferry ceased to function a quarter of a century went by before we find another record of a ferry across the Missouri river between Clay and Wyandotte counties. In 1857 the Territorial Legislature (1) granted authority to William Walker, Thomas H. Doyle, Cyrus Garrett and Henry McMullen to run a ferry across the Missouri river and to have a landing on land owned or claimed by the Wyandotte City Company, or others, within the town limits. This grant was to run for 25 years. No record has been found showing that any use was ever made of the grant.

The same Legislature (2) authorized Joseph C. Ransom & Co. to maintain a ferry across the Missouri river between Wyandotte and Kansas City. Whether any use was made of this grant does not now appear.

The Territorial Legislature of 1858 (3) granted to Silas Armstrong and his associates the exclusive right to maintain a ferry across the Missouri river at Wyandotte for 21 years. It also gave the right to land on either bank of the Kansas river one eighth of a mile above its mouth but with the provision that "nothing herein contained shall be construed as to infringe upon the rights of the Wyandott ferry across the Kansas river."

Acting under the provisions of this Act Silas Armstrong, Wm. Y. Roberts, Shaler W. Eldridge, James McGrew, Wm. McKay, Joseph P. Root James D. Chestnut and James W. Winchell organized the Wyandott Ferry Company, a \$10,000 corporation, with J. P. Root as president, J. M. Winchell as secretary and James McGrew as treasurer. In April 1858 they assessed themselves \$5.00 each and in May made a second call of \$200.00 each. The company ran the ferry in the year 1858 and for a short time in the spring of 1859 and then abandoned it. (4)

The corporation became the owner of a steam ferry boat called the Gate City, alias the Gopher. This they sold to Sebastian Wiltz, George Schreiner and William Garlock, in the summer of 1858, who moved it down the river below

1. Laws of 1857, pg. 157.

2. Ibid., pg. 185.

3. Laws of 1858, Chapter 44. Passed Feb. 3, 1858.

4. Allegations in Petition John W. Dyer vs. Wyandott City Ferry Co., case 392, District Court Wyandotte Co.

Kansas City. In June 1859, the Gate City, alias the Gopher, was brought back to Wyandotte. Suit was then brought against the boat owners, by the corporation, on three notes aggregating \$1,671.50 and the boat was attached. In the affidavit for the attachment it was alleged that the owners were trying to conceal the property from their creditors by statements that the boat belonged to the Wyandott City Ferry Co. or that the company had a lien on it. (5) The matter seems to have been adjusted as the attachment was released.

On May 10, 1858 the corporation gave John W. Dyer a warrant for \$97.50 which treasurer McGrew endorsed presented and not paid for want of funds. Dyer sued on his warrant and got a judgment on November 2, 1860 for \$121.28 and an execution was issued which was returned unsatisfied with the notation, "no goods or chattels, lands or tenements found whereon to levy or make the money on this execution." (6)

On January 29, 1861 John W. Dyer brought an action against the individual stockholders in the Wyandott City Ferry Co., alleging that of the two assessments made on the capital stock in 1858 James McGrew, James M. Winchell and Silas Armstrong had each paid the \$205.00 assessment. William Roberts had paid \$50.00. Shaler W. Eldridge had paid \$30.00, Joseph P. Root had paid \$90.35 and Wm. McKay and Wm. McClure had paid \$5.00 each and that each of the stock holders was indebted to the corporation on its original subscription. The case was continued from term to term, the plaintiff died, and in October 1865, it was finally dismissed. (7)

THE LIZZIE

On the 14th of July, 1859 there was a petition before the Wyandotte Council from L. Meyer and other merchants and business men of the city requesting the Council to levy a tax on the steam ferry boat, "Lizzie," or any other ferry boat running regularly between this city and Kansas City, Mo. (8) The petition was laid on the table.

In the Kansas Historical Collections (9) there is a short

5. Wyandotte City Ferry Co. vs. Sebastian Wiltz, George Schreiner and Wm. Garlock, partners as Garlock & Schreiner, case 62, District Court Wyandotte Co.

6. Dyer vs. Wyandotte City Ferry Co., case 350, District Court Wyandotte Co.

7. Allegations in Petition John W. Dyer vs. Wyandott City Ferry Co., case 392 District Court Wyandotte Co.

8. Minutes July 14, 1859.

9. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XIV, pg. 93.

sketch of Capt. Claudius Kiefer, Captain of Co. B., 8th Kansas Volunteer Infantry which states that he came to Wyandotte in 1857. That soon after his arrival he was appointed Marshal of Wyandotte and that he and Captain Wills conducted a ferry boat from Wyandotte to Kansas City. That the boat was called the "Lizzie." This is doubtless the boat of which L. Meyer and the other merchants complained. (10)

A MUNICIPAL FERRY

In 1860 the Territorial Legislature (11) gave to the city of Wyandotte, the exclusive right to establish, maintain and operate a ferry across the Missouri river at any point or points between the mouth of the Kansas river and a point two miles above the mouth with the right to land on either side of the mouth of the Kansas river. The grant was for a period of twenty years and the city was authorized to lease the ferry so established. By the terms of the law the city was required within six months to cause to be run a substantial steam ferry across the Missouri and to keep the same at all times ready to accommodate the traveling public, except in case of ice or unavoidable accident.

Previous to this grant by the Legislature the city of Wyandotte had contracted with Wm. H. Irwin & Co. to establish a ferry across the Missouri river within thirty days after the 18th of January, 1860, the city to receive ten per cent of the profits. (12) An extension of time was twice given to Irwin & Co. (13) the last date being fixed at June 1, 1860. Evidently Irwin & Co. never carried out its contract as a proposition was received from I. W. Byer on January 3, 1861 (14) to run a ferry boat across the Missouri river. The proposition was referred to the city attorney to make out a contract. On January 29, 1861, Alderman Barrett reported that the charter for a ferry across the Missouri river had been forfeited by non compliance with the provisions of the same. (15).

THE KANSAS AND MISSOURI FERRY COMPANY

On May 23, 1867 the Kansas and Missouri Ferry Company of Wyandotte was chartered. (16) The capital stock was \$50,000, and shares were \$50.00 each. The new ferry was

10. Kiefer was appointed Marshal of Wyandotte Sept. 28, 1858 and resigned Dec. 28, 1858. From Council Minutes of those dates.

11. Chapter 46. Feb. 14, 1860.

12. Council Minutes Nov. 15. Nov. 19, and Nov. 24, 1859.

13. Council Minutes. Apr. 10 and Apr. 17, 1860.

14. Council Minutes.

15. Council Minutes. Jan. 29, 1861.

16. Corporations, Vol. I, pg. 340.

scheduled to operate from the levee at Wyandotte across the Missouri river. No record can be found of this venture beyond this first stage of its incorporation. This seems to have been the last effort made to establish a ferry across the Missouri river at Wyandotte.

THE FIRST FERRY AT QUINDARO

When the demand came for a ferry at the rapidly building city of Quindaro the town boomers were ready with one of the largest and finest boats on the river. (17) The "Otis Webb," a side wheeler of 100 tons, was built at Wellsville, Ohio, in the summer of 1857, by Governor Charles Robinson, Otis Webb, Fielding Johnson and George W. Veale. She drew 26 inches of water and cost \$7,000. She had a route from Quindaro and Parkville to Ft. Leavenworth. (18)

The Territorial Legislature of 1858 (19) granted to Otis Webb, Charles Robinson and Charles H. Chapin the exclusive privilege for 21 years of keeping and maintaining a public ferry across the Missouri river at Quindaro with one or more landings and no other ferry was to be established between the west bounds of section 22-10-24 and the east bounds of sections 28-10-24. A \$1,000 bond was to be filed with the clerk of the Probate court of Leavenworth county.

This Act was evidently intended for the benefit of those who had started the "Otis Webb" off the summer before.

A SECOND QUINDARO FERRY

Evidently the "Otis Webb" did not continue in business long for in 1860 the Territorial Legislature (20) granted to George Veale, Abelard Guthrie, Fielding Johnson and Julius G. Fisk authority to keep and maintain a public ferry across the Missouri river at the present limits of the city of Quindaro for a period of 10 years. No other ferry was to be established within 2 miles. The fees were to be fixed by the Mayor and City Council of Quindaro and that city was authorized to charge a license of not to exceed \$20.00 per annum.

Col. George W. Veale, one of the builders of old Quindaro, in his address when retiring from the presidency of the Kansas Historical Society said: (21)

"At Quindaro we had a steam ferry, and the roughs from Missouri would demand free ferriage. They came over in gangs

17. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1230.

18. Morgan, History of Wyandotte County, pg. 125.

19. Laws, 1858, chapter 43. Passed Feb. 6, 1858.

20. Laws, 1860, chapter 44. Passed Feb. 20, 1860.

21. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XI, pg. 8.

to vote, and many times helped themselves to whatever property they would, and occasionally shot some free state fellow just for fun—their principle of action being anything to prevent Kansas from being a free state.”

There was a report in September, 1861, (22) that the Quindaro ferry had been sunk by the Missourians, as they said, to prevent slaves from escaping. This is presumably the ferry of which Col. Veale was speaking.

A THIRD QUINDARO FERRY

After the war another effort was made to establish a ferry at Quindaro. On July 31, 1866 (23) the Quindaro and Parkville Ferry Company was chartered by Alfred Gray, Alfred Robinson, David Pearson, Francis Kessler and Francis A. Kessler. The company was to operate a ferry across the Missouri river, steam, horse or man power to be used as the company preferred. The principal office was at Quindaro and the capital stock was \$20,000 divided into shares of \$100.00 each. There seems to be no evidence that this project ever got beyond the incorporation stage.

THE PARKS FERRY

George S. Parks made application to the Board of County Commissioners on December 2, 1867 for a license to ferry the Missouri River opposite Parkville to land on sections 12 and 13, Town 10, Range 24E., which application was granted and the county clerk directed to issue to said Parks a license to date from this time and having one year to run from this date on the payment of said Parks of the sum of \$5.00 into the county treasury of this county. Section 12 and 13 are just up the river from Old Quindaro. No further record of this ferry has been found.

THE PARKVILLE FERRY COMPANY

There was one other ferry across the Missouri river within the boundaries of Wyandotte county. On October 2, 1872 (24) the Parkville Ferry Company was organized with a capital stock of \$10,000 and shares at \$50.00. The principal place of business was at Wyandotte and John Ryan, Solomon Taylor, C. S. Glick and L. F. Hollingsworth were the incorporators. It was to cross the river from Parkville to a landing at or near where the county road from Nearman station running to the north strikes the Missouri river. Nearman in those days stood

22. *Ibid.*, Vol. 11, pg. 190.

23. *Corporations*, Vol. I, pgs. 202-203.

24. *Commissioners Minutes*, Book B, pg. 125.

25. *Corporations*, Vol. IV, pg. 596.

back a long ways from the river but it has since fallen into the "Big Muddy."

THE FOURTH QUINDARO FERRY

For nine years, from 1892 to 1901, William A. Leimkuhler, now a resident of Brenner Heights, ran a ferry at Quindaro. (26) The landing on the Kansas side was at the foot of the present 27th street, Kansas City, Kansas. The landing on the Missouri side was on the Leimkuhler farm directly across the river. The ferry was started some time previous to 1892. A man named Frank Abbey, who was running it, broke his leg and then sold out to Mr. Leimkuhler. For a time Mr. Leimkuhler had a partner named John Linder. His second partner was George Stillwagen. When Mr. Leimkuhler purchased the ferry it consisted of a boat, almost square, run on a half inch cable. Later these were replaced with a better boat, oblong in shape, and a three eighths inch cable a thousand feet long. This boat would carry three two horse teams and wagon at a time. Charges were: Team and wagon, 25c; single rig. 15c; foot passengers, 5c; loose cattle and horses, 2c. Mr. Leimkuhler's recollection is that he had a ferry license but he was never required to pay a fee. The motive power for this boat was the current of the river which ran next to the Kansas shore. On the Missouri shore there was a stretch of still water. It took some skill to gather enough momentum to carry the boat through this still water without poleing. On the return trip it took an equal amount of skill to reduce speed so as to prevent a crash into the landing place. Parkville, three miles above the Missouri landing, tried to get Mr. Leimkuhler to move his boat up the river. Failing in this it induced a man to put in a steam ferry, as a rival. He ran it one season and then went down the river when the ice broke in the spring. During the nine years he ran this ferry. Mr. Leimkuhler lived in a house at the Quindaro end of the boat line.

OTHER FERRIES

The county commissioners proceedings show that on April 4, 1870, Patrick Foley was granted a license to run a ferry across the river at Parkville. (27) They also show that on July 31, 1924, E. A. Wood, August Gerding, H. R. Butterwick, Arthur Jones, S. W. Titt, and J. A. Edwards, were given a license to operate a ferry across the Missouri river at or near Nearman and the Sherman-Gratney road, for one year. (28)

26. Interview, Sept. 4, 1934.

27. Commissioners Minutes, Book C, pg. 21.

28. Ibid., Book T., pg. 19.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-EIGHT

PLACE: Town 10, Range, 24, Wyandotte Co.

TIME: From 1856 to 1872.

EVENTS: I. The Free State Gateway.

II. The Rise and Fall of Quindaro.

Among the "Lost Towns" of Kansas, Quindaro stands out as the most historic and the most romantic. Would you visit the site of the old town, the one lone free state town on the Missouri River in the stirring ante-bellum days? Then board a west bound Quindaro street bus and when the conductor calls "End of the Line," step off onto the old town site. You will be standing on the line between sections 29 and 30, range 24, Wyandotte county, Kansas, and on the south line of the old platted town site. A group of substantial business houses and a fine brick church surround this "End of the Line" stop, but all are in, and a part of Kansas City, Kansas now. The well paved street, running to the west, along the south line of the old platted town of Quindaro, is sometimes called the Leavenworth Road, but on the official maps it is called Brown Avenue. The paved street, running to the north, is Twenty Ninth Street now. It was Kansas Avenue on the Quindaro maps and the principal north and south street leading from the levee, around which the business part of Quindaro was built. Follow this street to the north, down past the fine brick Quindaro school building and the group of buildings composing the Western University, with its campus statue of John Brown, and you will come to the Missouri River front and the ruins of old Quindaro.

When President Pierce signed the Kansas-Nebraska Bill on May 30, 1854, the white population of Kansas was estimated at 700, (1) consisting of Government agents, licensed traders, missionaries, teachers, and white men who had intermarried with the Indians. The eyes of the Nation were on Kansas. The South was determined that it should be added to the slave territory. The North was just as determined that it should be free territory. Two streams of emigration headed for Kansas. The inevitable clash came. The Missouri river was the great artery of travel. In the reign of terror, in 1856, this was closed to the free state emigrants.

The three towns of Kansas City, Leavenworth and Atchison were all pro-slavery towns. Wyandotte was as yet unknown. It

1. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 66.

was necessary to have a free state gateway into the Territory, where steamboats could load and unload. A good rock landing was found six miles above the mouth of the Kansas River and it was determined to build a town at that place. In the neighborhood lived Abelard Guthrie, a white man. He had been brought in contact with the Wyandots, while they still lived in Ohio, and there had met and fallen in love with the beautiful Nancy Quindaro Brown, daughter of one of the Wyandot chiefs. Her father did not take kindly to young Guthrie and carried the girl away to Kansas when the Wyandots emigrated. Guthrie followed the girl to Kansas and married her in spite of the father's screams. He was then adopted into the tribe. In 1852 Mr. Guthrie (2) was elected a delegate to Congress. While he sought in vain for recognition from Congress his fight gave him a prominence in affairs that no one else in the Territory had.

By the treaty of 1855 (3) the Wyandots became citizens of the United States and received their lands in severalty. Allotments were made as rapidly as the surveys could be made. The Guthrie allotment was close to the rocky landing selected for the free state town site. Guthrie was an ardent free state man and at once entered whole heartedly into the plans for the new town. In addition to the Guthrie land, purchases were made from several other members of the Wyandot tribe, and in December 1856 the town site was surveyed by Owen A. Bassett, (4) and named Quindaro in honor of Mrs. Guthrie. It was thought necessary to have the pro-slavery element among the Wyandots interested, else it might be difficult to secure the lands needed, and so Joel Walker, a brother of Governor Walker, was induced to become a member of the town company. The officers of the new town company were Joel

2. Abelard Guthrie was the most prominent free state man in Wyandotte county. In 1843 he was Register of the U. S. land office at Upper Sandusky, Ohio. Late in 1843 his nomination was rejected for political reasons and much chagrined he determined to follow the Wyandots to Kansas. The lode stone that drew him to the west was Nancy Quindaro Brown, a Wyandott-Shawnee girl, daughter of Adam Brown, and said to be the most beautiful girl in the Wyandot Nation. Mr. Guthrie had desired to marry her in Ohio but this was prevented by her father, who never liked Guthrie. In the early summer of 1844 the couple were married, this being one of the first weddings in Wyandotte county. After the marriage Mr. Guthrie was adopted into the Bear clan and given the name Tak-key-yoh-shrahtach, which means the twin brain, or the man with two brains. The name was given to denote his recognized ability.

3. Revised Indian Treaties. Adopted Jan. 31, 1855.

4. Owen A. Bassett afterwards became a District Judge and a Grand Master of Kansas Masons.

Walker, President, Abelard Guthrie. Vice President; Charles Robinson, Treasurer, (5); and S. N. Simpson, (6), Secretary.

The town plat was filed in Delaware City, the then county seat of Leavenworth county, on February 15, 1857. (7) The platted town covered the west half of section 29, all of section 30 and fractional section 19. In present day terms it was



QUINDARO NANCY GUTHRIE.

Wife of Abelard Guthrie and the Wyandot woman after whom the town of Quindaro was named.

bounded on the north by the Missouri river, on the east by Eighteenth street on the south by Brown avenue, and on the west by Forty Second street extended. Aside from two diagonal streets, "The Levee" and "Main Street," which ran parallel

5. Recognized leader of the free state forces and the first Governor of Kansas under statehood.

6. S. N. Simpson later became identified with Wyandotte and laid out the Riverview addition.

7. "The original plat of Quindaro, lost for fifteen years is found in the bottom of one of the file boxes by E. F. Blum. Plat first filed in the office of the Government Recorder at Delaware City, Feb. 18, 1857. James Lyle, Territorial Recorder." Kansas City Star, June 1, 1907.

to the river, the town was on the checker board plan, the east and west streets being numbered and the north and south streets being lettered, beginning at the east. The street on the section line between sections 29 and 30 was an exception to this nomenclature. Instead of being called "Q" street it was named "Kansas" and was intended as the main artery of travel down to the two diagonal business streets on the river front.

No town in Kansas was ever advertised as was Quindaro. The eyes of the North were on Kansas and the coming of a free state town was important news. Publicity was to be had for the asking and the enthusiastic town boomers took every advantage of it. Among the relics preserved by the Kansas Historical Society is an early day Quindaro poster. In the center is printed a plat of the town showing lots and blocks. Across the bottom is a map of the United States showing that all roads lead to Quindaro. In the upper left hand corner is a map of Kansas showing that all roads into the Territory lead out of Quindaro. In the upper right hand corner is a well printed picture of Quindaro, the beautiful Indian woman for whom the town was named.

The North responded with alacrity to the call to come to Quindaro. January 1st, 1857, ground was broken for the first building. (8) In February the Quindaro House, four stories, 60x80 feet was opened, being the first hotel in the county and the second largest one in the Territory. (9) General merchants, forwarding and commission merchants, hardware dealers, druggists, carpenters, masons, lawyers, doctors, real estate men and land agents all came to Quindaro. (10) Roads were opened up and on March 30, 1857, a contract was let for a free ferry across the Kansas river to gather the trade from the southwest. (11) On the 13th of April the first issue of the *Chin-do-wan* appeared, full of hope and enthusiasm for the new town. In July the *Chin-do-wan* heralded the fact that the census showed 545 actual residents, and that more than twelve hundred letters had passed through the post office between its opening on June 15th and July 1st.

The Methodists built a church. Subscriptions were being taken to build the Quindaro, Parkville and Burlington Rail-

8. The original Share Book, now in the possession of the Benson Abstract Co., shows that of the 580 shares of stock all but about 60 were issued.

9. Andreas, *History of Kansas*, pg. 1230.

10. *Ibid.*

11. *Merrell vs. Charles Robinson, et al.* case 24, District Court Wyandotte Co.

road which was to connect with the Hannibal at St. Joe. On May 24th, the steamer "New Lucy" brought the newly appointed Governor Robert J. Walker to Kansas and he made his first public appearance at Quindaro. The same steamboat brought the Massachusetts senator Henry Wilson, (12), who was entertained at the Quindaro House and who also addressed the citizens. (13)

On May 31st, 1857, Albert D. Richardson visited Quindaro and he gives us a graphic account of the new town in his book, "Beyond the Mississippi:

"Three miles above Wyandotte, I reached Quindaro also on the Indian reservation. It was in dense woods, among great ledges, sharp hills and yawning ravines the roughest site for a town which it hath entered into the heart of man to conceive. But here was absolutely certain to spring up the St. Louis of the Missouri river. The proprietors proved this to me incontestably by maps and statistics; by geography that never blunders and figures that cannot lie."

"Quindaro, founded upon a rock, would stand unmoved when the floods should come and the winds blow. The wild lashings of the Missouri, could never disturb its serenity. But Wyandott was built upon the sand; its shore was constantly changing, and, as every body knew, the great bar in front made it impossible to land a steamer except in very high water. It was midsummer madness to build a town there. Lieut. Gov. Roberts and the other founders knew this, and only wanted to make money out of the immigrants unacquainted with the vagaries of the great river. Quindaro would have five thousand people within two years. As I was a newspaper correspondent on delightful terms of familiarity with the public ear and as I could serve them by writing the truth, the simple unclouded truth—a few choice lots could be secured for me at a very low figure. They would double in value within three months. Shares were offered at one thousand dollars, and soon after a single lot changed hands for fifteen hundred dollars."

"The New England founders were very much in earnest. They had built a three story frame hotel, the largest, in the Territory, and a steam saw mill with

12. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XI, pg. 7.

13. Andreas, History of Kansas. pg. 1231.

an engine of one hundred twenty horse power. Substantial edifices of stone and wood were rising. The main thoroughfare, Kansas Avenue, at right angles with the river, was being excavated into a formidable bluff, with the wild expectation of cutting through. Ultimately, the work was abandoned and the work stopped midway in the hill against a rock and a bank of gravel."

"In this town, four months old, was printed a creditable weekly newspaper called the Chin-do-wan (pilot or leader.) Its proprietors were capable and hopeful."

By July the "Otis Webb," a full grown steam ferry boat, 100 feet long with a 26 foot beam, was making hourly trips between Quindaro—the only rock bottom landing city on the river—and the city of Parkville. (14) This boat was a side wheeler of 100 tons burden, and was built at Wellsville, Ohio, in the summer of 1857, by Gov. Charles Robinson, Otis Webb, Fielding Johnson and Col. George W. Veale. She was brought to the mouth of the Kansas river in the fall of the year, and entered service in the following spring, making regular trips from Leavenworth to Topeka. She drew 26 inches of water, and cost \$7,000. Later it had a route from Quindaro and Parkville to Ft. Leavenworth. (15)

A line of stage coaches were being operated from Quindaro to Lawrence. (16) By October the saw mill was completed. It was erected by the Town Company, had twenty saws and was a "world beater" for the period. (17) Its capacity was 15,000 feet of lumber daily. (18) By June 1858 the town boasted of 100 buildings on the town site, many of them of a substantial metropolitan appearance. (19)

The Lightfoot of Quindaro was running regularly between Quindaro and Lawrence. This boat was the first boat built in Kansas and had across the stern above the wheel, this legend, "Lightfoot of Quindaro." It was a stern wheeler of 100 feet in length and 24 feet beam, with a hold of 3 or 4 feet. There were a few state rooms, and the freight capacity of the boat

14. Paper read by F. H. Betton before the Wyandotte Historical Society, June 13, 1896.

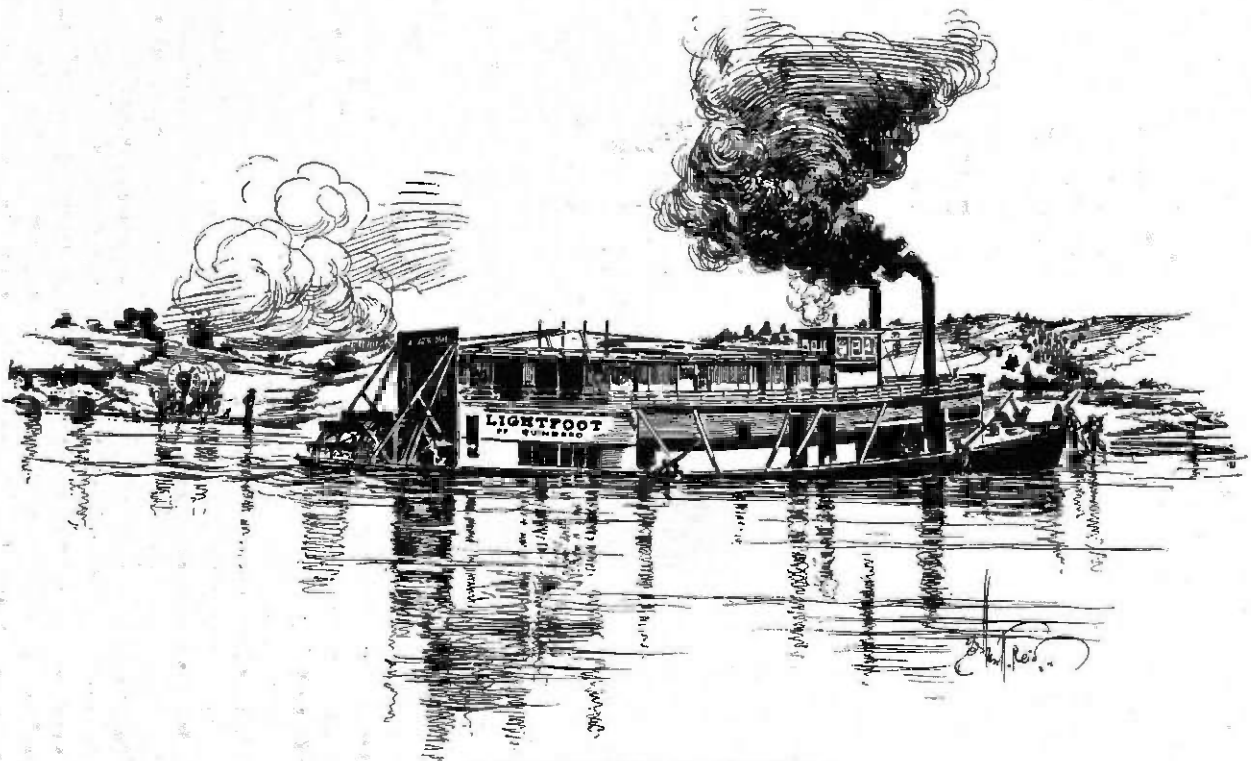
15. Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. IX, pg. 342.

16. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1231.

17. Paper read by F. H. Betton before the Wyandotte Historical Society, June 13, 1896.

18. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1231.

19. Ibid.



THE LIGHTFOOT OF QUINDARO.
(Courtesy: Kansas State Historical Society.)

was probably seventy-five tons, on a draft of eighteen inches. It was built by Thaddeus Hyatt of New York City. (20)

Quindaro was designed as a temperance town and when the liquor dealers, with their usual disregard of public sentiment, invaded the town the citizens took the law into their own hands and abated the nuisances. Two stories from eye witnesses have come down to us. The first is from the *Chindowan* in its issue of June 20, 1857:

"TEMPERANCE MEETING—DESTRUCTION OF WHISKEY—BRANDY ON THE GROUND

"On Tuesday evening June 16th, the citizens of Quindaro convened in a public meeting to take into consideration the existence of a few doggeries which were covertly opened here within a few weeks. The meeting was organized by calling J. T. Gibson to the chair and choosing Wm. Shepherd, secretary."

"The following petition got up, circulated and signed by some of the prominent ladies of Quindaro was read:

"TO THE MEN OF QUINDARO—GREETING:

Thoroughly convinced by the observations and experiences of the past, that intemperance is the deadliest foe to all that is good in man, or desirable in his social surroundings—and made painfully aware that its dens and agencies are already in our midst, degrading manhood and destroying the hope of home prosperity, which has won wives and mothers to meet cheerfully the toils and privations of a new country in the midst of strangers—we, the undersigned women of Quindaro, do hereby appeal to the *men* of Quindaro, and respectfully petition them to take speedy and efficient measures for the casting out of the vile demon that is entering our homes and brutalizing the guardians of all our social and State interests."

"After the reading of the above, S. C. Smith, J. M. Walden, and the chairmen were called on and each made brief speeches urging that there should be efficient steps taken to abate as a nuisance whiskey and other similar intoxicating liquors."

"On motion a committee of three was appointed to report to the meeting the names of twenty persons to act as a vigilant committee to search out the doggeries and destroy the liquors found about them. The report of the committee was adopted and the vigilant committee instructed to act as above directed."

"THE RESULT"

"On Wednesday morning at daylight, the vigilance committee assembled and proceeded to discharge the duty assigned. Liquor kept for sale was found at three places. At one place a barrel of whiskey and a keg of brandy which had been brought to town the night previous were emptied, their contents about forty gallons of whiskey and six gallons of brandy poured on the ground. At another place a large keg of whiskey was drained, and at a third place part of a barrel of whiskey was poured out. The committee not finding any more of the "Creature" to punish, adjourned to meet at the call of the chairman."

"In performing this task the committee only destroyed such liquors as it was evident the proprietor kept for sale. Ale and beer were not interfered with. It was only whiskey, brandy and such liquors that were doomed. No personal violence was offered to the persons engaged in the nefarious traffic. It has been from the first the prevailing sentiment in Quindaro that no rummies should be allowed to exist here; of this every person has been duly warned, which warning not being heeded we are glad to record that our citizens have made a law unto themselves and abated the vilest nuisances that can curse a place."

The other story is from the pen of Albert D. Richardson, whom the Chindawon article listed as one of the speakers at the meeting. In his book, "Beyond the Mississippi," pages 51 and 52 Richardson says:

"I reached Quindaro again, in season to attend a public meeting. There were always public meetings. The people were the victims of oratory. Almost nightly a hand bell would gather together from fifty to two hundred citizens who would elect a president and secretary, call upon two or three fluent speakers to harangue them, pass resolutions and then adjourn, to await the record of their proceedings in the next issue of the Chin-do-wan."

"This was a temperance meeting. Quindaro was distinctively a temperance-town. Lots had been deeded with the express stipulation that they should not be occupied by liquor sellers. Still several low grogeries, fountains of bad habits and worse whiskey, had risen to frighten the isle from its propriety. All the leading women joined in a petition to the men to take speedy and efficient measures for casting out the vile demon.

"The meeting accordingly selected three of its members to appoint a vigilance committee of twenty, to cast out the vile demon. It was organized forthwith, and sallied out at day-

light the next morning. The first saloon was kept by a herculian German who, refusing to give up his keys, retreated behind his bar, pointed two enormous self cocking six shooters at the invaders, and swore he would blow out the brains of the first man molesting him or his whiskey. Several of the visitors also drew revolvers but the German's eye was wicked, and they hesitated."

"Their leader, a lithe, young man, armed only with a whale-bone cane, had served in Lane's army and smelt gunpowder. Turning to his companions, he said quietly:

"Kill him boys, if he shoots me."

"Then he sprang over the bar and wrested both revolvers from the plucky but overpowered Teuton. But suddenly the German's wife, awakened by the noise, rushed from her bed room to the scene of conflict, dragging a clothes line, which had caught her foot, and which was about the only thing in the line of clothes adorning her person. She flung hard words, broken English and all other loose articles she could lay hands upon, at her unceremonious callers. But they unlocked a closet, rolled out and emptied two cases of whiskey, and one brandy. Two other saloons were similarly visited and purged. The Irish keeper of one vowed by all the saints that he had 'not a drop of the crathur', and none was discovered in the house; but a mound of fresh earth, just outside suggested dark suspicions; and from it was exhumed a barrel of whiskey which was spilled to his sore discomfiture. Neither ale nor beer was destroyed; and just after sunrise the committee separated for breakfast."

Three times the Territorial Legislature passed Acts for the incorporation of Quindaro before it got one that was satisfactory. The first one, passed Feb. 9, 1858, (21) neglected to tell in what town and range the incorporated city was to be located. The second one passed in January, 1859, (22) made a mistake in the range number and described a tract of Missouri land. The third one, passed later in the same month, (23) corrected the mistake in the second act and the incorporated town was finally described as follows:—

"Commencing at the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of Section 36, town 10 range 24 east; thence 2½ miles to the south east corner of section 32; thence north about two miles to the middle of the Missouri river; thence up along the middle of said river, to a

21. Laws, 1858, chapter 98.

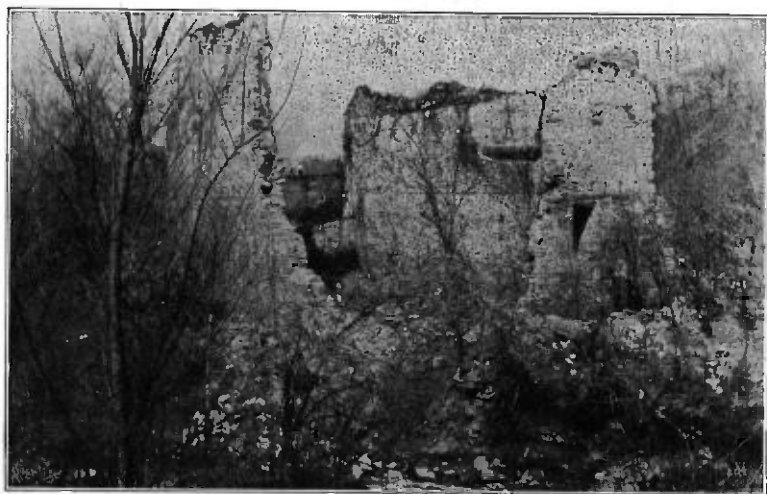
22. Laws, 1859, chapter 107.

23. Ibid., chapter 109.

point due north of the place of beginning; thence south to the place of beginning.

Bounding it in present day terms, we would say that it was bounded on the north by the Missouri river; on the east by Twelfth street; on the south by Parallel avenue; and on the west by a line extended from where Highway 40 turns onto the old Parallel road at Queens Gardens. The incorporated town contained about six sections of land but as has already been stated only about one fourth of this area was platted into lots and blocks.

The fall of Quindaro was almost as rapid as its rise. The



RUINS OF OLD QUINDARO.

Supposed to be the remains of the old state hotel.

utter rout of the proslavery element in the Territory left all the river towns in control of the free state people. Town building had been over done. The Wyandotte payments from the Government had ceased, cutting out that much local trade. Then came the panic in the fall and winter of 1859 and improvements ceased. Wyandotte, situated on two rivers instead of one, proved a more advantageous location and drew the trade. The task of bringing down the hills was considered too great. Mismanagement crept in. Mr. Guthrie, who had lost his all in the town venture, blamed Gov. Robinson for the trouble and is exceptionally bitter towards him in his journal. Then came the war and most of the male population enlisted.

George W. Veale, who landed at Quindaro on, April 7th,

1857, engaged in the mercantile business and became one of the leading citizens in the town, and raised a company at Quindaro when the war came, wrote of Quindaro as follows: (24)

"Quindaro was a historic free-state town, situated on the banks of the Missouri river, in what was then Leavenworth county. Quindaro was the name of Abelard Guthrie's wife, and the name was spelled in Wyandot, "Seh Quindaro". She was a Wyandot Indian woman. Her husband, Abelard Guthrie, was a white man, well informed and was a delegate to Congress from Nebraska in 1852. He was a native of Ohio, and was the instigator and prime mover in laying out the town of Quindaro. Mr. Guthrie, being an ardent free state man, sought Governor Robinson, S. C. Pomeroy, S. N. Simpson and several other free-state men and organized a free-state town, located on Mrs. Guthrie's land, with other lands they had purchased for that purpose. The little town grew amazingly for a while—two years or more. At one time it had pretensions of being a city. It had a city organization—mayor and council—who met weekly to deliberate concerning the interests of the thriving town. Quindaro had two good hotels, one of them quite large, two prosperous churches, Methodist and Congregational, both with good buildings for worship; also a large livery barn, with hacks and stages leaving every morning for the interior towns of the territory, carrying mail and passengers. At one time it had about 1,000 population, all branches of business being represented—lawyers, doctors, mechanics of all kind; one newspaper, called the Quindaro Chindowan, owned by a company of leading business men and edited by J. M. Walden, at that time a youth just out of college and an ardent free-state man. In 1858 he was elected a member of the Leavenworth constitutional convention, where he served with distinction. At the present time he is a ruling bishop in the Methodist Episcopal church."

"V. J. Lane, at the present time editor and publisher of the Wyandotte Herald, was at that time the postmaster at Quindaro, and had his office in the store of

Johnson & Veale. Alfred Gray, now deceased, was a prominent man there. He was county commissioner of Leavenworth county in 1858, and later was a quartermaster in the volunteer service in the Fifth Kansas cavalry, and still later became secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, where he served with distinction and credit to himself and with great satisfaction and benefit to the state. Charles Chadwick, a lawyer was another of Quindaro's prominent men. In 1861 he became private secretary to Gov. Charles Robinson, and in the succeeding year became adjutant general of the state.

Your humble servant was the first sheriff of the new county of Wyandotte, appointed and commissioned by J. W. Denver, then governor of the territory. At Quindaro we had a steam ferry, and the roughs from Missouri would demand free ferriage. They came over in gangs to vote, and many times helped themselves to whatever property they wanted, and occasionally shot some free-state fellow—just for fun—their principal of action being anything to prevent Kansas from becoming a free state.”

“When the new county of Wyandotte was organized and Wyandotte made the county seat, Quindaro began to wane. The powerful influences from the county seat began to be felt. Another sun had risen, the beams of which did not reach Quindaro.”

“Quindaro died easily; no more struggles after the war.”

In 1862 the Legislature repealed the law incorporating the town of Quindaro and named Quindaro Township as the successor of the town company with instructions to wind up its affairs. (25). In 1872 and 1873 the old town site was vacated except here and there a street. (26).

The final act of the drama of Quindaro was staged in the U. S. Circuit Court. (27) On the original plat of Quindaro six blocks covering 22½ acres, had been set aside and dedicated as a public park. J. J. Squires, a Kansas City, Mo., banker secured

25. Laws, 1862, Chapter 50. Passed Mar. 6, 1862.

26. Commissioners Minutes, Book C, pgs. 296, 336, 545, 562 and Book D, pgs. 11 and 13.

27. Quindaro Township vs. Squires 51 Fed. 152.

28. The Township was given the property on the theory that fifteen years possession gave title.

quit-claim deeds from Guthrie, Robinson, Simpson and their wives, and the heirs of Joel Walker, and took possession of the park. Quindaro Township brought a suit in ejectment in the district court of Wyandotte county, claiming that the old town company parted with all its rights when the tract was dedicated for park purposes. Squires, being a non resident, had the case transferred to the Federal court. In the trial in the Federal district court Squires won, and the Township appealed. At the hearing in the U. S. circuit court the district court was reversed and the title to the park was held to be in Quindaro Township.

Year after year Kansas City extended her boundaries to the northwest taking in more and more of the old town site of Quindaro. Finally she reached out around the 22½-acre park and brought it within the city limits (29). Quindaro Township then deeded to Kansas City its interest in this historic spot. (30) As the plat of Quindaro was filed three months prior to the plat of old Wyandotte, it makes this park the oldest park in the park system of Kansas City, Kansas. It is probably the oldest park in the state of Kansas as it is very doubtful whether any town plat filed in Kansas, previous to February 15, 1857, makes provision for a public park.

Time has obliterated all of the business buildings that once stood in old Quindaro. The foundations of some of them can still be traced, but no marker has been raised to mark the site of what in its short career was the best advertised and the most important town in the Territory of Kansas.

29. Ordinance 20547, passed Dec. 1, 1923.

30. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book 752, pg. 106. Recorded Feb. 8, 1924.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER TWENTY-NINE

PLACE:— Huron Place in Old Wyandotte.

TIME:— The Year 1859.

EVENT:—A Dedication for Public Use.

The Wyandotte City Town Company filed its town plat with the Register of Deeds, of Wyandotte County, Sept. 28, 1859. On the plat the square of ground bounded on the north by Minnesota avenue; on the east by Sixth street; on the south by Ann avenue; and on the west by Seventh street, was named "Huron Place." One hundred and fifty feet squares in each corner were marked "Church Lot." The center of the square was dedicated to public use in these words:

"Public Grounds — Also Huron Place except a lot in the SW corner, one in the SE corner and also one in the NE corner which are respectively 150 feet square and dedicated to church purposes. Also excepting so much as is occupied by the Methodist church South and by the burying ground adjoining said church as represented on the map."

On the plat, within the public grounds as thus described, was an irregular strip having a frontage on Minnesota avenue. Ann avenue and Sixth street, marked "Seminary Place." (1)

A previous plat had been filed in Leavenworth County, but it contained no dedication of public grounds.

Wyandotte was, in 1859, a struggling village with possibly 400 inhabitants. The business section was down on the "Levee" and Third street. Huron Place, while geographically in the town, was really out in the country. Minnesota avenue, now the principal artery of travel, was not to be graded for years to come. Thirty-one years later (April 28, 1890), Mayor Coy, in addressing the city council, said "Huron Place is still the Street Commissioners' dumping ground." (2)

The Town Company deeded the "Church Lot" on the southeast corner of the square, where the Grund hotel now stands, to the St. Pauls Protestant Episcopal church (3) and the lot on the southwest corner of the square, where the Scottish Rite Temple now stands, to the Methodist Episcopal Church wor-

1. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Plat No. 1.

2. Goodspeed, Wyandotte County and Kansas City, pg. 420.

3. Book E, pg. 37, Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County.

shipping in the German language (4). Three years later the Town Co. issued another deed to the southwest corner lot to the First African Methodist Church. (5). Eventually this matter was ironed out and the title of the First African Methodist was made good. Both the St. Pauls Episcopal and the African Methodist churches built on their lots and eventually both organizations lost their properties.

The Town Co. did not own that part of "Huron Place" lying west of the cemetery. This was the property of Hiram M. Northup. In 1860 Mr. Northup deeded a half acre tract at the northwest corner of the square to the M. E. Church South for \$1,000. (6). That organization built a substantial church building on this property and years later, when Minnesota avenue developed into the principal business street of the town, sold out at a handsome profit. For four years before the completion of the court house, on the opposite corner, the county rented a part of this church building for a court room. (7)

The "Church Lot" at the northeast corner of the square, where the Commercial National Bank building now stands, remained a weed and brush patch for years. In 1868 the County Commissioners desired to purchase it as a site for a court house and jail. Isaiah Walker, a member of the then defunct Town Company, appeared before the board and offered the tract to the county for \$750.00. Thereupon the board passed a resolution offering \$700.00 for the tract. This offer was accepted. Warrants were issued in the name of the Town Company aggregating \$700.00 and Isaiah Walker receipted for the same and they were duly paid. On September 8, 1868, John McAlpine, as Trustee for the Town Company, duly executed and delivered to the county a deed to the property. (8)

So far as the records show the county never took possession of this lot, nor attempted to exercise any authority over it, until Jan. 12, 1880, when the commissioners ordered it surveyed and fenced. (9) A year and a half later, June 15, 1881, the commissioners leased the lot for a term of five years at \$100.00 per year, (10), and a lumber yard was opened on the lot. The county reserved the right however to cancel the lease at any time. This it did and on January 16, 1882, the commissioners

4. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book E, pg. 226.
5. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book I, pg. 411.
6. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book I, pg. 393.
7. Commissioners Minutes, Book E, pgs. 65 and 369.
8. *Armstrong vs. Portsmouth* 57 Kansas 84.
9. Commissioners Minutes, Book E, pg. 147.
10. *Ibid.*, pg. 318.

passed a resolution that the court house be located and built upon the plot of ground owned by the county in Huron Place, now occupied by the Wyandotte Lumber Company. (11)

On February 21, 1882, the First Presbyterian Church, which had been organized in 1857, but which had never grown or prospered very much, commenced an action against the Commissioners to restrain the county from exercising any jurisdiction over this lot. The church, in its petition, alleged that this lot had been dedicated on the town plat for church purposes; that this church was the one for which the lot had been intended;



THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

In Huron Park on the ground marked "Seminary" in the plat of old Wyandotte.

that the deed to the county should be held null and void; and that the county should be adjudged to hold the lot in trust for the church. (12)

At the trial in the District Court the dedication on the plat of this lot for church purposes was shown. It was also shown that the records of the Town Company disclosed that on May 2, 1857, it was resolved that—"A church lot be appropriated to the use of the Presbyterian Church. New School, on application of Mr. Goodrich." (13). Judge Wagstaff found for the

11. Ibid.. pg. 411.

12. First Presbyterian Church vs. Commissioners, case 2898; and Armstrong vs. Portsmouth 57 Kansas 62.

13. 30 Kansas 620.

church holding that the county held its deed from the Town Company only as a trustee for the church and quieting the title to the property in the church (14). The county appealed the case to the Supreme Court where the judgment entered by Judge Wagstaff was affirmed. (15)

The Presbyterians then erected a church building on the lot, fronting Sixth street, and the congregation continued to worship there until 1888. By that time two double track street railways had been constructed, one on Minnesota avenue and the other on Sixth street, the latter having made an excavation about fifteen feet in depth in front of the church building, in order to go under Minnesota avenue, and the use of the property for church purposes was considered undesirable. (16)

On April 11, 1888, the First Presbyterian Church and O. S. Bartlett, filed a petition in the District Court (17) asking for equitable relief. The Board of County Commissioners were made the defendant. The petition recited the facts as to the history of the property and stated that Bartlett was ready to purchase the property at a price of \$50,000. The church asked that it might be allowed to make the sale and invest the proceeds in another site and church building. On May 12, 1888, Judge O. L. Miller granted the prayer of the petitioners and ordered the county to make a deed of the property to the church that a proper transfer could be made to Bartlett. The church trustees were required to give a bond in the sum of \$60,000 that the funds would be invested in another site and fund within the limits of the old Town of Wyandotte. Bartlett paid the \$50,000 and the church trustees purchased another site and erected a church edifice at a cost of \$60,000. (18)

In course of time the property, after passing through several hands, came into the possession of the Portsmouth Building Co. This company prepared to build a large office building and was excavating for the same, when on April 7, 1890, Silas Armstrong and 16 others, claiming to be the heirs or assignees of the members of the old Wyandotte City Town Company, attempted to stop the work. (19). In their petition they alleged that the Presbyterian church had been given the lot for church

14. Commissioners Minutes, Book J, pg. 376.

15. 30 Kansas 620.

16. *Armstrong vs. Portsmouth* 57 Kansas 65.

17. *First Presbyterian Church vs. Board of County Commissioners*, case No. 4835.

18. *Armstrong vs. Portsmouth*, 57 Kansas 66.

19. *Armstrong vs. Portsmouth*, case No. 6621.

purposes only and that now having abandoned it for church purposes it should revert to the donors. Judge O. L. Miller heard the case and found for the defendants. In a lengthy written opinion, filed May 5, 1891, the court held that where property, real or personal, had been granted for pious or charitable uses, and it was made to appear that the trust could not be carried out in the precise manner intended, a court of equity might order such change in the property or funds as might be necessary to carry out the objects and purposes of the grant, as near as possible. That a proper application had been made regarding this property and that the church had been given permission by the court to dispose of the property. Furthermore, even though there was a reservation the plaintiffs could not profit by it for the Town Company, by virtue of which they claimed, parted with all interest it had in the property when John McAlpine, its Trustee, made his deed to the Commissioners of Wyandotte county. The plaintiffs appealed the case to the Supreme Court where the judgment of Judge Miller was affirmed. (20)

In 1867 School District No. 1, alias Wyandotte, was ready to build a school. The Board of Education looked on the weed and brush patch, marked "Huron Place" on the map, and pronounced it good, and so asked the City Council to convey to it that part which had been dedicated for seminary purposes. The Council, by resolution, granted that part "bounded on the east by Sixth street, on the north and south by church lots named on the plat and west by a line drawn from the western boundaries of said church lots." (21) The Board of Education wanted more ground and so the Council, by another resolution, gave an additional 65 feet the whole length of the first grant. (22). The next year the Central School, a nine room brick with a seating capacity of 542 and heated with steam, was built. For thirty years this was the principal school building in old Wyandotte.

It took thirty years to outgrow the Central School. Then the Board of Education began to consider plans for a new high school on the same site. The City of Kansas City now came into court and asked for an injunction restraining the Board of Education from erecting its proposed building, alleging that the ground known as "Huron Place" had been dedicated by the Town Company for park purposes only and that the Board of

20. *Armstrong vs. Portsmouth* 57 Kansas 62.

21. *Minutes City Council.*

22. *Ibid.*

Education had no rights there. (23) The District Court granted the injunction. The immediate effect of this was to send the location of the new high school to the corner of Ninth and Minnesota.

The Board of Education appealed the case to the Supreme Court and here the judgment of the District Court was reversed. (24), the Court holding that the marking "Seminary Place" on the original plat showed the purpose for which the grant was intended; that a seminary was a school; that the Board of Education was rightfully in possession; and that the resolutions passed by the City Council thirty years before neither added to nor took from its rights. The judgment was reversed with instructions to ascertain the boundaries of the tract designated as "Seminary Place" and to quiet the title of the Board of Education thereto as against the City. The city engineer was called upon to locate the boundaries and his report was accepted by the District Court and spread upon the records of the Court. (25). It shows a frontage of 154 feet on Sixth street, 88 feet on Minnesota avenue and 88 feet on Ann avenue. These three frontages are connected by boundary lines of curves, tangents and radii utterly incomprehensible to the lay mind.

Back in the early nineties the City Federation of Womens' Clubs of Kansas City, Kansas, was organized with the declared object of founding a public library. Mrs. Sarah Ann Richart was elected first president. Every known device was employed to obtain money to buy books. So far as is now known no record has been preserved of the list of clubs that joined in this work. The minutes of the Mary Tenney Gray Travelers Club, one of the clubs which belonged to the City Federation, for August 1st, 1892, states that the Public Library opened May 15, 1892, and that during the three months past the Club had sold 78 membership tickets at one dollar each; had given a public dinner which netted \$39.20; and that the proceeds had been invested in 57 volumes which are listed with their respective prices. In addition to this a list is given of contributions by individual members amounting to 60 more volumes. Were the minutes of the other members of the Federation available no doubt they would show similar activity.

The Legislature of 1893 passed a special Act giving the Board of Education of Kansas City, Kansas, authority to levy a half

23. *City of Kansas City vs. Board of Education*, case No. 13791.

24. 62 *Kansas* 374.

25. *Court Journal* No. 25.

mill tax for library purposes. (26) Nearly six years went by however, before the board acted. At a meeting of the Board of Education on January 2, 1899 (27) the Board accepted the responsibility of library administration for the city and then the library began to grow. Quarters were first established at Seventh and Minnesota and later changed to Fifth and Minnesota. In the meantime a connection had been made with Andrew Carnegie and on August 5, 1901 (28) his offer of \$75,000 for a library building was accepted by the Board of Education.

A "Gentleman's Agreement" was made with the city council whereby the two civic bodies which had been so recently in the courts would pool their interests in "Huron Place". By the terms of this agreement the new Carnegie library building was to have a suitable place and all the rest of the square was to be converted into a park to be under city control. The city at once passed an ordinance for the grading of Huron Place (29) and some twenty feet, or more, was taken off the hill on which the old central school building once stood, reducing the grade to its present level.

The corner stone of the new library building was laid on Sept. 6, 1902, and three thousand people gathered in Huron Place to take part in the ceremonies. (30)

Huron Place stands today with its public library under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education, its beautiful park, under the control of the Park Department of the city, and overlooking it all is the old "Huron Cemetery", which the city, by contract with the Government, is required to give the same perpetual care that it gives to its holdings in Huron Place. (31)

When the public library moved into its new quarters in Huron Place in 1894, it had 5,500 books on its shelves. In the thirty years that have elapsed it has grown until now it has 95,000 books on its shelves. The total circulation of books for the year 1904, the first year in the new building, was 60,192.

In addition to the main library in Huron Place there are now four full time branch libraries. The Argentine branch library is located in Emerson Park in a Carnegie building. The Wyandotte branch library is located in the Wyandotte high school building and is a combination high school and junior college

26. Laws, 1893, Chapter 107. Passed Mar. 9, 1893.

27. Minutes of the Board.

28. Ibid.

29. Ordinance 4858 passed Jan. 21, 1902.

30. Kansas City World, Sept. 7, 1902.

31. Contract on file in office of City Clerk.

library. The Rosedale branch library is located in the Rosedale high school building and is a combination high school and public library. The Northeast branch library is located in the Northeast junior high school building and is a combination school and public library. Part time libraries are also located in the Armourdale community house, the Bethel neighborhood center, the Whittier school, the Quindaro school and the Stephens memorial church. During the year 1934 these branch libraries circulated 198,730 books. Seventeen school libraries were maintained during the year 1934 with a circulation of 20,106 books. During the year 1934 the circulation from the main building was 184,990 books. The total circulation for 1934 was 403,880 books.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY

PLACE: Banks of the Missouri and Kansas Rivers
TIME: The Year 1857.
EVENTS: I. The Public Levee.
II. The Exodusters.

Upon the original plat of the old town of Wyandotte there was a tract of land, irregular in shape, from 700 to 900 feet wide and perhaps a mile long, fronting on the Kansas and Missouri rivers and marked, "Levee." This plat, which was filed in Leavenworth County, May 14, 1857, made no dedication of this ground for public purposes, but when the new county of Wyandotte was formed in 1859 a plat was filed in the Register of Deeds office which carried this dedication:

"Public Ground: The Levee extending from the northern boundary of the Ferry tract to the northern boundary of the town and from the front lots to the rivers." (1)

The public did not wait for a dedication of the levee for public purposes, any more than it waited for deeds from the town company for the town lots it had purchased, but proceeded to take possession of "the Levee." On June 8, 1858 a town government was provided for Wyandotte. Within less than six weeks a red hot controversy was being waged as to what use might be made of the Levee. The minutes of the Trustees recite that on June 20, 1858, on motion of Mr. Glick, the marshal was instructed to notify the owners of the wharf and ferry boats to have the same removed from their present situation to some point other than on the Missouri river between the mouth of the Kansas river and the mouth of Jersey creek. The marshal reported back at the next meeting that he had notified the owners of the boats lying at the levee to remove the same. The ferry boat has been removed into the Kansas river but that Mr. Hunt refused to remove the Wharf Boat stating he had a written permit from Town Company allowing him to remain two years. A petition was presented, signed by 80 citizens, asking that Hunt be given the privilege of staying, as he had been at expense in placing this boat at the landing in the early history of our city when it was a great advantage to our new city. Mr. Glick moved that F. A. Hunt be allowed the privilege of hauling his wharf boat on the shore at any point on the Missouri river south of Kansas

avenue (now State) and keep the same there as long as the same will not be an obstruction to the levee or a nuisance to the town. There were two votes for and two against the resolution and the chairman settled the tie in favor of the resolution. Before the day was over a special meeting of the trustees was called. This time there was a petition, signed by 87 citizens, remonstrating against the use of our public levee in such a way, as we believe it will hinder the landing of our goods, obstruct our view and will be planting an intolerable nuisance in our midst. By the same two to two vote, with the chairman casting the deciding vote, the remonstrance was rejected. The two objectors to the wharf boat location presented their protest in writing and by the same two to two vote, the chairman casting the deciding vote, the remonstrance was laid on the table. (2)

There are some early day references in regard to the housing shortage in the town of Wyandotte and of the steamboat captain who moored his boat to the shore and converted his cabins into sleeping quarters for the use of the public. Undoubtedly Mr Hunt, over whom the levee controversy arose, and the steamboat captain were one and the same person. The floating hotel, whoever the owner may have been, was still doing business a year later when the delegates came to Wyandotte to make a constitution for the prospective state of Kansas.

The Missouri river was the only artery of travel, and during the building boom of 1858, block 16, which stretched from State to Nebraska and fronting on "The Levee," filled up with brick buildings, two at least being four stories high. (3) It was in one of these buildings on the levee that the constitution of Kansas was made. With the coming of the railroads, the glory of the levee departed never to return.

On December 23, 1863 the City of Wyandotte entered into an agreement with the Union Pacific to deed the Levee to that railroad. (4) The railroad was to build a depot and machine shops and a connecting line with the main line of the road. The city reserved the steamboat landing, with the right to take tolls, wharfage and other dues from the navigation of the two rivers except from such freight as passed over, or was destined to pass over, the Union Pacific. The deed

2. Minutes of July 20, 1858.

3. Deposition in *Corwin vs. Meyer*, case 423, District Court Wyandotte County.

4. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book G, pg. 81.

from the city to the railroad company was not made until July 1, 1865 and differed somewhat from the original agreement. Nebraska was made the dead line. All north of that went to the railroad the city reserving the part lying south of Nebraska and the exclusive control of all ferries over the Missouri and Kansas rivers except for railroad purposes. The railroad was to erect all machine shops and houses, car manufactories, passenger and freight depôts as soon as needed. (5)

The Union Pacific Eastern Division established its general offices in the "Levee block," being block 16, located its shops on the levee and for a number of years maintained its terminals on the levee grounds. The ties and rails out of which the Union Pacific was built were brought up the Missouri river by boats and unloaded on the levee. G. L. Chadburn, the abstractor, tells this story: "My father was the store keeper for the Union Pacific. I was a small boy and father would put me up on top of a pile of ties and for hours I would watch the black boatmen as, singing at their work, they carried the ties and heavy rails up out of the boats and piled them on the levee." It was here on the levee that the "Wyandotte," the first Union Pacific engine was landed and given a dip into the river. One story is that the boat crew were not experts at handling engines and the run way, to get the engine from the boat to the land, was not properly braced, and the engine went into the river. It took a good deal of work to get it to the shore but it was finally accomplished and the engine, none the worse for its dip into the "big muddy," was set on the rails.

The other story is that the engine ran off an open switch and pitched over into the river. As both stories are vouched for by witnesses still living, who insist, that they saw it all, the only way to reconcile them is to decide that the Wyandotte must have gone into the river twice.

The goose neck, formed by the Kansas river and the bluff, south of the levee, prevented easy access to its terminals, and so, after a few years the Union Pacific abandoned its holdings on the levee and moved its terminals and shops up the Kansas river to what became known as the Union Pacific yards. The levee then became a waste. Several railways were given right of way across it, a few small plants were given sites at a nominal rent, and numerous squatters built shacks up it.

It was on the levee that the "Exodusters" landed. Between

the years 1878 and 1882 twenty thousand colored people from the South came to Kansas. Many came by trains but hundreds came up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers by boat and were landed on the Wyandotte levee. The tide seems to have reached its highest point in Wyandotte in the month of April, 1879. The files of V. J. Lanes paper, the Herald, tell the story from week to week as the tide rose and fell. Under date of April 3, 1879 it tells that: "Last week the Fannie Lewis left 150 to 200 colored immigrants on the levee. They were principally from Louisiana and Mississippi and were bound for the interior of the state. The Joe Kinney brought up on Monday some 400 more. Nicodemus seems to be the objective point."

Date of April 10, 1879: "During the past ten days a large number of colored immigrants from Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee have been landed in Kansas. Nearly all of them are penniless, many are sick and all of them objects of sympathy. A public meeting was held at the court room on Tuesday afternoon to take steps for their relief and to provide against spreading of contagious diseases. V. J. Lane was chairman and H. L. Alden, secretary. Resolutions were passed to the effect that while the community recognized its obligations, the citizens of the whole state should be called upon for help. Mayor Stockton, Dan Williams, O. C. Palmer, Rev. R. M. Tunnell and Father Kuhls were appointed a committee."

The Herald of April 17th tells of another meeting at which D. E. Cornell, L. G. Cook, G. W. Bishop, A. G. Wolcott, H. M. Northrup, J. L. Conklin, George H. Miller and V. J. Lane were added to the committee already appointed. Resolutions were passed that we take immediate and efficient steps to aid emigration of colored people from Wyandotte to their destination. The same issue carries a protest from the people of Wyandotte concerning the Negro immigrant. It was addressed to the People of the United States and was signed by Mayor Stockton and many others. It said in part: "Within the past two weeks over a thousand negroes direct from the South, have been landed in Wyandotte. None of them have money to carry them further west, or to purchase the wherewithal to supply their most urgent necessities for food and shelter. We have reliable information that thousands more are coming.

On April 22, 1879. Senator Ingalls called the attention of the Senate to the exodus of the colored people from the South. He read a communication from the Mayor of Wyandotte, Kansas, calling attention to the thousands of destitute people

there, saying the people of the town had exhausted their resources caring for these people and asked Congress for relief. He offered a resolution to appropriate \$100,000 to be expended by the Secretary of War. (6)

The Herald of April 24th is full of refugee news. It said: "Up to date but 1,200 have been landed here. Of this number the committee has shipped 350 to Lawrence, 28 to Tonganoxie, 140 to Leavenworth, 200 to Manhattan and 250 to Ottawa. In addition to this 150 have left of their own accord." It also tells that Mayor Stockton and Senator Buchan have left for St. Louis to arrange for shipping the colored refugees to the front without halting at Wyandotte.

Under date of May 1st, the Herald carried this protest: "The impression seems to have gone out that the people of Wyandotte are opposed to the landing of immigrants on the levee. This is a mistaken notion and does the people of this city a great injustice. The first lot of refugees landed here were made up almost entirely of helpless children and aged and infirm people, many of whom were sick. Against the landing and thrusting of thousands of this class of immigrants upon them they enter their solemn protest."

Among the news items for the week were these: "Since the exodus commenced 26 car loads of refugees have been forwarded by the local committee at this point to other portions of the state." "A large number of colored are endeavoring to secure transportation back to their old homes in Mississippi. They say they have been badly deceived." Telegram from Jay Gould, date of April 25, "I have given Mr. Smith orders to furnish free transportation to the negro refugees."

Among the news items for the week of May 8th are the following: "We have over 1,000 of them here." "Forty six refugees were sent to Topeka on Tuesday afternoon by the refugee committee." "The refugees taken to Leavenworth by the Joe Kinney on Thursday night were not permitted to land at that city. Mayor Fortescue paid the Captain \$250.00 for carrying them on to Atchison." "Between 65 and 70 of the colored refugees returned on the Joe Kinney Saturday to their sunny Southland."

On May 8th, 1879, the Freedman's Relief Association was incorporated at Topeka, with Governor St. John and other state officials in charge, and the exodus problems were handled largely from this time on by that organization. The problem

at Wyandotte remained acute all through the summer of 1879. The Southern planters wanted their field hands to return and were ready to furnish transportation for those who wanted it. A letter from the Wyandotte committee that the bearer wanted to return, was a passport to any steamboat Captain, who would look for his pay at the Southern end of the voyage. All the summer of 1879 the Herald continued to announce the arrivals by steamboats and the departures by rail to the interior of the state or by steamboat for the return trip.

The Gazette for June 20, 1879, in a half column article gave a financial statement relating to the Exodusters. The total amount of money that had been raised was \$2,194.36. Amount disbursed \$1,255.48. Balance in the treasurer's hands \$938.88. The disbursements showed to whom the money was paid and the largest item was \$327.00 to the K. P. Railway. No doubt this was for transportation for the "Exodusters" to other points.

The story of the coming of the Exodusters and their absorption by the community is told by I. F. Bradley, negro lawyer and editor of the Wyandotte Echo, as follows:

"I was a bare headed, bare footed, sparsely clad youngster at Cambridge, a small but important shipping point on the Missouri river, on April 9th, 1879, when the Fannie Lewis, a majestic side wheel steamer, docked at that place. She was towing a couple of great barges upon which was the largest number of refugees that came at any one time. I begged mother to let me go down in the woods, to where she was landed, and went aboard of her, and heard those mothers and fathers sing and pray, and tell some of the story of that from which they had fled. Some of the songs I had heard before, perhaps not sung with the pathos and depth of feeling that I heard that day, and the prayers I heard I can never forget. They sang Rock Daniel," and rocked some as they sang it. They also sang, "Ride On, Jesus, Ride On," and "I've Done Got Over", and "Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb". Who would have dreamed that in ten years I could have picked up an education, and reap the good fortune of being elected a Justice of the Peace in this city, in which capacity, certain of these same people came before me for judgment in April 1889."

"All of the refugees did not come on the Fannie Lewis but the larger portion did. Two other steamers, the

Grand Tower and the Durfee, brought cargoes, and others later brought small numbers. They were landed on the low lands south of Jersey Creek and the location was afterwards called Juniper Bottoms. They brought with them the idea of a colony, and had their spiritual adviser in the person of Curtis Pollard, a man of some ability of leadership, who unfortunately did not live long after his arrival. They were close communion Baptist and devout church folks but dissensions arose and church splits followed, so that out of the mother church, which formerly stood at Third and Freeman, there has come King Solomon, Mount Zion, Mount Olive, Pleasant Green and Strangers Rest."

"They even brought their own doctor and lawyer, both of whom were full fledged jokes. Doctor Childs would rig up his little ill fed nag, with a ghost of a saddle, martin gills, collar and crupper, and ride around and up the Avenue, looking as important as he could. Manuel Powell, the lawyer, looked wise, but he was unkempt, wholly ignorant and ugly. Neither of them had any other quality whatever."

"The Refuges squatted on the river bank and built their shacks in irregular form, out of whatever could be pieced together. Industry absorbed them and they gradually bought or built homes in other parts of the city. The guiding hand of the Exodus was Isaiah Montgomery, a full blooded member of our group, and an ex slave of Jefferson Davis. The number that squatted here was in the neighborhood of five hundred. Montgomery carried a like number to Topeka where they were established in what is still called Tennessee Town. He was also active in planting a colony at Nicodemus in Graham county. Montgomery returned to Mississippi where he later became the owner of the plantation of his former master."

Notwithstanding the efforts to pass the "Exoduster" on, the Negro population of Wyandotte grew steadily. The industries absorbed many of them. Housing facilities were found up the Jersey Creek valley and at old Quindaro. Many, who could not find a location, stayed on the levee. Here on both sides of the Missouri Pacific tracks, out of cast off lumber and odds and ends that could be picked up, they built a great number of shacks and made a settlement, that came to be known as "Mis-

Mississippi Town," "Juniper," "Juniper Bottoms" or "Junika". For almost half a century these squatters on the levee, or their heirs or assigns, continued to occupy Mississippi Town. As the Missouri river receded from the Kansas shore they followed with their garden patches. In 1924 the city decided to clear the levee and ordered the squatters to vacate. What took place is told by the Kansas City Star of Feb. 29, 1924:

"The abandoned "snail shells along the Kansas City, Kans. levee are being pulled down. These "shells" are the houses built from parts of old box cars, scrap beams and the like, which for a quarter of a century have nestled along the Missouri river front. The city some time ago ordered the occupants to move, and as fast as houses are vacant a ladder company from fire headquarters pulls the houses down. The ladder truck from headquarters, tied a rope around each house yesterday, gave a pull, and down in a heap came a pile of board that once had been a "home" for someone. *

* * * It will take about a week to clean up the district which was known as Mission Town. The typical home of the squatter, with its stove pipe stuck through the tin roof and its walls made of all kinds of lumber is rapidly disappearing."

All of the squatters were not so easily disposed of however. Some of them claimed the ground as a matter of right and went into court to have their titles quieted. (7) A compromise was made with them and their suits were abandoned. The Star of June 18, 1924, carried this news item:

"A compromise has been effected by which the squatters on the public levee will be removed. The squatters will be paid \$3,750 to abandon their claims. The money will be paid by the Union Pacific, Missouri Pacific, Kansas City Southern and the Bitulithic Paving Co. The land covers 5 acres between Everett and Freeman and extends from the Union Pacific right of way to the Edgewater grant".

In 1899 Nicholas McAlpine, and forty others, claiming to be the heirs of the members of the old Wyandotte City Town Company, brought suit in the Court of Common Pleas to regain possession of the levee. Their claim was that the levee had been abandoned for the purpose for which it had been

7. J. L. Cobb vs. City of Kansas City, case No. 22151-A, District Court Wyandotte County.

dedicated and so should revert to the grantors. (8) Judge Holt decided against the plaintiffs and they took an appeal to the supreme court, where Judge Holt was sustained. (9)

The opinion of the supreme court was exhaustive and full of historical matter. In part it said:

"This tract in dispute is of irregular form, and as originally delineated upon the plat, was from 700 to 900 feet wide and perhaps a mile long. Upon the plat it was designated and dedicated as "levee". By reliction and alluvium accretions have been added to the river margin, until now the tract is more than twice the size in width that it was at the time of the dedication."

"The defendants are the city of Kansas City; several railroad companies that have received permission from the city to build upon this tract of land their tracks, depots, etc., and are now using the same for such purposes; some private parties who have erected, and are now maintaining manufacturing plants of various kinds; and numerous persons who have squatted and built upon the same more or less temporary habitations, and who appear to be residing there now without permission from any one and as trespassers".

"The evidence in the brief of the plaintiff shows that the Wyandotte City Town Company was a partnership; that the plat of the city was filed for record in 1859; that there were indicated thereon by name various streets and alleys as dedicated to public use, besides the tract in controversy, which was named "levee"; that of several of the streets, running at right angles with the river, opened at their eastern ends upon this levee; that quite a large number of lots have no approach to them save that afforded by this levee tract; that at the time of this platting the Missouri river was navigated quite extensively by both freight and passenger boats and continued so to be navigated up to the year 1866, during which the current of the river swept well up to the eastern line of the levee and afforded an ample natural landing-place for such boats and the commerce brought by them: that after that time navigation fell off by reason of the fact that railroads were

8. *McAlpine vs. C. G. W., et al.* No. 416, filed Dec. 12, 1899.

9. 68 *Kansas* 207. Jan. 9, 1904.

built to and from the town, affording easier and swifter communication, and also that the river became less navigable and the landing less feasible by reason of the fact that the current was diverted to the eastern or Missouri shore, the western shore receiving the accretions above noted, and leaving a wide, marshy and comparatively untransversable alluvion between the river and the "levee" as originally platted. It appeared, however, that occasionally pleasure and other craft had landed there at different stages of water, up to five or six years ago, and that, with some improvements in the way of wharfs and roadways, easy and adequate communication could now be had to the point where navigable water might be reached".

"In their brief the plaintiffs stated their claims as follows: This suit proceeds upon the theory that this tract of land was dedicated to the public for a "levee"; that a levee is a landing place for boats and for commerce carried on by river; that this levee was never improved for such purposes by the city or other corporations; that no boats have landed at it for twelve years, and in human probability will never again use it for a landing; that it has been permanently abandoned by the city authorities and the public as a "levee" because (1) the decreased flow of water in the Missouri river makes the navigation of that river impossible; (2) the permanent change in the channel of the Missouri from the Kansas to the Missouri bank would make impossible an approach by steamboats to the "levee", if any should by chance appear upon the Missouri river; and (3) the complete substitution of railroad carriage of freight and passengers for river transportation."

"While a levee is a place for landing of boats and commerce it is much more than that. The fact that the use has become inconvenient or undesirable to the extent that it has ceased entirely does not constitute an abandonment on the part of the public so as to cause a reverter, and this even though such non user has extended through a long series of years".

"There is nothing to be found in the evidence which goes to show that the use of the tract in question, even were it limited to a boat landing, has become impos-

sible; indeed the evidence shows to the contrary. As a matter of law we know that the Missouri river is a navigable stream. Vast sums of money have been expended by the general government for its improvement, and even though at the present but little, if any, commerce is being carried on over its waters, or during the immediate past has been, who shall say that the time may not come, possibly soon, when transportation conditions may so change that navigation may again be profitably resumed and that such possibility exist, may at least serve to exercise a restraining influence upon railroad rates. Certainly it cannot be said either that navigation upon the river has been permanently abandoned or that by improvements of wharfage and ways upon the levee it may not again be usable as a landing."

"It may well be doubted that a reverter would necessarily follow the complete drying up of the Missouri river".

For more than twenty years, after this decision of the supreme court, the levee remained a dreary waste. Parts of it were leased from time to time to persons who wanted to prospect for coal, oil and gas; to build a refinery; to build a machine shop and foundry; to run a box and basket factory; to build boiler works; to make wood feathers; to erect a sand dock; to make a place to clean stock cars; to conduct a stone yard, etc. A nominal rental in each case was required but little in the way of permanent improvement was made. Finally in 1924 the entire levee was leased to Woods Brothers for a term of thirty years. The city got a down payment of \$5,000 and a promise of \$20.00 per acre per annum during the life of the lease. (10). A friendly suit was filed to test the validity of this lease and the Supreme Court held that the city had the right to lease the levee. (11)

On May 28, 1929, the city by ordinance declared that all rights which had accrued to Woods Brothers were forfeited, vacated and rescinded. (12). The same year the city engineer made a survey of the levee and reported that the holdings of the city along the Missouri and Kansas rivers had grown to about 115 acres. - (13).

10. Ordinance 21295 passed Jan. 10, 1924.

11. City of Kansas City vs. Wood Bros. 117 Kansas 141.

12. Ordinance 25112, passed May 29, 1933.

13. Kansas City Kansan, Nov. 9, 1933.

In 1934 an agitation was commenced to secure a government grant for the improvement of the levee and a plan was proposed for the building of docks, wharves and grain elevators to take advantage of an anticipated revival of transportation by barges on the Missouri river. The project as planned called for an expenditure of \$1,700,000. (14)

In April, 1935, the city voted in favor of a \$300,000 bond issue as a contribution to the project.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-ONE

PLACE:—	End of N. 3rd Street, Kansas City, Kansas.
TIME:—	The Year 1858.
EVENTS:—	I. The First Municipal Cemetery.
	II. The Grave of Governor Walker.
	III. The Grave of Mary Sturges.
	IV. Grave of Mary Tenney Gray.

Very soon after the governing body of the newly created Town of Wyandotte had been organized, a committee was appointed "to make enquiries relative to the procuring of a tract of land suitable for "a Burial ground." (1) Soon after the appointment of this committee there was a proposition before the body from J. L. Hall and D. V. Clement offering to have in readiness "a cemetery" for the Town of Wyandotte of not less than 10 acres and not more than one half mile from the city limits, provided the Town would purchase 25 lots at five dollars each, payable in Town orders. (2) The proposition was referred to the committee, already appointed, with instructions to visit and inspect the ground with power to take such action as it might deem expedient. (3) The committee reported back that it visited the grounds, found them admirably adapted for the purpose, and that the proposition had been accepted with the proviso that the Town would purchase one hundred dollars worth of lots at \$3.00 per lot. This report was accepted and the Town attorney was directed to draw a contract with the parties. (4)

The 10 acres, thus selected for a cemetery, was in Wyandotte Allotment No. 47 given to Sophia Clement, the head of a family consisting of herself and one child. She was a daughter of Governor William Walker and in her deed to the Town for its \$100.00 worth of lots she signed her name as Sophia Walker Clement. In this deed she describes the property as Oak Grove Cemetery. (5)

Such was the beginning of this historic burial spot. While these preliminaries were in progress the Town had provided, by ordinance, for a Town Sexton and had elected J. L. Hall to that office. Title to the unsold lots in the cemetery (other than the Town lots) soon passed from Mrs. Clement to J. L. Hall

1. Trustees Minutes, June 30, 1858.
2. Ibid., Aug. 10, 1858.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid., Aug. 24, 1858.
5. Ibid., Book 1, pg. 521.

(6) and from Hall to Thomas J. Barker. (7) In September, 1864, the Town purchased the interests of Mr. Barker for the sum of \$800.00 and thus became the sole owner of all unsold lots in the cemetery. (8)

For the next half dozen years the history of Oak Grove can only be found in the published financial statements of the Town officials, which carried a cemetery account to which was charged the bills for maintenance and to which were credited the monies received from the sale of cemetery lots.

September 1st, 1869, the city leased the Oak Grove cemetery for a period of ten years, to the City Cemetery Association of Wyandotte. This seems to have been a civic organization formed for the purpose of managing this property. That it was not to be operated for profit is evident as the lease provided that all monies received from sale of lots was to be expended upon the grounds. The city was to make deeds to lots, when called upon and if there was a deficit in the operating expenses for any year the city was to make up the deficiency. (9). This lease was renewed in January, 1880, for another ten years. (10).

The City Cemetery Association gave up its lease in 1885. Its record book, showing 2,018 burials, was turned over to the city with this memorandum made by the secretary:

"Here ends the administration of the Oak Grove Cemetery under the management of the City Cemetery Association.

"Our first burial was Mar. 31, 1870 and the last Aug. 30, 1885. This makes a period of 15 years 4 months. Every party buried there is recorded in this book, white or black, rich or poor.

"No record of a single burial could be found when we took possession for the 12 years the city managed it. Had it not been for the howl of the hyena undertakers Raymond & Sawyer we should have filled out our lease ending Jan 1, 1890.

D. B. Handley, Sec."

The city council, by ordinance, took possession of the cemetery and it has ever since been operated as a city function. (11).

6. *Ibid.*, Book F, pg. 331.

7. *Ibid.*, Book E, pg. 247.

8. *Ibid.*, Book H, pg. 218.

9. *Ibid.*, Book C, pg. 201.

10. *Ibid.*, Book 16, pg. 576.

11. Ordinance 556, passed Sept. 15, 1885. May 25, 1894 a new plat was filed by the city. See Plat book 6, pg. 34.

As the years went by private parties laid out annexes to Oak Grove on the north. In 1832, lot owners in these annexes petitioned the city to take over these additions and enclose them with Oak Grove, which was done. (12)

For more than a half century Oak Grove Cemetery was the principal burying ground for those pioneers who founded Wyandotte and nursed it through its early years. Presumably all the vacant lots in the cemetery were sold but no adequate record of lot owners was ever kept and now when a grave is opened to receive the body of some member of these pioneer families, right of possession depends largely upon tradition. Handsome monuments fill the grounds and the names inscribed thereon are familiar to those who have studied the history of the growth of Wyandotte. On them we read the names of 9 early day mayors. (13) Three times in the three-quarters of a century that has passed, civic bodies have raised monuments over the graves of illustrious dead who sleep here. The Womans Relief Corps placed a monument over the grave of Mother Sturges, the army nurse. The Club Women of Kansas marked the grave of Mary Tenney Gray. The Daughters of Founders and Patriots unveiled a monument over the grave of Governor William Walker. These three events make Oak Grove Cemetery of double interest as one of Wyandotte's historic spots.

II. THE GRAVE OF GOVERNOR WALKER

"Sweet vale of Wyandotte, how calm could I rest
In the bosom of shade with the friends I love best!
When the storms which we feel in the cold world shall cease,
Our hearts like thy waters shall mingle in peace." (14)

On the highest point in Oak Grove Cemetery, in Kansas City, Kansas, overlooking the Missouri river, is the grave of William Walker, Provisional Governor of the Territory of Nebraska. For more than forty years it was unmarked, but on Sept. 9, 1915, the Daughters of Founders and Patriots, assisted by a delegation from the Society of American Indians, erected a plain marker with this inscription: (15)

"GOVERNOR WM. WALKER — 1800-1874
Erected by the Kansas Chapter Daughters Founders
and Patriots of America. 1915".

12. Commissioners Minutes of April 26 and May 24, 1832.

13. Major J. R. Parr, the first mayor; Dr. Joseph Speck, 1860; F. A. Cobb, 1862; James McGrew, 1867; Byron Judd, 1869; Dr. Fred Speck, 1887; D. E. Cornell, 1863 and 1907; Dr. J. C. Martin, 1885; Wm. H. Craddock, 1901. Kansas City Star, Apr. 12, 1914.

14. Verse found in Walkers Journal.

15. Wyandotte Gazette Globe, Sept. 30, 1915.

Who was Governor William Walker and where did he gain his title? He was born in Wayne County, Michigan, March 5th, 1800. He belonged to the Big Turtle Clan of the Wyandots. His father was a white man who had been captured when a child by the Delawares, afterwards given by them to the Wyandots, adopted by them, and in due time became the most influential man in the tribe. (16) His son, William was given a good education at a Methodist school at Worthington, Ohio. Besides the English, he read and spoke Greek, Latin, and French. He spoke the Wyandot, Delaware, Shawnee, Miami and Pottowatomie languages. He was head chief of the Wyandot tribe while it was yet in Ohio. He was postmaster at Upper Sandusky, Ohio. For some years he was private Secretary to Gen. Lewis Cass. (17) He was an eloquent speaker and a forceful writer on political subjects. He was an ardent Democrat and a slave holder. (18) He hated abolitionism, contended for the rights of slavery, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention at Lecompton that drafted a slavery constitution for Kansas. (19) He was not a secessionist, however, and remained loyal to the Union. He kept a diary in which with great regularity he kept a record of daily events. Were it not for this diary the story of the Wyandots in Kansas would be as meager as that of their neighbors the Delawares and the Shawnees. Were it not for this diary the story of the Provisional Government could not be told and a most important and colorful chapter of Kansas history would be lost. It was the convention, which made the Provisional Government, that called William Walker from his home and made him the head of the new government.

Twenty years went by and William Walker saw all his family laid away. His time came in 1874 and he was placed in an unmarked grave in the Oak Grove Cemetery. (20) The inquisitive one asks why he was not buried in the Huron cemetery with the other members of the Wyandot tribe and is told that the land on which Oak Grove cemetery was located belonged to Governor Walker's daughter and that she reserved a lot in the cemetery when she sold the land. Here she was

16. Provisional Government, pg. 11.

17. Ibid., pg. 12.

18. In his journal under date of January 1, 1847, he tells of the purchase of a female slave, named Dorcas.

19. Roster of the Lecompton Convention.

20. "He was buried on Saturday last in Oak Grove cemetery, with Masonic honors, having been one of the charter members of Wyandotte Lodge No. 3, and for many years an honorary member." Wyandotte Herald Feb. 19, 1874.

buried and with her the wife and other children of Governor Walker, so it was natural that when he died that he should be brought to this place. (21)

III. THE GRAVE OF MARY A. STURGES

In the southwest corner of the Oak Grove cemetery there is a monument to Mary A. Sturges, an army nurse. It is an oblong, about six feet high, four by five feet on the ground. On the top is an open book with the word, "Mother" inscribed. Facing west is the following:

"IN MEMORY OF MARY A. STURGES, 1809-1892; A UNION ARMY NURSE, ERECTED BY BURNSIDE W. R. C. No. 1, DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS."

On the back, which fronts east, is the following:

"In November, 1861, at the call for nurses, Mrs. Sturgess with her daughter Mary B., enlisted in the 6th Illinois cavalry; was immediately sent to Camp Butler, Springfield, Illinois, where she entered upon the duties of regiment nurse. Here her patient, loving care of the boys in blue won for her the endearing name by which she was ever afterwards called. In January, 1862, she was sworn into the United States service and entered a broader field of hospital work at Memphis, Tennessee. She was finally placed in charge of Adams Block Hospital, and remained until mustered out of service in June, 1865. Many noble women entered the ranks as army nurses, but none gained a warmer place in the soldiers' heart than did Mother Sturges. The dear old mother never relaxed her interest in charitable work until she died, in her 83rd year, happy in a Christian faith that sustained her through life. Truly it may be said of her, 'This woman was full of good words which she did.'"

Mrs. Sturges' life was an eventful one. When the civil war broke out she was a widow, 51 years of age, living at Peoria, Illinois. She at once enlisted as an army nurse with her 21 year old daughter, Mrs. Mary Kenney, who was also a widow. Their regiment, the Sixth Illinois cavalry, left Peoria, Ill., Nov. 11, 1861, and went to Camp Butler at Springfield.

21. "Governor William Walker, Provisional Governor of the Territory of Nebraska, died in 1874 and was buried in the family lot reserved by his daughter when she sold the land to the cemetery company. His descendants are gone, no one seems to know where, and for 41 years no stone has marked his resting place." *Gazette Globe*, Sept. 30, 1915.

and from there to Paducah, Ky., and then to Memphis, Tenn. In January, 1862, Mrs. Sturges was sworn into the United States service and soon afterwards placed in charge of the Adams Block Hospital at Memphis, where she served until the close of the war. In this larger field of work it was her privilege to nurse back to life hundreds of the soldier boys as well as to care for the dying. In her hospital work she was associated with the well known nurse, "Mother Bickerdyke" and the warm friendship between them continued as long as they lived.

After the war Mrs. Sturges came to Wyandotte to live with her daughter, now Mrs. Maxwell, at 929 Armstrong avenue. Here she died Dec. 30th, 1892, at the ripe age of 83. The funeral service held at the home was conducted by Rev. Dr. J. W. Alderman and all the G. A. R. posts in the city had delegations present to act as pall bearers and escort. Burnside Post No. 1 of the Womans' Relief Corps resolved that her grave should be suitably marked and raised a fund of over \$600.00 which paid for the monument in the Oak Grove cemetery.

In the G. A. R. room of the Wyandotte county court house there now hang pictures of both Mrs. Sturges and her daughter Mary B. Maxfield and on the same wall hangs the charter of the Mary B. Sturges-Maxfield Tent of the Daughters of Veterans of the Civil War of 1861-1865, named in honor of these two noble women.

IV. GRAVE OF MARY TENNEY GRAY

Just beyond the entrance, and to the left of the main street, of historic Oak Grove cemetery, in Kansas City, Kansas, and looking out over the Missouri River valley, is a shaft of Vermont granite which announces that it was erected by the Club Women of Kansas in honor of Mary Tenney Gray. A visitor to the cemetery on reading this inscription asked: Who was Mary Tenney Gray and why did the Club Women of Kansas erect a monument to her memory? This most natural question can only be properly answered by giving something of the life history and work of this remarkable woman who played so important a part in the early history and development of Kansas.

Mary Davy Lott Tenney, was born on the 19th of June, 1833, at Brookdale, near Liberty, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of a Methodist minister, Rev. Ephraim Bailey Tenney, and Harriet Elizabeth Lott, daughter of Bartholomew Lott of Smithfield, New Jersey. She was of

Revolutionary ancestry, one of her forebears being General Jacob Bailey an intimate associate of General Washington. Her father was one of seven brothers, all New England preachers. He emigrated from Vermont to what is now Binghamton, New York. Here in 1830 he was authorized to preach and for fifty years rode the Circuit in the Oneida and Wyoming Conferences, doing notable work. His denunciation of slavery lost him the highest gifts of the church. His home was one of the depots of that famous underground railroad over which many a scarred, bleeding and half starved slave found his way to "liberty



MARY TENNEY GRAY.

Recognized nationally as the mother of the Woman's Club Movement. Her grave in the Oak Grove cemetery marked by the Club Women of Kansas.

and the pursuit of happiness".

Mary Tenney started life in the great anthracite coal fields of Scranton, Penn. At the age of sixteen she lost her mother. Mary had to milk the cows, do the chores and largely bring up her ten younger sisters and brothers. Incidentally she read the Bible through ten times before she was twelve years of age. Few books were found in the home of a circuit rider in the coal fields of Pennsylvania, in the thirties and forties. The severity of her father, who caught her reading in her attic had

by tallow candle, that famous book, "Bunyan's Pilgrim Progress", was such that he burned the book and told her the Bible and "Baxter's Saints Rest", were ample literature. The natural reaction to this severity led her to become a wide reader and she thus acquired a taste for better literature which moulded her writings.

Her writings show she first taught school at Laceyville, Penn., when she was fifteen years of age. Began Dec. 14, 1848, and closed school February, 1849. Wages being 12s. per week and board at home. In summer of 1849 she taught at King Creek school house, May 7th to July 28th and received one dollar a week and "board round." In 1850 she taught at her early home in Brookdale, August 5th to October 14th, for 10s per week and "board round". Again at King Creek, Dec. 1850, to March 22nd, 1851. Wages \$2.00 per week. In 1851 at Corbettsville, N. Y., for three months, May 5th to August 4th. Wages \$1.50 per week. In winter of 1851 taught at Osborne Hollow for four months, December 4, 1851, to April 1st, 1852, and there again May 2nd to July 28th. Wages \$2.00 per week.

She attended Miss Ingalls Female Seminary in 1849, the expenses for three quarters being \$98.00, which she had earned. For one quarter of 14 weeks she attended the Binghamton Academy. She then attended the Wyoming Seminary at Kingston, Penn., at a cost of \$147.85 for three terms, graduating in July, 1853. In September 27, 1853, she became the Preceptress of Binghamton Academy and taught for four years until December 10th, 1856, receiving a salary of \$923.05. Then she wrote in her diary as follows:

"It is 8 years 3 months and 3 days since I commenced teaching and I have earned, working faithfully too, the sum of \$1015.55. A sum which many a man with less ability than I could have earned in one year. Shameful. Good bye to teaching, for a time at least."

During her eight years of school work she had taught 800 boys and girls, along the borders of the two great states of New York and Pennsylvania, French, Mathematics and Modern languages being her subjects.

On June 14th, 1859, she was married, at Conklin, Broome county, New York, to Barzillai Gray, a young lawyer and a member of the bar of Wvandotte County, Kansas Territory. Mr. Gray was a graduate of Ann Arbor, class of 1849, who had entered a law office at Binghamton, N. Y. Here he met the

Preceptress of the Academy and an engagement followed. Mr. Gray was among the first settlers in Wyandotte and his name appears first among those who petitioned for the organization of the Inhabitants of the Town of Wyandotte in 1858.

The honeymoon took them to St. Louis where they took a steamboat, the only means of travel, to the booming young city at the mouth of the Kansas River. Thus straight from New York Mary Tenney Gray was introduced to the bustle and boom of life in a pioneer country. Shortage of housing facilities in the new town had caused a steamboat captain to moor his vessel to the Kansas shore and convert its cabins into a hotel. Here the young couple found accommodations for a time, securing quarters later at the Garno House at Third and Minnesota, the then center of activity for the town.

Scarcely were the Grays domiciled in the town when, on July 5th, 1859, the Wyandotte Constitutional Convention met to make a constitution for the proposed state of Kansas and then and there began Mary Tenney Gray's four decades of work in her adopted state. The Garno House was the leading hotel and the headquarters for the delegates to the Convention. The Convention hall was less than two blocks away. Burning with righteous indignation at the discrimination against her sex the young school teacher bride, aided and abetted by her lawyer husband, lobbied with the delegates to have inserted in the new constitution provisions for the recognition of the rights of women. Revolutionary things did come out of that convention. The constitution when it was finished provided in Article 2, Section 23:

"The legislature in providing for the formation and regulation of schools shall make no distinction between the rights of males and females."

Again in Article 15, Section 6:

"The legislature shall provide for the protection of the rights of women, in acquiring and possessing property, real, personal and mixed, separate and apart from their husbands; and shall also provide for their equal rights in the possession of their children".

It is hard to look back over the vista of three-quarters of a century and realize that these unheard of provisions, which controverted all known common law, formed the basis for the liberation of half the population of the State and broke new paths which other States have followed. How true it is that Kansas has always been a pioneer.

History tells how Mrs. Clarissa I. Howard Nichols rode in

from her Quindaro home each day to attend the sessions of the constitutional convention, and sat busy with her knitting, while the solons debated the constitution they were making, but successful lobbying was not done with a brass band or a perfectly good set of knitting needles in the days of James Buchanan, any more than it is done in the days of Franklin D. Roosevelt. It is the quiet contact and the well put argument that the Solon can make his own and use as such when the proper time comes, that produced results. The gray haired grandma with her knitting gave color to the newspaper stories. There was nothing colorful in the meeting of a bright, vivacious young bride and her husband, with Kingman and Ingalls and the other convention leaders, in the lobby of the Garno house, but it brought results.

Within a month after the adjournment of the Constitutional Convention, Mr. Gray was elected Probate Judge of Wyandotte County, adding materially to the importance of the family in the community—an importance in which the wife shared. Then came the war in which Judge Gray did a soldier's part. The Price raid threw a scare into Wyandotte and the family was moved to Leavenworth for better protection. One daughter, who died within a year, was born to Mrs. Gray in Wyandotte and two daughters and a son at Leavenworth. Leavenworth at the close of the war occupied a position in Kansas affairs that she has long since lost. She was the metropolis of the state. In business she ranked first. She was the great outfitting point to which the Missouri River steamboats brought the products of the east and south to be distributed by ox teams to the west. She was likewise the military center of the west and the social activities of the Fort colored the activities of the town.

Very soon after the war closed Mr. Gray was made Judge of one of the Leavenworth courts, thus identifying the family with the official life of the county. Mrs. Gray during her years of residence at Leavenworth did a good deal of church and charity work as well as taking a part in the social activities of the day. With Mrs. H. C. Cushing, she completed the Kansas Home Cook Book, which was issued for the benefit of the Home of the Friendless and which brought it an income for many years.

When George T. Anthony became Governor of Kansas in 1877, he induced Judge Gray to go with him to Topeka as his private secretary. Thus Mrs. Gray became a part of the state administration, thus widening her field of activity and bringing her into a closer contact with the men and women who were the recognized leaders of Kansas thought and action.

Back in 1854, this 21 year old school teacher was selected as one of the editors of the *New York Teacher*. She confided to her diary that it was a responsibility too great for her to undertake but when the call came for a hurry up article on "Life in School Room," she responded. She found that she could write and that she liked it and so she never laid down the pencil. She continued to write for the *Teacher* and other New York papers. When her sphere of activity shifted to Kansas in 1859 she supplied articles to the eastern papers on the Indian Territory, Kansas Territory and scenes along the Missouri river with its wild western life. As the years went by she visited with friends and relatives in New York, New England and Chicago and contributed to the Kansas papers her letters as a traveler. She was one of the editors of the *Kansas Farmer* and wrote for years as "Ann Appleseed", giving inspiration to the innumerable women, who, living in sod houses and cottonwood shacks, were battling with grasshoppers and droughts, in that pioneer work necessary to transform Kansas from the "Great American Desert" into the "Breadbasket of the Nation." Through her writings, as well as in her social activities, she emphasized the need of uplift of womanhood and their right to equal pay with men.

Mrs. Gray was always a student. In her seminary days she records in her diary a mark of ten, the highest to be had, in eleven subjects. Her girlhood environment in northern Pennsylvania, among the upturned sedimentary formations of the anthracite coal fields gave her that foundation for the study of fossils, geology, minerology and conchology which became one of her life's greatest diversions. It inspired her to collect cabinets full of minerals, shells and fossils from all over the world and to secure the best folios of the Government on these subjects which she studied diligently. Her exhibits took many prizes in state fairs and started many a noted student along scientific lines. A constant stream of boys and girls came to study them as well as noted geologists who led in the discovery of coal, gas and oil formations in Kansas. She was also a collector of postage stamps, coins, autographs and rare birds. She acquired a library of more than a thousand volumes with many rare folios. She was an artist with a training in oils, water colors and finally in the delicate art of china painting.

After the close of the Anthony administration the Gray family returned to Wyandotte where Mr. Gray resumed his law practice and his interests in a number of development plans for the expanding city. The Gray home was a center of activity.

Here came such eastern women as Susan B. Anthony, Dr. Belva A. Lockwood, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mary Wright Sewell, L. Devereau Blake, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Lucy Stone Blackwell, Francis Wright and Carrie Chapman Catt. Here they met such kindred Kansas souls as Helen M. Gouger, J. Ellen Foster and Annie L. Diggs. Who can estimate the advance work of this remarkable group of women who lectured and plead for better things for women. Here to the Gray home came such scientists as Professor Snow of the State University and Professor Mudge of the Agricultural College. It is safe to say that in the decades from 1870 to 1900 that practically every leader in social movements or in science or art, whether from Kansas, or just a visitor to the state, were some time or other entertained at Mrs. Gray's table.

On May 19, 1881, there was a meeting of women at Leavenworth at which time the Social Science Club of Kansas and Missouri was organized. This club was the forerunner of the Kansas Federation of Womens Clubs. The moving spirits in this meeting were Mrs. Gray and her friend Mrs. C. H. Cushing, president of the Home of the Friendless, with whom she had worked in her years of residence at Leavenworth. Mrs. D. E. Cornell, wife of one of Kansas City's Mayors, and herself a charter member of the Social Science Club, recalls that the meeting was held in the parlors of the Home of the Friendless. In her history of the Federation of Womens Clubs, Mrs. Cecelia Goddard of Leavenworth, a past president of the organization says: "To Mrs. Mary Tenney Gray of Wyandotte, Kansas, a most gifted and intellectual woman, and to Mrs. C. H. Cushing, of Leavenworth, a woman noted for her executive skill, tact and discretion, is due the honor of founding the great organization." Mrs. Gray was elected president. Years later when the National Federation of Womens Club met in Los Angeles, she was escorted to the platform and introduced as the "Mother of the Womans Club Movement".

Following the Leavenworth meeting Mrs. Gray called a meeting one afternoon at her home, then on Washington Avenue between Third and Fourth street, and organized the "Travelers Club." There were nine charter members. Years afterwards in writing of the day Mrs. J. C. Martin, one of the nine, said—"I vividly recall the first meeting in Mrs. Gray's parlors. It was quite formal but not stiff. No refreshments were served." Mrs. Gray was elected as president of the club, and served as such for twenty years until her death in 1904. The president

at each meeting assigned the subject for study for the next meeting, the subject for the first meeting being "The Popes and their Contemporaries". The club was quite informal with no dues and no year book. It set a pace however for the many womans clubs which have since been formed. Two years after Mrs. Gray's death the "Travelers Club" prefixed the words "Mary Tenney Gray" to its name and as such was incorporated in 1925 under the laws of Kansas. An oil painting of Mrs. Gray, the property of this club, now hangs in the Kansas City, Kansas, library.

In 1893 came the World's Fair at Chicago and the appointment of Mrs. Gray as a representative from Kansas and the Juror of awards in the Ceramic Department. Her wide circle of acquaintances and the esteem in which she was held is no better evidenced than by the testimonials that were given her at that time.

Susan B. Anthony in making a present of the four volumes of History of Woman Suffrage to Mrs. Gray wrote on the fly leaf:

"In memory of the time when my sister, Ann Osborn Anthony took me to see the three women she thought I would like, Mrs. Cushing, Mrs. K. B. Johnson and Mrs. Gray. The two first are gone over the big river, but I have always honored my sister's judgment of character, and enjoyed my calls upon them and their's upon me."

Upon the death of Mrs. Gray Miss Anthony wrote:

"I want you to know that I felt Mrs. Gray to be one of the very few of the salt of the earth. She was but seventy one years of age, and fought the good battle, and was victorious in all save that of the ballot. I regret that I could not have seen her once more."

During her active life Mrs. Gray gave many lectures to clubs and to the public. No better evidence of her versatility and work as a student can be given than by the enumeration of some of the manuscripts of her lectures and articles that have been preserved. They include Nine Lectures on Shakespeare; Origin of Language; Poetry in Indians; Northern Mythology; How to Simplify Housekeeping; On Rugs; On Tapestry; On Mothers and Kindergarten; On Miladies Laces; On Antique Fans; On a Field Day at Seashore; On Boys as Future Citizens; Art for Art's Sake; Ceremics and Textiles; Modern Artists and Their Work; Tone and Light and Shade; Linear and Perspective; Art Periods; French Art; Chinese and

Persian Art; Japanese Art; Engravings; China and Our China Closets; Oriental Potteries and Porcelains; Basketry, Beadwork and Blankets; Cameos and Bas Relief; Mosaics and Illustrations; Art Symbols in Indian Pottery; Symbolism in Mexican Drawn Work.

Mrs. Gray's death occurred October 11, 1904, at her home in Kansas City, Kansas. At her funeral Rev. D. S. Stephens, Chancellor of the Kansas City University, paid this tribute to her memory:

"It is the lot of very few to reach the degree of helpfulness to their own generation that was attained by her whose departure we mourn. Perhaps no woman in the State of Kansas has experienced so important an influence on the intellectual life of her sex in this commonwealth as our deceased friend. Her life has been intimately associated with every good and uplifting influence among women of the state. She was one of the originators of the Social Science organizations among the women of the state. She has been one of the moulding influences in shaping club life among women. She has been a leader in everything that has touched on the improvement of the intellectual conditions of women. No worthy philanthropic purpose escaped her helpful assistance. While thus active in matters of public welfare, she was equally attentive to the domestic duties of the home."

Mrs. Gray once expressed a wish to have her grave marked by a boulder from the Rocky Mountains. After her death, her son, complying with this wish, shipped a thousand pound boulder from St. Peters Dome at the foot of Pikes Peak to Wyandotte to be placed on her grave. This was an altered granite, containing a very rare lot of crystals called, "Astrophyllite," which in turn contained nine rare minerals. For some reason this boulder was not used for the purpose.

Soon after her death the club women of Kansas started a fund for a monument to the memory of Mrs. Gray. The committee in charge reported to the State Federation at its 1909 meeting that the monument had been completed and placed. The inscription on the monument however did not answer the question as to who was Mary Tenney Gray and so in 1934 an added inscription was placed on the face of the monument, stating that she was, "The Mother of the Woman's Club Movement."

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-TWO

PLACE:—Lot 3, Block 16, Old Wyandotte.

TIME:— July 5 to July 29, 1859.

EVENT:—The Wyandotte Constitutional Convention.

The fourth and final Constitutional Convention for Kansas met in Wyandotte, July 5th, 1859. It completed its labors on July 29th. It gave to the people the Constitution under which Kansas became a state. The opening sentence of its official proceedings reads:

"In pursuance of law the Convention met for organization this day 12 o'clock M. in their Hall in the new levee block in Wyandotte, in the Territory of Kansas." (1)

Many have written of the personnel of the convention and of its work. Few have written of the place and its surroundings. Among those who attended the Convention was W. A. Phillips, then a special correspondent for the New York Tribune, later Colonel of a Kansas regiment and still later a Kansas Congressman. This is the story as seen by the keen eyes of this newspaper reporter. (2)

"Why should the Constitution-makers have met at Wyandotte? Who can tell? Topeka, that political tuber, (3) was the Mecca of our early pilgrimages; but there could not be two Topeka Constitutions. Leecompton was dead. Leavenworth had tried its hand at Constitution-making. Lawrence, the historic city, was famous for breaking, not making, organic law. All that was honest in the Territory sniffed its nose in disdain at Minneola. Wyandotte was at that time a promising, a very promising, place. Many were interested in, and few jealous of it. So the Constitution-mongers met on that tongue of land between the classic Kaw and Missouri rivers where Kansas ends, (or begins) and where they could cock their chairs on two sides at Missouri."

"Wyandotte, like most western towns, was laid out after the approved pattern of the multiplication table. Long ago, it was intended that it should blot Leavenworth and Kansas City from the map. Quindaro, at

1. Convention proceedings, pg. 1.

2. Kansas Magazine, Vol. I, pg. 1, January 1872.

3. Topeka is the Indian name for potato.

the time of the convention, was giving up the ghost among its terrible bluffs. About the same time an ambitious company, or corporation, had graded the streets and made muddy cuts and muddier fills, until everything about Wyandotte was threatened with bankruptcy. The principal hotel, a frame building, was called the "Garno", whether after the name of an illustrious citizen, or of one of their early mythological celebrities, I did not learn."

"The most celebrated building in the place, where the organic law of the State of Kansas was framed, exists no longer. It suffered, I think, from a too great economy in bricks and mortar; and although, it survived the Convention some time, like another structure mentioned in Scripture, it ultimately fell, and great was the fall of it. I remember the appearance of that old building well. It had quite a citified air, rising in four-story brick grandeur, and looking as if, in a fit of abstraction, it had wandered away from New York or Philadelphia, and was looking from its four-story eyes at the cows and pigs which were picking up a scanty livelihood from the dirty, stunted grass in that vicinity. Strictly speaking it was a row of houses—a block—rather than a house and was situated near the bank of the Missouri, on what was designed to be the levee of that metropolis. At that time it was unfinished. Indeed I think it doubtful if it was ever finished at any time. A few stores had been opened in some of the lower rooms but a greater part of it was unoccupied. In most of the floors partitions had been ignored and the walls retained their rough brickness. It was in the upper story of one of these that the Convention met. Perhaps the genius who selected the spot was a taciturn wretch who hoped that after the members had climbed up all these stairs they would be willing to keep their seats. Perhaps it was a spasmodic effort to get the Constitutional law-makers as near Heaven as possible."

"I well remember my first ascent into that delectable region. The stairs were rough, temporary structures, and as I was collecting items I took all the fish that came into my net. At the head of the first stair there was an open door. Seeing a small crowd of listeners,

and hearing the voice of eloquence, I naturally concluded that this was a part of the machine, and entered. I was soon undeceived. In the center of a large, dingy, brick room a table had been improvised out of an inverted empty dry-goods box. Upon it were some papers, an ink-bottle, and the feet of a Justice of the Peace, who, swung back on a hickory-bottomed chair, was administering Territorial law. On one side, squatted on that ponderous tome, the Statutes of Kansas Territory, was one of the lawyers, and the other was haranguing "the court" at the moment I entered".

"Darting out of the room I started on a higher flight. At the head of the next stair a stranger panorama met my vision. The unplastered apartment ran the full depth of the building and was lighted by three windows, in each end, and, as the stairway was near the center, a mellowing twilight-like gloom prevailed, revealing the hastily-improvised form of a bar-room. A broad plank, resting upon a couple of empty barrels, constituted the counter. Behind was a narrower plank or shelf, resting on two other barrels, evidently not empty; at least a guardian faucet was inserted in each, near the base. On the top of each barrel, was a small blue keg, each of which had another faucet; these latter giving a greater altitude and dignity to the display shelf, and imparting a subdued tone of grandeur to the whole concern. Scattered along this shelf were half a dozen decanters, "more or less." A few refined looking, long-necked dark-complexioned bottles varied the view. On one end of the shelf an open box of raisins was perched longitudinally, with quite a jaunty air; and this, with a few boxes of cigars, and a small box of plug tobacco, relieved the general bibulous aspect of the establishment. A dozen tumblers, small and great, were scattered on the shelf in elegant confusion, with here and there a stray lemon, looking as if it had lost its way among the bottles. The floor was strewn with sawdust, to prevent noise or absorb rejected quids of tobacco. To give the whole a patriotic air, in keeping with the Convention above, of which engine this was undoubtedly the fireman's room, there was a rude picture of that wonderful ornithological prodigy "the bird of freedom," cut, I think, from an old hand-bill. Its tail and the traditional bundle of arrows it is always hatching were not

visible, being concealed by the top of the raisin box, which at once elevated it and held it to the wall."

"Having completed my inventory of that part of the establishment, I started up higher. On emerging at the head of that last stair, the whole glory of Constitutional law-making burst upon me. The apartment, of unplastered brick walls, was probably twenty-five by eighty or a hundred feet in size.

"In front and rear were three windows, and at these points the ceiling was, I think, ten feet high. To compensate for this it increased from either of these points towards the middle, evidently following the slope of the roof. The roof itself, I believe, was of that mysterious composition called "patent", so highly extolled by advertisers and so little thought of by those who have tried it. I need hardly remark that the place was hot. The Constitution may be said to have been cooked in it. Indeed, if our organic law was not "done brown", it was not for want of an oven."

"To their credit, the early denizens of Wyandotte, had fitted up the place with tolerable convenience and neatness. The President's seat was on a raised platform which not only conveyed a suitable idea of his terrible elevation, but was humane also, as he was quite a little man. Seats, tables and desks had been furnished for members, clerks and reporters; and although everything was quite plain, a very clever effort had been made to secure an official look by tacking on black muslin. There was even a dab at a railing; and to show that taste and patriotism were not entirely banished from those primitive bosoms, that glorious piece of bunting, the stars and stripes, was draped on the bare wall behind the President's head, and relieved the general dingy brickiness."

"Here the Fathers of the State assembled. No architectural magnificence shone round their heads with a halo of glory. In older happier climes, lawmakers meet in imposing structures of marble and granite. The veriest dunce becomes a hero when looked down upon from a gallery. Lofty halls and Corinthian columns lend grandeur to the most stupid speeches and the silliest law. From Athenian architects the mind wanders back to Athenian glory. Pilasters are confounded with Plato,

and domes with Demosthenes. The Wyandotte Constitution had none of these adventitious aids. It was conceived in poverty and brought forth to the people without the shadow of a single pillar or cornice to frown down the audacity of criticism."

The "levee block," or more frequently called the "brick block," was block 16 of Wyandotte city. The plat of the city shows it bounded on the north by Nebraska, on the east by the Levee, on the south by State and on the west by Second Street. It was divided into six lots, 44 feet wide and 150 feet deep from east to west, the numbering beginning on the north. The Convention was held on lot 3 in the Lipman Meyer building. (4). The general offices of the Kansas Pacific were afterwards located in this block. (5) Today the tanks and side tracks of the Great Western elevator cover the entire block, tanks numbered 66, 67, 68 and 69 setting on the part of the block where the Convention was held.

The records of the office of the Register of Deeds show that Lipman Meyer was deeded Lot 3 in Block 16 by the town company and that he owned no other property in the block. The records further show that he began to mortgage the property before he had received his deed and that there had been a foreclosure proceedings. This led to a search through the early court files where it was found that in the early sixties Lipman Meyer was about the most popular party defendant in Wyandotte county. The files of an even dozen of these suits were found. They bristled with affidavits and depositions and from these files it is easy to write the story of Lipman Meyer, not that he is important, but for the light it throws upon the site and the building where the constitution of Kansas was made.

Wyandotte City was laid out in 1857. From the start it was a boom town. Lipman Meyer, a young man of 27, came in 1857, and entered the mercantile business in which he continued until February, 1860, when his sign came down. His name frequently appears in the records and he acquired num-

4. Convention voucher No. 118, now in the State Historical Society, was to L. Meyer for Rent of Hall, &c. \$390.00.

5. "The writer was an eye witness to the killing of Samuel Hallett. It occurred about 1:20 p.m., July 27, 1864. * * Samuel Hallett was sitting by me at dinner at the Garro House, remarking as he rose to go * * and started north on Third street towards the general offices, which were in what was known as the Brick Block, the building in which the Constitutional Convention had been held." John D. Cruise in Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XI, pg. 538, note.

erous pieces of property. He was not the original holder but became the owner of certificate No. 12 for single lots which he exchanged for Lot 3 in Block 16. (6) On this lot in 1858 he erected two four-story brick stores at a cost of about \$4,000.00 each. (7) The brick were made by a local firm. (8)

In May, 1859, Lipman Meyer was in Cincinnati. He owed two mercantile firms in that town and wanted more goods from them. They were willing to give him further credit but wanted some security and so on May 12th he mortgaged his Wyandotte property in block three to Kuhn, Netter & Co. to secure four notes of \$625.00 each falling due in 4, 8, 12 and 15 months, and on May 13th to King, Corwin & Co. for \$1,120.84 to secure four notes falling due in 3, 6, 9 and 12 months. (9) He paid the first note to each party but defaulted on the others. In the first mortgage given the property is described as "Lot No. Three (3) in Square or Block No. Sixteen (16) on the plat of said Wyandotte City, Lot No. Three in Block Sixteen being about forty-four (44) feet in front on the Levee and extending back one hundred and fifty feet in depth the same width as in front, together with the buildings and improvements thereon."

In September, 1859, Lipman Meyer was again in Cincinnati. This time he purchased goods from three other firms in the amount of \$777.37, giving his notes due in six months. The boom in Wyandotte was spent so he determined on a trading venture to Sante Fe, New Mexico. Giving his brother Abraham a power of attorney to look after his affairs, (10) and hiring a clerk to take charge of his store, (11) he packed his

6. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book A, pg. 130.

7. Affidavit Lipman Meyer, Oct. 24, 1860, in Myburg & Hillman vs. Lipman Meyer, case No. 200, Wyandotte County District Court. Deposition Lipman Meyer, Sept. 2, 1863, in Corwin vs. Meyer, case No. 423, Wyandotte County District Court. Affidavit Abraham Meyer, May 30, 1860, in Simon Shohl & Co. vs. Lipman Meyer, case No. 230, Wyandotte County District Court.

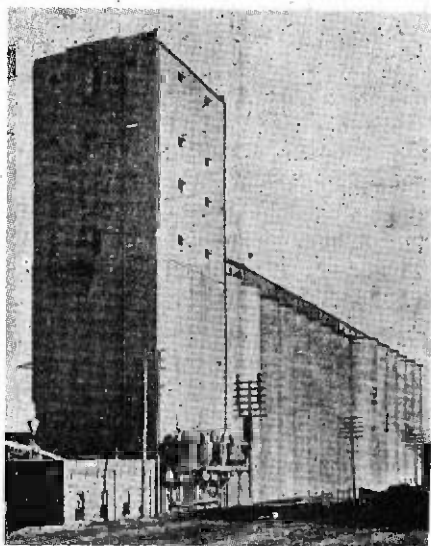
8. "Captain James Harris, Bill Hood and the Boltons, started a brick yard and made brick which put up the historic Constitution Block, where our state constitution was framed. Part of the block tumbled down in '61" and of the remainder not a brick is left to tell the tale." Extract from a paper read by F. H. Betton at the old settlers reunion June 13, 1896.

9. Book B, pgs. 15-16, Register of Deeds office. Also Corwin vs. Lipman Meyer, case 423, District Court Wyandotte County.

10. Affidavit in court files.

11. Contract between Moses Marcum and Lipman Meyer, found in the court files.

new goods when they came from Cincinnati, with others, from his stock, (12) and in October, 1859, started for Santa Fe. He expected to be back in Wyandotte by spring but it took him longer to dispose of his stock than he had expected and he did not reach Wyandotte again until September, 1860. (13) The clerk whom he had left in charge neglected the business and in February, 1860, brother Abraham fired him, changed the sign which read L. Meyer to A. Meyer and claimed the stock as his own. (14)



SITE, WHERE THE CONSTITUTION OF KANSAS WAS, MADE.

In April Lipman Meyer's Cincinnati creditors began to sue on their notes and local creditors followed suit. In every instance the attorney made affidavit that Lipman Meyer was a non resident and that service could not be had except by publication. Attachment after attachment were run covering everything from real estate to shirts. On his return Lipman Meyer entered his denial of non residence but the mischief had

12. Marcus vs. Meyer, case 266, District Court Wyandotte County. The stock of goods left in the store inventoried \$4,899, on October 8, 1859.

13. Affidavit Lipman Meyer, in Myburg & Hillman vs. Lipman Meyer, case No. 200, District Court Wyandotte County.

14. Affidavit of D. A. Bartlett in Myburg & Hillman vs. Lipman Meyer, case 200, District Court Wyandotte County. Also affidavit of M. Marcus in same.

been done and he was out of business. In September, 1863, in a deposition, he described himself as "Age 33 years. Occupation transporting across the plains. And residence at Santa Fe, New Mexico." (15)

The suit to foreclose his mortgage on the levee property was filed June 25, 1861. Judgment was not taken until April, 1864. The property was then appraised at \$2,400 and twice offered for sale by the Sheriff but without bidders. A new appraisement was had this time the value being fixed at \$675.00. A third time it was advertised for sale and sold on December 31st, 1864, to Jesse Cooper for \$460.00.

On June 24, 1861, the building that had housed the Constitutional Convention fell. An account of the fall is given in Andreas history, page 1232 as follows:

"In May 1861 members of the Second regiment were quartered in Constitution Hall. The second regiment received marching orders and at about nine o'clock, marched out to the Southern bridge. Luke Havens, the First Lieutenant of Capt Harris' Company, remained behind to swear in nineteen recruits. While they were waiting for him, the four story building fell, and not a brick was left upon another. Though it took some hours before the men were all dug out, no serious injuries resulted beyond the breaking of a leg by a son of Thomas Ryan. The escape was wonderful. The building had been undermined by water, and its walls were frail, being only eight inches thick."

This building was never repaired or rebuilt. In later years the general offices of the Kansas Pacific, Eastern Division were located on the north end of block 16, but the building in which they were housed covered no part of lot 3. Later the property passed to the C. G. W. Railroad Company and for years has been covered with side tracks and a terminal grain elevator.

15. Deposition of Lipman Meyer, in Corwin vs. Meyer, case No. 423, District Court Wyandotte County.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-THREE

PLACE:— 6th Street and Armstrong, Kansas City,
Kansas.

TIME:— March 6, 1886.

EVENTS:—I Old Wyandotte.
II.—Old Kansas City, Kansas.
III.—Armourdale.
IV.—Old Armstrong.
V.—The Consolidated City.
VI.—Argentine.
VII.—Commission Government.
VIII.—Rosedale.
IX.—The City Hall.

I. OLD WYANDOTTE

The Wyandot Nation, 700 strong, moved from Ohio to Kansas in the summer of 1843. It came to occupy the new home promised its members only to find that it was a stranger in a strange land. The Government had no available land for them. Finally on the 14th of December, 1843, a treaty was completed with the Delawares. By this treaty the Delawares gave the Wyandots three sections of land in the fork of the Kansas and Missouri rivers and sold them the thirty six sections adjoining this gift on the west. The western line of this purchase ran from the Kansas to the Missouri river and fell just west of the present station of Muncie. There were but two buildings on the entire thirty nine sections, both in the neighborhood of Quindaro. James Bigtree, one of the Wyandot chiefs, purchased one of these improvements and John Williams the other. (1) During the months of waiting the Wyandots were camped on the tongue of land lying between the Kansas river and the Missouri state line. Here in camp sixty of their number died. (2) They evidently felt assured that the proposed Delaware treaty would be ratified for they brought their dead into the Delaware territory for burial, established their National ferry across the Kansas river and began to build houses. Four days before the Delaware treaty was signed John M. Armstrong, having completed his cabin, moved his family into the new home. (3) Thus the Armstrong's became the first settlers in what came to be the town of Wyandotte.

1. Statement found among the papers of Lucy B. Armstrong.

2. Ibid.

3. Lucy B. Armstrong in Wyandotte Gazette, Dec. 29, 1870.

There were no surveys and each man enclosed such land as he desired for his use and his possession was respected by the fellow members of the Nation. Individual ownership was unknown, the title to all lands resting, not in the individual, but in the Nation. What is now the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth wards of Kansas City, Kansas, was soon dotted with homes each surrounded by its small acreage. There is a tradition that the heads of the Nation had planned a Wyandot City with acre tract lots where the people would live and go out to their farms, but no plat or other evidence of any such a division of lands has ever been found.

The Wyandots brought their church organization with them from Ohio and soon built a church. They built a school house which later became the Council House and seat of government for the Nation. A company store in which most of the leading Wyandots had shares was built west of what is now Third street between State and Nebraska avenues. It was a long log building in two departments, the store room and a back room used in part for a council house. Joel Walker, who was clerk of the Council, had the management of the store. (4) This store in time closed down.

The Wyandots were farmers. They built no towns but went to Westport Landing, or "Kansas," as it was called by Governor Walker, for their mail and their supplies. Such was the history of the community up to May 30th, 1854, when Kansas was organized as a Territory. White immigration to Kansas begun immediately. The first mention of Wyandotte in Horace Greeley's paper was March 24, 1855. (5) On September 7th, 1855, John Calhoun, the Surveyor General for the Territory, moved his office from Leavenworth to a private residence in Wyandotte (6) and on October 8th, 1855, the Wyandotte post office was established. (7) In the spring of 1856, Isaiah Walker built a store building, which was then the only business building on what a year later was to become the town site of Wyandotte.

In December, 1856, ten white men—W. Y. Roberts, Thomas H. Swope, Gaius Jenkins, John McAlpine, J. P. Root, T. B. Eldridge, S. W. Eldridge, Robert Morris, Daniel Killen and James M. Winchell, who were looking for a place to build a town, decided the place they wanted was in the fork of the Kansas and Missouri rivers. The Wyandots had made a treaty with

4. Statement found among the papers of Lucy B. Armstrong.

5. Wilder's Annals.

6. Ibid.

7. Government Blue Book.

the Government whereby they were to take their lands in severalty and so would soon be in a position where they could give good titles to their lands. The ten men met in a Kansas City, Missouri, hotel and perfected their plans. Roberts, Swope, Jenkins and McAlpine were appointed as a committee to cross the river and negotiate with the Wyandot owners for the land the company desired to purchase. The committee of four proceeded to ditch their associates and taking Isaiah Walker, Joel Walker and Silas Armstrong, three influential Wyandots, into partnership with them, organized the Wyandotte City Town Company. (8)

The townsite of Wyandotte was surveyed in March, 1857, by John H. Miller, who, upon his maps, made the statement that the town company was formed of seven stockholders, three of whom were Wyandots. The town plat was filed in Leavenworth county May 14, 1857. It covered about one and a half sections of land and was decidedly irregular in shape, many of the Wyandots, in the coveted area, refusing to sell their lands to the town company. The company stock was divided into 400 shares, ten lots to the share. Sales begun in March, 1857, at \$500 per share. A rush of settlers sent the prices up to \$750 per share and later to \$1,000 per share. The population soon numbered 400. (9)

On May 31st, 1857, Albert D. Richardson, a traveling newspaper man, visited the town and wrote the first description of it extant. In his book "Beyond the Mississippi," he said: (10)

"I landed upon the tented field, not of sanguinary strife, but of the city of Wyandotte. This prophetic Babylon was four months old, with a population of four hundred. Its beautiful site on a gentle, symmetric eminence, overlooks low wooded bottom lands of Missouri on the east, Kansas City on the south, and the Missouri river for miles below. A few pleasant white warehouses and residences, and unpainted plank shanties were erected. Many more were going up; and meanwhile waiting settlers dwelt under Heavens canopy or in snowy tents. Everywhere busy workmen were plying ax, hammer and saw; and the voice of the artisan was heard in the land. The settlers were merry over the attempt of Governor Robinson and a few other

8. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1231.

9. Ibid.

10. Page 29.

lunatics, to found a new town called Quindaro among the rocks and hills three miles above. The spot they had selected was utterly impracticable; they might as well have sought to build a city upon the Natural Bridge of Virginia, or the Palisades of the Hudson. This information was imparted to me with great zeal and emphasis immediately upon my arrival, and repeated at frequent intervals during a stay of two hours."

On February 11, 1858, the Wyandotte City Company was incorporated by the Territorial Legislatures, (11) and on June 8, 1858 the probate judge of Leavenworth county, acting upon the petition of Barzilai Gray, A. B. Bartlett, Daniel Killen and others, provided for a town government under the name and style of "The Inhabitants of the Town of Wyandotte." William McKay, George Russell, Daniel Killen, Charles W. Glick and Wm. Simpson were appointed as trustees and held their first meeting, June 12, 1858. (12)

On the 29th of January, 1859, the Territorial Legislature passed two bills of the greatest importance to Wyandotte. It incorporated the city of Wyandotte (13) and it created the county of Wyandotte, (14) with Wyandotte as the temporary county seat. (15) The population was now 1259 and the municipal debt was \$1,500.

For two years the rivalry between Wyandotte and Quindaro, three miles up the river had been fierce. Each town had a vision of great things. Wyandotte reached out for the trade from the southwest, built a road to the Kansas river and provided for a free ferry across that stream. Quindaro built a similar road and also provided for a free ferry. At the November, 1859, election Wyandotte was made the permanent county seat and from that time on pulled steadily away from its former rival.

Slowly the town grew. The business center shifted from Nebraska to the levee, where substantial brick buildings, including the convention hall, were built; then to Third street; then to Minnesota avenue, gradually following up that street as far west as Fifth street. In 1867 Wyandotte became a city of the second class.

Armstrong on the bluffs overlooking the Kaw Valley had

11. Laws, 1858, Chapter 169, pg. 397.

12. Trustee's Minutes.

13. Laws, 1859, Chapter 107, pg. 186.

14. Ibid., Chapter 7, pg. 362.

15. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1231.

developed a community center with its own post office. Between Armstrong and Wyandotte was Riverview. This community was laid out in 1879. It contained a lake and a park. It had 24 large blocks of irregular size and various shapes each divided into lots of different sizes. (16) In September, 1880, the community of Riverview petitioned for annexation to old Kansas City but the plea was turned down. (17) In May, 1881, however, Kansas City, Kansas, did pass an ordinance for the annexation of Riverview. Mayor McConnell refused to sign the ordinance. Announcement was made that at the next meeting of the council, four of the six councilmen would vote to pass the ordinance over the mayor's veto. Wyandotte at once got busy. A special meeting of the council was called for the purpose of annexing Riverview. The necessary ordinance was passed and immediately published and so Riverview became a part of Wyandotte before the Kansas City councilmen had a chance to act. (18)

The needs of the city grew more rapidly than its ability to supply them. This was well illustrated by its efforts to secure a city building. At the November, 1870, election the city voted bonds for the purchase of a site and the erection of a market house thereon. (19) For nearly thirteen years no further move was made. In May, 1883, a special committee of the council reported that in their opinion it would be legal to issue these bonds. (20) The city attorney was instructed to prepare an ordinance for the condemnation of a site for a market house. (21) After considerable bickering an ordinance was passed condemning the three lots on the southeast corner of Sixth and Armstrong, officially described as lots 22, 23 and 24, block 136, for a market house site. (22) In August the bonds were issued. (23). Deeds were secured to the property. (24) A foundation was started but here matters rested for a couple of years. In October, 1885, a contract was let to complete the market house for \$9,383. (25).

16. Goodspeed. Wyandotte County and Kansas City. pg. 370.

17. Council Minutes, K. C., Kas., pg. 383.

18. Council Minutes, May 16, 1881.

19. Council Minutes, Journal F, pg. 298.

20. Ibid., pg. 234. May 1, 1883.

21. Ibid., pg. 245. May 8, 1883.

22. Ibid., pgs. 266, 167. June 12, 1883. Ordinance 408.

23. Ibid., pg. 298. August 7, 1883.

24. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book 28. pg. 409. Dec. 13, 1883.

25. Council Minutes, Journal G., pg. 254. Oct. 29, 1885.

The building was evidently nearing completion by the following February as it was then insured for sixty days for \$6,000. (26).

Then came the consolidation. The population of Wyandotte, as certified to the Governor, was 12,086.

II. OLD KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

As a part of the treaty by which the Wyandots gave up their land in Ohio, certain influential members of the tribe were given the right to locate a section of land each, at any place where unassigned Government land could be found. These concessions became known as "Floats" and were in demand when Kansas began to be settled, as they furnished the means of giving quick and easy title to lands wanted for town site purposes. Among the holders of these "floats" was Silas Armstrong. He found that the strip of land lying between the Kansas river and the western boundary of Missouri was Government land and claimed it under his "Wyandotte float." Willis Wills, and several other squatters, claimed the right to preempt this land and there was much litigation between Armstrong and these claimants. In 1858 a compromise was effected by which Armstrong released his claim to a portion of the land and the squatters released the balance to him." (27)

In 1868 the Kansas City, Kansas, Town Company was formed by Silas Armstrong, David E. James, Dr. Geo. B. Wood, Luther H. Wood, William Weer, Thomas Ewing, Jr., T. H. Swope and N. McAlpine, and a town was laid out on this narrow strip of land between the Kansas river and the Missouri state line. It was surveyed in April, 1869, and the plat was recorded with the Register of Deeds of Wyandotte county, May 3, 1869. Business in the proposed city began to boom in 1871, when the Plankinton and Armour Packing House and the Boston owned stock yards were built. In 1872 the city of Kansas City was organized as a city of the Third Class, and a city election was held October 22nd by order of Judge Hiram Stevens of the Tenth Judicial District.

The first officers were: Mayor, James Boyle; Councilmen, S. W. Day, Charles H. Jones, John McKnight, George Forschler and James Lundell; police judge, James Kennedy; city clerk, Cornelius Cushin; treasurer, Samuel McConnell; city attorney, H. L. Alden.

26. *Ibid.*, pg. 294. Feb. 2, 1886.

27. Andreas, *History of Kansas*, pg. 1240.

By 1880 the population had grown to 2,745 and by proclamation of Gov. John P. St. John it was made a city of the second class.

The little city grew rapidly. In 1880 the Anglo American Pork and Provisions Company, familiarly known as Fowler's, located here and other industries followed. The Methodists, Baptists, Swedish Baptists, the Congregationalists, the Catholics and the colored Baptists all maintained organizations. There were newspapers, a Masonic lodge and other organizations. By 1886 the population had grown to 3,802. The town never had a post office of its own but was supplied from Missouri.

III. ARMOURDALE

Armourdale was the youngest of the three towns that went to make the consolidated city of Kansas City, Kansas, and her history as a separate municipality is brief. In 1880 some Boston capitalists incorporated the Kaw Valley Town Site and Bridge Company. They obtained a large tract of land in the Kaw Valley, about a mile above the juncture of the Kansas and Missouri rivers and platted a portion of it into a town, which they called Armourdale in honor of the Armours of packing house fame. The town began to fill up rapidly with industries and homes and soon had the necessary population for a city. It was incorporated in the spring of 1882 and at an election held May 5th of that year the following officers were chosen: Mayor, Frank Patterson; councilmen, Nehemiah Sherrick, Daniel Herbert, E. W. Anderson, S. Snyder and Joseph Bradley; police judge, John C. Foore; marshal, William Ross; city clerk, Granville Patterson. Two other mayors, George W. Parsons and Jacob Barney, were chosen before the consolidation.

Armourdale became a post office soon after its incorporation. For some reason this post office was not merged at the time of the city consolidation but continued to be carried as a separate office on the rolls as late as 1890.

The population of this lusty four year old, when it was brought into the consolidated city, was given as 1,582.

IV. OLD ARMSTRONG

The village of Armstrong was surveyed in October, 1871, by E. C. Smeed for the Kansas Pacific Railway Company. It was laid out in a picturesque style, with a public square and diagonal avenues verging therefrom, and with other avenues and circular streets partially surrounding the square. It covered the high ground overlooking the Kansas valley to the east and the south. It was named in honor of Silas Armstrong. In

1872 it became a post office. It became quite a residence district and gradually there grew up here a civic center with its own business houses and small stores. It never indulged in the luxury of city government. To the north was Wyandotte and to the south was Armourdale, neither of which touched its borders but its location was such that when the time for consolidation came it became a part of the new city.

V. THE CONSOLIDATED CITY

Agitation for the consolidation of the cities of Wyandotte and Kansas City began as early as 1876. On the minutes of the council for Kansas City, Kansas, of February 24, 1876, this resolution was spread:

"Whereas a bill (No. 392 H. R.) for the consolidation of cities with a population of 2,000 or more combined is before the legislature, we protest and ask the legislature, through our representative, Sanford Haff, to not pass said bill."

Two weeks later the thanks of the council are given to Sanford Haff, H. W. Cook, and Byron Judd for favors rendered. Evidently Kansas City gave the Wyandotte delegation at Topeka credit for the failure of the bill to pass.

Again on February 4, 1879, the minutes of the council record a communication from Representative L. E. James "that a move is on foot to consolidate Wyandotte and K. C., K., and that such movement is headed by E. L. Bartlett and a few others living in Wyandotte City and that as your representative I shall act for your best interests in the matter and oppose such schemes to the best of my ability."

Two weeks later the council spread the following protest on its records:

"Whereas a bill is at this time before the legislature for the consolidation of adjacent cities, be it resolved that we are opposed to its passage.

"We protest unless it be first submitted to a vote of the people of the city so sought to be consolidated."

The special session of the Legislature of 1886 (28) provided for the consolidation of adjacent cities. Under its terms when a certificate was presented to the Governor showing that separate cities, close together, had a combined population large enough to make a city of the first class, he should issue his proclamation consolidating these cities, and the territory lying between them, into a city of the first class. The purpose of this legislation was to consolidate the three towns

of Wyandotte, Kansas City and Armourdale. The county clerk of Wyandotte certified to the Governor that Wyandotte had a population of 12,086, Kansas City of 3,802 and Armourdale of 1,582. This was more than the necessary population of 15,000 required for a city of the first class and so brought this territory within the legislative provision.

On March 6, 1886, Governor Martin issued his proclamation



OLD CITY HALL

First home of the consolidated city. Built with market house bonds.

consolidating the three cities named, into a city of the first class, under the name of Kansas City, and ordered an election to be held on April 6, 1886, for city officials. At this election Thomas F. Hannon was elected mayor and C. T. Bohls, W. T. Brown, William Clow, E. Daniels, T. Fleming, Charles Hains, S. McConnell, James Phillips, Con Butler and J. C.

Martin were elected councilmen from the city at large. The other city officials were: city clerk, J. J. Moffitt; city treasurer, F. S. Merstetter; city attorney, W. S. Carroll; city engineer, J. H. Lasley; street commissioner, John Wren; fire marshal, J. K. Paul; city marshal, John Sheehan; police judge, M. J. Manning.

The consolidation did not meet with popular favor. Old Kansas City was peeved. Armourdale was peeved. Wyandotte was peeved because the Governor had listened to the bankers and bond speculators plea, that the bonds would sell better under the name of Kansas City than that of Wyandotte and so had robbed her of the name that the consolidated city should have carried. Eventually an action was brought to dissolve the consolidation and the supreme court of Kansas was required to uphold the validity of the act of consolidation. (29) The Union Pacific railroad was peeved because its holdings had been brought in out of the country and made a part of the city. It went into the federal courts and on the ground that there was a flaw somewhere in the proceedings, secured immunity, for a number of years, from the payment of city taxes. The legislature of 1891 came to the relief of the city in its battle with the Union Pacific. It passed an Act, (30), providing that when territory adjoining or touching any city of more than 30,000 inhabitants is so situated as to be bounded on three fourths of its boundary line by the adjacent city the same might be added to and made a part of the city by ordinance. The city council on March 8, 1892, proceeded, under this provision, to annex 172 acres of Union Pacific land. Again there was a court battle. Judge Anderson of the court of common pleas declared the law unconstitutional, but he was reversed by the supreme court. (31) Twice the railroad carried the case to the supreme court of the United States but in both instances the law was upheld and the railroad was eventually compelled to submit to annexation and pay its city taxes. (32)

The newly elected council of the consolidated city met in the council chambers of the city of Wyandotte, organized and ordered the clerks of the three cities to appear with their books. At the next meeting the existing local jealousies found ex-

29. *State vs. Kansas City*, 50 Kansas 508.

30. *Laws, 1891*, Chapter 74, pg. 133.

31. *City of Kansas City vs. Union Pacific*, 59 Kansas 472.

32. 172 United States 334 and 176 United States 114.

pression. The minutes recite that Mr. Fleming moved that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at the corner of 5th and James street old Kansas City, Kansas, but that the mayor refused to entertain the motion. Two weeks later Mr. Hains moved that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet in the new building. Mr. Butler moved to amend to adjourn to 5th and James street. The amendment was lost by a vote of 5 to 5. The original motion then received a vote of 5 to 5 and the mayor cast the deciding vote in favor of the motion. (33)

The new building to which the council adjourned was the one on the southeast corner of Armstrong and Sixth street. It had been built with bonds voted for a market house way back in 1870. It now became the seat of government for the consolidated city and did duty as such for a quarter of a century. It housed not only the city offices and the council but was a city jail and fire headquarters as well.

VI. ARGENTINE

When the Kansas City, Topeka and Western Railroad, soon to be known as part of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, had built its line from Topeka to Kansas City, it needed plenty of room for its shops, round houses, coal chutes, train sheds and other facilities. It came up the Kansas river about three miles from its mouth and located its industries on the south bank of the river. A town at once sprung up and sixty acres was platted in 1880 by James M. Coburn, the first town proprietor, and called Argentine. The next year, April 9, 1881, the Kansas Town Company of Wyandotte County was formed. It was composed of the same individuals promoting the railroad. This company secured some 415 acres of land, and after turning over to the railroad company what was desired for railroad purposes, platted the remainder, some 360 acres, and put it on the market as the Mulvane addition to the town of Argentine.

An impetus was given to the new town by the coming of the Consolidated Kansas City Smelting and Refining Company, which came in 1880 and covered twenty acres with its buildings and plant.

By 1882 the town had a sufficient population to form a city and an election was held on the first Tuesday in August at which the first set of town officials were chosen. Those elected were: Mayor, G. W. Gully; councilmen, John Steffins, A. Borgslede, W. C. Blue, Patrick O'Brien and George Simmons;

police judge, A. J. Dolley; marshal, Charles Duvall; city clerk, J. H. Halderman.

The closing down of the smelter stopped the progress of the town for a time but in 1906 the Kansas City Structural Steel Company was organized and in 1908 it took over the old smelter plant.

On September 14, 1909, the city council of Argentine passed a resolution asking for the consolidation of Argentine with the larger city of Kansas City, Kansas. On October 14, 1909, a joint meeting of the two city councils was held and the necessary legislation was enacted making Argentine the seventh ward of Kansas City, Kansas, as of date of January 1, 1910. C. W. Green and J. W. Leideburg were appointed as councilmen from the new ward. The new ward, according to the 1910 census, brought a population of 6,666 into the consolidated city.

VII. COMMISSION GOVERNMENT

The Legislature of 1907 passed an act whereby cities desiring so to do, might pass under the commission form of government. (34) It required a special election and this was to be called upon a petition signed by a certain per cent of the voters of the city. Agitation for the adoption of the commission form of government was at once begun in Kansas City. The necessary petition was secured and an election was held on June 2, 1908, which resulted in a defeat of the project by 882 votes, there being 3,222 votes for the proposition and 4,104 against. A majority of both the men and women voting were against the proposition. (35)

The Legislature of 1909 amended the commission government law curing some of the defects that had been found in the first Act. (36). The second campaign for the adoption of the commission form of municipal government was launched early in May, 1909, when petitions were put in circulation asking for the calling of a special election. The petitions were signed by 3,488 qualified voters. Upon the issuance of the call for the special election a committee of one hundred men was organized to take charge of the campaign with Willard Merriam a real estate dealer, as chairman. ((37) The election was held July 14, 1909, and the proposition carried by a majority of 1,430. There were 3,497 men and 900 women voted for the proposi-

34. Laws, 1907, Chapter 114, pg. 131.

35. Kansas City Times, June 3, 1908.

36. Laws, 1909.

tion and 2,193 men and 774 women voted against the proposition. (38)

The first election under the new plan of government was held in April, 1910, and resulted in the election of Jas. E. Porter as mayor and James A. Cable, Henry Dean, Otto Anderson and Charles W. Green as commissioners. By mutual agreement the following division of departments was made: James A. Cable, commissioner of water works and public lighting; Charles W. Green, commissioner of finance and revenue; Henry E. Dean, commissioner of parks, health and public property; Otto Anderson, commissioner of streets and public improvements.

In 1929 the Legislature (39) passed an Act abolishing the office of water and light commissioner and substituting a board of five members to be known as the board of public utilities. This board was to be nominated and elected by the city at large for a term of two years. At the April, 1929, election James L. Beggs, Frank M. Holcomb, George H. Long, Charles A. Lowder and Lawrence E. Wilson, were elected as the first board.

The 1931 Legislature lengthened the term of office to four years. (40) Vacancies occurring on this board were to be filled by the board and the 1933 Legislature passed a law providing that when a vacancy occurred in the board the term of the member selected to fill the vacancy should be the remainder of the term of the member whose retirement created the vacancy. (41)

The Legislature of 1933 reduced the number of commissioners to three cutting out the commissioner of parks and assigning his duties to other commissioners. It also extended the time of the retiring commissioner of parks to 1935 thus doing away with the 1933 city election. (42)

VII. ROSEDALE

Rosedale was platted in 1872 by James G. Brown and A. Grandstaff and covered a portion of that territory in and adjacent to the Turkey creek valley in the southeast part of Wyandotte county. It became a post office in the early seventies. It received its first impetus in 1875 when the rolling mills were located here with A. B. Stone as president and Ira Harris

37. *Kansas City Times*, July 15, 1909.

38. *Council Minutes, Journal O*, pg. 653.

39. *Laws 1929, Chapter 126*, pg. 189.

40. *Laws, 1931, Chapter 117*, pg. 184.

41. *Laws, 1933, Chapter 124*, pg. 8.

42. *Laws, 1933, Chapter 127*, pg. 186.

as vice-president and general manager. In those days the railroads used iron rails and as they were worn down new ones were made by working over the old ones. This was the principal work of the old rolling mill although it also made stoves and other articles of iron in common use. At one time the mill employed 500 men with a pay roll of from \$10,000 to \$25,000 per month. The mill closed in 1883.

By 1877 the town had the necessary 600 population for a city of the third class and on August 3rd of that year Judge Hiram Stevens of the district court issued the necessary order making it a city of the third class. An election was held on the 28th of that month which resulted in the election of the following officers: Mayor, D. S. Mathias; councilmen, John Hutchinson, Sr., Henry Jurgens, William Bowen, John Haddock and Benjamin Bousman; police judge, Edward Blandford; city clerk, William Dauks.

In October, 1889, the city was incorporated as a city of the second class. (43)

On July 15, 1913, a special election was held at which time the question of a consolidation of Rosedale with Kansas City was submitted to a vote of the Rosedale electors. The proposition to consolidate carried by a majority of 118 votes. (44) The opponents of consolidation were in control of the city government and would not take the necessary steps to bring about the consolidation. For nearly eight years no further steps were taken. The Legislature of 1921 (45) passed an Act for the consolidation of cities which said in substance that when a smaller city, adjoining a city of the first class of a population of 5,000, or over, had voted that it desired to consolidate, the Governor, upon a certificate of such fact, should issue his proclamation consolidating the smaller city with the larger one. It was just one more of those many acts of legislation which fit just Wyandotte county and was intended to compel the consolidation of Rosedale with the larger city. On June 30, 1921, the Rosedale council instructed the city clerk not to certify the result of the 1913 election and at the same time instructed the city attorney to commence mandamus proceedings in the supreme court to compel him to make the certificate. (46)

In the spring election of 1922 the friends of consolidation

43. Goodspeed, Wyandotte County and Kansas City, pg. 340.

44. Council Minutes, page 95.

45. Laws, 1921, Chapter 98.

elected a council favorable to consolidation. The old council, April 5, 1922, at once rescinded its resolution of June 30, 1921, the necessary certificate was made and on April 7, 1922, Governor Allen issued his proclamation consolidating the two cities. (47)

Rosedale then became the Eighth ward of Kansas City, Kansas. The population of Rosedale, as reported by the 1922 census, was 8,769. The same census gave Kansas City, Kansas, a population of 102,024.

One city, of a population of 110,784, and one post office, now flourished where there had formerly been five separate municipalities and five separate post offices.

IX. THE CITY HALL

"The new building," built from the proceeds of market house bonds by old Wyandotte, into which the council of the consolidated city moved in 1886, served as the capitol of the city for more than a quarter of a century. At an election held on the 2nd of November, 1909, the question "Shall the city issue \$200,000 in bonds for a city hall?" was carried by a vote of 1,316 to 960. (48). In the following February the bonds were issued. The half block adjoining the old city hall on the south, and fronting on Sixth street and Ann avenue was condemned as a site for the new building. Rose and Peterson were employed as architects and their plans were accepted May 24th, 1910. (49)

The plans, as adopted, called for a three unit structure covering the entire Sixth street front. Only one unit of this, a four story granite structure, covering the southwest corner of the block, was to be built at this time. The plans anticipated that eventually a similar building would be built on the northeast corner of the block and that the two units would be connected some time by an auditorium.

The corner stone of the new building was laid on April 25, 1911, with appropriate ceremonies. The courts and public offices were closed for the day. Dr. George M. Gray was chairman. Rev. Stephen Northrop, pastor of the Temple Baptist church, prayed for a blessing on the city and its people. Speeches were made by Mayor J. E. Porter. Mayor Llewellyn Jones of Independence, Mo.; John G. Park, city counselor of Kansas City, Mo.; congressman E. C. Little, commissioner,

46. Council Minutes, page 170.

47. Ibid., pgs. 235 and 243.

48. Council Minutes, pg. 235.

49. Kansas City Times, May 26, 1910.

Henry E. Dean and W. W. Rose, architect of the building. (50) Commission Dean, who had the construction of the hall in charge, gathered together numerous documents of historical value which were placed in the iron box inside the corner stone. The box contained a copy of the incorporation for the Wyandotte Town Company, which laid out the original town of Wyandotte. This document bore the signature of Silas Armstrong, who was president of the company; Thomas H. Swope, who was a member of the company; Isaiah Walker and others who founded the city, and bought the land where the city is from the Wyandotte Indians. The document bears the date of the meeting of the land company at which the articles of incorporation were drawn up, which was December 9, 1856. The stone also contained a photograph of Silas Armstrong, who was also the founder of old Kansas City, Kansas; photographs of public buildings in Kansas City, Kansas; copies of newspapers, autographs of citizens and other papers. (51).

The growth of the city demanded more room for the city government. On March 31, 1917, the question of issuing \$125,000 in bonds for an annex to the city hall was voted on and the proposition was carried by a vote of 12,820 to 7,341. (52) An injunction was at once asked for on the theory that the issue of the bonds would exceed the bonded indebtedness limit for the city. Judge Fischer refused to grant the injunction (53) and an appeal was taken to the supreme court. That tribunal held (54) that the water works bonds constituted bonded indebtedness of the city, within the meaning of the statute, and that as the bonded indebtedness of the city already exceeded the limit, the proposed issue was without authority.

On April 2, 1929, two bond propositions were submitted to the voters. One called for an issue of \$70,000 for an annex to the city hall and the other for an issue of \$280,000 for two fire stations and fire equipment. Both propositions carried. (55) It was then decided to build one of the fire stations in connection with the city hall annex and both propositions were completed at a cost of \$282,633.68. (56)

50. *Ibid.*, April 26, 1911.

51. *Kansas City Star*, April 25, 1911.

52. *Commissioners Minutes*, A-2, pg. 447.

53. *State vs. City of Kansas City*, No. 7:600.

54. *State vs. City of Kansas City*, 101 *Kansas* 804.

55. *Commissioners Minutes*, A-21, pg. 152.

56. *City Auditor's Report*, pg. 46.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-FOUR

PLACE:—Seventh and Minnesota.

TIME:— March 25th, 1901.

EVENT:—Breaking ground for the Federal Building.

The evolution of the Kansas City, Kansas, post office forms an interesting chapter in the annals of Wyandotte county. The early Wyandots went to Kansas City, Missouri for their mail. Governor Walker, in his diary, refers frequently to trips to "Kansas," as he termed the Missouri town, for the mail. It meant a journey across the Kansas River, over the Wyandot National Ferry, through the woods and a crossing over Turkey Creek which in those days emptied into the Missouri river.

From the information that is available it seems that the post office of Wyandotte was established in October, 1855 with W. J. Osborne as postmaster. Who Mr. Osborne was is not known. It is probable that he never functioned very much as postmaster though the Official Register for 1857 credits him as being postmaster for three quarters of the year 1856.

When Thomas J. Barker entered into a partnership with Isaiah Walker in the fall of 1856 he assumed the duties of postmaster and the history of the Kansas City post office begins with him. Mr. Barker's own story of the post office is told in a manuscript, now in the possession of the Barker family as follows:

"When I came to Kansas in 1855, Mr. Osborne was postmaster at Wyandotte, but he was not looking after the office, (I only saw him once) and what little mail there was at that time was handled by the Surveyor General's office. In 1856 Mr. J. W. Ladd was appointed Justice of the Peace, and he looked after the mail until in November of that year, when I purchased a one half interest in the store of Isaiah Walker, the name of the firm being Walker and Barker, general merchandise. Our store being the most prominent place in the city, the post office was moved there. Mr. Walker, in the spring of 1856 built the building we occupied at 326 Nebraska, which building is still standing and occupied as a residence."

"I, having been assistant postmaster at Fayetteville, Va. in 1849 and 1850 and at Shrewsbury, Va.

from 1851 to 1854 and having acquired a general knowledge of the duties of a postmaster, assumed charge of the post office, and, on April 10, 1857, was appointed postmaster by Aaron V. Brown, Postmaster General under President James Buchanan and continued the office in our store. The name of the post office was Wyandotte, Leavenworth County, Kansas Territory. The office was not on a mail route and the mail was left at Kansas City, Mo. and carried to and from there by the citizens who happened to be going over to that city. It was put on a mail route that was established between Kansas City, Mo. and Leavenworth, Kansas in the year 1858 and a daily stage coach was run between those cities. The Wyandotte mail for the first six months of the service was about 12 letters received daily and about the same number sent out and about the same number of newspapers."

"In the fall of 1858 I moved the post office into my building at the southeast of Third and Nebraska, which was a two story frame building. The first floor was used as a store building part of the time and there were offices on the second floor. I was recommissioned postmaster on November 15, 1861 by Montgomery Blair, Postmaster General under President Abraham Lincoln and held the office until April, 1863 when I resigned and Mr. R. B. Taylor was appointed."

"During the six years that I was postmaster, my net cash receipts from the office was from \$200 to \$480 per year. The largest receipt of mail was in 1859, when the Constitutional Convention was in session at Wyandotte. In the early part of my Postmastership I would when I left the office carry the mail in the crown of my hat and when I met anyone for whom I had mail. I would take off my hat and deliver them their mail."

In a newspaper clipping, source unknown, found in one of the Barker family scrap books, Mr. Barker tells of his second appointment as postmaster:

"Although I was a Douglas Democrat. I served two years under the administration of President Lincoln. This was owing to the fact that the postmaster was voted for at a township election. It was

at this time that Horace Greeley of the New York Tribune recommended that in the smaller places the postmaster should be voted for and the one receiving the largest number of votes be recommended for appointment. There were four candidates of us. Dr. S. F. Mather received 2 votes, L. S. Mullenger 2 votes, Charles VanFossen 36 votes and I received 141. But extreme radicals made it so warm for me that I did not serve out my full term, but resigned after two years.

I was postmaster when the war came on and the post office was the scene of many heated and lively discussions. It was headquarters for the border ruffians and the abolitionists and these two elements fought the war out in my post office long before it ever began in reality.

It so happened that quite a number of people living in Missouri got part of their mail at my post office. In 1861 there was a paper published in

Columbus, Ohio, known as "The Crisis." It was in sympathy with the South and greatly abused the Government. An order was issued prohibiting the paper from being delivered throughout the post offices in Missouri and so parties living in Missouri got the paper through my office. This place had a population of 700 when I was postmaster."

Richard Baxter Taylor, who succeeded Mr. Barker, was the editor of the Gazette. He served for three years and was succeeded by Edward T. Vedder, who after a short career was asked to resign by the Department because of irregularities in his accounts. Mr. Vedder was succeeded in 1866 by Arthur B. Downs. He moved the post office up the hill from Third Street, locating it first in a one story building at 438 Minnesota and later across at 429 Minnesota. Mr. Downs was succeeded in 1881 by George B. Reicheneker who again moved the post office up the hill locating it at 520 Minnesota Ave.

In 1885 Vincent J. Lane, editor of the Herald and a former postmaster of old Quindaro, was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland, and served for a term of four years. It was during the administration of Mr. Lane, (March 6, 1886) that the consolidation of the three cities of Wyandotte, Armourdale and Kansas City, was made by the Legislature. Governor Martin designated Kansas City as the name for the consolidated city and the Postal Department promptly changed the name of the post office to correspond. This resulted in the consolidation of three post offices, Wyandotte, Armourdale and the village post office of Armstrong, which served the territory on the hill between old Wyandotte and Armourdale. Old Kansas City, that portion of territory lying east of the Kansas river never had a post office of its own, but was served from the Kansas City, Missouri office. Mr. Lane became the first post master under the consolidation and so enjoys the distinction of being the last of the Wyandotte postmasters and the first of the line of Kansas City, Kansas postmasters. It was during the administration of Mr. Lane, July 1, 1887, that the carrier system was established. The initial force of carriers was four in number and O. B. Johnson was carrier No. 1.

Mr. Lane was succeeded in 1889 by Osceola K. Serviss who continued the post office trek up the hill by moving the office to 632-34 Minnesota.

Mr. Frank Mapes succeeded Mr. Serviss in 1893. Civil service was extended to the post office carriers during Mr. Mapes' term of office. Mr. Mapes took his own life and Thomas

Bowling, one of his bondsmen, was placed in charge of the office, April 1, 1896. He acted as postmaster for one month and on May 1, 1896 was succeeded by Thaddeus Fitzhugh. Mr. Fitzhugh served for a little less than a year and on March 1, 1897 was succeeded by Nathaniel Barnes who served for five years. Mr. Barnes again moved the post office, this time locating it in the Portsmouth Building at 6th and Minnesota.



THOMAS J. BARKER.

Prominent Wyandotte pioneer and the first postmaster of Wyandotte to function.

It was during the Barnes administration that the Armour station and the Stock Yards station were established, two independent stations which added materially to the service and which resulted in an increased revenue to the office. Four sub stations were also organized during the Barnes administration and the wagon system of carrying the mail to and from the post office was discarded for a street car delivery.

It was also during the Barnes administration that the Government first recognized the importance of Kansas City by

giving it a public building. Mason Peters, a Wyandotte county man, was in Congress. He prepared a bill (1), and nursed it carefully through the House of Representatives, appropriating \$150,000, for the purchase of a site and the erection thereon of a suitable building, with fire proof vaults therein, for the accommodation of the post office and other government offices at Kansas City, State of Kansas. The bill originally called for an appropriation of \$250,000 but was amended to \$150,000 on its final passage. The bill passed the House of Representatives on February 28, 1899. (2) Within a few minutes after it passed the House, Congressman Peters carried it in person over to the Senate and gave it to Senator Harris. A duplicate bill was already pending in the Senate. (3) Senator Harris secured the substitution of the House bill for the Senate bill and within an hour after the bill had passed the House it had been passed by the Senate. (4) President McKinley signed the bill on March 1, 1899.

A site for the new Federal building was secured at the southwest corner of Seventh and Minnesota at a cost of \$20,132.50. A building contract was let February 7, 1901 and on March 25, at 10 o'clock a.m. ground was broken and active building operations were commenced. The completed building was turned over for occupancy on August 7, 1902. The cost of the building was, \$93,292.00 making the cost of building and site \$113,424.50. The materials used in the building were Bedford, Ind., lime-stone, Vermont granite, gray paving bricks, steel, terra cotta and concrete, making the building a fire proof structure. It was two stories in height, the upper story being occupied by the Federal court, U. S. Commissioner, Collector of Revenue, Bureau of Animal Industry and Pension Examiners. The post office occupied the entire lower story and a part of the basement.

On May 1, 1902 Ulysses S. Sartin succeeded Mr. Barnes as post master. On July 15, 1902, the Rosedale post office was attached to the Kansas City office and Rosedale became an independent station. Mr. Sartin was the first post master to occupy the new building. Almost half a century had gone by since the day when postmaster Barker received and dispatched a dozen letters a day. Now there were eighteen carriers and nine clerks working out of the main office; a superintendent,

1. House Resolution 2129.

2. Record, pg. 2585.

3. Senate Resolution 5408.

4. Record, pg. 2560.

two carriers and two clerks working out of the Armour station; a superintendent, eight carriers and five clerks working out of the Stock Yards station; and a superintendent, one clerk and two carriers working out of the Rosedale station.

On July 2, 1903, the Argentine post office was attached to the Kansas City office and became the fourth independent station under that office. Mr. Sartin served as postmaster until May 4, 1907 when he was succeeded by Wesley R. Childs.



VINCENT J. LANE.

Prominent Wyandotte pioneer and the last postmaster of Old Wyandotte and the first postmaster of Kansas City, Kansas.

The business of the office had outgrown the quarters in the Federal building and in 1909 an appropriation of \$150,000.00 was made to enlarge the building. This extension work was begun in 1910 and took practically two years. The building was enlarged on the south and a third story was added. While this reconstruction work was going on the post office was moved into temporary quarters in the Huppe building 734-36 Minnesota. The cost of the reconstructed building, counting both appropriations was \$265,011.22.

William Firstenberger was appointed postmaster Dec. 15, 1913, to succeed Mr. Childs. He was removed September 1, 1916 and I. J. Talbot, acting for the bonding company, was placed in charge of the office. Mr. Talbot remained in charge of the office until October 1, 1916 when A. H. Gillis was appointed postmaster. It was during the Gillis administration, August 1921, that motor vehicle service was established for the department with a force of 1 superintendent, 2 mechanics, 6 drivers and 2 substitutes.

On December 1, 1921 William B. Trembley became postmaster under appointment from President Harding. He was reappointed under President Coolidge and again appointed under President Hoover. He served until July 10, 1934 when he was succeeded by A. H. Gillis.

The Kansas City office has grown with the years until it reached the point where there were 81, regular carriers, 14 substitute carriers and 65 clerks working out of the main office or the several stations. This does not include the force or rural mail carriers. This branch of the service was established in 1901, W. J. Conner, Carrier No. 15, circulating the petition for its establishment. This route started with service to approximately 100 patrons. From this beginning this branch of the service has grown to seven routes which serve approximately 5,000 families distributed as follows, of which 1000 families reside in Johnson County:

No.	Location	Boxes	Families
1	So. and W. of Main Office	375	425
2	Argentine Station	442	528
3	N. and N.E. of Main Office	573	700
4	West of Main Office	596	843
5	Rosedale Station	548	612
6	Rosedale Station	712	1100
7	Rosedale Station	500	750
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		3746	4958

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-FIVE

PLACE:—The Kansas River Valley.

TIME:— March 15, 1905.

EVENT:—Organization of the Kaw Valley Drainage District.

From time immemorial the Kansas river has had its big floods when the heavy rains in central Kansas have rushed down the valley, filling it from bluff to bluff, and sweeping everything before it. Tradition tells of the big flood of 1782. History tells of the floods of 1826, 1844 and 1903. The flood of 1826 did no damage in Kansas as there was nothing in Kansas to be damaged. The Four Houses, which were the only known buildings in Kansas at that time, stood high and dry above the flood at what is now known as Bonner Springs. (1)

The flood of 1844, while exceeding in volume of water all other Kansas river floods, (2) did little property damage in Kansas as there was little property in its path. It brought disaster to the Wyandots however as the overflowed vegetable matter, decomposing, caused much sickness and by the following November, 100 of them, being one-seventh of the whole number who had come to Kansas only fifteen months before, were dead. (3) John C. McCoy left behind him this graphic description of the flood of 1844: (4)

"The Missouri river at about the thirteenth (June) was only a few feet over the bottom lands, but the great volume of water that came down the Kansas river; madly rushing against the mighty Missouri, caused the seething waters to pile up at the mouth, no doubt several feet higher than they would have done had they met at the point of juncture more obliquely."

"On the morning of the fourteenth, Colonel William M. Chick, who was temporarily occupying, with his family, a house he owned, which stood on the east side of Turkey Creek, not far southeast of the present State Line House, was surprised to find the waters just rising above the banks of the creek. By nine o'clock they had reached the door step and as the ground was lower toward the hills eastward, he deemed it advisable to seek a place of safety on higher ground, which they suc-

2. Senate Document 160, 58th Cong., 2nd Session.

3. Andreas, page 1227.

4. Case, History of Kansas City, page 12.

ceeded in doing with the aid of a canoe or small boat. His daughter, Mrs. Peery, went to the hills near Twelfth street, on a horse, the water then being about mid side to the horse near the hills. From there she made her way to my house, two miles south of the city. I galloped down to the ferry across the river, which I owned and ran at the time, and taking a skiff with Mr. John W. Polk, we made our way, with great difficulty and danger, up through the woods to the house, where we arrived about twelve o'clock and found the water about waist deep on the lower floor. We secured as many articles as our skiff would carry, placed the balance out of reach of the water, and made our way back to the ferry, where I immediately secured a party of about ten persons, to take up the ferry flat to secure that which was left."

"The seething, foaming flood of water was not only dashing madly onward in the river channel, but it swept across the heavily timbered bottoms of West Kansas, from bluff to bluff, with a roar almost deafening. With the aid of twenty or more men, in rounding the rocky head land above the site of the present bridge, we finally reached the building about four o'clock where we found the water had reached nearly to the upper floor. Placing the boat beside, we tore off a portion of the roof, the eaves of which were probably five feet above the boat; the upper windows being too small to pass out the furniture. Being now nearly dark, we held a council and decided to tie up for the night, deeming it unsafe to venture into the river in the dark. So we ran up to the smoke house built of heavy logs, in which about five thousand pounds of bacon was floating about, and there spent the long, dreary hours of the night in roasting bacon and hams, and telling marvelous tales of blood curdling scenes that never happened, probably."

"In the morning we found that the depth of water under our boat was at least ten feet and still rising."

"During the night of the fifteenth, and the next morning, from time to time, loud cries of distress were heard over at Wyandotte, in the direction of Louis Tromley, who then lived near the Missouri south bank just east of the state line. Those who listened to those cries knew full well that the old man was in deep trouble as well as deep water, but the impetuous Kaw forced its mad waters into the broad sea of the Missouri, with a current so rapid that it was impossible to get the ferry flat across to the opposite woods, for there were no banks then, without cordeling the boat some distance up the Kaw and before that could be done darkness had overspread the desolate

scene. At early dawn brave hearts and strong arms were ready for the rescue. Isaiah Walker, Ethan Long, Russel Garrett, David Froman and Tall Charles, of Wyandotte, soon made their way with the boat, cutting their way through the woods to poor old Tromley, whom they found perched in a tree, and a few hundred yards further on his wife in another tree, and a short distance further his boy, sitting astraddle of the comb of the house, which was just beginning to sway in the seething waters of the river. * * The rescuers took them to the hills, near Twelfth street, on their way picking up some others as they went. Soon afterwards old Tromleys house, with his favorite dog perched upon its top, was seen by the hundreds, gathered upon the hillside, passing rapidly down in mid current. * * During this day, the fifteenth, the Wyandotte rescuers were busy saving persons and property in West Kansas bottoms, until darkness closed their labors, theirs being the only boat that operated that day; and after that none were needed, for nothing was left to save of life or property."

Fifty-nine years went by and then came the flood of 1903, writing the blackest page in the history of Kansas. The valley of the Kaw had filled up with great industries and block after block of business buildings and homes. In Kansas City, Kansas, alone, 23,000 people had made their homes in the territory between the river bluffs. Then as swift and unheralded, as had been the flood of 1844, there came the flood of 1903, leaving ruin and destruction in its wake. The June flood edition of the New Empire told this story of the rise and fall of this flood; (5)

"The flood came mainly from the Kaw river. It was serious in Argentine and Armourdale on Friday. May 30th, and dwellers on the banks began to leave. By Saturday night the one story houses were generally submerged. During Saturday both vehicles and boats were used to get the people out. By Sunday morning the work had become difficult and dangerous, even with boats. During Saturday the Kaw river ignored its wandering channel and surged directly across the West Bottoms, a wide sea, rushing broadside to the Missouri.

The water ran swiftly through the streets, being confined by blocks of buildings, and many persons were forced to remain where the flood overtook them. Some were lodged on freight cars, and a few even in trees and on telegraph poles, from Sunday afternoon until late on Monday. The torrent swept ten feet deep through the Union Depot, and the wreckage of engines

and freight cars were everywhere visible. Cars loaded with un-slacked lime took fire, and seven or eight fires were burning at one time on Sunday afternoon. When Monday dawned water flowed on three sides of town, no trains were running, the water works were shut down, gas was cut off, there was no electric light, street cars were idle, fire protection was gone, the streets were patrolled by armed soldiers, sixteen bridges had been swept into the Kaw river. It was known that human lives had gone out in the dark whirling waters and that many more were in peril. The truth was sad enough, when revealed, but the whole city took heart when it was learned later that the number of known dead did not exceed fifteen. Twenty-three thousand people were homeless, and the end no man could tell, for the flood had reached 38 feet, being 17 feet above danger line, and the rain was still falling."

"The change wrought in the week that followed was simply marvelous. The waters began slowly to recede on Wednesday, June 3rd, and they were followed inch by inch, by the men of all classes who were busy clearing away the awful wreck, and preparing for resumption of usual activities. Train service was immediately improvised from the station at Twenty Second and Grand, and on Sunday, July 7th, the first train entered the Union Depot. By June 14th all roads using the depot had resumed. The Missouri Pacific bridge across the Kaw was the only one of seventeen that stood, and it was saved by the nerve of Supt. Carson, who loaded it down with engines."

The situation in the residential district of Armourdale was told by the Star: (6).

"Many residents of Armourdale spent yesterday trying to save their homes. Permits to enter the flooded district were issued to 500 former residents yesterday, and five times as many were anxious to enter. There were not enough boats for the people, and those whose homes were in the western part of the town, where the water is now only two or three feet deep, rolled up their trousers and waded to their possessions. There they spent the day shoveling the mud and slime from the floors and hanging the clothing they could find on ropes stretched across rooms that it might dry. East of Mill street the streets are un-

der water from three to eighteen feet. About two-fifths of the town is still submerged. In many places the streets are blocked with wreckage piled to a height of from 20 to 30 feet. Some of the houses cannot be found, and their owners returned yesterday after hours of search disconsolate. There are some houses in the town which were not there before the flood. The buildings that are standing are all badly damaged. Many houses have washed off their foundations and are turned on their sides or on their roofs. Some are standing upside down. Sofas and chairs are to be seen sticking out of the windows, the water having dashed them against the sashes. The corners were torn out of many of the larger brick and frame buildings by smaller houses washing against them. In places whole blocks are gone."

Relief committees were formed. Churches, halls and public buildings generally were thrown open to the homeless. Many were housed in tents. On June 13th, Mayor Gilbert, and a relief committee, issued an appeal for outside aid. It said in part:

"In Kansas City, Kansas, an area including 23,000 people, by the state census of March, 1903, has been swept by a rushing flood of from ten to thirty feet in depth, which carried away over one-third of the houses in the district, almost ruined another third, and that in the entire district the merchandise, household goods and clothing have been either washed away or almost totally ruined by a ten day submersion and a deposit in all buildings of from two to four feet of mud."

On the same day Governor Bailey issued a prepared statement in which he said:

"Within the last week I have visited the flood district, including Kansas City, Argentine, North Topeka and Kansas City and from what I saw and heard the calamity that has befallen our people is more appalling than was feared before the waters receded, and, while the loss of life was less, yet the property loss and suffering is many times greater than were entailed by the Galveston disaster. To day Kansas finds more than 30,000 of her people practically homeless from no fault of their own and one of her fertile

valleys, representing an area of 200 miles long and 5 miles wide, that but a few days ago was covered with happy homes and filled with promise, is now a watery waste."

As soon as the people in the Kaw valley recovered sufficiently from the flood to think, plans to prevent the recurrence of the disaster began to be discussed. The railroads, and other industries along the river, made a survey of the river and evolved a plan, known as the Gary plan, which provided for the improvement of the river channel to a width of 600 feet. By Special Order a Board of Government Engineers was appointed to investigate and report. This Board met at Kansas City, Nov. 12, 1903, made surveys and took testimony until Dec. 31st, and made its report on January 23, 1904. The Senate, by resolution of Feb. 8, 1904, ordered it printed and so it became available at once. (7) This was the famous Document No. 160, which became the bible for the home owners in the valley. This report said in part:

"The Kaw river, for a distance of 17,000 feet above its mouth, is in a condition that constitutes a dangerous menace to life and property along its banks. Encroachments upon the channel by riparian owners has been going on for many years, until its normal average width, as shown by the meander lines of 1856 has been reduced to an average of about 590 feet, with a minimum in one place of 420 feet. All along the river there are evidences of encroachments, particularly in the vicinity of the stockyards, which occupy both banks for a total distance of 12,700 feet (4,780 feet on the right bank and 8,010 on the left bank".)

"There are fourteen bridges within this distance and three more a little way above. Nearly all of them are low structures, with from two to four piers in the river. These piers have not been carried down to bed rock, but rest on piles cut off but little, if any, below low water. To protect the foundations from scour, large quantities of stone have been thrown into the river around them, until each pier is surrounded by an island of rock."

"Besides the obstructions caused by the bridges, there have been built from time stone dikes extending

into the stream from both banks to prevent erosion.

* * * It is a conservative estimate that the capacity of the natural channel of the river to carry floods has been diminished by one half."

"No plan has been adopted looking to a comprehensive solution of the flood problem. The general view of private interests is reflected by the railroads, who feel that the flood was of such extraordinary and unusual character and of such rare occurrence that it will not justify them as an insurance to go to the expense necessary to provide immunity from further disasters of the kind. They have decided to take their chances on another flood and stand the loss when it comes, believing it will cost them less in that way."

This attitude of the railroads, and other interests, furnished the key to the long drawn out litigation that followed the organization of the Kaw Valley Drainage District.

The Board further found:

"To secure immunity from such a flood as that of 1903, would require the following measures: The river to be restored to a width of 734 feet; masonry walls to be built on each bank reaching to an approximate height of 30 feet above low water and extending for a distance of 17,000 feet above the mouth; the bed of the river to be dredged free of all solid obstructions to a depth of 15 feet below low water; bridges to be limited to two piers 300 feet apart, measured on a line perpendicular to the center of the channel and to be carried down to rock, and the lowest point of structure to be above the flood line of the improved channel".

On July 8, 1904, there came another flood, small in comparison with the flood of 1903, but big enough to show that a narrow and obstructed river channel would not carry an ordinary flood. (8) In vain the county commissioners called upon the railroads to remove their wrecked bridges from the river. (9) Kansas had no law that covered the situation. The railroads began to build pile bridges across the river. An appeal to United States District Attorney Dean brought a suit

8. House Doc. No. 584, 63 Cong., 2nd Session—"The 1904 flood has been estimated at 137,000 second feet."

9. Commissioners Minutes, Book O, pgs. 275, 332, 339.

in the federal court, against the Union Pacific, which alleged that its bridge was an obstruction to the navigation of the river. (10) When it finally reached a hearing the court found that the Kaw river was a navigable stream, that the bridge was an unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the river, and the railroad was ordered to either repair or remove its bridge.

The Legislature of 1905 passed a 30 page comprehensive act for the organization of drainage districts. (11) It provided that upon the presentation to the county commissioners of a petition, signed by two-fifths of the tax payers of a given area, asking for the organization of a drainage district, that the petition should be allowed and an order made declaring the territory described, incorporated as a drainage district and a time and place fixed for an election of a board of directors.

The people in the Kaw valley moved promptly. On March 9, 1905, the petition of E. L. Fischer, and 889 others, was before the county commissioners asking for the organization of the Kaw Valley Drainage District. (12) The petition was allowed and an election was ordered for April 11th. (13) Various candidates were voted for at this first election but the five receiving the highest vote were: P. J. Monahan 432; W. H. Daniels 299; Dr. J. O. Milner 278; L. J. Gillis 213; Fred Meyn 205. This board organized by the election of Dr. J. O. Milner as president; W. H. Daniels as vice-president; L. J. Gillis as secretary, and P. J. Monahan as treasurer. (14)

The 1905 law granted the Board exclusive control of the river and of all lands, the title to which vested in the state of Kansas, lying between the banks at high water mark. Among the specific powers given were: to widen, deepen, establish, regulate and maintain channels; to construct and maintain levees; to alter, change, abandon or relocate any part of the channel; to cause obstructions to be removed; to fix the height and length of bridges and the location of piers; to change the grade of any railway or highway in the district; to require railroads to raise their tracks; to levy and collect taxes; to issue bonds; to make contracts, and to do all other necessary acts. (15)

10. Case 8296.

11. Laws, 1915, chapter 215. Passed Feb. 25, 1915.

12. Ibid, pgs. 367, 371, 373.

13. Ibid., pg. 373.

14. Minutes of April 14, 1905.

15. Laws, 1905, chapter 215.

Immediately upon the organization of the Board a legal battle began which lasted for a quarter of a century. More than a hundred lawsuits were docketed in the state and federal courts. Although filed in many different names the essential parties were always the same. On the one side was the 23,000 people in the district who wanted protection for their homes and on the other side were the allied corporate interests who had decided it would be cheaper to rebuild than to insure for flood protection.

The law creating the board of directors provided that the directors must be freeholders and that the voters must be both residents of the district and taxpayers. The corporate interests at once seized upon this as a pretext for destroying the board. A law suit with that end in view was brought in the supreme court of Kansas, the allegations being that it let women taxpayers vote, and that it imposed a property qualification on voters, all of which it alleged was a violation of bill of rights in the constitution. The suit failed and the 23,000 won their first law suit. (16)

Taking the report of the Government Engineers as a basis, the board of directors passed a resolution establishing the width of the river channel from the Fifth street bridge to the mouth of the river at 734 feet water space, with additional space for levees where needed. (17) The engineers, employed by the board, reported that certain improvements could be made above Fifth street at an established cost of \$200,000, and this became known as Engineers Report A. The engineers also estimated that certain other improvements could be made from the Fifth street bridge to the Union Pacific crossing, for \$325,000 and this became known as Engineers Report B. A bond election was held on January 30, 1906. Proposition A. was carried by a vote of 644 to 178 and proposition B. by a vote of 624 to 193. (18)

Immediately after this bond election the Union Pacific and other corporations, commenced suits in the federal courts to restrain the issuance of these bonds and to halt the board in its efforts to widen the river. The drainage board countered with suits in the Court of Common Pleas to eject these corporations from the lands they were holding within the 734

16. State of Kansas, ex rel. vs. P. J. Monahan, etal. 72 Kas. 492.

17. Minutes of Sept. 27, 1905.

18. Minutes of January 31, 1906.

foot limits. (19) These cases were promptly removed to the federal courts by the corporations. Here the two sets of cases were consolidated. On July 2, 1906, Judge John G. Pollock, of the federal court, granted a temporary injunction against the district which stopped the work, and appointed a special master to take testimony and make findings. Here the matter seems to have rested until July 1, 1907, when there was a meeting of the litigants with Judge Pollock at Topeka. Just what took place at that meeting will always be a matter for dispute. In a pleading in the United States Circuit Court, the Union Pacific and its allied defendants, give this version of it: (20).

"Judge Pollock then further suggested that the kind of a decree which seemed to him equitable and desirable under the circumstances would be that the Kansas river along the stretch in controversy should be fixed at six hundred feet, the piers of the new Rock Island bridge making the east and west lines thereof, and from those points the lines be drawn so as to best shape up the river and provide a proper channel. That the decree should enjoin the \$325,000 of bonds embraced in the proposition "B" set out in the pleadings. That the injunction as to the \$200,000 of bonds involved in proposition "A" should be dissolved and such last named bonds become available for immediate use by the Drainage District."

"That the court in the decree should retain jurisdiction of the causes for the purpose of determining in the future the necessity of any further widening of the river; also the auditing of moneys paid out of the \$200,000 in proposition "A" for the purpose of determining all other questions in the causes."

"That this would leave for determination by survey of the exact lines of the river which he hoped might be agreed upon, as it was simply a problem for engineers. The judge then asked the parties if they would agree to this decree. Each and all of the complainants and defendant companies, by their attorneys, announced that they would agree to such a decree."

That the Drainage Board had an altogether different understanding is shown by their minutes of that date which read:

19. Court of Common Pleas. Nos. 7207, 7209, 7330, 7331, 7332.

20. No. 2785. K. V. D. D. vs. U. P., etal.

"Board met with Judge Pollock at Topeka. He proposed compromise that river be improved to 600 feet below Fifth street bridge and if this width is found insufficient Board be allowed to make it wider. Agreement made that river shall be widened to 600 feet without prejudice to further widening if deemed necessary. W. H. Daniels objected to anything less than 700 feet".

No decree was made at the July meeting but on October 10th; 1907, Judge Pollock handed down what became known as the "Consent Decree". A part of it read:

"That all of the proceedings of the Drainage District providing for the issuance of bonds, including the vote of the taxpayers on Jan. 30, 1906, and all orders of the Board, were void and of no effect."

"That the Board is enjoined from issuing Series "B" bonds".

"That the series "A" bonds were valid and that the Board could go ahead and spend them but that it must be done under the approval of the court which reserved the right to approve and audit the accounts."

"That from the Fifth street bridge to the Union Pacific bridge the river might be widened to 600 feet in places where it was a less width."

"That no attempt shall be made to widen the river channel to more than 600 feet until by actual test it shall be demonstrated that a 600 foot channel is insufficient and if the Drainage Board attempts to widen the channel to more than 600 feet any one might apply to the court and that jurisdiction of the case would be retained to afford such relief."

In vain the attorneys for the Board protested that they had not agreed to any such decree and were told that months before they had agreed to it in substance and that such would be the decree. (21) An appeal was taken by the District to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

The indignation against Judge Pollock and his "Consent Decree" was intense in the drainage district. Another election for members of the Drainage Board was soon due and it was evident that none but advocates of the 734 foot channel would be considered. W. H. Daniels and Fred Meyn, who had protested against the "Consent Decree", were re-elected as mem-

bers of the Board. With them were elected T. E. Myers, Bernard Pollman and G. A. Woodcock, outspoken advocates of the wide channel. The Board organized by the election of W. H. Daniels as president, Fred Meyn as vice-president, T. E. Myers as secretary and Bernard Pollman as treasurer. (22).

Then at this same organization meeting the Board resolved:

"That we stand unalterably committed to the proposition that the river shall be widened to 734 feet as recommended by the Government Engineers, so as to afford full protection against all floods which may be reasonably expected. And we pledge ourselves not to entertain any proposal of compromise that does not substantially meet this requirement, and believing as we do that Judge Pollock's decree, besides being unwarranted either by law or the evidence, contains provisions which constitute most seriously, if not insuperable obstacles in the way of an effort to provide a channel of the width recommended by the Government Engineers, we pledge ourselves to exercise our lawful rights of resistance by appeal, and if need be to prosecute such appeal to the court of last resort.

"Resolved that we will resist to the uttermost every attempt at further encroachment within the 734 foot line heretofore established." (23)

The several cases appealed from Judge Pollock's court, dragged their way slowly through the Court of Appeals. Then came the 1908 flood. It was only a little more than half the size of the 1903 flood (24) but it did a lot of good. It convinced even the corporate interests that a 600 foot river channel was insufficient, and so one by one they worked out compromises with the Drainage Board and all litigation in the federal courts came to an end with the year 1909. The "Consent Decree" was vacated Dec. 23, 1909, and the injunction suits were dismissed.

The two bond issues, "A" and "B" were insufficient for the work the Drainage Board desired to have done and so on March 22, 1910, another bond election was held and the is-

22. Minutes of the Board March 10, 1908.

23. Minutes of the Board, Book B, pg. 3.

24. The maximum discharge of the Kansas river at Kansas City, during the flood of 1903 was 305,500 cubic feet per second; that of 1908 was 183,300 cubic feet per second. Report of R. L. McAlpine, County Surveyor and Civil Engineer, Dec. 6, 1918.

suance of a third or "C" series of bonds in the amount of \$1,225,000 was authorized. (25).

Congress on February 16, 1909, authorized the Secretary of War to establish harbor lines at Kansas City, Kansas. No action was taken and the Drainage District chafed at the delay. Finally the board of directors of the drainage district decided to go to Washington and see the President. The story of this trip is told by Mr. Ed Myers, the sole surviving member of the board:

"We had a statement of our troubles written out and took this with us. We got into Washington in the morning and after breakfast, without calling on any one, went direct to the White House and asked to have our papers sent in to President Roosevelt. We waited for some time to see what would happen. Others began to arrive and as they passed through the doors, that would be opened, we followed along. Finally we were ushered into a big long room, with a big table down the center of it, which we afterwards found out was the cabinet room. The crowd congregated at the further end of the room. We staid back near the door through which we had entered."

"After a time the door in the far end of the room opened and the President stepped into the room. He greeted the crowd and then catching sight of us, said: Excuse me but here are some men who have come a long ways to see me and I want to talk to them. He came down the room to us and said: You are the boys from Kansas City. He had our papers in his hands and, after referring to them, said: If these things are not so, some one is liable to go to jail for contempt of court. Billy Daniels at once spoke up and said, the half has not been told Mr. President.

"The President had grasped our whole story. He talked rapidly and asked numerous questions. Finally he said: I think you ought to have harbor lines established but Luke Lee will have to do that. Go see him. Luke Lee was the Secretary of War. Calling a messenger the President told him to take us to Secretary Lee and tell him that he wanted these men to have a hearing and that he wanted to know when it would be so that he could be there himself. With that

he left us. The interview had lasted just eleven minutes."

"Our guide took us to Secretary Lee and we were admitted without any delay. He took our papers and fixed ten o'clock the next morning for a hearing."

"That night at our hotel we met Congressman Ellis of Kansas City, Mo. When he learned of our appointment for the next morning he wanted to go with us, which was agreeable. The next morning while we were in the ante room of the Secretary of War, the door opened and the President came in. Congressman Ellis spoke to him and started to introduce our group. The President interrupted him saying: It isn't necessary Congressman, I know these men. Then he proceeded to shake hands with us calling us each one by name."

"When we were ushered into the Secretary's room, there were a few pleasantries between the President and the Secretary and then the President said: Have you read these men's story? The Secretary answered that he had. What do you think of it? was the next question. The Secretary answered that it was as thrilling as a dime novel. That's what I think, the President shot back, what are you going to do about it? The Secretary answered that he thought we ought to have harbor lines established. That's what I think, said the President, will you do it?"

"The Secretary answered that he would have to see what could be done. He called a secretary and asked him to ascertain from the files the proximate cost of establishing harbor lines from the mouth of the river to Turner and also for a statement as to the amount of money in the fund from which such an expense would have to be met. The secretary came back after a while with an estimate which exceeded the amount of money in the fund."

"You do it, said the President, I'll get you the money. Then turning to us he said, I'll have your Congressman Charlie Scott and your Senator, Charlie Curtis, introduce the bills to get the money. Say, added he, they are all Charlies out in Kansas, ain't they?"

"When we got back to our hotel, Congressman Ellis brought the representative of the Kansas City Star over and introduced him to us. He told us that the report from Kansas City was that the drainage board was missing and that their whereabouts could not be located. His story from Washington was the first intimation the folks at home had of our mission. This story started things. Before we could get home the manager of the Kansas City stock yards had called up our clerk to say that his engineer wanted to confer with the board about the location of bridge piers when the harbor lines were established. Within three days the attorney for the Union Pacific was telegraphing that he had instructed their engineer to come from Denver and confer with the board about the new harbor lines."

Teddy had swung the big stick. There was no further delay. A survey was made and harbor lines were established at 734 feet from the river mouth to a point 950 feet below the Fifth street bridge. The Secretary of War approved the survey on June 24, 1910. (26) These lines were practically the same as the ones the drainage board was working along but that body promptly changed its lines to conform to the government survey. (27)

The report of the Government Engineers in 1904 (28), said that to secure immunity from such a flood as that of 1903 the river should be restored to a width of 734 feet and that masonry walls should be built on each bank to an approximate height of 30 feet above low water. The Board of Directors decided masonry walls were too expensive and that it would substitute dirt levees. On Nov. 15, 1910, a contract was let to W. E. Callahan Construction Company of Denver, to build levees from the river's mouth to the Turner bridge. (29) These levees were to be built on a two to one slope which would reduce the carrying capacity of the channel below what the Government Engineers had pronounced essential.

In November, 1910, the District Court of Wyandotte county appointed appraisers to appraise such property, held by private parties within the 734 foot river channel, as the Drain-

26. Document No. 94, pages 7 and 9.

27. Minutes of the Board, Book B., pg. 228.

28. Senate Doc. No. 160, 58th Cong., 2nd Session,

29. Minutes of the Board, Nov. 15, 1910.

age District might need. (30) The corporate interests immediately had the case transferred to the Federal court where Judge Pollock issued a temporary injunction restraining the Board from taking the needed lands. An appeal was taken to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals where on Feb. 21, 1911, Judge Pollock was reversed and the injunction dissolved. (31)

The Legislature of 1911 passed an act, (32) which condemned a forty foot strip of land on each side of the established harbor lines. It was supplemental to the law of 1905 and provided that when harbor lines had been established by federal authority along navigable streams running through draining districts, that the appropriation of all lands lying between such harbor lines, together with a strip of forty feet wide on the land side and contiguous to such harbor lines, was necessary for the protection of the health, life and property of the people of such district, the Governor was to issue his proclamation that the State of Kansas had taken and appropriated such land, and take and hold possession of the same in the name of the state. He might designate the board of directors of the drainage district, as agents of the state, to hold possession in the name of the state. The Attorney General was directed to commence an action in the district court of the county where such drainage district was located to determine what corporations or individuals were the owners of the land taken and to secure adequate compensation to such owners. The drainage district was made liable for any judgments rendered.

On February 1st, Governor Stubbs issues his proclamation and two days later Attorney General Dawson filed his action in the district court of Wyandotte county. (33) Satisfactory settlement have been made from time to time with practically all the claimants but the suit is still on the docket, after more than twenty years, the Santa Fe claiming a million dollars for some river bank taken from them in Argentine.

The Callahan Construction Company did the work for which it had contracted during the years 1911, 1912 and 1913, making its final settlement with the Board on November 23, 1913. (24) The Fowler Packing Company occupied a lot of land inside the 734 foot harbor limits on which it had erected

30. Case No. 23549.

31. Kaw Valley Drainage District vs. Metropolitan Water Co., 186 Federal 315.

32. Chapter 172, Laws 1911, pg. 293.

33. State vs. Metropolitan Water Co., No. 23754.

34. Minutes of the Board, Nov. 23, 1913.

buildings. It refused to remove its buildings and ordered the contractor away serving notice that he would be held personally liable for any damage to the property. The contractor appealed to the drainage board and called upon it to clear the right of way so he could go ahead with his contract. On May 4, 1911, the Board spread on its minutes this resolution:

"That the Board proceed immediately to clear the right of way for levee on the right bank of the river through the former holdings of the Fowler Packing Company of all obstructions."

W. H. Daniels, the President of the Board, saw to it that the orders of the board were carried out. Some of the buildings were dynamited and some were pulled down with the tractors but the right of way was cleared and the levees were built on the 734 foot harbor lines. The Fowler Company sued for the value of its buildings and eventually obtained a judgment. The people of the Drainage District had suffered for more than five years at the hands of the corporate interests and the drastic measures employed not only met with their approval but made "Billy Daniels" the darling of the district. A few months later when he passed on the Board spread this tribute upon its minutes:

"We unhesitatingly accord to him most of all, the credit for what has been done. The contest, lasting as it did for years, has been almost without parallel. The crisis called for the man and the man was forthcoming. He fought against heavy odds. Again and again the cause seemed utterly hopeless, but this intrepid soul never faltered, his faith has never weakened, and his efforts never ceased. The people of the great interstate metropolis at the Kaw's mouth will never realize the magnitude of the calamity they have escaped by the heroic opposition made by this one man, standing as he did at all times against the narrowing of the river channel." (36)

Mr. P. J. Broll, veteran grocer of Armourdale, was elected to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors caused by the death of W. H. Daniels.

The flood of 1903 swept out 16 of the 17 bridges in the territory of the drainage district. The Government Engineers in their 1904 report not only said there should be a 734 foot

35. Minutes of the Board, page 57.

36. Minutes of the Board, Oct. 4, 1912.

river channel but also said that bridges should be built with but two piers in the river channel. (37)

All the time the drainage district was fighting for a 734 foot channel, it was also fighting for two pier bridges. Its first battle was with the Union Pacific. The United States District Attorney brought an action in the federal court against that road alleging that its bridge was an obstruction to navigation. The court found that the Kaw river was a navigable stream, and that the bridge was an unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the river, and ordered the road to remove or repair its bridge. (36)

The road went before the Secretary of War with plans for a three pier bridge and these were approved Jan. 7, 1909. The federal court then modified its decree authorizing the road to repair its bridge in accordance with these plans. The county bridges and most of the bridges built by the roads were brought to conform to the two pier plan. The Kansas City Southern and the Kansas City Terminal would not conform to the two pier plan. The drainage district went into the Supreme Court of Kansas and that court on May 11, 1912, granted an order requiring these roads to rebuild their bridges and remove their obstructions from the bed of the river. (39)

An appeal was taken from this order to the supreme court of the United States.

The Legislature of 1913 amended the drainage law providing for a board of three instead of five directors. (40) As the time for the 1914 election of directors approached the two pier plan was stressed. T. E. Meyers, P. J. Broll and J. W. Silvers, who had campaigned on a two pier platform were elected. (41)

A month after this election, April 6, 1914, the Supreme Court of the United States reversed the Kansas Supreme Court in the Southern bridge case. All the Supreme Court could see was an interference with interstate commerce and this could not be allowed just to help out a drainage district. (42) This was a legal victory for the railroad but in the end it failed to profit by it. The roads needed other things in the district besides bridges and the district refused to consider anything that did not carry with it provisions for two pier bridges. On June

37. Senate Doc. No. 160, 58 Congress. 2nd Session.

38. Case 8296. Oct. 10, 1907.

39. 87 Kansas 272.

40. Laws, 1913, chapter 184, pg. 276.

41. Circular of Feb. 24, 1914.

42. 233 U. S. 75.

25, 1915, the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce brought the officials of the Kansas City Southern and the officials of the Drainage Board together for a conference. The railroad offered to raise its bridge six feet and five inches. It claimed that it would cost \$135,000 to change from its three pier to a two pier bridge and wanted to keep its three pier plan. The Drainage Board said two piers or nothing. The officials of the Chamber of Commerce appealed to the road to accept the plans of the Drainage Board. (43)

Then came the flood of 1915. The dikes held but it looked for a time as if the water would go over them. At one end of the Southern bridge was a long row of piling and the water and debris it carried piled up against these piers. The railroad of its own volition went in and pulled up the piling rather than have the drainage district do it, so as to make a way for the water to escape. This settled the bridge controversy. When the Southern rebuilt its bridge it made the plans conform to the requirements of the Drainage District.

Another persistent rebel against the two pier plan was the Missouri Pacific. After the 1903 flood, and before the organization of the Drainage Board the Kansas City Northwestern had, without approval of the War Department, built a bridge just above the mouth of the river. Later, by purchase, the bridge became the property of the Missouri Pacific. It was found by the Drainage District to be a dangerous and wrongful obstruction and its removal was ordered. The railroad ignored this order and on May 3, 1913, the Drainage District commenced an action in the Supreme Court of Kansas to compel the removal of the bridge. Much testimony was taken and voluminous briefs were printed in the case. For more than three years "the laws delays" kept the case before the court. Finally on Dec. 9, 1916, the court held that the bridge was a constant menace to life and property and that it was unlawful and a public nuisance. It refused to enter a final judgment and directed the parties to get together and agree upon plans for the reconstruction of the bridge so "that its capacity for mischief in times of flood shall no longer threaten the public welfare." (44) On June 15, 1917 the court ordered the bridge company to prepare plans for the reconstruction of the bridge. The plans were prepared but the Drainage Board found them unsatisfactory and refused to approve them. The supreme court

43. Kansas Citizen, June 29, 1915.

44. Kaw Valley Drainage District vs. Missouri Pacific. 99 Kansas 188.

on being appealed to held that the refusal of the Drainage Board "was arbitrary and unreasonable and should be held for naught." (45) The plans were then presented to the War Department where the Drainage Board made an unsuccessful effort to prevent their approval. (46) The World War held up the rebuilding. On Jan. 16, 1922 the Drainage Board again went before the War Department asking that the approval of the bridge plans be revoked but this plea was denied. (47) The Drainage Board then asked the supreme court for the total demolition of the bridge which was denied. (48)

The bridge has since been raised and lengthened 134 feet but it still stands on its original four piers. How great, "its capacity for mischief in times of flood," may be, will only be determined when the next big flood comes down the river.

THE TWELFTH STREET BRIDGE

In its efforts to clear the river of bridge obstructions the drainage board condemned the north approach to the 12th street bridge and ordered the county commissioners to have it removed. (49) The county commissioners contended that a new approach would be a waste of money as the whole structure was in need of rebuilding. The drainage board thereupon rescinded its order and made a new order condemning the whole structure and ordering that it be rebuilt. (50) The Kansas City Street Railways, then in the hands of federal court receivers, which claimed an interest in the bridge, came into the federal court and asked for an order to prevent destruction of the bridge. (51) After a good deal of legal sparring the parties, who by this time included the Railways company, the county, the city of Kansas City and the drainage district, entered into a stipulation that the court should appoint a commission of engineers and business men to investigate and report. This commission reported a plan for the remodeling of the bridge in harmony with the plans of the drainage board, to be paid for by the county, on which the law had cast the burden of making such improvements. A consent decree was entered commanding the county to proceed with the reconstruction of the bridge according to the plans and specifications prepared by the

45. Kaw Valley Drainage District vs. Missouri Pacific. 111 Kansas 184,

46. Ibid.

47. Ibid.

48. Ibid.

49. Board Minutes, August 11, 1919.

50. Ibid., Jan. 9, 1920.

51. Kansas City Railways vs. Board County Commissioners, No. 339 N.

commission. (52) The county commissioners did not proceed with the work of rebuilding the bridge. Several suits were brought in the district court and the supreme court of Kansas, which obstructed and held up the work of the rebuilding of the bridge. (53)

The drainage district and the city of Kansas City finally went into the Federal court and asked to have the county commissioners, the county attorney and C. W. Trickett, who had been active in the litigation, cited for contempt of court. The order was made, a Master appointed, who took much testimony, and upon the approval of whose report the parties were all adjudged guilty of contempt of court. The three county commissioners, Samuel Clark, David Buckland and Peter Kramer, were fined \$1,000 each. The county attorney, Justus N. Baird, was fined \$2,000 and C. W. Trickett was fined \$5,000. The commissioners paid their fines and built the bridge. Messrs. Trickett and Baird appealed to the Circuit Court of Appeals where the findings against them were affirmed (54). They then attempted to get the case before the Supreme Court of the United States for a hearing but failed in their efforts. (55)

OBSTRUCTIONS STILL IN THE RIVER

Among the bridges that went down in the 1903 flood was one belonging to the Kansas City Southern Railway built in 1892 and another one belonging to Wyandotte county, built in 1879. These bridges were only about 150 feet apart and in their fall they became so intermingled that the identity of each bridge could not be determined. For years the drainage district tried in vain to get these obstructions removed from the river. After more than ten years of futile effort the drainage district brought a joint action against the railroad and the county to compel the removal of the wreckage. In its plea the district stated that the bridges washed out were too short and too low; that they were built without authority of either the state or the United States; and that the wreckage was buried in the silt and the sand and so intermingled that the identity of each bridge could not be ascertained; that it was impractical to remove the wreckage of the one and not the other; and that the failure to

52. Brief of City of Kansas City in Trickett vs. Kaw Valley in U. S. Supreme Court.

53. State vs. Board of County Commissioners, No. 21146-A, District court, Wyandotte county and Ibid. No. 26045, Supreme Court of Kansas.

54. Trickett vs. Kaw Valley Drainage District 25 Federal (2) 851.

55. Trickett vs. Kaw Valley No. 316.

bring an action before was due to the promises and actions of the defendants. (56)

Judge Hutchings refused to grant the district the mandamus asked for and an appeal was taken to the supreme court. That tribunal affirmed the decision of Judge Hutchings and held that the flood was an act of God; and that an order of the drainage board requiring the removal of wreckage, which for twenty years had been buried in the sand and silt to the depth of from two to fifteen feet, and where it could not be ascertained which party owned the wreckage, until excavations were made and the wreckage brought to the surface, was unreasonable and could not be enforced. (57)

At the same time the drainage district brought a similar action against the Rock Island to compel the removal of the wreckage of its bridge and this action met with a similar fate as its predecessor. (58)

In the early Government reports fixing a basis of a 734 foot river with 35 foot embankments, which has been the basis towards which the district has worked, it was stressed that the river must be cleared of obstructions so that the river could scour in times of high water. This has never been done. The bridge wreckage, and other obstructions, still lie in the river bed covered with silt and sand. How much this reduces the efficiency of the dikes will only be determined when the next flood comes. Some engineers say it lessens the efficiency at least 25 per cent.

THE SAND PLANT

The legislature of 1917 (57) conferred additional powers upon drainage districts. Among other things it gave authority to drainage districts to take from any navigable river within the corporate limits sand, gravel, rock or other materials, and sell the same and use the proceeds in the construction of levees or river walls, or for dredging, or for other improvements. As there was only one drainage district in Kansas with a navigable river within its corporate limits this was in fact a special bill for Wyandotte county.

When the time came for the 1926 election for directors of the

56. Allegations in case 19707-A, District Court, Wyandotte county.

57. Kaw Valley Drainage District vs. Kansas City Southern, et al. 117 Kansas 369.

58. Kaw Valley Drainage District vs. Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific. 117 Kansas 575.

59. Laws, 1917, Chap. 173, pg. 220.

drainage district three candidates united on a platform in which they said—"We favor the use of the dredge for the production of sand for sale." These three candidates were elected by an overwhelming majority.

On November 30th following this election the board, by a resolution, declared it necessary to acquire land for a sand plant. (60) In accordance with this resolution it did purchase land, equip a plant and begin the manufacture and sale of sand. (61) The sand companies, operating along the Kansas river, then induced the county attorney of Wyandotte county to start an action in the supreme court to test the right of the district to operate a sand plant. The district answered that in accordance with the authority given it by the legislature it was using its hydraulic dredge in the operation of a sand plant; that it had purchased machinery and appliances necessary at a cost of approximately \$36,683.96; that it had sold sand to the approximate amount of \$2,319.04 and that it still had approximately \$10,000 worth of sand ready for sale. (62)

The supreme court held that it was not the purpose of the Kansas constitution for the state, or any of its subdivisions, to enter into a purely commercial enterprise, and that while the district had authority to take sand out of the river it had no authority to wash it, clean it, grade it or sell it.

In answer to the objection that sand when removed from the river was in no condition to be sold, the court answered, that—"It is much better that the statute be construed as to have no useful purpose than to construe it so as to create a power directly opposed to our definite state policy."

Later the dredge was sold and moved out of the river.

THE UNSETTLED SANTA FE LAWSUIT

The Santa Fe Railroad Company claims to be the owner of a narrow strip of land on the south bank of the Kansas river from the Fifth street bridge to the Argentine bridge at Nineteenth street. As early as 1912 the Santa Fe was given an easement to occupy the crown of the levee, with its tracks, from Fifth street into the Kansas City Stock Yards. As a part of this same agreement it was provided that no levees should be built on the south side of the river between the Fifth street bridge and the Argentine bridge. Just what consideration, if any, the drainage district received for this is hard to determine.

60. Board Minutes, pg. 2697.

61. State, ex rel vs. E. L. Mason et al, 126 Kansas 45.

62. Ibid., pgs. 43, 45.

For years the residents of the drainage district on the south side of the river agitated for full flood protection by having levees built along the river bank from Fifth to Nineteenth streets.

On Jan. 10, 1923, two members of the drainage board made a new contract with the Santa Fe. The outstanding feature of this agreement was that the drainage board would secure from the Secretary of War a modification of the harbor lines on the south side of the river. On September 4, 1925, this modification of harbor lines was made by the Government. It consisted principally in pushing the harbor lines further to the north thus leaving a strip of land fourteen blocks long between the harbor lines and the Santa Fe holdings. On September 30th, the board by a vote of two to one, modified the harbor lines of the district to conform to the new government survey. (63)

On Dec. 19, 1925, the board, by a two to one vote, made a new contract with the Santa Fe. This contract provided that, for a few minor considerations, the district would raise its levees to the maximum height along the new harbor lines and give the Santa Fe the perpetual right to occupy the forty foot crown on the top of the levees with its tracks. (64)

Five hundred and twenty-five tax payers of the district joined the minority member of the board in an action to have this contract set aside. It was alleged that the board had no authority to make a contract for improvements without following the statutory provisions for surveys, estimates, etc.; that there was no money provided for such improvements and consequently they could not be made without a vote of the taxpayers which had not been had. Other allegations were of fraud and that the Santa Fe had been given a million dollars without any adequate considerations. (65)

In March following another election for members of the drainage board was held. The Santa Fe contract was the big issue and on this issue the two members of the board, who had made the contract, met with an overwhelming defeat. Immediately upon its organization the new board of directors rescinded the resolutions of the previous September modifying the harbor lines. It also cancelled the contract of December 19th made with the Santa Fe.

63. Board Minutes, Sept. 30, 1925.

64. *Ibid.*, Dec. 19, 1925.

65. Case 27298-A, District Court, Wyandotte county.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-SIX

PLACE:—Maple Hill Cemetery.

TIME:—The Year 1910.

EVENT:—The Soldiers and Sailors Monument.

Kansas was the youngest state in the Union when Fort Sumter was fired upon, but she gave to the Union 20,097 volunteer soldiers (1), the greatest proportion of any state in the Union according to population. Of this number 960, or almost a full regiment, came from Wyandotte county. The records in the Adjutant General's office in Topeka, give Wyandotte county credit for volunteers in Kansas regiments as follows:

First Infantry	67	
Second Infantry	22	
Fifth Cavalry	21	
Sixth Cavalry	64	
Tenth Cavalry	23	
Twelfth Cavalry	88	
Fifteenth Cavalry	73	
Sixteenth Cavalry	119	
Total white volunteers, including a few Indians	477	
First Colored Regiment	206	
Second Colored Regiment	162	
Independent Colored Kansas Battery	35	
Eighteenth U. S. Colored Infantry	80	
Total Colored Soldiers	483	

960

The sixties and seventies saw the tide of soldier boy immigration turned to Kansas. Many settled in Wyandotte county where they became a dominant factor in community affairs. The Grand Army and its auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, had flourishing Posts and Corps in Old Wyandotte, Argentine and Rosedale. The Woman's Relief Corps raised a fund and erected a monument in Oak Grove Cemetery over the grave of Mary Sturges, the Army Nurse, but it was not until 1910 that any move was made looking to the erecting of a monument in memory of the "Boys in Blue."

In January, 1910, Edward Steele, owner of the Maple Hill Cemetery lying between Argentine and the traditional site of

the Prophets Town, offered a circular plot of ground, sixty feet in diameter, in that cemetery, to the Captain Kingscott Post of the G. A. R. in Argentine, and to its auxiliary, the W. R. C. to be used as a site for a soldiers and sailors monument. The offer was accepted by the Captain Kingscott Corps of the Woman's Relief Corps. (2)

Mrs. Nellie Elmore, President of the Relief Corps, appointed a committee of fifteen to solicit the necessary fund for building the monument. The Relief Corps, the Grand Army and the citizens of Argentine were represented on the committee. Those appointed on the committee were: Woman's Relief Corps, Mrs. Sadie Freeburg, Mrs. Ella Corman, Mrs. Linnie Trail, Miss Ella Kingscott and Mrs. Kate Kilmer; Grand Army of the Republic, J. F. Trowbridge, J. H. Cashmer, W. S. Trail, Stanton and Lyons; Citizens, Edward Steele, G. W. Simmons, Walker Gates, L. W. Trent and C. W. Green (3).

Active solicitation of funds was carried on during the spring and summer of 1910. Red, white and blue buttons were worn by the subscribers and the Argentine Republic heralded, from week to week, the names of the subscribers as the fund grew. (4). On "Flag Day," June 19, 1910, the corner stone of the monument was laid. The exercises as described by the Republic were as follows:

"Rev. T. W. Snyder opened the services with prayer; then Comrade H. G. Herrick, in a short talk, introduced Colonel J. H. Waters, the speaker of the afternoon. He gave a splendid address, just right to cause the blood of the old soldiers to tingle. He is past 82 years of age, but looked and acted younger than men twenty five years his junior. At the conclusion of his talk, Edward Steele in a few well chosen remarks presented the deed to the lot to the president of the Woman's Relief Corps, and she briefly responded on behalf of the organization. Features on the program were the excellent drilling and singing of a company of little girls in white under the leadership of Mrs. Elmore, and the splendid recitation of "Barbara Freitchie" by Mrs. Linnie Trail. Rev. H. T. Davis then made a short address, after which the actual laying of the corner stone took

2. Argentine Republic, Jan. 20, 1910.

3. Ibid., Feb. 3, 1910.

4. Ibid., May 19, 1910.

place. All the names of those who have donated to the fund up to that time were deposited in the stone (\$1,304.75). The exercises were closed with the benediction by Rev. H. T. Davis, and then commenced handshaking by old soldiers and friends that reminded one of an old-time reunion."



THE MAPLE HILL MONUMENT

Erected under the direction of the Captain Kingscott Corps of the Woman's Relief Corps.

The contract for the monument was let to B. F. Roney, the monument to be in place by December 1st, 1910. (5). It was completed and placed before that time. It is built of the best Barry Vermont granite and stands ten feet high, surmounted by a soldier, 6 feet 6 inches tall, standing at parade, and facing west toward the main entrance to the cemetery.

5. Ibid., July 7, 1910.

The monument proper cost \$1,500, and an additional \$200.00 was expended in placing a curbing around the lot. The monument bears this inscription:

ERECTED
BY
CAPTAIN KINGSCOTT
W. R. C. No. 177
IN MEMORY
OF
THE SOLDIERS
AND SAILORS
WHO FOUGHT
IN DEFENSE OF
THE UNION
1861 — 1865

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-SEVEN

PLACE:—Campus of Western University.

TIME:— June 9, 1911.

EVENT:—Unveiling of the Statute of John Brown.

Old Quindaro is rich in tradition. It was the free state gateway into Kansas. It was settled by those who came to help make Kansas a free state. Naturally, marvelous stories would grow of the aid given to escaping slaves, and its tunnels, dug to carry away the surplus water from the hills, would stretch in imagination, under the Missouri river, and form an important link in the underground railway. It is not strange that the name of John Brown should be linked with traditional Quindaro though there is no evidence that he was ever in the town or connected in any way with its development.

Many substantial buildings were built in old Quindaro. When the town dwindled away, many of these buildings were left unoccupied by their white owners and were filled with colored refugees from across the Missouri border. Here, too, came Rev. Eben Blachly, a Presbyterian minister, and established a school for the children of these Missouri refugees. From whence he came cannot now be determined. The inscription on his monument, in Old Quindaro cemetery, discloses that he was born April 28, 1800, and died July 21, 1877. The traditional history of the First Presbyterian church of Kansas City, Kansas, taken from the minute book of the church trustees, is that the church was organized by the Rev. Eben Blachly of Quindaro and that he continued to minister to the little flock until about 1861.

On August 5, 1858, the Western Argus, published at Wyandotte, began the publication of a column entitled "Religious Services." One item in it reads: "Presbyterian, O. S. Sabbath day at 11 o'clock A. M., at Leavitt's building, corner of Kansas avenue and Third street. Rev. Eben Blachly." These fleeting references show that Rev. Blachly was an early day pioneer of Wyandotte county.

Just when the Blachly school, at Quindaro, was opened cannot be determined. Tradition says he was supported by the Presbyterian Board of Missions, but no evidence of this has been found. His school was in operation as early as 1862 and one of his pupils of that day Mrs. Mollie Lewis, is still living on the town site of old Quindaro. In an interview, she said: (1)

"My folks came to Quindaro in 1862. I was a child ten years old I went to school to Reverend Blachly.

The building where he held his school was under the hill pretty well down to the boat landing. It was on what is now 27th street, pretty close to the old ruins now there. The colored children from all around the country came to his school. He used to tell us what a wonderful school this would be for the colored people. He was a teacher, a preacher and a doctor, and we all loved him. He lived in the big square, now called the Vaughn house, just east of Western University. I remember well when he died there."

In time, the Blachly school came to be known as Freedman's University, but when it took that name is not known. The first mention of this institution that we have been able to find, occurs in the Leavenworth Daily Conservative of February 18th, 1867, as follows:

"This institution is located at Quindaro, and has been thus far very liberally encouraged by private subscription. It is under the immediate charge of Dr. Blatchley, of the Presbyterian Board of Missions. Colonel Veale, state Senator from Shawnee county, gave to the University property that cost him \$7,000, consisting of a fine stone building. Governor Charles Robinson gave his interest in the townsite. A number of other gentlemen have given property that cost them \$10,000. The institution now has 700 acres of land, much of it very valuable in consequence of its timber. They also have several houses and a great many lots. There are two church edifices on the town site, all of which is owned by the University, Methodist and Presbyterian. Congress has been memorialized for lands to aid this institution and certainly it is no more than just that a liberal grant should be made." (2).

Six days after this publication, the Legislature passed an act relinquishing to the Freedman's University of Wyandotte county all interest it had in taxes on lots on the townsite of Quindaro and authorizing Wyandotte county and Quindaro town-

1. April 5, 1934.

2. Col. Veale was George W. Veale of the firm of Johnson & Veale, early day merchants of Quindaro. He was the first sheriff of Wyandotte county. He raised the company, which he took into the war, at old Quindaro. After the war he moved to Topeka.



JOHN BROWN MEMORIAL.

Unveiled upon the campus of Western University June 1, 1911. The photograph of Brown from which the figure was made was taken from a portrait of him which hangs in the State Memorial Building, Topeka, Kansas.

ship to make a like relinquishment. (3).

The Legislature of 1872 provided \$2,500 for the support of

3. Laws, 1867, Chapter 66, pg. 105. Feb. 23, 1867.

a normal school at Quindaro, to be known as the colored Normal School of Quindaro:—"Provided, that the Board of Trustees of the Freedman's University of Quindaro, shall furnish suitable rooms and apparatus for the successful workings of said normal school free of charge." The State superintendent was to appoint six directors who were to make all the regulations necessary for the successful working of the school. Each representative and senatorial district was entitled to send one pupil to the school, who, in addition to having the approval of his representative or senator, must be of good moral character and sign a declaration of his intention to follow the profession of teaching. All teachers were subject to the approval of the state superintendent who was required to visit the school at least once a year and report annually to the Legislature." (4)

The Legislature of 1872 re-appropriated \$1,100 to pay debts that had been contracted up to March 3rd, 1873, and with this appropriation the aid of the state ceased. (5) The Roster of Kansas shows appointments to this school as follows: "Normal School Colored Quindaro Principals—Charles Langston, 1872; Eben Blachley, 1872; Esq. Sherman, 1872; Mrs. J. F. Blachley, 1873." (6)

Rev Blachley died in 1877 (7) and was buried in Old Quindaro cemetery. After his death the school went down. A short time before his death, he deeded, to the Freedman's University 79.03 acres of land he had acquired on the townsite of Old Quindaro. (8) Four years went by and then in 1881 four men sat on the porch of the late Corvinne Patterson, in Kansas City, Kansas and worked out the plans for rebuilding the school. These men were Corvinne Patterson, Dr. James H. Hubbard, Dr. Ben F. Watson and Dr. J. C. Embry, afterwards a Bishop of the A. M. E. Church. Bishop Embry was the father of Miss Emily Embry, now Mrs. W. T. Vernon, wife of Bishop W. T. Vernon who now has charge of the institution. Under the leadership of Bishop T. M. D. Ward, the Atchison Conference of the A. M. E. Church voted to get behind a project for reviving the school. A corporation to be known as "Western University" was organized. No doubt a charter was secured though the records in the office of the Secretary of State do not disclose that fact. The Kawsmouth Pilot, an ambitious lit-

4. Laws, 1872, Chapter 62, pg. 99.

5. Laws, 1873, Chapter 20, pg. 52.

6. Kansas Historical Collections XVI, pg. 694.

7. July 21, 1877.

8. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte County, Book I, pg. 552.

the daily, in its first issue, March 7, 1881, carries this news item:

"The Freedman's University has been turned over to the A. M. E. Church. The officers of the new board are: J. C. Embry, president; Rev. John Turner, treasurer; A. H. Walton, secretary; Rev. J. H. Hubbard, corresponding secretary. The following committee were appointed by the new board to receive the property: Rev. John Turner, J. C. Embry and John Brown. They will open school at an early date."

The land deeded by Reverend Blachly to the Freedman's University had been sold for the 1879 taxes. The trustees of the new corporation repurchased it from the purchaser at the tax sale. Quit claim deeds were secured from the heirs of the Old Quindaro Town Company, covering this and other lands in Old Quindaro, but it was not until 1889 that the trustees of the Freedman's University gave their deed to the property. (9). A school was opened in 1882 but it made but little progress.

In 1896, Reverend W. T. Vernon, an energetic young teacher, came to the school and under his management the school made some progress. Rev. Vernon was afterwards Register of the United States Treasury and Bishop of the A. M. E. Church. In the political campaign of 1898 Rev. Vernon rendered valiant service on the stump to Governor W. E. Stanley, and when the victory was won it was decided that something must be done for Vernon's school. Out of this came the establishment of a State Industrial Department at Western University. Fifteen acres of land was deeded to the state on which buildings were to be erected for the operation of a state school. The Legislature of 1899 appropriated \$5,000 for a building and an equal amount for maintenance for the two year period. (10) The corner stone of the building was laid by the Colored Masonic Grand Lodge in September, 1899, with Governor Stanley as the guest of honor and the principal speaker. Every subsequent Legislature has continued the appropriations for maintenance of this department and the institution has grown until now there are eight buildings comprising the state plant. Hundreds of students, coming from nearly every state in the union, have been trained in this institution since creation of the State Industrial Department. Aside from receiving a liberal education, they have been trained in the following courses: Auto-

9. *Ibid.*, Book 148, pg. 306.

10. *Laws, 1899, Chapter 12, pg. 24.*

mechanics; woodwork and carpentry; stenography; laundering; tailoring; music and theory; sewing and cooking. Some of them have become great leaders among their people and have become useful citizens in the various communities in which they have lived.

With such background it was indeed fitting that if a monument to John Brown were to be erected anywhere, it should be on the townsite of Old Quindaro, and under the shadow of this fine school which Rev. Eben Blachly visioned even before the day of emancipation. The credit for starting and carrying to successful conclusion the movement to erect a monument to John Brown, on this historic ground, belongs to Bishop Abram Grant of the African Methodist Episcopal church. The fund was contributed exclusively by Negroes in sums of from fifty cents to ten dollars.

The statue, fourteen feet high, was sculptured in Italy at a cost of two thousand dollars. It was unveiled with much ceremony on June 8th, 1911, as a part of the commencement exercises of Western University. A newspaper account of the ceremonies said: (11)

"Old John Brown's soul went marching on with the real Kansas spirit yesterday afternoon at Western University for Negroes at Quindaro, Kansas. Three thousand Negroes and three hundred white personages from Kansas and the United States forgot the hot weather and crowded into a great tent on the campus to witness the unveiling of the first statue ever erected to the man of Harper's Ferry."

"John P. St. John, former Governor of Kansas, whose fighting spirit led him to feed hungry Negro lads in his home in Illinois during the troublesome times of '61, when such an act meant a grand jury indictment, and who again won a fight for prohibition in Kansas in spite of bitter opposition, spoke of the "Spirit of John Brown." Dr. Joshua H. Jones, former president of Wilberforce University for Negroes in Ohio, and later Bishop of the A. M. E. Church, gave an eloquent eulogy of Brown. Negro bishops, high in the councils of the church and in the estimation of their people, told in the eloquent style peculiar to their race of the wonderful man Brown was."

11. Kansas City Journal, June 9, 1911.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-EIGHT

PLACE:—Greystone Heights.

TIME:— The Year 1918.

EVENT:—Completion of the Turkey Creek Tunnel.

In 1823, Joseph C. Brown began the survey of the boundary between the state of Missouri and the Indian country to the west, which afterwards became known as Kansas. His survey started from a "meridian line passing through the middle of the mouth of the Kansas river where the same empties into the Missouri river." (1)

A copy of surveyor Brown's field notes is on file in the office of the county surveyor of Wyandotte county. They show that in his second mile of the survey he came to a creek, 100 links wide, which bore to the northeast. A little further south he crossed the same creek again, the direction of the creek this time being to the northwest. Surveyor Brown gave no name to this creek but somewhere it picked up the name of Turkey Creek. This creek had its origin in Johnson county, Kansas, and drained a watershed about twenty miles west of the state line. It crossed, into what is now Kansas City, Mo., at about Thirtieth street. It followed a tortuous course through the west bottoms, and again crossed the state line into Kansas at about Nineteenth street. Here it almost united with the Kansas river and then veered off to the northeast, crossing back into Missouri, and flowing down through the west bottoms, where it emptied into the Missouri river about a mile down stream from its juncture with the Kansas river.

John C. McCoy, in his graphic description of the 1844 flood, of which he was an eye witness, says (2) that the Kansas river cut into Turkey Creek at the narrow strip (19th Street) causing Turkey Creek to flow into the Kaw at that point.

That lower Turkey Creek was still a stream of considerable importance long after the big flood is evidenced by a couple of entries in the diary of Governor Walker. Under the date of March 10, 1849, he wrote: "Cloudy, warm and foggy. Prospect of more rain. Went to town and staid all day. The Kansas river is still rising. The Turkey Creek bridge gone". On Saturday, August 30th, 1850, he wrote: "Clear and warm. Went to Kansas (meaning K. C. Mo.) and on my way found

1. Land laws of the U. S., Vol. I, pg. 418.

2. Quoted from the Kansas City Journal in Case History of Kansas City.

the ferry boat at Turkey Creek sunk. After hard labor (and I bearing the principal part) we succeeded in getting her afloat; then commenced the process of bailing her with an old tin kettle with as many holes as it had years, and their name was legion."

In 1856, Surveyor General Calhoun, made a survey of the lands in Wyandotte county. Copies of this map are on file in the office of the Register of Deeds of Wyandotte county. These maps show that Turkey Creek and the Kansas river had united just above the second mile line south of the mouth of the Kansas river and that after apparently running along side and side for a short distance, they had again separated, Turkey Creek following its old channel down into the Missouri River, thus making an island out of the strip of land lying between the Kansas and the Missouri rivers.

As the years went by the place where Turkey Creek parted company with the Kansas River was filled up and the old Turkey Creek channel across the west bottoms became a slough, which, in later years was entirely filled in by the interests that settled in the district. Just when this filling in process began cannot be determined but it was far enough in the past that the memory of no one now living goes back to the time when Turkey Creek did not flow into the Kansas River just above the present Kansas avenue bridge.

When the Kaw Valley Drainage District began to build dikes along the Kaw, the Turkey Creek problem became acute. The drainage district could not close the mouth of Turkey Creek. This left Turkey Creek as a flood gate through which the waters of Kaw would be diverted into the 700 acres of land in the West Bottoms that had been under water in the 1903 flood. Kansas City, Mo., found that it could not dike Turkey Creek, as the valley had filled up with railroad tracks that could not be raised to the level of the dikes without a cost that would be prohibitive.

Finally some engineer advanced the idea that Turkey Creek could be dammed up at a point near its intersection with Valley street in Rosedale, and then diverted through a tunnel under Greystone Heights into the Kansas River near Fifth street. This would not only settle the flood question but would also reclaim much valuable property down the valley. Rosedale was willing to undertake the work if Kansas City, Mo., would pay the bill. The industries in the Turkey Creek bottom were willing to be taxed for the improvement. Kansas City, Mo., under its charter could make a benefit district to pay for better-

ments within the district but had no power to make a district that could be made to pay for work done outside the state. So Kansas City held a special election in January, 1913 and amended her charter. In an address to the voters urging the charter amendment, Major Jost of Kansas City said: (3)

Definite plans have been completed. It involves work across the state line in Kansas as well as the work in Missouri. We have, and can get no power, to tax lands in Missouri to pay for work done in the state of Kansas. It is the purpose of the charter amendment to confer upon the city the power to do the necessary work in Kansas and levy special tax bills upon the specially benefitted thereby in Missouri to pay for the work."

The charter amendment carried and on February 17, 1913, the council of Kansas City, Mo., by a vote of 9 to 4, established a benefit district to pay for the work on Turkey Creek. (4)

The first Rosedale ordinance providing for a contract with Kansas City, Mo., for the payment of the work on the Turkey Creek diversion, was passed August 4th, 1913. (5) It apparently took three years to iron out the difficulties and it was not until October 17, 1916, that Rosedale and Kansas City, Mo., got together in joint session and made the necessary contract. (6) Condemnations of land for the new channel had to be made both inside and outside the city of Rosedale. Consent had to be obtained from Wyandotte County to tunnel under public highways; from the Kaw Valley Drainage Board to cut through the levy below Fifth street; and from Kansas City, Kansas, to cut through her streets and alleys, and to permit the closing of the old Turkey Creek channel into a closed sewer that would empty into the Kaw River. All these were secured. Bids were advertised for and on January 29, 1918, after more than five years of agitation and discussion, a contract was let to the Davison Construction Co. to do the work. The contract price was \$697,115.50. (7)

On March 3, 1921, Mayor Cowgill of Kansas City, Mo., sent a congratulatory message to the Rosedale council on the completion of the work. (8) In addition to the contract price approximately one hundred thousand dollars had been spent for

3. *Kansas City Journal*, Jan. 5, 1913.

4. *Ibid.*, Feb. 18, 1913.

5. Rosedale ordinance 1020.

6. Rosedale ordinance 1416; Kansas City ordinance 14335.

7. Book K, pg. 221, Minutes Rosedale Council.

8. *Ibid.*, pg. 425.

engineers, supervisors, attorneys and other necessities, all of which was paid by Kansas City, Mo.

Turkey Creek was turned into its new bed where it peacefully reposes, no longer a menace to the West Bottoms. Millions of yards of sand have been pumped through the hills into the old Turkey Creek bed, railroad tracks have been raised and today there is no evidence on the surface to indicate that a stream of water ever ran down this valley.

The project whereby Turkey Creek was diverted under the hills was known as the "Lower Section." While the work was being done on this section Rosedale put on a project of her own known as the "Upper Section." Turkey Creek was straightened from the Valley street dam to the place where it entered the city. A benefit district was formed to carry the cost of this improvement and \$188,389.28 worth of improvement bonds were issued to pay the cost. (9)

In round numbers it cost the taxpayers of the two cities of Kansas City, Mo. and Rosedale, a million dollars to put Turkey Creek to sleep.

9. Report City Auditor.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER THIRTY-NINE

PLACE:—Seventh and Barnett, Kansas City, Kansas.

TIME:— May 14, 1923.

EVENT:—The Soldier's and Sailor's Memorial.

When the call came for men in the World's War there were approximately 6,482 of the boys from Wyandotte who answered the call. They were enlisted in the several branches of the service as follows: Army 5,210, Navy 1,156, Marine Corps 116. (1) Decorations for gallantry in action in that war were given by the Government at the rate of about one for each one thousand men in the service. On this basis Wyandottes quota of decorations would have been about seven. There were fourteen of her boys who were given the decoration. They were:

John L. Coakley, Captain Battery B. 17 F. A. 2nd Division.

Frank J. Fisher, 2nd Lieut., Co. B. 355 Infantry. Posthumous award.

Darl S. James, Captain 110 Engineers, 35th Division.

Paul Jeffords, Corp. Co. A. 137 Inf., 35th Div.

Clarence D. Kramps, Battery C. 10 F. A., 3rd Div.

Willis C. Miller, Cook Co. B., 110 Eng. 35th Div.

Ralph Moyer, Co. F. 103 Inf. 26th Div.

Leonard Peterson, 140 Amb. Co. 110 Sanitary Train, 35th Division.

Lloyd Richmond, 139 Amb. Co. 110 Sanitary Train, 35th Div.

Arthur H. Quick, Corp. Headquarters Co. 6 F. A., 1st Div.

Charles DeWayne Roberts, 1st Lieut., 6th Reg. Marine Corps, 2nd Div.

Frank Stillwell, Sergeant Battery A. 6th F. A. 1st Div.

Henry M. Williams, 76 F. A. 3rd Division.

Ray Winters, Sergeant Co. B. 110 Eng. 35th Division.

L. R. Leslie, 21st and Steele, Kansas City, Kas., a member of the 16th Ambulance company, received the French decoration of the Croix de Guerre and Palm, for gallantry in action in the Champaign sector September 4, 1918. Doubtless there are others, who enlisted from Wyandotte, who received decorations of some character during the war but no compilation has been made.

The Legislature of 1921 provided that municipalities might erect memorials to commemorate the valorious achievements of the men and women who had enlisted in the military, naval and Red Cross service of the United States in the various wars. Such memorial might consist of a building, monument, arch or other structure, or improved highway, park or boulevard. Upon petition of 25 per cent of the legal voters an election

should be called to determine whether the people wanted to make such an expenditure. (2)

The World's War Veterans, under the leadership of Harry Darby, moved promptly and soon had their petition before the city commissioners asking for an election to vote one-half million dollars in bonds for the purchase of a site and the construction of a memorial building. The election was ordered for July 12, 1921. (3) At this election there were 2,162 votes cast for and 1,391 against the proposition. (4)

The block fronting Seventh street on the west and reaching from Barnett to Taumoe was selected as the site for the memorial and the necessary land was taken by condemnation. The cost of the site was \$96,046.01. (5)

On Sunday, May 14, 1923, ground was broken for the memorial with the most elaborate ceremonies. Wyandotte Post of the American Legion, under command of Commander Charles H. Bowman, was in charge. Governor Jonathan M. Davis, and Commander in Chief Ousley, of the American Legion, were the principal guests. The parade from the Grund hotel to the memorial site was a colorful procession. First came the colors under which marched the Legion post, drum and bugle corps and band. Following were two companies of the Kansas National Guard, under command of Major Clement Williams and Major C. P. Barshfield. Leading the motor cars which contained the guests, was a group of Canadian War Veterans in charge of Capt. V. E. S. Mattock, of the British War Veterans of Kansas City, Missouri. The booming of a 17 gun salute and the cheers of thousands greeted the marchers. The program at the site consisted of an invocation by Rev. Phillip W. Crandall, an address of welcome by Mayor W. W. Gordon, addresses by Governor Jonathan M. Davis and Commander Ousley and a closing prayer by Rabbi Simon Glazer. Commander Ousley broke the ground, with a silver spade, assisted by distinguished veterans of three wars—Captain W. H. Ward of the civil war, Wm. B. Trembley of the Spanish American war, and Frank Stillwell of the World's war—who, each in turn, had been decorated by the Government for gallantry in action. The services were brought to a close when a gun boomed and the flag was lowered in regularly military fashion. (6)

2. Laws, 1921, Chapter 256.

3. Ordinance No. 17466.

4. Commissioners Minutes.

5. City Auditor's Report, 1926, pg. 6.

6. Kansas City Star, May 15, 1924.

On July 19, 1923, the plans of Rose and Peterson for the Memorial were accepted, (7) and on August 16, 1923, the principal contract was let to the Baer Engineering Company of Leavenworth: (8)

The law, under which the memorial was built, provided for a board of three trustees who should have charge of the building. On January 3, 1923, Mayor Burton appointed Dr. J. L. Otterman, Frank Strickland and Harry Darby as the first board of trustees: (9)

The corner stone of the Memorial was laid on May 26, 1924, with appropriate Masonic services, by M. W. Elmer F. Strain, Grand Master. Among the distinguished visitors was John R. Quinn, Commander in Chief of the American Legion. (10)

There were numerous delays in the construction of the building and the memorial was not accepted by the city until June 8, 1925. (11) The total cost of the project had been \$542,476.00 of which \$96,046.01 had been expended for the site and \$446,430.00 for the building. (12)

The Memorial building is a Deric structure, 213 by 168 feet, with three stories and a basement. The entrances to the building lead into the Memorial Hall, which is 45 by 73 feet in size and supported by twelve Corinthian columns. Here are displayed many military trophies and bronze tablets carrying the names of many of the boys who made the supreme sacrifice. To the right and left of "Memorial Hall" are smaller halls which are used by the several military organizations, and their auxiliary organizations, for meeting purposes. Over "Memorial Hall" is the chapel with a seating capacity of eight hundred. Back of "Memorial Hall" is the civic auditorium, consisting of an arena floor, a balcony and a gallery, with a seating capacity of 3,532. The basement is equipped with a kitchen and other facilities. The civic auditorium is leased for public gatherings and the annual revenue from it is intended to cover the up keep of the entire building.

In the "Room of Silence," which opens off the hall room in the south, have been gathered the pictures of many of the men who made the supreme sacrifice and tablets of bronze in the "Memorial Hall" carry the names of others. From these

7. Ibid., Book 9, pg. 236.

8. Ibid.

9. Ibid.

10. Kansas City Star, May 27, 1924.

11. Commissioners Minutes, Book 11, pg. 492.

12. City Auditors Report, 1926, pg. 6.

inscriptions we learn that 114 of the sons of Wyandotte died in the service. The roll of honor is as follows:

- Frank P. Adams, Sgt. Co. A. 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 27, 1918.
 John E. Addison, Base Hospital, Leith, Scotland. Died Oct. 31, 1918.
 John W. Albaugh, Hosp. Dept. 172 Inf. Died June 14, 1918.
 Toni Aleksiehes, Co. F. 353 Inf. Died April 25, 1918 of wounds.
 Edwin M. Anderson, Co. G. 351 Inf. Jan. 29, 1919.
 Robert A. Asplund, Mechanic Co. A 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 28, 1918.
 Clarence H. Becker, Battery B. 18th Field Artillery. Died of wounds July 22, 1918.
 Arthur C. Bergquist, Mac. Gun Co. 353 Inf. Killed in action Nov. 5, 1918.
 Otto H. Binkley, Battery L. 129 F. A. Died Oct. 15, 1918.
 Ewing Boone, 2nd Lt. Co. F. 26 Inf. Killed in action July 19, 1918.
 James Bowden, Co. B. 140 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 27, 1918 in Argonne Forest.
 William A. Bray, Co. C. 26 U. S. Guards. Died Nov. 29, 1918.
 Richard T. Bronson, Battery E. 130 F. A. Died Jan. 23, 1918.
 Earl S. Brown, Co. A. 38 Bn. U. S. Guards. Died Dec. 13, 1918.
 Louis L. Brown, 20 Sig. Ave. Sec. Camp Waco. Died April 2, 1918.
 Walter O. Brueckman, 31st Co. 164 Tho Dep. Brig. Died Oct. 13, 1918.
 John W. Bumps, Wag. Co. E. 110 Eng. Died Dec. 13, 1917.
 Neil Burns, Corp. Co. K. 140 Inf. Died Apr. 13, 1918.
 Ralph Mills Chamberlain, Naval Hosp. Great Lakes. Died in service Sept. 26, 1918.
 Henry C. Christoff, Artillery Training Camp Taylor. Killed in accident Dec. 8, 1918.
 Ora R. Clark, Co. A, 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 27, 1918.
 Claude R. Clement, Co. E. 353 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 12, 1918.
 Jas. G. Constantopoulos, Co. F. 355 Inf. Died Oct. 30, 1918.
 Frank Corrison, Co. L. 353 Inf. Died Nov. 22, 1918.
 James V. Craig, Co. M. 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 28, 1918.
 John N. David, Troop K. 5th U. S. Cav. Sept. 4, 1900.
 William A. Davis, 177 Ammunition Train. Died of wounds Oct. 11, 1918.
 Ruel E. Defries, Corp. Co. A. 137 Inf. Died Oct. 17, 1918 in German Prison Camp.
 Jean L. Decret, Co. D. 308 Inf. Died Jan. 26, 1919.
 George T. Eckles, 6th Reg. 164 Dep. Brigade. Died Oct. 7, 1918.
 Eugene W. Elstun, Co. M. 28 Inf. Killed in action Mar. 30, 1918.
 Willie Finley, Co. G. Prov. Bn. Steve and Labor Org. Camp Hill, Va. Died May 20, 1918.
 Frank J. Fisher, 2nd Lt. Co. B. 355 Inf. Killed in action Nov. 5, 1918, Argonne Forest. Posthumous Award D. S. C.
 Edward A. Foulks, S. A. T. C. Univ. of Kansas. Died Oct. 31, 1918.
 Charles E. Fox, Corp. Co. L. 140 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 29, 1918.
 Fredie Gallins, Co. I. 306 Pion Inf. Died Oct. 2, 1918.
 Glenn Elwood Gambrill, Co. B. 132 Inf. Killed in action Oct. 10, 1918.
 John H. Garvey, Co. H. 253 Inf. Died Oct. 16, 1918.
 John A. Gersic, Btry C. 129 F. A. Killed in action Sept. 29, 1918.
 George Gjonovich, Co. D. 313 Eng. Died Oct. 12, 1918.
 Henry J. Goode, Co. C. 44th Inf. Died June 18, 1918.
 Leaman L. Graves, Co. D. 364 Inf. Died of wounds Sept. 27, 1918.
 Floyd Gray, Co. A. 10 M. G. Bn. Killed in action Aug. 7, 1918.
 Edward F. Green, 28 Co. 164 Dep. Brig. Co. M. 5 Prov. Engrs. Died Oct 15, 1918.
 Carl W. Haner, 1st Lt. As. Sig. Co. Died Dec. 12, 1918.
 Tillman Hardy Harpole, 1st Lt. Co. M. 372 Inf. Killed in action Vauxaillon France, Oct. 6, 1918.

- Cyrus A. Haynes, 10 Co. 6 Reg. 164 Dep. Brig. Died Oct. 6, 1918.
- Fred Henderson, 1 Prov. Co. Aug. Auto Dept. Draft. Died Sept. 23, 1918 at Camp Funston.
- Russell C. Helper, S. A. T. C. Univ of Kansas. Died Oct. 25, 1918.
- Charles M. Hoge, Naval Hosp. Great Lakes. Died Oct. 26, 1918.
- Charles B. Holloman, M. G. Co. 353 Inf. 3rd Div. Vet. Corps. Died July 19, 1919.
- Claude Isom, Co. A, 7 Sup. Train. Died Sept. 7, 1918.
- Paul Jeffords, Corp. Co. A. 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 28, 1918. near Cheppy France. Posthumous Award D. S. C.
- Lester L. Jensen, Sgt. Co. L. 3 Mo. Inf. Died Apr. 15, 1917.
- Daniel Joyce, Marine Corp. 49 Co. 5 Reg. Killed in action June 12, 1918.
- William S. Judah, Naval Hosp. Great Lakes. Died Sept. 22, 1918.
- William R. Kent, Co. D. 39th Inf. Died of wounds Sept. 28, 1918.
- Jasper Wilbur Kline, Co. L. 20th Kans. Killed in action Mar. 13, 1899. Caloocan, Luzon, P. I.
- Harold B. Kolthoff, U. S. S. Winding Gulf. Died Dec. 28, 1918.
- Robert E. LaGrone, Wagoner Co. B. 13th M. G. B. N. Killed in action Nov. 9, 1918.
- John L. Lanigan, Tng. Station, Great Lakes. Died Sept. 28, 1918.
- Fred Layton, M. G. Co. 139 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 28, 1918.
- William C. Lochrie, Co. K. 168 Inf. Killed in action July 28, 1918.
- Marcus L. London, Hq. Co. 358. Killed in action Nov. 1, 1918.
- William Lusso, on U. S. S. Jenkins. Killed by shell from U. S. S. New York in English channel Jan. 16, 1918.
- Joseph A. Mack, Co. B. 353 Inf. Killed in action Oct. 23, 1918.
- Fred Leroy Maxfield, Co. B. 20th Kan. Died in Manila P. I., June 13, 1899.
- Edward J. McConnell, Co. K. 140 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 28, 1918 near Cheppy (Meuse) France.
- Thomas E. McGrath, Jr., Tug. Station Great Lakes. Died Oct. 8, 1918.
- Arthur L. Malherbe, Co. A. 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 28, 1918.
- Lloyd H. Manley, Hq. Co. 815 Pion. Inf. Died Oct. 14, 1918.
- Moses W. Maryweather, 1st Lt. 372 Inf. Killed in action Vauxallion. France, Oct. 6, 1918.
- Starr S. Merrill, Corp. Co. E. 110 Eng. Died Dec. 23, 1918.
- Pamplio Moreno, 164 Dep. Bfig. Died Oct. 7, 1918.
- David W. Morris, 19 Co. 164 Dep. Brig. 354 Inf. Died Feb. 19, 1919.
- Gilmer H. Munkers, Co. A. 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 29, 1918.
- Randolph J. Nesblitt, Co. H. 352 Inf. Died Oct. 13, 1918 in France.
- Bert L. Newton, Corp. 388 Bakery Co. 164 Dep. Brg. Died in France July 9, 1919.
- John C. O'Conner, U. S. S. Mercus. Died July 15, 1918.
- Coryden A. Orcutt, Camp Dodge, Iowa. Died Jan. 29, 1918.
- Earl Owens, Hq. Co. 140 Inf. Died Sept. 28, 1918.
- Thomas J. Peneski, Naval Hosp. New York. Died May 30, 1918.
- Leonard Peterson, 140 Amb. Co. 110 San Train. Killed in action near Baulny, France. Posthumous Award D. S. C.
- Wilhelm Peterson, Co. D. 140 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 26, 1918.
- Emilio Quiroga, 164 Dep. Brig. Died Oct. 12, 1918.
- Edgar D. Rayburn, S. S. Allamance. Died Oct. 23, 1917.
- William J. Reekes, Insp. Machinery Office, St. Louis. Died Jan. 19, 1920.
- Carl F. Roseberry, Co. M. 140 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 30, 1918.
- Charles W. Ryan, Corp. Co. E. 30 Inf. Died Oct. 28, 1918.
- William H. Sander, Co. M. 70 Inf. Died Oct. 11, 1918.
- Rudolph Schneikart, Co. M. 353 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 21, 1918.
- Edward Seichepine, Co. B. 138 Inf. Killed in action Oct. 2, 1918.
- Walter G. Shaw, Headqrs. Co. 18 Inf. Killed in action Oct. 2, 1918.

Dennis Sheedy, 38 Evac. Amb. Co. M. O. T. C. Died Oct. 18, 1918.
 Frank L. Simmons, Co. F. 353 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 15, 1918.
 Charles H. Singleman, Co. A. 137 Inf. Died of wounds Sept. 28, 1918.
 Mearil Smith, Co. L. 103 Inf. Killed in action July 14, 1918.
 Daniel R. Spillane, D. 30 F. A. Batry. Died in service Oct. 15, 1918 at Camp Funston.
 Arthur J. Stenger, Co. K. 356 Inf. Died of wounds Sept. 15, 1918.
 Boley Switala, Cook Btry. E. 17 Inf. F. A. Died Dec. 28, 1918.
 John Lloyd Smartz, Coxswain. Died Nov. 11, 1916.
 Walter Stofer, Sgt. Div. Inf. Sec. Camp Dodge. Died Nov. 2, 1918.
 Bert K. Talbott, Co. B. 349 Inf. Died Oct. 8, 1918.
 Mack Taylor, Co. E. Pion. Inf. Died Jan. 2, 1920.
 Albert H. Terry, Co. L. 20th Kansas. Killed in action Apr. 27, 1899 Rio Grande River Luzon, P. I.
 Carl B. Trowbridge, 1st Lt. Co. C. 1st Eng. Killed in action Oct. 10, 1918.
 William G. Townsend, Naval Hosp. Great Lakes. Died Sept. 21, 1918.
 Oran Vickroy, 13th Co. C. A. C. Died Oct. 23, 1918.
 Harry Wallace, Battery C. 80th F. A. Died June 26, 1918.
 Raymond S. Washburn, Sgt. Co. A. 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 18, 1918.
 John J. Westermeyer, U. S. Solace. Died Jan. 19, 1918.
 Travis B. White, Co. G. 354 Inf. Killed in action Nov. 2, 1918.
 Wilbur Wilkerson, Co. A. 137 Inf. Killed in action Mar. 17, 1918.
 James C. Wilson, Co. A. 137 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 28, 1918.
 Joseph B. Winkelmeyer, U. S. S. Missouri. Died Sept. 30, 1918.
 Harold W. Wolf, 1st Lt. V. Co. Died Oct. 23, 1918.
 James M. Wright, Co. D. 140 Inf. Killed in action Sept. 28, 1918.
 John D. Wright, Naval Hospital, Newport R. I. Died May 13, 1917.
 Roy E. Wright, Sg. Co. G. 353 Inf. Killed in action Nov. 5, 1918.
 Robert L. Yeamans, Battery C. 82. F. A. Died Oct. 15, 1918.

The first Wyandotte boy to die in the World's war was Edgar D. Rayburn, 22 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Rayburn, 1854 North Seventh street. He lost his life October 13, 1917. (13)

Litigation has always been a favorite sport with the people of Wyandotte and "Error from Wyandotte," has been a conspicuous headline in the court reports for three-quarters of a century. It would have been strange had the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial escaped the fate of all other public projects. In August, 1922, enthusiastic delegates to the national encampment of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at Seattle, Washington, carried an invitation from the city commissioners to move their national headquarters to Kansas City. Space was promised in the new Memorial building as soon as it was completed. The validity of the offer was questioned and on January 6, 1923, the commissioners, at a special meeting, renewed the offer in a way that it was thought would avoid all legal technicalities. (14) At its meeting in Norfolk, Va., on August 27, 1923, the offer of Kansas City was accepted and the Veterans of

13. Kansas City Star, Jan. 6, 1924.

14. Ibid., Sept. 23, 1924.

Foreign Wars packed its goods, closed its New York office and came to Kansas City. The Memorial was not yet ready for occupancy and so temporary headquarters were had at 616 N. 7th. The rent was \$100.00 per month and a fund was raised to pay it, the Kansas City Clearing House contributing \$500.00. (15) As soon as space in the Memorial building was available



THE MEMORIAL BUILDING

Erected in memory of the Wyandotte boys who served their country.

the Veterans of Foreign Wars moved into it, a majority of the trustees having made them a long time lease at a nominal figure of \$1.00 per year rental.

One June 5, 1925, Harry Darby filed a petition against his fellow trustees James L. Otterman and Frank Strickland, alleging that prior to the completion of the building the city unlaw-

15. *Ibid.*

fully and wrongfully entered into a conspiracy and agreement with the V. F. W. to provide necessary rooms and accommodations for the national headquarters of the organization at the expense of the taxpayers and that the trustees were about to carry out that agreement and permit the V. F. W. the use of the necessary space in the building for 20 years at \$1.00 per year. A further allegation was that a reasonable rental would be \$25,000. (16) Judge Fischer, upon a hearing being had, held that the conduct of the defendants in furnishing light, water, fuel and janitor service to the V. F. W. without compensation, together with the occupancy of the building, amounted to taxation for private and not public purposes and was unlawful and should be enjoined. An appeal was taken to the supreme court which held that a city has no power to lease to a private corporation any part of a building erected under the provisions of the statute under which the Memorial was built. (17). This decision was handed down in February, 1927, and thereupon the Veterans of Foreign Wars moved their headquarters across the line to Kansas City, Missouri.

16. Darby vs. Otterman, No. 25690 1/2, District Court, Wyandotte Co.
17. Darby vs. Otterman, 122 Kansas 607.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER FORTY

PLACE:—Mount Marty.

TIME:— July 20, 1923.

EVENT:—Ground Broken for the Rosedale Arch.

Kansas City, Kansas, stands alone in the state of Kansas as the city having two distinct ex-service men's monuments. When the World's War broke there were several states in the Union, each with a full division of the National Guard (27,500 men), that could have been taken into the service. It was thought best, by those in authority, that in the make up of the first division of the Guards for over seas service, as many states should be represented as possible and so a plan for such a distribution was drawn. When the plan, showing allotments to 26 states, was laid before Secretary of War Baker he is said to have remarked that there were as many states represented as there were colors in the rainbow and so the division took the name of the Rainbow Division.

In the set up for the "Rainbow Division", the 117th Ammunition train fell to Kansas. Capt. Frank L. Travis of Iola was promoted to be Lieutenant Colonel and assigned the job of enlisting and organizing the Train. He decided to raise six of the 12 companies of 55 men in Wyandotte county. He opened a recruiting office and filled the want section of Tuesday's daily papers with advertisements of "Men Wanted" and on the following Saturday he assembled 375 men on top of Mount Marty in Rosedale and had them sworn into the government service. Such was the beginning of the 117th Ammunition Train of the Rainbow Division.

In France the Rainbow Division was put under the command of General Gouraud and placed in the front line at Cologne on July 14, 15, and 16, 1918. Here, on almost the identical ground, on the Chalonssur-Marne, where 1467 years before Attila the Hun met his great defeat, the advance of the modern Hun was checked and the tide of the great World's War was turned. After the war the commanding general of the Division paid the following tribute to the boys from Kansas:

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 21-K

"As the period of the service of the Rainbow Division is drawing to a close, the commanding general desires to recite in orders the salient features of the service of the 117th Ammunition Train.

"Throughout the battles in which the Division has been engaged never once has the steady flow of ammunition toward the front been stopped. In spite of the long, dangerous hauls and almost insurmountable difficulties, the 117th Ammunition Train maintained the supply necessary for the guns. The 117th Ammunition Train worked as an integral part of the artillery brigade. It ever functioned with the ease of a well oiled machine. Its trucks were always in splendid working order; its caisson and wagon companies were ready for all emergencies."

"Undergoing its preliminary training at Camp De Coetquidan, France, it served with the French in the Luneville sector. In the Baccarat sector it perfected its technique. In the Champaign sector it worked feverishly, during the dark days before the final German offensive, to pile up that reserve of ammunition that made the German defeat possible. During the battle it continued to serve. It has been the fate of this organization to undergo dangers equally as great as those of the troops in the front line and to suffer these dangers without being able to strike back."

"At Chateau Thierry it worked day and night, feeding the guns. Going forward over unknown and badly charted territory, it always found the batteries. It was to be depended on."

"It went to Bourmont, then St. Mihiel, by night marches. Working in the mud and slime and almost completely destroyed roads, in the rear of the Forest de la Reine, it again laid the foundations for the attack. In the Argonne Meuse, night and day it toiled; heart-rending, muscle-breaking toil. Men were in the saddle for days at a time. Trucks went where trucks were not expected to go. A measure of endurance was demanded that would have been thought impossible before. Aeroplane bombs and enemy shells did not stop it. The reserve of ammunition was built up."

"Then came the nights on the road to Sedan, and after the armistice, the long hard march through France, Belgium and Luxemburg to Germany and the Rhine."

"Throughout, one is struck by the silent efficiency of this command. The work was done. By its service, by the devotion and loyalty of all ranks, it has won

the gratitude of the division and the thanks of the division commander."

The 117th Ammunition Train has a magnificent record, and Kansas may well be proud of her representation in the Rainbow Division."

"By the command of Major General Flagler.

WM. N. HUGHES, Jr.

Colonel, General Staff,
Chief of Staff."

When the Legislature of 1921, (1) provided for the erection of Military Memorials, Rosedale, where the first six companies of the 117th Ammunition Train had been recruited, determined to build a memorial. The veterans of that city presented to the city council a petition asking for an election to vote \$25,000 in bonds for a Memorial Park. (2) The election was held on June 21, 1921 and the bonds carried by a vote of 129 to 77. Dr. O. M. Longenecker, Dr. B. M. Barnett, Frank Rushton, Otto Ziegelmeyer, Rolla Duncan and Henry C. Alwes were constituted by the Mayor of Rosedale to further the project, and these men, whose vision and purpose had inspired Rosedale to remembrance, had plans drawn and approved by the local bodies and the state architect before the summers end. J. LeRoy Marshall, a Rosedale Legionnaire, offered his services and drew the plans for the arch, which were accepted.

Dr. O. M. Longenecker, Dr. B. M. Barnett and Frank Rushton were appointed appraisers by the district court. They selected and appraised a site of approximately 5.2 acres on the crest of Mount Marty overlooking the Turkey Creek valley.

The consolidation of Rosedale with Kansas City, Kansas, April 24, 1932, stopped work for a time, but the 1923 Legislature (3) passed an act which authorized the consolidated city to complete the work. Ground was broken for the arch with the most elaborate ceremonies ever known in Wyandotte county, General Henri Gouraud, the "Lion of the Argonne," under whom the 117th Ammunition Train served in the Champagne, was touring the country, and the date for breaking ground, for the arch, July 20, 1923, was so fixed that he might be the guest of honor of the occasion. It was an all day service. The General arrived on an early morning train and was taken to the Grund hotel for breakfast. At noon a dinner was served to 400 guests at the Chamber of Commerce. E. S. McAnany was

1. Chapter 256, pg. 408.

2. Rosedale Ordinance 2105, May 31, 1921.

3. Chapter 216, pg. 302. Feb. 24, 1923.

the toastmaster. Mayor Gordon extended the freedom of the city to the distinguished guest. Speeches were made by Governor Davis, Senator Capper, Congressman Little and Mayor Cromwell of Kansas City, Mo. The Government sent 350 men from Ft. Leavenworth to assist in the ceremonies. This contingent consisted of the 2nd battalion, 17th Infantry in two sections, the 17th Infantry band and Battery A, 9th F. A. The afternoon services were held on Mount Marty and were described in the afternoon paper as follows: (4)

"The street program started when the parade assembled at Thirty-Ninth street and the State Line and marched through the Rosedale residence district, to the arena for the arch dedication, Thirty-Sixth and Springfield avenue. As the motor section bearing the Gouraud party from the Chamber of Commerce came into view over the hill, the 17th Infantry band swung into line ahead of the infantry and artillery details. Behind them came the Rosedale post American Legion, color guard consisting of Elmer J. Allen, a 117th Ammunition Train veteran, and John Nolan, a seaman in the navy, with a detachment of marines from the local recruiting station. Two hundred Rosedale ex-servicemen, marshalled by C. E. Sanders, followed their flag. Next in line came the standards of neighboring Legion posts. These represented the posts of Rufus J. Montgall, William F. Fitzsimmons, William R. Nelson, Hewitt Swearingen, Tank Corps 381. Joseph Liebman, James Cummings, Arthur Maloney, Peter Smith, Overland Park, Wyandotte and Olathe.

The standard of the 117th Ammunition Train, presented the outfit by the citizens of Kansas City, was displayed for the first time in parade.

Mount Marty, and the streets adjoining, were festive in appearance with flags and banners and drapes, and a crowd of 6,000 assembled rapidly as the parade swung into action.

After the general's salute of twenty one guns and the playing of the Marseillaise and America, the troops were inspected and the attending dignitaries took their places upon the decorated platform on the crest of Mount Marty. The invocation by the Rev.

4. Kansas City Kansan, July 21, 1923.

Father A. Dorseifer preceded the award of the Distinguished Service Cross to H. D. Heitz by Gen. B. H. Duncan, commanding the 17th army corps area.



THE ROSEDALE ARCH.

In the stand with the notables were three Kansas City men who had distinguished themselves in conflict, representing services in the civil war, Spanish American war and the great war. (5)

5. Captain William H. Ward, W. B. Trembly, Frank Stillwell.

Speeches were made by Mayors Gordon and Cromwell, Representative E. C. Little, Senator Arthur Capper, Governor Davis, W. P. McLean, State Legion Commander, and John B. Smith, General Chairman of the day. The address, through an interpreter, by General Gouraud was greeted with great applause. After his talk, General Gouraud, turned ground for the arch with a gold spade."

In due time the arch was completed. The memorial grounds, which cover approximately 5.2 acres, were improved with a recreational park and an athletic field. The cost of the site was \$10,000 and of the arch \$12,179. (6) The arch of classical proportions stands on the edge of the elevation looking out over the Turkey creek valley. It bears this inscription:

*Erected by the People of Rosedale
In Honor of Their Sons Who
Answered Their Country's Call
Served Under Arms For the Triumph
Of Right Over Might In the Great War*

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER FORTY-ONE

PLACE:— Seventh and Ann, Kansas City, Kansas.

TIME:— The Year 1927.

EVENT:—The Million Dollar Court House.

On January 29, 1859, the County of Wyandotte was created by the Territorial Legislature (1), and an election for county officers was held on February 22, 1859. Three days after the election the county commissioners met for organization. Their first act, after counting the election returns, was to rent rooms from S. D. McDonald, at Third and Nebraska, for the county offices. Quarters for the county attorney were found in a room in the post office. (2) The need for a jail was apparent and on April 18, 1859, the chairman of the board in connection with the sheriff, was authorized to rent or procure a suitable place for a jail, the building then in use being declared unfit for such purpose. Alfred Gray was appointed to correspond with some person competent to build an iron jail. (3)

On June 6, 1859, Associate Justice Williams opened the first term of court for the county. The court room was on the second floor of the Lipman Meyer building, which a month later was to become historic as the place where the constitution of Kansas was made. This room had been partitioned into two rooms one of which was used for the probate judge. This term of court lasted six days. Both a grand and a petit jury were summoned, cases, both criminal and civil, were tried, lawyers were admitted to practice and citizens were naturalized. Judge Williams held another term of court in the same building in the fall. (4)

On April 4, 1860, the commissioner's proceedings recite that William McKay, chairman of the board, was authorized to contract for rooms, for use of the courts and county officers for the current year.

On July 11, 1860, the minutes recite: (5)

"Isaiah Walker having submitted to the board a proposition in writing to sell to the county of Wyandotte Lot No. 46 in Block 93 on Nebraska avenue.

1. Laws, 1921, Chapter 256, pg. 408. -

2. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1230.

3. Goodspeed, Wyandotte County and Kansas City, pg. 181.

4. Journal A. District Court Wyandotte Co.

5. Goodspeed, Wyandotte County and Kansas City, pg. 187.

in the city of Wyandotte, with the frame building thereon for a court room and other county purposes, for the consideration of \$50.00 in hand, script of the county of Wyandotte, and \$1,750 in bonds of the county payable ten years from date, and bearing interest at the rate of ten per cent per annum, the said proposition being fully considered by the board was accepted, and the chairman of the board was directed and empowered to complete the purchase of said property on the part of the county, and procure a deed for the same in accordance with said proposition."

The building thus purchased, was the one in which the partnership of Walker and Barker had had its general merchandise store. It was two full stories high and stood on the back of the lot. The commissioners had it moved to the front of the lot and then built a log jail on the back of the lot at a cost of \$200.00. (6) The first post office in Wyandotte had been housed in this building so this spot has the double distinction of being the first post office site in Old Wyandotte and the first court house in Wyandotte county. Just why it was necessary is not apparent, but the Legislature of 1865, passed an act validating the bonds issued to Isaiah Walker in payment for this site. (7)

The grand jury, which met in April 1867, with Byron Judd as foreman, made a report that it found that the building was entirely inadequate; that the county records were in an unsafe condition; and that the county was entirely destitute of a jail. It recommended the speedy erection of a good fire proof office for the preservation of the records and a court house and jail that would accomplish the objects for which they were intended. (8) On April 15, 1867, a petition, signed by foreman Judd and many others, was filed with the commissioners asking for an election to vote bonds for a court house and jail. An election was held May 7, 1867, (9) and the proposition lost by a vote of 133 to 185. (10)

On July 1, 1867, another petition was before the commissioners asking for the issuance of \$10,000 in bonds for a jail and a vault. An election was held on this proposition, Novem-

6. Andreas, History of Kansas, pg. 1230.

7. Laws, 1865, Chapter 97, pg. 187.

8. Commissioners Minutes, Book B, pg. 58.

9. Ibid., 59.

10. Wyandotte Gazette, May 11, 1867.

ber 5, 1867. (11) Again the proposition lost by a vote of 352 to 382. (12)

On December 2, 1867, a proposition to rent rooms in Cooper & Judd's brick building on Minnesota avenue, in Block 133, at \$350 per annum, was accepted and the exodus from the old building began. (13)

On December 26, 1867, two blind persons, who were asking for relief, were given the use of the court room in the old court house, for the storage of material for the manufacture of brooms, and one of the upper rooms in the building. (14)

On April 13, 1868, the upper rooms in the old court house, house, formerly occupied by the county clerk and the clerk of the district court, were rented to J. A. Berry for \$8.00 per month. (15)

On August 10, 1868, Isaiah Walker appeared before the board, in behalf of the Wyandotte Town Co., with an offer to sell the county the north east corner of Huron Place as a site for a court house and jail. He wanted \$750.00. The commissioners deliberated and then made a counter offer of \$700.00, which was accepted. (16) September 14, 1868, Walker delivered the deed, signed by John McAipine as Trustee, and received the \$700.00 warrant. (17)

On November 5, 1869, John Hasp was given the use of the upper part of the old court house on consideration that he clean out the lower rooms of the building and keep them locked unless they were needed for some public meeting or other public purpose. (18)

The commissioner's proceedings for July 13, 1870 (19) record an order for the removal of the county clerk's office from the Judd and Cooper building to the Lehman building occupied by the county clerk and the county attorney. They further record that the commissioners visited Lot 46 in Block 93, on which is situated the county jail, inspected it, condemned it and said the county would pay for no further repairs on the same. The commissioners further resolved that inas-

11. Commissioners Minutes, Book B, pg. 59.

12. Wyandotte Gazette, Nov. 9, 1867.

13. Commissioners Minutes, Book B, pg. 128.

14. Ibid., pg. 120.

15. Ibid., pg. 171.

16. Ibid., pg. 211. Also *Armstrong vs. Portsmouth* 57 Kansas 62.

17. Commissioners Minutes, Book B, pg. 218. Also Register of Deeds, Wyandotte county, Book L, pg. 250.

18. Ibid., pg. 333.

19. Ibid., Book C, pg. 59.

much as much of the old court house, and other property, situated on Lot 46 in Block 93, are of no benefit to the county in their present condition, that they be offered for sale to the highest bidder for cash, on the first Monday in November 1870, at the door of the old court house. The sale was held and the property was sold and Catherine Hasp bought it for \$600.00. (20) It was then remodeled for a residence. It was damaged by a storm in 1891 and was then moved onto the adjoining lot and repaired. It now bears the number 328 Nebraska. Nebraska Avenue has been graded down and the house now stands high above the street.

On February 20, 1871 the commissioners rented Dunning's Hall, which stood at the south east corner of Fourth and Nebraska, for the use of the district court at a rental of \$250.00 per year. (21) A proposition to issue \$4,000.00 worth of bonds for a jail was submitted to the voters at a special election September 4, 1871, and was defeated by a vote of 136 to 1116. (22) On February 9, 1872, Wm. Rickert, one of the commissioners, was authorized to rent offices on the second floor of the brick building belonging to Judd and Cooper, for one year and also to lease a room for the clerk of the district court. (23) On May 10, 1872, a two story stone building, location not given, owned by G. K. Grindrod, was rented for a jail and the iron cells which sheriff Drought had been ordered to procure were ordered placed in the building. (24)

On July 13, 1872, it is recorded that the lease of the court room in the Cook building had been signed. (25) The Cook building was a three story brick standing on the south side of Minnesota west of Third street. This arrangement seems to have lasted until March 29, 1875, when the owners of Dunning's hall and the Cook building were before the board with propositions to furnish both offices and court room. The board accepted parts of each proposition renting six rooms on the third floor of the Cook building for offices and the Dunning hall for a court room. (26)

On June 3rd, 1879, the basement of the M. E. Church

20. Register of Deeds, Wyandotte county, Book U, pg. 146.

21. Commissioners Minutes, Book C, pg. 146.

22. Ibid., pgs. 204 and 229.

23. Ibid., pg. 280.

24. Ibid., pg. 349.

25. Ibid., pg. 379.

26. Ibid., Book D, pg. 239.

South, at the south east corner of Seventh and Minnesota, was rented for a court room at an annual rental of \$125.00. (27) This lease was renewed for another two years on October 8, 1881, for \$130.00 per year, the church to furnish the necessary fuel while the building was being used as a court room. (28)

At the November, 1879 election, a proposition was submitted to vote \$12,000 in bonds for the site and erection of a jail. The proposition carried by a vote of 1845 to 536. (29) A site was purchased at Seventh and Nebraska and on May 24, 1880, the contract for the jail was let for \$11,132.00. (30)

So far as the records show the county never took possession of the lot it had purchased at the north east corner of Huron Square from the Wyandotte Town Co., or attempted to exercise any jurisdiction over it until January 12, 1880, when the county surveyor was ordered to survey and locate and Perly Pike was authorized to enclose it with a good and substantial fence. (31) A year and a half later, June 15, 1881, the commissioners leased the lot for a term of five years at \$100.00 per year and a lumber yard was opened on the lot. (32) The county reserved the right however to cancel the lease at any time. This it did and on January 16, 1882, passed a resolution that the court house be located and built upon the plot of ground owned by the county in Huron Place now occupied by the Wyandotte Lumber Company. (33)

On October 6, 1881, a petition was presented to the commissioners, signed by H. M. Northrup and others, asking for the submission to the voters of a proposition to issue bonds not to exceed \$30,000, for the erection of public buildings consisting of a court house and necessary offices for the use of the officers of the county. (34) This proposition was submitted and was carried by a vote of 1700 to 266.

On February 21, 1882, the First Presbyterian church commenced an action, in the district court, to restrain the county commissioners from exercising any authority over the lot at the north east corner of Huron Place. The church alleged in

27. *Ibid.*, Book E, pg. 65.

28. *Ibid.*, pg. 369.

29. *Ibid.*, pgs. 110 and 114.

30. *Ibid.*, pg. 186.

31. *Ibid.*, pg. 147.

32. *Ibid.*, pg. 318.

33. *Ibid.*, pg. 411.

34. *Ibid.*, pg. 378.

its petition that this corner had been dedicated for church purposes and that this particular church was the one for which the lot had been intended. It asked the court to hold that the county commissioners simply held the lot in trust for the church. (35) Judge Wagstaff found for the church and granted the order for which it had asked. The commissioners appealed the case to the supreme court where the judgment of Judge Wagstaff was affirmed. (36)

On May 9, 1882, while the litigation over the Huron Place lot was still pending in the supreme court, the commissioners purchased eight lots in Block 117 from H. M. Northrup for \$6,000.00. The court house site, thus selected, faced Seventh street on the east and reached from State Avenue on the north to Minnesota Avenue on the south. (37) On June 20, 1882, a contract was made with E. S. W. Drought to build the court house on this site for \$35,000. (38) These two contracts exceeded the amount which had been voted by more than \$10,000 and no provision had been made for furnishings. On Oct. 7, 1882, another proposition was submitted to the voters asking for \$20,000 more for the court house and this was carried by a vote of 1933 to 1024. (39) The building was completed and furnished and formally accepted by the commissioners on June 23, 1883. (40) For forty-four years this building was the seat of government for Wyandotte county.

As the county grew in population, and new courts were added, it was found necessary to rent additional quarters for their use. This led to a demand for a new court house and on Sept. 5, 1916, the commissioners passed a resolution declaring that a new court house was a necessity and that it should be erected upon the old site at a cost of \$400,000. (41) Two propositions were submitted to the voters at the November election: (1) Shall the county erect a court house, and (2) shall the funds be raised by bonds or by a special tax. The court house propositions carried by a vote of 21,770 to 4,802 and the bonds won over the tax by a vote of 17,189 to 2,742.

On January 29, 1917, the commissioners ordered \$400,000

35. First Presbyterian Church vs. Commissioners, No. 2898.

36. 30 Kansas 620.

37. Commissioners Minutes, Book E, pg. 447.

38. Ibid., pg. 454.

39. Ibid., pg. 511.

40. Ibid., pg. 614.

41. Ibid., Book R, pg. 23.

worth of court house bonds sold. (42) Bids were received and the bonds were sold to the Fidelity Trust Co., on Mar. 6, 1917, for par plus interest to the date of delivery. (43) The state now stepped in, March 29, 1917, and on the relation of the Attorney General brought an action to enjoin the issuance of the bonds on the theory that the county had already exceeded its bond limit. The injunction asked for was granted by the district court. (44) An appeal was had to the Supreme Court where the judgment of the District Court was affirmed. (45)

On September 20, 1920, the commissioners again by resolution declared the court house to be inadequate and insufficient, that it was impractical to remodel it or replace it, and that the erection of a new court house at a cost of one million dollars was necessary to the transaction of the business of the county. (46) Again the questions shall the county erect a new court house, and shall the funds be raised by a bond issue or a special tax were submitted to the voters. There were 20,416 votes for the court house and 5,319 against it. The bond proposition as against the tax was favored by a vote of 17,533 to 2,540. That the issue of a million dollars worth of bonds would exceed the debt limit was well known and so an appeal was made to the Legislature for relief. The response came with an Act authorizing counties with a population in excess of 110,000 inhabitants to erect a new court house at a cost not to exceed one million dollars, and to issue bonds without a vote of the electors, notwithstanding that such an issue of bonds would exceed the one per cent debt limit placed on counties. (47) While this Act was general in its nature it was in reality a special bill for Wyandotte county as no other county in the state came within its provisions.

The commissioners on April 20, 1921, passed an order for the building of a new court house on the site of the then existing court house and fixed the cost at one million dollars. (48) Two days later Ethel M. Harling started an action in the district court to restrain this expenditure. (49) This was the opening of a sham battle to secure a court order that the court house bonds were good. The district court gave this order, and

42. *Ibid.*, pg. 57.

43. *Ibid.*, pg. 67.

44. *State vs. Board of County Commissioners*, No. 7254-A.

45. 101 *Kans.* 430.

46. *Commissioners Minutes*, Book R, pgs 418 and 442.

47. *Laws*, 1921, Chapter 155.

48. *Commissioners Minutes*, Book S, pg. 429 and Book T, pg. 323.

49. *Harling vs. Commissioners*, No. 15,711-A.

the case was appealed to the Supreme Court where the judgment of the district court was affirmed. (50)

The territory between Armstrong and Tauromee and Seventh and Ninth street having been designated as a Civic Center, the commissioners on Sept. 25, 1922, passed a resolution to submit to the voters the question of changing the location of the court house to this center. (51) The proposition carried by a vote of 15,355 to 8,914. (52) The commissioners decided however to make no change in the court house site without further authorization from the Legislature. (53) On February 28th, 1923, the Legislature passed Senate bill 250, which gave the commissioners authority to acquire a new site for a court house by purchase or condemnation and to issue bonds not to exceed \$300,000 without an election being called. (54) The argument presented to the Legislature for this bond issue and to the Governor, who was disposed to veto the bill, was that the sale of the old court house site would furnish the means for the payment of the bonds.

The commissioners selected the east 325 feet of the block fronting on Seventh street from Ann to Barnett Avenues comprising 30 lots, as the site for the new million dollar court house. The 6 lots in the northeast corner of the block were occupied by the Central School. Arrangements were made with the board of Education for the purchase of this property for \$85,000, but the rest of the land desired could not be obtained by purchase and so was condemned. (55) The total cost of the site was \$173,000 and on April 12, 1923 the commissioners issued court house site bonds for that amount. (56)

Early in January 1924 a representative group of business men met at the Chamber of Commerce and appointed Fred Robertson, P. W. Goebel, J. A. Clancey, Dr. C. C. Nesselrode and W. T. Maunder as a committee of five to act as advisors to the county commissioners in the selection of an architect for the new million dollar court house. (57) The assistance of this group was welcomed by the county commissioners. A competition of architects was asked for (58) and it was decided to

50. 110 Kans. 542.

51. Commissioners Minutes, Book S, pgs. 237 and 323.

52. Ibid., Book T, pg. 323.

53. Ibid., Book S, pg. 321 and Book T, pg. 323.

54. Laws, 1923, Chapter 110, pg. 156.

55. Commissioners Minutes, Book S, pg. 353 and Book T, pg. 323.

56. Ibid., Book S, pg. 359 and Book T, pg. 323.

57. Kansas City Star, Jan. 23.

58. Commissioners Minutes, Book S, pg. 465.

give them a year to prepare and present plans. On February 17, 1925 the plans presented by Wight & Wight were accepted (59) and on December 10, 1925 the contract for building the court house was let to the Swenson Construction Company for \$912,019.50 (60) The estimate of the architects had been \$943,000.

The corner stone was laid July 12, 1927, with appropriate Masonic ceremonies, John W. Neilson of Concordia, Grand Master, presiding. In the box placed in the corner stone were the following articles:

Small American flag.

Kansas flag.

Holy Bible.

1926 proceedings of the grand lodge.

Coins, 1 cent to \$1.00, supplied by Commercial National bank.

List of state officers.

List of county officers.

List of grand lodge officers participating in ceremonies.

Notation of number of miles of paved roads in Wyandotte county. 83.

Population of county, 1926, 133,897.

Number of automobile licenses in county in 1926, 25,629.

Copy of oration of Judge U. S. Guyer.

Picture of first court house; present court house; new \$1,000,-000 building.

Copy of the Kansan, Armourdale Press, Kansas City Star.

Statement of contractor.

Statement of county commissioners.

Date of issue of bonds.

Account of beginning of work on the court house.

Sack of wheat grown on Wyandotte county farm, forming part of \$150,000,000 wheat crop. Gift of Piper lodge.

Statement from Chamber of Commerce on number of industries.

The Kansas City Kansan said of the service: (61)

"With patriotic speeches and old fashioned tunes, the citizens of Wyandotte county, just before sundown last night, dedicated its magnificent \$1,000,000 court house, its symbol of justice and architectural triumph. The flag raising ceremony was followed by a thirteen gun salute. Speeches were made by

59. Ibid., Book T, pg. 132.

60. Ibid., pg. 267.

61. Kansas City Kansan. July 13, 1927.

Judge U. S. Guyer, Governor Paulen, Attorney General Smith, Justice Richard J. Hopkins, Senator Capper, Fred Robertson of the citizen's advisory committee and Judge Henry Meade."

This Court House, the pride of Wyandotte County and the "Gateway into Kansas" fronts 320 feet on Seventh street, with a depth of 155 feet. It is six stories high. It is built of Bedford stone, with a super structure of steel and concrete. There is not a supporting wall in the entire building so that any floor can be completely remodeled should future business needs call for such a change. Six Doric columns forty-eight feet in height are the ornamental features of the building front. It not only houses the county offices and the four divisions of the district court and the two divisions of the city court, but the farm bureau, the public law library and the county jail. One large room, on the first floor, much used for public gathering, is known as the G. A. R. room and is dedicated to that organization.

Just inside the front door there is inserted in the wall a bronze tablet which carries this inscription:

This Building Erected

A. D. 1926

Board of County

Commissioners

Samuel Clarke, Chairman

Peter H. Kramer

Dave Espenlaub

J. H. Brady, County Counselor

Advisory Committee

P. W. Goebel

Fred Robertson

C. C. Nesselrode

Henry Meade

J. A. Clancy

W. T. Maunder

Architects

Wight & Wight, Kansas City, Mo.

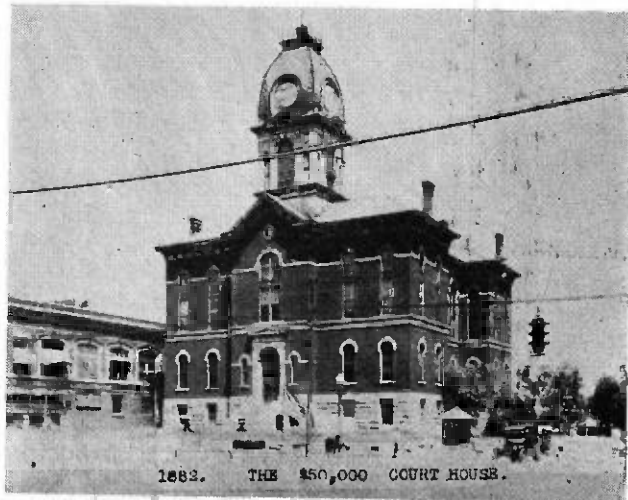
Contractor

Swenson Construction Co., Kansas City, Mo.

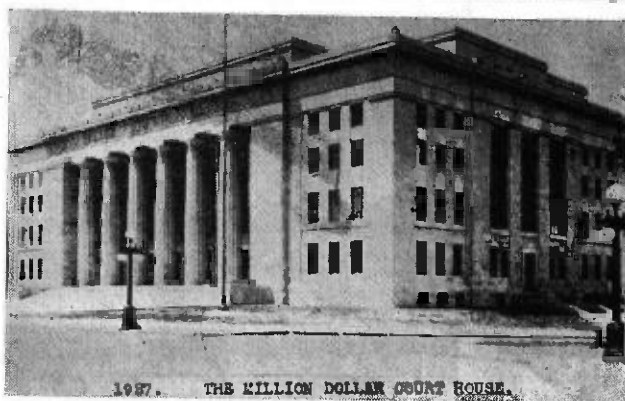
The site of the old court house at Seventh and Minnesota was purchased from Hiram Northrup, and his Indian wife, on May 10, 1882. It was occupied for court house purposes until about the 5th of July, 1927, when the courts and county offices were moved to the new court house two blocks away. In purchasing the site for the new court house and the issuance of



1860. THE \$1,800 COURT HOUSE.



1883. THE \$50,000 COURT HOUSE.



1937. THE MILLION DOLLAR COURT HOUSE.

\$300,000 worth of bonds in payment it was contemplated that a sale would be made of the old site and that the proceeds would be sufficient to retire the bonds issued in payment of the new site. On July 19, 1927 appraisers were appointed, (62) and on July 30th these appraisers made their report setting a value of \$263,847 on the site of the old court house. (63) A sale was advertised and on Jan. 5, 1928 the old court house site was sold to Thomas Torson at public auction for \$180,500. (64)

Again Wyandotte county ran true to form. On the same day the auction of the old court house site was had, five of the grandchildren of Hiram Northrup came into the district court alleging that the conveyance of the court house site by their grandfather and grandmother was made for the express purpose of a site for a court house and now, having been abandoned for that purpose, it reverted to them as the heirs of the Northrups. The county answered with a cross petition and asked to have its title to the property quieted. (65) When the case was reached for trial the plaintiffs tried to dismiss their case but Judge Fischer held that the county having asked for affirmative relief, the case must stand for trial. The court found for the defendant and quieted the title to the property in the county. An appeal was taken to the supreme court where the finding of Judge Fischer were affirmed. (66)

The same plaintiffs then brought an action in the Federal court, alleging that their grandfather, Hiram M. Northrup, was not of Indian blood and had never been adopted into the Wyandotte Nation; that their grandmother was the legal head of the family and entitled to receive the original allotment and that the grandfather had obtained the allotment by fraud. The Federal court held that the plaintiffs could not relitigate the court house matter in the Federal court. (67) An appeal was had to the U. S. circuit court where the judgment of the lower court was affirmed. (68) An effort was made to get the case into the supreme court but without avail. The net result of the litigation was that the county lost its sale of the old court house site and it still remains the property of the county.

62. Commissioners Minutes. Book U, pg. 404.

63. Ibid., pg. 408

64. Kansas City Kansan, Jan. 8, 1928.

65. Staley vs. Commissioners, No. 32,362-A.

66. 127 Kans. 627

67. Dec. 6, 1929.

HISTORIC SPOTS NUMBER FORTY-TWO

PLACE: Seventh Street, Kansas City, Kansas, extended.

TIME: The Year 1935.

EVENT: Completion of the Seventh Street Trafficway.

The Seventh Street Trafficway was like Topsy who said—"I'se nebber had no fodder and no mudder. I'se just growed." It is a jig saw puzzle composed of many pieces. It took several generations of town builders and roadway enthusiasts to assemble them all, but when the pieces were all fitted together the answer was found to be the greatest civic undertaking in the state of Kansas.

By the Seventh Street Trafficway we mean that part of U. S. Highway No. 69 which crosses the Missouri river over the Fairfax bridge; then passes through the Fairfax Industrial District to the north limits of Kansas City, Kansas; thence diagonally to the southwest to Seventh street and Quindaro boulevard; thence on a straightaway down Seventh street, through the Minnesota avenue district, past the federal building, the court house and the memorial building, through the Central avenue and the Armourdale districts to the Kansas river; thence over the Kansas river bridge, through the hills and across the Katy-Frisco viaduct to Southwest boulevard; thence down Rainbow boulevard, past the Rosedale arch and the Bell Memorial hospital, to the city limits on the south; thence south to an east and west connection with U. S. Highway No. 50.

The Seventh Street Trafficway is approximately 10½ miles in length from north to south. It crosses two river bridges and six railroad viaducts whereby more than a hundred grade crossings are eliminated. It cuts across and connects with every east and west highway leading from Kansas into Kansas City, Missouri. It conquers the hills and ravines that divided Kansas City into an aggregation of little communities and welds these communities into one city adequately supplied with traffic needs. The capitol building at Topeka cost 3½ million dollars. The cost of the Seventh Street Trafficway is greater than that of the state capitol at Topeka and to it the United States, the State of Missouri, the State of Kansas, the county of Wyandotte, the city of Kansas City, Kansas and several railroads have been contributors.

THE BIG PROBLEM

Kansas City, Kansas, as it now exists, is a consolidation of

five separate municipalities, to-wit: Wyandotte, Kansas City, Armourdale, Argentine and Rosedale. The oldest of these municipalities was Wyandotte. It was platted in 1857, organized June 8, 1858 and incorporated by the Territorial legislature January 29, 1859. The original town was an irregular strip of a little over a section of land running back from the Missouri river nearly two miles and lying about equally distant north and south from the present Nebraska avenue. It became a city of the second class in 1867.

As early as 1857 a settlement was begun on the east side of the Kansas river, on that narrow strip of land lying between the river and the Missouri state line. It was surveyed into town lots in 1869 and in 1872 it was incorporated under the name of Kansas City, Kansas. It never had a post office of its own but was served from Kansas City, Missouri.

In 1880 the land lying between the bluffs on the north and the angle made by the Kansas river where it changes its course from east to north to join the Missouri river, was platted. In 1882 it was incorporated as Armourdale and became a post office about the same time.

The Legislature of 1886 passed an act for the compulsory consolidation of cities which were in close proximity to each other. While the act was general in its nature it was just another one of those special bills intended for Wyandotte county as the three cities near the mouth of the Kansas river were the only ones in the state that could qualify under its terms.

Acting under the provisions of the law, just passed, Governor Martin on March 6, 1886, proclaimed the consolidation of Wyandotte, Kansas City, Kansas, Armourdale, and the intervening territory, as a city of the first class under the name of Kansas City, Kansas. It was expected that the name of the consolidated city would be Wyandotte and it has never been satisfactorily explained what sort of a hocus pocus led to the switch in name. On account of the proximity and size of the city across the state line the name has always been a handicap to the consolidated city.

Lying between Wyandotte and Armourdale was the village of Armstrong. It had never been incorporated but had been made a post office as early as 1875. This territory was included within the boundaries of the consolidated city.

To weld these three cities, and the numerous centers that sprang up around them, into one city was a tremendous task. It was an easy matter to get across the city most anywhere from

west to east, but the handicap of gulleys and bluffs, ungraded streets and lack of railroad crossings made it next to impossible to travel across the city from north to south or vice versa.

On January 1, 1910, Argentine became the seventh ward of the consolidated city. This city, on the south side of the Kansas river, was platted in 1880. It became a post office and a city of the third class in 1882 and a city of the second class in 1889. It brought a population of 8,442 into the city and increased still further the need for north and south trafficways.

A part of territory southeast of Argentine, lying between the angle made by Johnson county on the south and Missouri on the east was platted as Rosedale in 1872. As early as 1875 it had a post office. In 1877 it became a city of the third class and in 1897 it was made a city of the second class. On April 7, 1922, it was consolidated with Kansas City, Kansas by proclamation by Governor Allen. This new addition to the city brought a population of 8,760 and a still greater traffic complication as there was no direct trafficway connecting this district with the rest of the city and a trip through Missouri was necessary when a citizen of this district desired to visit the court house.

Confronted with this problem civic leaders worked for years for a north and south trafficway. Section by section the problem was worked out but each section was a battle and each section has a story of its own.

THE FAIRFAX BRIDGE

The demand for a bridge across the Missouri river to connect the counties of Platte and Wyandotte was born at least four years before Kansas became a state. Quindaro, "the free state gateway," broke ground the first day of January, 1857, and begun to be boomed as the coming city of the Missouri valley. Among the collections in the State Historical Society at Topeka, is a superbly lithographed map of Quindaro, bearing date of 1857. In the upper right hand corner is a large picture of Quindaro Nancy Guthrie, the Indian woman, after whom the town was named. In the upper left hand corner is a map of the country from Quindaro west, showing that all railroads to the Pacific radiate from Quindaro. In another corner is a map of the country to the east, showing that all railroads from the east center at Quindaro. Connecting these two systems of railways is the bridge across the Missouri river. People gambled in town shares in 1857, just as in these latter days when they have gambled in industrial stocks, and no doubt the picture of

Quindaro Guthrie and the bridge, helped sell the shares of the Quindaro Town Company.

Early in 1857 subscriptions were being taken at Quindaro for the Quindaro, Parkville & Burlington Railroad which was to connect with the Hannibal at St. Joe. Parkville across the river from Quindaro voted \$50,000 in bonds for the Parkville and Grand River railroad. Surveys were made for a bridge across the Missouri between the towns. That the bridge was not built was not the fault of either Quindaro or Parkville.

In time Quindaro disappeared from the map but the demand for a bridge grew with the years. In 1883 Congress authorized the Chillicothe and Kansas City Railway Company to construct a bridge over the Missouri river within five miles above and ten miles below the then existing bridge in Jackson county, Missouri. (1) This brought Wyandotte and Platte counties back into the picture. Three years later a similarly worded franchise was granted to the Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific Railway Company. (2) On the same day a franchise was given by Congress to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company to construct a bridge over the Missouri river at a point to be selected in the counties of Jackson and Clay, or Clay and Platte, in Missouri and the county of Wyandotte in Kansas. (3)

On July 17, 1888 Congress granted a franchise to the Chicago, Oquaka and Kansas City Short Line Railway Co. to construct a bridge across the Missouri river at a point opposite or nearly opposite the town of Parkville, Mo. (4)

In October of the same year the Missouri River and Land Improvement and Construction Company, a Kansas corporation, was authorized by Congress to build a bridge within one mile north and one mile south and east of the mouth of the Kansas river. (4) In 1889 the Kansas City Terminal Railway Company, another Kansas corporation, was authorized by Congress to build a bridge over the Missouri river between Wyandotte and Platte counties at or near Kansas City, Kansas but not over ten miles above the Hannibal and St. Joe bridge. (6)

The year 1890 was a red letter year for bridge building, on paper. Congress renewed the franchises to the Missouri River

SEVENTH STREET

1. Forty-Seventh Congress, 2d session, Chap. 100, pg. 432. Mar. 3, 1883.
2. Forty-Ninth Congress, 1st session, Chap. 344, pg. 52. May 17, 1886.
3. Ibid., Chap. 350, pg. 358. May 17, 1886.
4. Fiftieth Congress, 1st session, Chap. 666, pg. 312. July 17, 1888.
5. Ibid., Chapter. 1096, pg. 555. Oct. 12, 1888.
6. Ibid., 2nd session, Chap. 312, pg. 751. March 1, 1889.

and Land Improvement and Construction Company (7) and to the Kansas City Terminal Railway Company (8) and granted a franchise to the Wyandotte County Bridge and Terminal Company, another Kansas corporation, to construct a bridge across the Missouri river within one mile above and one mile below Quindaro. (9) This made three live franchise for a bridge over the Missouri river in the vicinity of Quindaro. No wonder the "Forty Years Ago" column in the newspaper was able to say—"Quindaro is more or less agitated about its selection as the place to start a bridge across the Missouri to land near Parkville. The new bridge is underway and will divert a large portion of the rich Platte county trade and bring a new railroad from the north." (10)

The announcement that the bridge is underway must have been rather premature as no bridge was built and the three franchises expired by limitation.

In 1898 the Kansas City, North Eastern and Gulf Railway Company, a Kansas corporation was authorized by Congress to construct a bridge over the Missouri river at what is known as Quindaro in Wyandotte county. (11) This franchise was extended in 1902 (12) and again in 1904. (13)

In 1902, the Kansas City Outer Belt and Electric Railroad Company, a Kansas corporation, was authorized by Congress to build a bridge across the Missouri river between the counties of Wyandotte and Clay. (14) This franchise was revised and extended in 1908. (15)

For twenty years the agitation for a bridge seems to have ceased. Then in 1928, a franchise was given for a bridge, over the Missouri, to the Interstate Bridge Company. (16) This company was one of the subsidiaries of the Woods Brothers who were then exploiting the industrial district north and west of the mouth of the Kansas river. This franchise was renewed in 1929 (17) and again in 1930. (18) Woods

7. Fifty-First Congress, 1st session, Chap. 6, pg. 3. Feb. 6, 1890.

8. Ibid., Chap. 636, pg. 183. June 28, 1890.

9. Ibid., Chap. 1253, pg. 643.

10. Kansas City Star, May 20, 1929.

11. Fifty-Fifth Congress, 1st session, Chap. 452, pg. 471. June 15, 1898.

12. Fifty-Seventh Congress, 1st session, Chap. 504, pg. 102. Apr. 15, 1902.

13. Fifty-Eighth Congress, 1st session, Chap. 1141, pg. 169. Apr. 11, 1904.

14. Fifty-Seventh Congress, 2nd session, Chap. 3, pg. 274. Dec. 17, 1902.

15. Sixtieth Congress, 1st session, Chap. 180, pg. 169. May 20, 1908.

16. Seventieth Congress, 1st session, Chap. 681. May 20, 1928.

17. Ibid., 2nd session, Chap. 567, pg. 1530. Mar. 2, 1929.

18. Seventy-First Congress, June 30, 1930.

Brothers, after spending approximately \$25,000 in securing the franchise, including solicitation at the Capitol and in engineering fees, abandoned the project. (19)

Late in the fall of 1928, the Greater Kansas City Regional Plan Association was formed. It was composed of public spirited citizens and business men and its purpose was to promote development in the six counties surrounding Kansas City, to-wit: Leavenworth, Wyandotte and Johnson in Kansas and Platte, Clay and Jackson in Missouri. Harry S. Truman, then the presiding judge of the Jackson county court, now United States senator, was president and Frank A. Davis, then a representative from Wyandotte county in the Kansas Legislature, was the secretary. There was one vice-president for each of the six counties.

A preliminary survey satisfied the organization that there was a need for additional crossings over the Missouri river. The Interstate Bridge Company, having abandoned its efforts to secure a bridge over the river, offered to assign its franchise to this new organization. A meeting was held at Platte City, Missouri, April 27, 1929, to consider the proposition. It was attended by representatives from all of the six counties, except Leavenworth. The proposal met with an enthusiastic reception from the assembled planners and a committee was appointed to promote a bridge.

It was soon determined that railroad participation in the project was a secondary matter and that the bridge should be promoted as a highway project only. Secretary Davis was instructed to enter into negotiations with a number of toll bridge organizations with a view of interesting them in the project. The activity of Secretary Davis resulted in interesting the Strauss Engineering Corporation of Chicago, the concern that designed and is now supervising the building of the Golden Gate Bridge at San Francisco. An extensive survey, made by engineers under the direction of the Strauss Corporation, resulted in a report that there was a potential annual revenue of approximately \$265,000 to be had for a new bridge. As the result of many conferences an agreement was reached to form a holding company and to employ Joseph B. Strauss to design and superintend the building of a bridge.

On February 18, 1930, the Regional Bridge Company, a Delaware corporation was formed. It was decided that the

bridge should be located at or near the extension of the Hallock road in the Fairfax district and a contract was made with Strauss to design and superintend the building of a bridge. The plans for the bridge were approved by the War Department April 11, 1931. (20)

In the meantime another extension of the bridge franchise had been secured, but this would expire on May 22, 1931. It was necessary to start work in order to save the franchise so on April 21, 1931, ground was broken on the south approach and some grading was done. Government engineers ruled that this was not work on the bridge. One of them is reported as saying:—"You have a permit to build a bridge. A bridge is that part of a structure built over the water lines consisting of piers, footings, and floors, but not approaches. As soon as you tell us that operations are to begin we will send our inspector to the site and he will report back that construction has started. That will hold the franchise." (21)

Preparations were at once made to begin the driving of piling for the bridge piers. A contract was let to do this work on the Missouri side of the river. Then the rains came and the contractor, finding it impossible to get his machinery across the river bottom, threw up his contract. But three days were left until the franchise would expire. A Wyandotte contractor thought he could get to the river from the Kansas side and he was given a hurry up contract. Still it rained and this contractor mired down with his machinery. Secretary Davis mobilized a house mover's outfit and pulled the contractor out of the mud and onto the river. Then the pile drivers began to hum and at eleven o'clock on the night of May 21, 1931, in a pouring rain, and just one hour before the franchise would have expired, the government inspector said enough had been done and that he would report that operations had started.

The depression was now on and private capital would not back the bridge program. An appeal was made to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for a million dollar loan but this was given scanty consideration. It soon developed that the bridge company was the victim of an Engineer's feud between Strauss and the engineers in the R. F. C. The Reconstruction Finance Company was the only "city of refuge" for the bridge company and this it could not enter with Strauss. In a \$50.00

20. Kansas City Star, Apr. 11, 1931.

21. Kansas City Kansan, May 5, 1931.

long distance telephone talk, Strauss was eliminated. The R. F. C. had said that all it could see in the project was a potential revenue of \$55,000 a year. That was enough to carry a loan of \$600,000. New engineers were employed. Revised plans were made, reducing the bridge roadway from twenty-nine to twenty feet, and a new application was made to the R. F. C. for \$600,000. This was granted and a four party agreement was made between the Regional Bridge Company, the State Highway Departments of Kansas and Missouri and the city of Kansas City, Kansas, for the building of the bridge. Among other provisions in this contract was that the city must complete certain parts of the Seventh Street Trafficway so this bridge contract may be aptly described as the spur that compelled the building of the Katy-Frisco viaduct and the opening of other sections of the Trafficway.

On May 27, 1933, a contract was let to the Kansas City Bridge Company to build the bridge for \$511,500. The work was done with speed and on Sept. 27, 1934 the bridge was accepted by the Regional Bridge Company and immediately turned over to the Missouri and Kansas Highway Departments. Frank A. Davis, who had been the active manager of the bridge movement and through whose efforts the franchise was saved, was made manager during the liquidation period.

Some delay was had in the paving of the Missouri approach to the bridge and the structure was not opened until Sunday, May 12, 1935. This was advertised as a free day and the newspapers reported the next day that 14,525 cars with an estimated passenger list of over 50,000 had crossed the bridge before midnight. (22)

Toll charges have been fixed by the two state departments:

Single crossing, motor car	15c
Additional passengers	5c
Truck, less than two tons	25c
Trucks, above two tons	40c
Passenger vehicle, for hire, and driver	20c
Passengers, pedestrians or bicycle	5c
Team and wagon	15c
Horse and rider	10c

When these tolls liquidate the debt the bridge will become a free roadway.

The bridge is maintained as a part of the interstate high-

way system, the expense incident to its operation and upkeep being shared equally between the two states of Kansas and Missouri. All monies collected for tolls goes to paying the \$600,000 debt to the R. F. C.

A hundred years before the granting of the franchise for this bridge people were crossing from Missouri into Kansas by ferry. It is interesting to see the changes in transportation methods that a century has wrought and to compare the schedules. The old schedules were: (23)

For a loaded wagon and team	\$2.00
Empty wagon and team	1.00
Loaded cart and team	1.00
Dearborn, or gig, and horse .....	.62½
Man and horse .....	.37½
Single person .....	.18¾
Horses each .....	.18¾
Sheep, hogs and cattle, each .....	.03

This regional bridge is 2486.5 feet long from end to end, not including the dirt fills. It stands 55 feet above standard high water, its thirteen spans resting on fourteen piers. Upright lights on its top serve as a signal to airplanes while other lights on its top serve as a signal to airplanes while other lights along the lower side of the deck provide signals for boats. It is built of steel and concrete, 4,121,663 pounds of steel and approximately 1,300 cubic yards of concrete being used in its construction.

At each end of this structure there is a plate which says:

FAIRFAX BRIDGE

Initiated by

GREATER KANSAS CITY REGIONAL PLAN ASSOCIATION

Financed by

RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION

In Cooperation with

STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OF KANSAS
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OF MISSOURI
CITY OF KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
PLATTE COUNTY, MISSOURI
WYANDOTTE COUNTY, KANSAS
REGIONAL BRIDGE COMPANY

Sverdrup & Parcel
Consulting Engineers

Kansas City Bridge Company
Contractors.

THE OFFICIAL SEVENTH STREET TRAFFICWAY

The 1929 session of the Kansas Legislature found the advocates of a bridge across the Kansas river at Seventh street on hand seeking for a law that would compel the building of the bridge. It was being suggested that the city authorities be given authority to designate a trafficway and to provide for its improvement. If this could be put across it would mean the opening of Seventh street and the building of the much desired bridge. Frank A. Davis, the Secretary of the Greater Kansas City Regional Plan Association, was a member of the Legislature from Wyandotte county. He had been in Washington in the interests of a transcontinental highway, had seen the "pork barrel" in operation, and had realized that it was easier to build a number of highways than it was to build just one. He suggested to the committee that instead of one trafficway they provide for a complete system of trafficways and so make the foes of Seventh street the friends and advocates of the greater plan. This plan worked and, out of the Legislative mill, there came a law which authorized the governing body of Kansas City, Kansas to establish and designate ten main arterial trafficways across the city and to improve the same, charging one half the expense to the city at large and one half to a benefit district. (24)

Acting under this authority the City Commissioners on May 7, 1929 passed an ordinance establishing the Seventh Street Trafficway. (25) The ordinance was crudely drawn and had to be amended. (26) The new ordinance designated Seventh street from the city limits on the north to the city limits on the south as the Seventh Street Trafficway and divided it into five sections as follows:

Section 1. From the city limits on the north to the Quindaro Boulevard trafficway.

Section 2. From the Quindaro Boulevard Trafficway on the north to Kansas Avenue on the south.

Section 3. From Kansas avenue on the north to the Kansas river on the south.

Section 4. From the Kansas river on the north to the Southwest Boulevard Trafficway on the south.

Section 5. From the Southwest Boulevard Trafficway on the north, over Rainbow Boulevard, to the city limits on the south.

24. Laws, 1929, Chap. 132, pg. 203, Feb. 23, 1929.

25. Ordinance 25047. Passed May 7, 1929.

26. Ordinance 26826. Passed April 11, 1933.

Connecting sections three and four was the Kansas river which was not designated as a part of the trafficway.

Each section of the trafficway constituted a major problem of its own and many ordinances were passed, many contracts for work were made, and many benefit districts were established before the work was finally completed. The history of this part of the trafficway can only be followed by taking it up section by section.

SECTION 1 OF THE TRAFFICWAY

Section 1 of the Seventh Street Trafficway is the section from the city limits on the north to Seventh street and the Quindaro Boulevard Trafficway. There were no streets that could be followed to advantage in this section and so a new diagonal street was cut from Quindaro, down through the ravine known as Rattle Bone Hollow, to connect with Hallock road. It costs the city at large and the benefit district approximately \$63,000 to secure the right of way for this section. The work of grading, paving, etc., was done by the Kansas State Highway Commission and was one of the federal aid projects allotted to Kansas. The contract for this work was let by the Kansas Commission on January 19th, 1935, to Tobin Construction Co. for \$91,000.09.

SECTION 2 OF THE TRAFFICWAY

Section 2 of the Seventh Street Trafficway, being that portion from Quindaro on the north to Kansas Avenue on the south was improved, under the provisions of the Trafficway Act, in three sections. The street was widened from Montana to Sandusky and from New Jersey to Quindaro. Land for the widening of the street amounted to \$366,643.84. The cost of grading, curbing, guttering and paving amounted to \$241,644.49. These expenditures were apportioned one half to the city at large and one half to a benefit district. The bridge over Jersey creek was built as a separate proposition at a cost of \$24,285.65. Including the cost of the Seventh street viaduct makes the expense of this section of the trafficway \$814,424.60. The work was commenced in the summer of 1830 and completed in 1832. (27)

THE SEVENTH STREET VIADUCT

The link in the Seventh street Trafficway which spans the tracks of the Union Pacific and Rock Island railroads in Armourdale is commonly known as the Seventh Street Viaduct. It was

more than forty years in the making before it took its present form.

At the second meeting of the council in the newly consolidated city of Kansas City, Kansas, held April 13, 1886, the Mayor recommended to the council the necessity of the grading and paving with cedar blocks of some street running at right angles to Minnesota, say 4th, 5th or 6th street in Wyandotte to where it would intersect with Missouri Avenue in Armstrong. (28) No vision as yet of a city with a cross town trafficway.

Two years went by before an effort was made to connect the Wyandotte and Armourdale sections of the city with a viaduct. Then the council appointed a committee to confer with the railroads regarding such a viaduct. (29) Five months later the council passed an ordinance declaring it necessary to have such a viaduct over the railroad tracks. (30) Negotiations with the railroad companies were held and the ordinance was repealed. The next year another ordinance for a viaduct was passed and under this the viaduct was built in 1890. (31) One half of the cost was borne by the railroads and the other half by the general public. This viaduct went out with the 1903 flood and was replaced with a second one that was worn out.

The agitation for a new viaduct began as early as 1916. The city commissioners passed an ordinance declaring that the old viaduct was unsafe and requiring the railroads to build a new one. (32) For eight years the railroads stalled. Several ordinances were passed requiring the building of a new viaduct but it was not until May, 1924 that any action was had. Then an agreement was reached with the railroads and the present viaduct was built. (33)

The new viaduct was officially opened on March 1, 1926 (34) and another important link in the great north and south trafficway was completed.

Up to the time of the building of this third viaduct Seventh street at the north approach had been a closed street. Traffic went around the hill and came up to the viaduct on a curve. Seventh street was now opened and widened and a straight street was thus provided from Quindaro Boulevard on the north across the viaduct to Kansas avenue on the south.

28. Council Minutes, pg. 6.

30. Ordinance 520. Passed Sept. 26, 1888.

31. Ordinance 835. Passed June 4, 1889.

32. Ordinance 14369. Passed Nov. 2, 1916.

33. Ordinance 21151. Passed May 6, 1924.

SECTION 3 OF THE TRAFFICWAY

Section 3 of the Seventh Street Trafficway, being that portion from Kansas avenue on the north to the Kansas river on the south, was improved in 1933 and 1934. The State Highway Commission, before it would build a bridge across the Kansas river, required that Seventh street must be opened through Shawnee Park, just a block south of Kansas Avenue. A survey was made by the city as to the land needed to be condemned for widening this part of the trafficway to make it conform to the approaches to the Kansas river bridge. (35) Appraisers were appointed by the district court and the necessary land was appropriated. Law suits were numerous and various changes were made in the ordinances before matters were finally adjusted. A new ordinance was passed for the grading, paving and curbing of this section and a new benefit district was created. (36) On October 4th, 1933, the contract for repaving this stretch of the trafficway from Kansas Avenue to Pawnee Avenue, to a width of fifty-two feet, with brick, was let to Brown Bros., for \$83,507. J. A. Tobin was given the contract for a ten inch concrete street from Pawnee Avenue to the bridge approach for \$8,188. (37) Previous to this letting the city had paid \$1,160 for moving the Spanish War cannon, which stood in the line of the new route through Shawnee Park, to another site and for the erection of a six foot high wire fence along each side of the trafficway through the Shawnee Park.

THE SEVENTH STREET BRIDGE

No link in the entire Seventh Street Trafficway caused as much discussion, law making, and dissention through the years as did the bridge over the Kansas river at Seventh street, but it had to be built or there could be no cross town trafficway.

In the early days of bridge building iron bridges had been built over the Kansas river at Fifth and Twelfth streets. They were two of the sixteen bridges in Wyandotte county that went out with the 1903 flood. The emergency legislation, passed by the flood session of the 1903 Legislature, provided for the rebuilding of these two bridges, along with seven others, in Wyandotte county. The cost of the Twelfth street bridge was fixed at \$75,000 and that of the Fifth street bridge at \$40,000. When

34. Kansas City Journal, March 2, 1926.

35. Ordinance 26670. Passed Nov. 8, 1932.

36. Ordinance 26978. Passed July 14, 1933.

37. Kansas City Star, Oct. 24, 1933.

38. Laws, 1903, Special session, Chap. 33, pg. 39.

constructed these bridges were to become forthwith city bridges. These two bridges were rebuilt in accordance with this special law. (38)

That the vision of a Seventh Street Trafficway had not yet appeared to the far seeing town builders must be apparent for, if it had, it would have been an easy matter to have shifted the Fifth street bridge location up the river a couple of blocks to the point where Quay street, afterwards 7th, came to the river. As a matter of fact there was no Seventh street. in the year 1903, in the vicinity of the Kansas river, except on paper. Seventh street bridge, as an apple of discord, was not cast into the arena until six years later.

Beginning with the year 1909 and extending to the year 1923 there were five special acts passed the Legislature for the building of a bridge at Seventh street and five times the project met with failure.

The first Act was passed by the Legislature of 1909. (39) It authorized the county commissioners to reconstruct, remove and relocate bridges in a drainage district, when requested so to do, and to issue bonds in payment without a vote of the people. The bonds thus issued were not to be counted in fixing the limit of the bonded indebtedness. It was an emergency measure to enable counties to meet the requirements of the United States or of any drainage district organized under the laws of the state. (41) It was intended, by its promoters, to authorize the building of a new bridge, at or in the vicinity of Seventh street, at a place where there was no bridge. This effort failed because the county commissioners could not be induced to act under its provisions.

By 1913 it was evident that Rosedale was to become a part of Kansas City, Kansas, and those interested in a better street connection with the Rosedale section made a second effort to secure a bridge over the river. They secured the passage of an Act (41) which authorized the county commissioners to use any portion of an old iron bridge in the building of a new bridge within two miles of the old site, and to issue bonds not to exceed \$250,000, to pay the cost, without an election being held. Its sole purpose was to secure the building of a new bridge over the river at Seventh street. Again the project failed as the county commissioners would not act.

39. Laws, 1909, Chap. 64, pg. 110.

40. State vs. Wyandotte, 101 Kansas 430.

41. Laws, 1913, Chap. 69, pg. 112.

In 1919 a third effort was made. This time the Legislature amended the 1913 Act (42) raising the limit of bonds that might be issued, without a vote, to \$480,000. Still the county commissioners would not act.

The fourth effort came in 1921. The Terminal Railroad had been given a franchise by Kansas City. Some of its tracks ran within 1500 feet of the Kansas river and by the terms of its franchise it was required to build viaducts to connect, whenever the river was bridged. An Act was passed by the Legislature (43) providing that in any county, where such a franchise existed, the county commissioners could build bridges at a cost of not to exceed one million dollars per bridge and issue bonds in payment without any bond election being held. On April 21st, the county commissioners passed an order to build a bridge at Seventh street and to issue a million dollars worth of bonds to pay for the same. (44) On July 8th, the commissioners went into the district court, stating that they were in doubt as to the true meaning of the law, and asking for a declaratory judgment. (45) Upon a hearing being had Judge McCamish held that the law was special legislation, unconstitutional and void, and that the commissioners were not authorized to build a bridge under its provisions. The commissioners appealed the case to the Supreme Court where the opinion of Judge McCamish was affirmed. (46)

In 1923 a fifth effort was made to get a bridge across the river at Seventh street. Up to this time Seventh street had never been opened up to the Kansas river either to the north or the south bank. (47) An Act was passed by this Legislature (48) which provided that the county commissioners might construct a bridge at a point where a public street extended would cross a river and issue bonds for the payment of the same. One provision of the law was that if within a limited time 25% of the tax payers petitioned for an election then a referendum should be held. Governor Davis vetoed the bill and it was

42. Laws, 1919, Chap. 101, pg. 143.

43. Laws, 1921, Chap. 88, pg. 147.

44. Commissioners Minutes, Book R, pg. 497.

45. Board of County Commissioners vs. Kansas City, et al., case 16214-A. District Court, Wyandotte county.

46. Board of County Commissioners vs. City of Kansas City, 112 Kansas 639.

47. Ordinance 19626, passed Feb. 27, 1923, opened Seventh street to harbor line on north side of the river to forty feet.

48. Laws, 1923, Chapter 76, pg. 113.

passed over his veto. So anxious was the state senate to take a fall out of the Governor that it passed the bill over his veto before it had an official knowledge that a veto had been had.

The county commissioners passed a resolution to build a bridge at Seventh street and to pay for the same with a bond issue. (49) They followed this up with a second resolution reciting that as no election had been asked for, by 25% of the taxpayers, the county engineer should proceed to draw plans for the bridge. (50)

O. H. Ashley, and 238 other plaintiffs, filed a suit in the district court asking for an injunction restraining the commissioners from building the bridge. On a hearing being had Judge McCamish held that the law was a special act and so was in violation of the constitution, and issued the restraining order. (51) An appeal was taken to the supreme court where the order of Judge McCamish was affirmed. (52)

Here the desired Seventh street bridge rested until the emergency act of 1932 was passed. Then the matter was taken up with the state highway commission by citizens who had been classed as opponents of the bridge because they had opposed the efforts made to force a bond issue without a referendum vote, and that body was induced to make the Seventh Street Bridge one of its projects. Part of the requirements of the highway department were that the city of Kansas City, Kansas should furnish the plans for the bridge without expense to the state and that the railroads should build the necessary viaducts spanning their tracks. On August 18, 1932, the city employed engineers to draw plans for the bridge (53) and on November 23rd, 1932 the state let the contract for building the bridge to the Kansas City Structural Steel Co. The cost of this bridge was approximately a half million of dollars of which approximately \$140,000 was borne by the city of Kansas City, Kansas and the Santa Fe and Terminal railways.

FROM THE KANSAS RIVER TO SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD

The trail for that section of the Seventh Street Trafficway, which leads from the Kansas river through the hills, across the Turkey creek valley and over the Katy-Frisco tracks to South-

49. Commissioners Minutes, Book S, pg. 372.

50. Ibid., pg. 442.

51. Ashley vs. Board of County Commissioners, case 22038-A, District Court, Wyandotte county.

52. Ashley vs. Board of County Commissioners, 121 Kansas 408.

53. Ordinance 26593.

west Boulevard, was blazed in 1868, when Major J. K. Hudson, then a resident of Wyandotte county, and 16 others, petitioned the county commissioneers for a road starting from Mackajack on the Shawneetown and Westport road, north and west across Turkey creek, to the Kansas river bottom "to intersect with the road leading from the Delaware Ferry to the pontoon bridge." (54) The petition was granted, viewers appointed and the road surveyed. Sam Parsons, the county surveyor in his report said: "The line is crooked and hilly but is as well located as the nature of the country will admit and is much needed by the citizens along the line." (55)

The road was established Jan. 4, 1869 and is designated on the road records as the J. K. Hudson road. (56) There was nothing in the record to show how wide this road was to be but for fifteen years it was ample for all public needs. Meantime Rosedale had come into the picture and Mill street had followed the line of the old road from the Southwest Boulevard across Turkey creek and the railroad tracks.

In 1884 S. S. Ely, and others, petitioned for a road from the center of Mill street, 60 feet wide, along the center of the old road to the Shawnee and Kansas road. This petition was granted and the new road was established. (57) In 1907 the S. S. Ely road was extended, a width of 60 feet, from its junction with the Shawnee and Kansas road to the Kansas river at Quay street in Potomac Heights Addition. (58) The name of Quay street was afterwards changed to Seventh street and as it was the only available approach to the river from the south side it helps to explain why the cross town trafficway boomers fought so long and so persistently for a bridge across the river at Seventh street.

In 1923 the city commissioners passed an ordinance declaring Quay street from Metropolitan to Packard; Packard to the Shawnee road; the S. S. Ely road from Shawnee road to Mill street; and Mill street to the Southwest Boulevard to be traffic streets to be known as the Seventh Street Trafficway. The purpose being, so the ordinance declared, to create a thoroughfare and trafficway connecting the north and southeasterly por-

54. Commissioners Minutes, Book B, pg. 222. Oct. 5, 1868.

55. Road Record A, pg. 176.

56. Commissioners Minutes, Book B, pg. 244. Jan. 4, 1869.

57. Ibid., Book F, pgs. 472 and 572. Oct. 8, 1884 and Jan. 7, 1885.

58. Ibid., pg. 918.

59. Ordinance 19606. Passed Feb. 22, 1922.

tions of Kansas City, Kansas and making the two sections of the city accessible one to the other. (59) It is interesting to note that this is the first appearance of the name "Seventh Street Trafficway." Later this became Section 4 of the Seventh Street Trafficway and in 1934 was graded, curbed and paved from the Kansas river bridge to the viaduct at Mill street.

THE KATY-FRISCO VIADUCT

Agitation for a viaduct over the tracks of the Katy and Frisco roads at Mill street in Rosedale began early. In 1905 the Katy wanted some special favors from the city of Rosedale and these were given to it by a city ordinance. (60) One section of this ordinance provided that whenever the mayor and council of Rosedale found that the volume of traffic along Mill street reasonably so required, the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Co., would construct a viaduct over its tracks on that street. By 1927 the agitation had reached the point where blue prints had been drawn for a proposed viaduct at Mill street. In 1929 the Seventh Street Trafficway, which up to this time had been "without form and void," emerged from the darkness and the stretch from the Kansas river to the Southwest Boulevard, which up to this time had been all the Seventh Street Trafficway there was, became Section 4 of the now from city limits to city limits trafficway.

Following closely upon the establishment of the Seventh Street Trafficway, the Rosedale Civic Club renewed its agitation for a viaduct at Mill street. Frank Rushton and Frank A. Davis were appointed to ascertain the attitude of the two railroads in regard to this particular viaduct as a part of the cross town trafficway. (61) After more than a year and a half of conferences, which got no where, the Club, through this committee, went before the city commissioners and asked them to act. On January 21, 1931, the commissioners passed an ordinance declaring it necessary for the safety and protection of the public that a viaduct, with the approaches thereto, be constructed on Mill street from the Southwest Boulevard to Fitzgerald road across the tracks of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas and the St. Louis, San Francisco Railway companies and that this should be done at the expense of the two railway companies. (62)

The "Frisco", then in the hands of receivers, promptly fled

60. Rosedale ordinance 335. Passed Oct. 16, 1905.

61. Kansas City Kansan. April 30, 1929.

62. Ordinance 25985. Passed Jan. 21, 1931.

to the federal court for relief, alleging that it was unreasonable to demand a viaduct at Mill street when there was no connecting bridge across the Kansas river. A temporary injunction was secured which held matters up for a couple of years. Then the Regional Bridge Company, formed to build a bridge across the Missouri river, to connect with the Seventh Street Trafficway, furnished the lever that pried the jam loose. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation was ready to furnish the money to build the bridge across the Missouri river, but it was not willing to help improve a highway that had a dead end, stopping in a maze of railroad tracks, so it wrote into its contract with the bridge company and the other interested parties, which included Kansas City, Kansas, that the city must compel the building of this viaduct, to effect the use of the Seventh Street Trafficway from the south end of the bridge, then being built by the Kansas State Highway Commission across the Kansas river, to the Southwest Boulevard. (63)

This brought matters to a head and after a good deal of negotiation a four party agreement was worked out between Kansas City, Kansas, the State Highway Commission and the two railroads. It was estimated that the viaduct and approaches would cost \$314,400. The railroads were to furnish one half of this amount which was to be apportioned 55% to the "Katy" and 45% to the "Frisco." The city was to furnish such additional right of way as might be needed and was to pay \$25,000 in cash. The Highway Commission was to build the viaduct. (64) The Highway Commission let the contract for the viaduct to the Tobin and Scherer Construction Company. The viaduct was finished in 1934 and the approaches early in 1935. The viaduct was thrown open for travel April 23rd, 1935, and another link in the great cross town trafficway was forged. (65)

SECTION 5 OF THE TRAFFICWAY

Section 5 of the Seventh Street Trafficway, being that part from the Southwest Boulevard on the north to the city limits on the south, is still in the making. It is a well paved street now from 39th to 44th streets, but needs widening to conform to the rest of the trafficway and to take care of the increased travel that will come over it. Steps have already been taken to do

63. Contract, section 7, par. c.

64. Ordinance 27088, passed Oct. 13, 1933 and 27141, passed Dec. 1, 1933.

65. Kansas City Star, April 24, 1935.

this and the necessary survey has been made. (Ordinance 26957. Passed June 27, 1933.) (66)

ESTIMATED COST OF SEVENTH STREET

1.	Missouri approach and road connections.....	\$200,000.00	
2.	Fairfax bridge	600,000.00	
3.	Hallock road and bridge approach	52,000.00	
4.	Missouri Pacific viaduct	118,000.00	
5.	City limits to Quindaro:		
	Condemnations	\$63,646.45	
	Improvements (contract)	91,000.09	
			\$162,136.54
6.	Quindaro to Kansas Avenue:		
	Condemnations, Montana to Wash. \$204,199.65		
	Condemnat'ns, New Jersey to Quind. 178,937.95	383,137.60	
	Improvements, Montana to Wash. 266,600.96		
	Improvements, Wash. to tracks. 55,473.64		
	Improvements, tracks to Quindaro 72,874.52	354,494.12	
	Seventh Street Viaduct	225,079.65	
	Jersey Creek Bridge	24,285.65	
7.	Kansas Avenue to the river:		
	Kansas to Pawnee	82,403.49	
	Cheyenne to bridge approach	8,852.41	
	Fencing Shawnee Park	1,343.82	
			92,599.72
8.	Kansas river bridge	455,084	
9.	Approaches to bridge: North.....	8,852.41	
	South.....	66,673.87	75,526.28
10.	Kansas River to S. W. Blvd.:		
	Katy-Frisco viaduct	314,400.00	
	Improvements	91,914.11	
	Shawnee Overpass	19,411.00	
	Metropolitan approach	31,962.70	
	Condemnation to Feb 14, 1935....	86,042.00	
	Ordinance 27,529		
	Ordinance 27,602		
11.	S. W. Blvd. to City limits:		
	Condemnations (Estimated)	75,000.00	
	Improvements (Estimated)	200,000.00	
12.	Johnson county road (Estimated)	75,000.00	
13.	Sixth street Auxiliary:		
66.	Ordinance 26957. Passed June 27, 1933.		

	Condemnations to Feb. 14, 1935 . . .	67,357.00
	Condemnations Ordinance 27601	
	Condemnations Ordinance 27603	
	Improvements (Contract)	58,741.00
14.	Minnesota Auxiliary:	
	Condemnations to Aug. 8, 1933	37,280.00
	(Ord. 27,010)	
	Condemnations (Estimated)	30,000.00
	Improvements (Contract)	
	Improvements (Estimated)	293,000.00

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