YESTERYEARS

A publication of

The Jefferson County

Historical Society

and

The Jefferson County

Genealogical Society

$5 **April 2016**

JEFFERSON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 174 Oskaloosa, KS 66066-0174 **On the web**: **www.jeffcoksgensoc.org/** **E-mail: jcgs1979@yahoo.com**

Meetings are at 2:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of every month (except December) at the Research Center at Old Jefferson Town on Highway 59, Oskaloosa. All who are interested in family history are welcome. The Research Center library is open year round on **Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m**. It also is open on **Sundays from 1:30 to 5 p.m. May through September**.

2016 Officers

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Vice President	Frank Shrimplin, Valley Falls
Treasurer	Tom Grose, Oskaloosa
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JCHS/JCGS Newsletter	
Yesteryears	Liz Leech, Mercer Island, WA Richard Wellman, Lawrence

JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 146 **Oskaloosa, KS 66066-0146**

The Jefferson County Historical Society owns and maintains Old Jefferson Town, a village of historical structures from different parts of the county. Located on Highway 59 in Oskaloosa, Old Jefferson Town is open weekend afternoons May through September. Board meetings are at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at OJT.

2016 Officers

President	Margaret Dick, Perry
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JCHS Board of Directors: Kim Hochard and Tina Beach, McLouth; Deb Case, Ozawkie; Larry Elkinton, Oskaloosa; Bill Manville, Valley Falls; Richard Wellman, JCGS Rep.; Margaret Dick, Perry; Abby Swoyer, Winchester.

JCHS Docent, Steve Dick; **Edmonds Chapel Schedule**, Leanne Chapman, (785)863-3257; **Special Tours**, Marilyn Sharkey (785) 863-2423.

JCHS Events Committee: Leanne Chapman, Margaret Dick, Jamie Mestagh Knabe, Mary Luse, Marilyn Sharkey, Abby Swoyer, Melynda Swoyer, Virginia Winsor.

Facebook page: "Jefferson County Historical Society, Oskaloosa, Kansas"

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Editors' notes:
With apologies for its overdue publication, we offer the spring 2016 edition of Yesteryears. No overlying theme rules the pages of the magazine, but we offer an exciting account of Kansas Jayhawker and Sen. James H. Lane's speech at Ozawkie as remembered by Thomas Gay. We include Parts VIII through X of Gay's Territorial Kansas remembrances with two remaining for next fall.

And, as always, if you have requests or ideas for inclusion or delivery of YESTERYEARS, let us hear from you. – Liz Leech

Jefferson County Genealogical Society -- jcgs1979@yahoo.com

Thomas Gay articles continued from October 2015 Yesteryears

The "Kansas Reminiscenses" articles below are from a series written by **Thomas Gay (1837-1908)** in 1894 for *The Chariton Herald* newspaper in Iowa. Mr. Gay lived in Jefferson County, Kansas Territory for a few years beginning in May 1856. His name is included on the Poll List for an August 1858 election at Osawkee Township (Kansas State Historical Society). Born in Canada, he later served in the Civil War in an Illinois regiment (Union), and soon after the war made Iowa his home. Copies of his articles were obtained from the Lucas County Genealogical Society in Iowa and from the Kansas State Historical Society Biographical Scrapbooks, Volume 55. Thomas Gay moved to Kansas Territory from Wisconsin and wrote that he had come to help the freestate cause. He lived with a family friend from Wisconsin, "**Abner Lowell**," whom Gay wrote was from Massachusetts. The cabin was located on the Delaware River (then called the Grasshopper River) somewhere between Ozawkie and Lecompton. [*Your YY editor has not yet turned up any information of an **Abner Lowell** in territorial censuses for Jefferson County, Kansas Territory or in a sampling of Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin, censuses. It is possible the name "Abner Lowell" is a pseudonym.]*

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KANSAS REMINISCENSES

Personal Recollections of Life in Territorial Kansas in Border Ruffian Days

Part VIII

The next morning I was early on my road eastward toward Lawrence. My route lay along the Yellow Kansas river whose siren voice was ever murmuring in my ears, "come to my embrace and I will cleanse you of all exterior impurity, and fill you with exhilaration and strength for your journey." I was no Ulysses that could resist the persuasive and enchanting voice ever babbling so melodiously in my ears, but just a common every day boy, desiring every-day pleasures, and willing the future should look out for itself. So I listened and obeyed, and went to my doom. The point that witnessed my discomfiture is nearly midway between Lecompton and Lawrence. A skirt of friendly brush upon a jutting bend of the river served me in place of an undressing room. Clothes and gun were deposited upon the bank, and with one mad plunge I was below, with the astonished cat fish of the yellow Kaw.

Now the Kaw is generally a shallow stream, but unfortunately I struck one of its depths. The current was swift, and not being an expert swimmer,

when I was fairly in the stream I found I could not make my way back to the point of departure. The banks just below where I had jumped in were in the nature of low bluffs whose bases were washed by the river, giving me no chance to land on that side. So I was carried toward Lawrence, gasping and kicking and sputtering and constantly seeking bottom and finding none, and that miserable liquid siren holding me fast kept whispering, "I've got you; you're a goner, you're a goner," and I struck her and kicked her and wrestled with her, and told her if she would let me onto terra firma once more I'd never look at her old yellow face again as long as my name was Gay. I guess that made her mad, for she gave me a whirl round, intending to finish me, when my feet struck bottom, and the banks there being low I struggled out and thanked God for deliverance from the miserable yellow wretch. I had come out perhaps forty rods below where I went in, and after a look around, struck out at a 2:40 pace for the locality containing my fig leaves.

Gentle reader, if you have a heart to pity the sufferings and misfortunes of your species, will you be so sympathetic as to weep a gill or two at what followed? If you do not in the perusal of the above sentence experience some symptoms of a cataract of water overflowing the canals of your lachrymal apparatus, you are not in a fit condition to do me justice in the sympathetic line, and you had better skip this tragedy and pass to where I pick up the ravellings of more important history. Surging forward at a most tremendous pace, I soon came to the thicket where I had deposited gun and garments. Here I was met with a sight which froze my very "victuals," and filled me with unutterable sensations of despair, compared to which the embraces of the siren with the yellow face were ecstasy. Three butternut wretches, filled to the brim with malice prepeuse [*premeditated*] and boundless aforethought as to the best method of procedure against the peace and dignity of the legitimate owner of that gun and garments, sat on the banks of that wicked stream, and with my property in full possession, grinned at me out of the depths of their straggling hair with such a horrid levity as Satan might have indulged in, when consummating the full of our first parents, he watched them in their journey to the corner of the garden where grew the fig trees. For a moment there was silence. Nothing but that horrid, horrid meaning composite grin met my vision, as I stood on the burning sand transfixed and speechless. Then as with one accord they all arose and with my clothes and rifle in possession started westward. Then I found my voice and lifted it; I bowed myself in the dust and prayed them to deliver me such part of my property as would shield me from sun and storm, and I wept sore.

I think the taking of my garments was nothing but a terrible joke to frighten me into spasms of despair, for one of the hairy imps soon returned with them intact, raising me from despair to bliss. But the precious rifle was gone—captured by strategy. Then I bid farewell to all hope of honor upon the battle field; and I expect this was a

kindly "Kismet," for the field of blood was fast changing to a field of diplomacy.

How vivid is my recollection of the first sight of Lawrence. The ruins of the free state hotel proclaiming disaster of an earlier period had not yet given place to a new structure.[1] A stone fort on Mt. Oread was visible a long distance, and I suppose done effective defense services in the cause of freedom. I recollect also several black earthen circular defenses consisting of prairie soil. They were perhaps about a breast high, and so constructed as to enclose a safe retreat for the non-combatants.[2] At the base of Mt. Oread, and some considerable distance from the main part of the village, stood a stone church. This was the Unitarian church, and its pulpit was filled at that time by the Rev. **Ephraim Nute,**[3] still living at Sherborn, Massachusetts. As I came into the place a funeral procession was moving toward this church. The escort were men in blue uniforms, and were, I think, members of a military organization at Lawrence. I understood the deceased to be the body of some free state man, that had been murdered some time previous and was now being reinterred with military honors. To this procession I joined myself and entered with them into the sacred precincts of that temple, and listened to the words of God's ambassador, as he talked of the brotherhood of all mankind and denounced slavery as the sum of all iniquity. Then with the rest I followed the body to its resting place not far distant.

That night I spent in comfortable quarters, listening till a late hour to the stories of men who had passed through severe trials, and resting in confidence of security till late morning, when I left northward for Osawkee, where I arrived in good time, and spent a humiliating hour or two, pouring into Abner's ears how it happened that I came shorn of my portable property, always supposed to be "loaded for border ruffians." In the spring of 1861 I again visited Lawrence. I came in the evening, on my way to Chariton, after a journey to the Pacific coast. I spent the night with Iowa friends who had been for some years in Lawrence and vicinity. In company with one of these friends as a guide, I spent a happy day looking up the land marks of the place. I found the stone church still standing, but now on a populous street, elbowed by more pretentious structures. I have since heard of its demolition, but I never think of Lawrence without a remembrance of that gray sanctuary.[4]

Leaving this church to the right we followed a winding road to the sacred top of Oread. The old fort was gone; but in its stead arose in architectural splendor the pride of Lawrence, the University of Kansas, whose eminent instructors have done more than simply make two blades of grass grow where one only grew before; for they have made multitudes of blades of wheat come to maturity where none could

[1] In May, 1856, Douglas County Sheriff Samuel Jones and pro-slavery forces burned down the hotel.
[2] The earth "forts" were near Massachusetts Street.
[3] A Lawrence abolitionist and free-state proponent.

[4] The church was near 9th and Ohio streets.

properly ripen. Scientifically others have done well, and have slain their thousands of pestiferous insects; but the great west can sing of Professor Snow and his associates as having slain their billions of the worst pest, that ever fed upon the wheat fields of the Mississippi Valley.

The museum of this institution is one of the richest of any of our western universities, particularly in its collection of North American animals. Its collection of fossils, minerals and casts of antique statuary is also well selected. I shall always hold in grateful remembrance the young gentleman who so intelligently discoursed on the uses and merits of the university collection, and also enriched the ideas of his hearers, by his exposition of the theory of the gradual change now going on in the enlightened world (and more especially in Lawrence, I think) from physical to mental supremacy, and the likelihood that in the not far distant future the body will be entirely eliminated from the now complex structure of humanity, and "Bel-esprit" will roam and reign untrammeled by gross body and its inherited passions.

It's a lovely theory, and when I surveyed my 180 lbs. of physical humanity, and thought how it had hampered me in my race for a street car that morning, I said, "now, mind, get a move on yourself and knock off a modicum of this surplus flesh, and fill the space with a lot of 'Bel-esprit,' etc." But alas! I was doomed to disappointment, for I kept getting stouter still, and the mind having to spread itself over additional territory every year is getting thin and worn in holes and quite unable to subdue its arch enemy, the body. Well, I see I have drifted away from my subject. Nevertheless it can remain, and the wise in their own concern can "make a note on it." -- THOMAS GAY

Thursday, March 29, 1894

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KANSAS REMINISCENSES

Personal Recollections of Life in Territorial Kansas in Border Ruffian Days

Part IX

On the 15th day of July, 1857, commenced at Osawkie[5] the sale of the Delaware Trust lands. These lands include that part of the Delaware reservation lying north of a line drawn east and west, perhaps a mile south of the little hamlet. There was no homestead law at that time, and all lands obtained by settlers obtained by settlers ranged in price from $1.25 per acres upward. The lands were however appraised, and those settling upon

[5] Ozawkie has had various spellings, including the earlier Osawkee.

such appraised land were privileged during the time of sale to prove their claim and upon payment of appraised value receive a patent for their land. The little hamlet, apparently dead and in process of decomposition, all at once jumped to a wonderful resurrection. Buildings, substantial and otherwise, were erected in every direction. A huge hotel four stories in height was commenced in the spring of that year, and Osawkie was destined, in the minds of its sleepy inhabitants, to become, first, the county seat of Jefferson County, and next, the capitol of the territory.

For a week previous to the opening of the sales, the road from Weston [*Missouri*] and Leavenworth was alive with teams and vehicles of every description, and they all bore, in some of its multifarious forms, the frontier liquid elixir of life. Whatever else any vehicle might contain to minister to the inner comforts of the gathering throng, the place of greatest space was given to the "spirit king," and for a long month he ruled triumphant in Osawkie. The Missourian, and people from the slave states generally, drank whiskey and brandy, and as they were the most numerous and aggressive, they gave tone to society (?). They looked upon a wine or beer drinker with contempt. They would sometimes lower themselves to a kind of speaking acquaintance with a free state man, if he stood the treats pretty liberally on the strong potations of the "first families;" but for a beer guzzler there was no word in their vocabulary that could quite express their horror for his character, and the man that absolutely refused to drink at all, was simply outside the inclosure of their civilization – a kind of moral leper that should not be allowed to contaminate the elect.

By the 15th of the month, two or three hundred tents and temporary structures occupied all hitherto vacant territory in the vicinity of the town. The proprietors all sold liquid fire of some kind, and most of them ran some kind of a gambling machine; there was the sound of the clinking glass and the rattle of dice from morning till late night, and then all the horrors of Dante's inferno broke loose, and each 'circle' vied with others to make a horrible hell, worthy of their occupation. The drunken wretches would fall upon each other with bitter curses, and pound and slash and shoot and disfigure each other, and howl like maniacs till, Satan, who had been prowling about the place for some time, finally could endure it no longer, and went back to his old home to rest and recruit. This horrid carnival of debauchery and the exhibition of wild emotions of all that is cruel and base in man, when brought to the surface by love of gain and the excitement of liquor will never be effaced from my mind.

The money loaners were out in full force, and woe to the poor settler who was obliged to borrow any considerable sum, to save his claim and improvements for himself and family. The rate of interest was appalling, and the great financial crash of 1857 following immediately, worked immense calamity to multitudes of settlers.

Around the building in which the business of the sales was transacted was drawn a cordon of U.S. troops, sent down from the military post of Fort Leavenworth. If there was in all the world any class of humanity worse in morals than these troops and their officers, I pity the people afflicted with their presence. No man of any respectability would, at that time, enlist under our flag to serve his country as a common soldier in our regular army; so the little army of about 12,000 men was formed almost exclusively of the worst scum of our foreign population. These soldiers, who proved themselves good fighters, both in Mexico and in border warfare with Indians, were difficult of management in quarters and camp, and the discipline exercised over them was strict in the extreme. The officers were as drunken and overbearing, and brutal as the privates were drunken and disobedient, and the line of demarcation between officer and private blended in no friendly or sympathetic way.

The punishment of the private was swift, sure a humiliating in the extreme; the punishment of the officer for his offenses against the private, especially in isolated quarters, was something never heard of. For intoxication, I have seen privates strung up by the thumbs till the agony was almost unbearable; for the same offense in the officer there was no punishment, and I have frequently seen the carcasses of men wearing epaulettes of Uncle Sam lie dead drunk for hours, piled away in some shady spot, waiting till the effects of their potations expended themselves. Nine out of every ten of these were men of southern birth and education, and in the "conflict" that came later on, most of them deserted the stars and stripes and gave their allegiance to the stars and bars.

The one officer of prominence in the territory, who was in sympathy with free state ideas, and who at all times and under the most trying circumstances commanded the respect and confidence of northern men was **Col. E.V. Sumner**[6], afterward a gallant commander in the Army of the Potomac. He was a veteran of the Mexican and Indian wars, and as a faithful soldier, obeyed the orders of his superiors, however, distasteful they might be. Knowing his strong opposition, as a man, to the encroachments of the slave power, the pro-slavery administration, by a refinement of cruelty dwelling only in the bosoms of those lost to all sense of shame, selected him to carry out the edicts of the bogus pro-slavery government of the territory, and while his manly heart bled to perform the evil orders of his superiors, his arm performed its soldier's duty, and he earned the respect and love of those he was obliged to operate against. I remember the gray haired, kindly faced old soldier well, and once ferried him and escort, with a quarter million in gold, across the Grasshopper at Osawkie. I saw him frequently also in 1863 doing valiant service in a more congenial field of action – in the Army of the Potomac, and I often speculated, as I contrasted him, and other old

[6] Edwin Vose "Bull" Sumner, commander at Fort Leavenworth.

veterans, with smooth-faced McClellan, then superior in rank, as to whether it would not have been wiser to have given experience, and age and tested loyalty, preference over youth and vaulting ambition, in the management of that splendid army of loyal troops. -- THOMAS GAY *Thursday April 5, 1894*

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KANSAS REMINISCENSES

Personal Recollections of Life in Territorial Kansas in Border Ruffian Days

Part X

From the year 1855 to 1859 there was no character that stood out so prominently among the masses of the free state people of Kansas, or that aroused more enthusiasm among their friends in the north, as that of James H. Lane. He was in congress at the time of the formation of the Kansas-Nebraska bill,[7] and, strange as it appears, voted for that measure, with all its dark but plausible sin. We next hear of him as chairman of a convention at Lawrence in June 1855, called to organize a national democratic party in the territory, which convention requested the people of other states "to let them alone in their purposes to form a state government." In August, of the same year, he was an active member of the first free state convention, held at the same place. This convention was composed of men from all parties that desired to make Kansas a free state. A convention at Topeka on the 19th of September was the outgrowth of the action of this body. To this convention Lane was a delegate, and was on the committee to prepare an address to the people.

In the fall of that year he took an active part in the Wakarusa war, and with Robinson negotiated terms of temporary peace with Governor Shannon. In August, 1856, he led a party of 400 immigrants into the territory by the new route through Iowa and Nebraska. It is likely that a portion of these men came through Lucas County [*Iowa]*, and perhaps there are yet living here those who saw some of these bands of free state men. It seems that for every important condition of long continued and violent upheaval of society, or political disturbance, there is waiting some one who is better fitted

[7] The Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854) left it to settlers' votes to determine if Kansas and Nebraska would enter the Union prohibiting or allowing slavery.

than any other person to combine and

render effective the diverse elements, and mould the people into a homogeneous whole, fit to make effective their central purpose. James H. Lane, better known as Jim Lane, seemed to fill the peculiar niche created by the Kansas-Nebraska bill. He had, as a democratic representative in congress from Indiana, voted for "squatter sovereignty" in the territories, and being of that party which was in control of the government, he drew to his support not only free state democrats, but men from all the parties that desired the curtailment or abolition of slavery.

He was a shrewd politician, and did not hesitate to meet his enemies with the same weapons they brought against him. With him it was in diplomacy as well as war, "Boys, there is the enemy. They are a bad lot! They need licking! Come on! Smite them hip and thigh; legally if possible, but smite, and forget the golden rule till they surrender." With his active, dashing, aggressive personality, he impressed his fitness to command upon that portion of the free state party who were in the territory for adventure, quite as much as for a desire to make it a free state, and kept in close touch with that element that must come to the front in hostile encounter. He was not popular as a man with the real political leaders and cool heads of the party, but they needed his aggressive service and knew he must not be ignored or rendered secondary. He soon grew into the confidence of the masses, into the respect of the leaders, and was cordially hated and feared by the enemy.

So we say that, notwithstanding some looseness of character, some intrigues of doubtful morality, and some rough methods of procedure, and some rough methods of procedure, Lane was, upon the whole, the most useful free state character developed during the struggle for freedom in Kansas. I first saw Lane in Osawkie during the political campaign of 1857. He came to advocate a certain line of policy in regards to the proper course to pursue in obtaining political control of the territory. A stand was erected in a grove nearby, and around this was gathered a mass of humanity, composed of men of every shade of political belief. Promptly on time, Lane drove swiftly up on horseback, hitched his horse to a sapling, mounted stand, hung his hat on a limb, reached his right hand up his left coat sleeve, drew out a wicked looking revolver and cocked it. For a moment no word was spoken – only the lick of revolvers among the assembled broke the silence. Then Lane opened his mouth and tore the panoply of heaven with this discordant shriek: "*Whom the Golds would destroy they first make mad*. If there is any man here that don't know me, let me say *I'm Jim Lane*, and if there is any border ruffian here that would like to cover himself with glory, I pause a moment while he shoots me." No man had the courage to put in practice his ardent desire for his death.

As John Calhoun, of famous "Candle Box" memory,[8] was to speak in the afternoon, the crowd was probably pretty evenly divided in political sentiment, and all were armed with the usual weapons of frontier citizens. I stood with Abner by a jack-oak tree wondering at the reckless audacity and insolence with which this man flung his scorching epithets into the inwardness of his reckless foes. He shrieked into their ears a recital of all the horrid crimes they had been guilty of, and he cursed them as a "job lot" of desperadoes, too mean for the worst apartment in hades, and for which there was being constructed a special and warmer room in which they were to be kept separate from respectable sinners. I never before realized how many vindictive epithets a person could use in 75 minutes, and the opposition just ground their teeth and scowled and said not a word.

After the first creeping terror of blood at close quarters was passed, I yelled and hurrahed and cheered till I was as full of enthusiasm as a howling dervish. Even sedate Abner, he of the smitten heel, shinned up the jack-oak and mixed the Harvard yell with frontier enthusiasm and shouted and defied the "unwashed" and cried, "bully for Jim," until in the excess of joy he lost his footing and tumbled ingloriously down through the thick branches, upon the heads of the multitude below. Nothing daunted, he soon untangled himself and jumped upon a stump hard by, he roared in ecstacy, "Lay on Macduff," and Jim, a little angered and a good deal pleased did "lay on" till he flayed them alive and left them bleeding and gasping with rage and amazement at the supreme audacity of this Nemesis. It is not probable that another man in Kansas could have stood before that audience and uttered a hundredth part of that tirade, without having been speedily numbered among a long list of martyrs.

That night, as Abner and I were at supper, I ventured to remark that Lane did not have to talk long before he (Abner) moved his conservative base plump on Jim's ultra platform, and I asked how he could reconcile his hilarious antics in Lane's presence, with his conservative wisdom in mine? "Well, Tommy," said he, as he finished the last slice of brown bread, "you fly round so terribly that I like to act as a kind of balance wheel to keep you steady. But the fact is, that I've been going too slow and steady a good while, and when James turned on all that steam I felt as if I must vibrate or explode." Then we finished "All is well that ends well," and went to our dreams.

THOMAS GAY

Thursday, April 12, 1894

[8] A pro-slavery voter fraud incident linked to Surveyor General John Calhoun.

PERSON	AGE	RESIDENCE	M. DATE	SPOUSE	AGE	RESIDENCE	M. LOCATION	BOOK-PAGE
Allen, Evelyn	18	Valley Falls	1/17/1953	Allen, Harold R.	25	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-446
Allen, Harold R.	25	Valley Falls	1/17/1953	Allen, Evelyn	18	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-446
Allen, Minnie	18	Winchester	3/12/1953	McAfee, Donald	19	McLouth	McLouth	Q-449
Almond, Roberta Lea	18	Greeley	4/17/1953	Rocker, Richard G.	19	Greeley	Lawrence	Q-453
Artman, Lee Roy J.	22	McLouth	5/3/1953	Meyer, Janice	18	McLouth	McLouth	Q-458
Ashley, Ruth	20	Topeka	10/22/1953	Logan, Kenneth W.	25	Topeka	Winchester	Q-501
Auxier, Frances	37	Topeka	5/2/1953	Taylor, Gerald W.	27	Topeka	Oskaloosa	Q-456
Baldwin, Orval F.	46	Topeka	9/8/1953	Metzenthin, Josephine A.	39	Topeka	Valley Falls	Q-496
Barnes, Lewis E.	27	Winchester	3/15/1953	Boling, Elvia J.	21	Creston, IA	Winchester	Q-451
Bartlett, Roy R.	32	Topeka	10/16/1953	Buttler, Dorothy M.	30	Topeka	Topeka	Q-500
Bates, Daryle Gene	18	Oskaloosa	11/16/1953	O'Trimble, Donna	18	Williamstown	Perry	R-3
Bateson, Cyrena	62	Lawrence	5/15/1953	Lundry, C. E.	62	Lawrence	Oskaloosa	Q-460
Beer, Howard C.	42	Lyndon	7/27/1953	Bowser, Hazel	51	Topeka	Oskaloosa	Q-482
Beers, Donald E.	18	Meriden	8/22/1953	Johnson, Dorothy	18	Ozawkie	Topeka	Q-485
Behne, Rita	17	McLouth	8/23/1953	Zachariah, Gerald L.	20	McLouth	McLouth	Q-488
Bellman, Virginia	18	Topeka	3/2/1953	Erwin, Francis Eugene	17	Topeka	Winchester	Q-448
Biery, Eva Ann	19	Oskaloosa	1/1/1953	Hundley, Wayne	21	Oskaloosa	Oskaloosa	Q-442
Bingamon, William L., Jr	20	Tonganoxie	7/3/1953	Mahoney, Dorothy Jane	17	Tonganoxie	Winchester	Q-475
Boling, Elvia J.	21	Creston, IA	3/15/1953	Barnes, Lewis E.	27	Winchester	Winchester	Q-451
Bowser, Hazel	51	Topeka	7/27/1953	Beer, Howard C.	42	Lyndon	Oskaloosa	Q-482
Brammell, Max E.	19	Ozawkie	6/27/1953	Dryden, Irma J.	16	Oskaloosa	Oskaloosa	Q-472
Brown, Frances A.	20	Topeka	9/3/1953	Wyatt, Robert G.	29	Topeka	Topeka	Q-493
Brown, Lawrence C.	43	Valley Falls	9/5/1953	Frakes, Ruth	37	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-495
Brown, Lawwrence E.	19	Valley Falls	11/26/1953	Haas, Patricia	18	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	R-4
Butler, Thomas	42	K. C., MO	7/25/1953	Moore, Ruth	28	Lenexa	McLouth	Q-480
Buttler, Dorothy M.	30	Topeka	10/16/1953	Bartlett, Roy R.	32	Topeka	Topeka	Q-500
Carlyle, Robbie	17	Oskaloosa	8/23/1953	Wheeler, James D.	25	Oskaloosa	Winchester	Q-487
Casebier, Thomas Roscoe	21+	Winchester	1/8/1953	Swoyer, Lena	21+	Winchester	Oskaloosa	Q-443
Cecil, Clyde, Jr.	25	Olathe	7/10/1953	Marganroth, Laura May	18	K. C., MO	Oskaloosa	Q-476
Chenoweth, Starletta	17	McLouth	1/15/1953	Saunders, Glen W	31	McLouth	Winchester	Q-444
Clark, Joan	19	Winchester	9/25/1953	VanGaasbeek, Don	24	Winchester	Winchester	Q-497
Clauser, Donald F.	21	Leavenworth	12/22/1953	Forge, Agnes A.	19	Leavenworth	Leavenworth	R-8
Crawford, Janell	16	Valley Falls	4/25/1953	Irick, Hollis D.	18	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-455
Davis, James M.	41	Rossville	12/12/1953	Pekarek, Alouise	43	Topeka	Oskaloosa	R-6
Denholn, Selma I.	19	Tonganoxie	7/1/1953	Jeffers, Martin R.	20	Oskaloosa	Tonganoxie	Q-473
Dryden, Irma J.	16	Oskaloosa	6/27/1953	Brammell, Max E.	19	Ozawkie	Oskaloosa	Q-472
Durflinger, Dale J.	21	Topeka	8/7/1953	Trueblood, Sally	20	Topeka	Topeka	Q-484
Edwards, Homer J.	21	Ozawkie	5/15/1953	McNary, Veva	18	Ozawkie	Ozawkie	Q-461
Edwards, Robert L.	18	Valley Falls	1/1/1953	Shaver, Alice Jean	17	Valley Falls	Topeka	Q-441
Erwin, Francis Eugene	17	Topeka	3/2/1953	Bellman, Virginia	18	Topeka	Winchester	Q-448
Estes, Richard	17	Valley Falls	7/26/1953	Kramer, Doris	19	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-481
Fessenden, Richard L	21	Tonganoxie	9/5/1953	Wiggins, Martha	18	Tonganoxie	Winchester	Q-494
Fink, Theresa	19	Leavenworth	10/16/1953	Rush, Lon Eugene	21	Leavenworth	Leavenworth	Q-499

Ford, Fraancis Wesley	22	McLouth	12/13/1953	Harbour, Doris Fay	20	Oskaloosa	Oskaloosa	R-7
Forge, Agnes A.	19	Leavenworth	12/22/1953	Clauser, Donald F.	21	Leavenworth	Leavenworth	R-8
Fountaine, George, III	28	Topeka	10/10/1953	Reser, Vera	29	Topeka	Topeka	Q-498
Frakes, Elizabeth Lucille	18	Valley Falls	5/9/1953	Reichart, Donald E.	21	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-459
Frakes, Ruth	37	Valley Falls	9/5/1953	Brown, Lawrence C.	43	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-495
Freeman, Helen Ann	50	Tonganoxie	6/22/1953	Overgard, Albert C.	57	Tonganoxie	Oskaloosa	Q-469
Geargiff, Clara	42	K. C., KS	6/19/1953	Michellich, Frank	46	K. C., KS	Oskaloosa	Q-466
Goff, Marie	59	Valley Falls	3/15/1953	Green, Charley C.	67	Valley Falls	Winchester	Q-450
Good, Carol Lee	20	Topeka	5/1/1953	Hoekstra, Jack D.	20	Williamstown	Perry	Q-457
Green, Charley C.	67	Valley Falls	3/15/1953	Goff, Marie	59	Valley Falls	Winchester	Q-450
Haas, Patricia	18	Valley Falls	11/26/1953	Brown, Lawwrence E.	19	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	R-4
Hackathrne, Evalee	18	Williamstown	6/14/1953	Manis, Marvin	25	Lecompton	Williamstown	Q-468
Hanna, Jaunita	22	Topeka	8/23/1953	Shipley, JohnC.	29	Topeka	Winchester	Q-486
Harbour, Doris Fay	20	Oskaloosa	12/13/1953	Ford, Fraancis Wesley	22	McLouth	Oskaloosa	R-7
Harding, Ellen	65	McLouth	6/27/1953	Harding, George	69	McLouth	Oskaloosa	Q-470
Harding, George	69	McLouth	6/27/1953	Harding, Ellen	65	McLouth	Oskaloosa	Q-470
Heydenreich, Robert D.	32	K. C., KS	12/8/1953	Willert, Marie L.	28	K. C., KS	Winchester	R-5
Hoekstra, Jack D.	20	Williamstown	5/1/1953	Good, Carol Lee	20	Topeka	Perry	Q-457
Hopkins, Cordilia	58	K. C., MO	6/27/1953	Scales, Mark J.	61	K. C., MO	Oskaloosa	Q-471
Hummelgaard, Larry D.	21	Tonganoxie	8/1/1953	Shaw, Shirley Rose	18	Tonganoxie	Easton	Q-483
Hundley, Wayne	21	Oskaloosa	1/1/1953	Biery, Eva Ann	19	Oskaloosa	Oskaloosa	Q-442
Hunter, Cloyde F.	24	Meriden	6/18/1953	Pogue, Mary Alice	18	Meriden	Oskaloosa	Q-465
Irick, Hollis D.	18	Valley Falls	4/25/1953	Crawford, Janell	16	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-455
Jeffers, Martin R.	20	Oskaloosa	7/1/1953	Denholn, Selma I.	19	Tonganoxie	Tonganoxie	Q-473
Johnson, Dorothy	18	Ozawkie	8/22/1953	Beers, Donald E.	18	Meriden	Topeka	Q-485
Kenyon, John G.	30	Valley Falls	11/8/1953	Woofford, Wanda E.	22	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	R-2
Kerr, Earl L.	20	Oskaloosa	7/13/1953	Pitts, Shirley	18	Valley Falls	Dunavant	Q-477
Kramer, Doris	19	Valley Falls	7/26/1953	Estes, Richard	17	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-481
Logan, Kenneth W.	25	Topeka	10/22/1953	Ashley, Ruth	20	Topeka	Winchester	Q-501
Longworth, Lillian	56	Topeka	10/27/1953	Miles, Winslow F.	54	Topeka	Winchester	R-1
Lundry, C. E.	62	Lawrence	5/15/1953	Bateson, Cyrena	62	Lawrence	Oskaloosa	Q-460
Mahoney, Dorothy Jane	17	Tonganoxie	7/3/1953	Bingamon, William L., Jr	20	Tonganoxie	Winchester	Q-475
Manis, Marvin	25	Lecompton	6/14/1953	Hackathrne, Evalee	18	Williamstown	Williamstown	Q-468
Marganroth, Laura May	18	K. C., MO	7/10/1953	Cecil, Clyde, Jr.	25	Olathe	Oskaloosa	Q-476
Massey, Simeon	22	St. Joseph, MO	2/24/1953	Wilkinson, Gwenevera	19	St. Joseph, MO	Oskaloosa	Q-447
McAfee, Donald	19	McLouth	3/12/1953	Allen, Minnie	18	Winchester	McLouth	Q-449
McAferty, Elmer E.	22	McLouth	8/22/1953	Newell, Velma Marie	18	Oskaloosa	Oskaloosa	Q-491
McDaniel, Wallace E.	29	Valley Falls	4/24/1953	Towler, Mary Louise	25	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-454
McMullen, Delores	21	Topeka	6/1/1953	Murden, James W., Jr.	23	Warwick, VA	Oskaloosa	Q-464
McNary, Veva	18	Ozawkie	5/15/1953	Edwards, Homer J.	21	Ozawkie	Ozawkie	Q-461
Metzenthin, Josephine A.	39	Topeka	9/8/1953	Baldwin, Orval F.	46	Topeka	Valley Falls	Q-496
Meyer, Janice	18	McLouth	5/3/1953	Artman, Lee Roy J.	22	McLouth	McLouth	Q-458
Michellich, Frank	46	K. C., KS	6/19/1953	Geargiff, Clara	42	K. C., KS	Oskaloosa	Q-466
Miles, Winslow F.	54	Topeka	10/27/1953	Longworth, Lillian	56	Topeka	Winchester	R-1

Moore, Ruth	28	Lenexa	7/25/1953	Butler, Thomas	42	K. C., MO	McLouth	Q-480
Murden, James W., Jr.	23	Warwick, VA	6/1/1953	McMullen, Delores	21	Topeka	Oskaloosa	Q-464
Newell, Velma Marie	18	Oskaloosa	8/22/1953	McAferty, Elmer E.	22	McLouth	Oskaloosa	Q-491
O'Trimble, Donna	18	Williamstown	11/16/1953	Bates, Daryle Gene	18	Oskaloosa	Perry	R-3
Overgard, Albert C.	57	Tonganoxie	6/22/1953	Freeman, Helen Ann	50	Tonganoxie	Oskaloosa	Q-469
Pekarek, Alouise	43	Topeka	12/12/1953	Davis, James M.	41	Rossville	Oskaloosa	R-6
Petty, Thelma Mae	18	Topeka	8/27/1953	Shepard, Billy	30	Topeka	Topeka	Q-489
Pierson, Helen G.	29	Lawrence	8/27/1953	Swindall, Wellington	29	Ashville, NC	Lawrence	Q-490
Pitts, Shirley	18	Valley Falls	7/13/1953	Kerr, Earl L.	20	Oskaloosa	Dunavant	Q-477
Pogue, Mary Alice	18	Meriden	6/18/1953	Hunter, Cloyde F.	24	Meriden	Oskaloosa	Q-465
Reichart, Donald E.	21	Valley Falls	5/9/1953	Frakes, Elizabeth Lucille	18	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-459
Reiling, Donald F.	25	Garnett	6/10/1953	Ross, Virginia	27	Oskaloosa	Oskaloosa	Q-467
Reser, Vera	29	Topeka	10/10/1953	Fountaine, George, III	28	Topeka	Topeka	Q-498
Rocker, Richard G.	19	Greeley	4/17/1953	Almond, Roberta Lea	18	Greeley	Lawrence	Q-453
Rodgers, Esther	18	Lawrence	7/17/1953	Shepard, Stanley L.	19	Lawrence	Oskaloosa	Q-479
Ross, Virginia	27	Oskaloosa	6/10/1953	Reiling, Donald F.	25	Garnett	Oskaloosa	Q-467
Rush, Lon Eugene	21	Leavenworth	10/16/1953	Fink, Theresa	19	Leavenworth	Leavenworth	Q-499
Sanderson, Dorothy	40	Topeka	1/17/1953	Solomon, Marcellus	47	Perry	Topeka	Q-445
Saunders, Glen W	31	McLouth	1/15/1953	Chenoweth, Starletta	17	McLouth	Winchester	Q-444
Scales, Mark J.	61	K. C., MO	6/27/1953	Hopkins, Cordilia	58	K. C., MO	Oskaloosa	Q-471
Shaver, Alice Jean	17	Valley Falls	1/1/1953	Edwards, Robert L.	18	Valley Falls	Topeka	Q-441
Shaw, Shirley Rose	18	Tonganoxie	8/1/1953	Hummelgaard, Larry D.	21	Tonganoxie	Easton	Q-483
Shepard, Billy	30	Topeka	8/27/1953	Petty, Thelma Mae	18	Topeka	Topeka	Q-489
Shepard, Stanley L.	19	Lawrence	7/17/1953	Rodgers, Esther	18	Lawrence	Oskaloosa	Q-479
Shipley, JohnC.	29	Topeka	8/23/1953	Hanna, Jaunita	22	Topeka	Winchester	Q-486
Simpson, Mabel Thelma	35	Lawrence	11/1/1952	Staden, Woodie	59	Lawrence	Oskaloosa	Q-502
Sluder, Hazel	39	Ottawa	5/17/1953	Wolfley, Clester T.	48	Topeka	Winchester	Q-462
Solomon, Marcellus	47	Perry	1/17/1953	Sanderson, Dorothy	40	Topeka	Topeka	Q-445
Staden, Woodie	59	Lawrence	11/1/1952	Simpson, Mabel Thelma	35	Lawrence	Oskaloosa	Q-502
Strange, Joyce	18	Winchester	5/17/1953	Watts, Donald E.	19	Topeka	Winchester	Q-463
Sullivan, Elizabeth E.	25	K. C., MO	9/4/1953	Teaney, William G.	25	K. C., MO	Oskaloosa	Q-492
Swindall, Wellington	29	Ashville, NC	8/27/1953	Pierson, Helen G.	29	Lawrence	Lawrence	Q-490
Swoyer, Lena	21+	Winchester	1/8/1953	Casebier, Thomas Roscoe	21+	Winchester	Oskaloosa	Q-443
Tate, Lorene	17	McLouth	7/4/1953	Willits, Allen	20	McLouth	McLouth	Q-474
Taylor, Gerald W.	27	Topeka	5/2/1953	Auxier, Frances	37	Topeka	Oskaloosa	Q-456
Teaney, William G.	25	K. C., MO	9/4/1953	Sullivan, Elizabeth E.	25	K. C., MO	Oskaloosa	Q-492
Towler, Mary Louise	25	Valley Falls	4/24/1953	McDaniel, Wallace E.	29	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	Q-454
Triplett, June C.	20	Valdosta, GA	4/14/1953	Varner, John W.	21	Oskaloosa	Perry	Q-452
Trueblood, Sally	20	Topeka	8/7/1953	Durflinger, Dale J.	21	Topeka	Topeka	Q-484
VanGaasbeek, Don	24	Winchester	9/25/1953	Clark, Joan	19	Winchester	Winchester	Q-497
Varner, John W.	21	Oskaloosa	4/14/1953	Triplett, June C.	20	Valdosta, GA	Perry	Q-452
Watts, Donald E.	19	Topeka	5/17/1953	Strange, Joyce	18	Winchester	Winchester	Q-463
Wheeler, James D.	25	Oskaloosa	8/23/1953	Carlyle, Robbie	17	Oskaloosa	Winchester	Q-487
Whisler, Clara Elizabeth	64	K. C., KS	7/13/1953	Whisler, Ernest	76	K. C., KS	Oskaloosa	Q-478

Whisler, Ernest	76	K. C., KS	7/13/1953	Whisler, Clara Elizabeth	64	K. C., KS	Oskaloosa	Q-478
Wiggins, Martha	18	Tonganoxie	9/5/1953	Fessenden, Richard L	21	Tonganoxie	Winchester	Q-494
Wilkinson, Gwenevera	19	St. Joseph, MO	2/24/1953	Massey, Simeon	22	St. Joseph, MO	Oskaloosa	Q-447
Willert, Marie L.	28	K. C., KS	12/8/1953	Heydenreich, Robert D.	32	K. C., KS	Winchester	R-5
Willits, Allen	20	McLouth	7/4/1953	Tate, Lorene	17	McLouth	McLouth	Q-474
Wolfley, Clester T.	48	Topeka	5/17/1953	Sluder, Hazel	39	Ottawa	Winchester	Q-462
Woofford, Wanda E.	22	Valley Falls	11/8/1953	Kenyon, John G.	30	Valley Falls	Valley Falls	R-2
Wyatt, Robert G.	29	Topeka	9/3/1953	Brown, Frances A.	20	Topeka	Topeka	Q-493
Zachariah, Gerald L.	20	McLouth	8/23/1953	Behne, Rita	17	McLouth	McLouth	Q-488

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Nortonvilles Notes, 1891-1893

Arthusa Janette Langworthy Crandall (1838-1931) and Calvin B. Crandall (1841-1920) were Seventh Day Baptists who moved to Nortonville in March 1891. Both had spent their lives around Brookfield, Madison County, New York, and Mrs. Crandall, known as "Nettie," kept a daily journal from 1858 well into the 1920s. The journals offer insight into times past but also contain hundreds of names of friends and family, potentially of use to family researchers. Calvin "Cal" Crandall had attended the prestigious Philadelphia Dental College in the early 1880s and set up a dental practice in Jefferson County when the couple arrived in 1891. A few years after they moved to Kansas, the Crandalls unofficially adopted Edna Kendall, a girl of about 8 years, who years later married Amos Leech. Edna's mother, Elizabeth Ann Holloway Kendall, had died a few years before and Edna's father, Alfred S. Kendall, didn't think he should bring up a little girl in Washington state without a mother. But he did not want to give her up for adoption. Amos and Edna Leech's children were Amos, William, Jeanette (Ledbetter) and Ruth/Ann (Finley), which is why I have the journals. – Liz Leech On March 18, 1891, Nettie and Cal Crandall left Brookfield, New York, and travelled by train (the Illinois Central for part of the trip) to Farina, Illinois, stopping off for about 10 days to visit relatives there. From Illinois, the Crandalls went to St. Louis on March 26, spending the night in St. Louis. The next day, they were back on the train, bound for Brookfield, Mo., to visit friends. And then, on March 30… they got off the train at Nortonville. They lived in Nortonville until 1915, when they moved to Oskaloosa.

1891

March 30: "… Took the train for Nortonville, found Cousin Osman at the depot." [Likely **Osman W. Babcock,** 1839-1923, born in New York state and living in Center Township, Atchison County, Kansas. Center township borders Nortonville on the north edge of Jefferson County.]

Nortonvilles Notes, 1891 continued

March 31: "Our first day in Kansas has been very pleasant. Kinney and Emogene were invited here to visit with us this afternoon. Called on Mrs. Babcock."

April 1: "Spent the day at Osman's, part of it in **Angeline's** room. **Elbert Langworthy** called. It was stormy this afternoon." [***Angeline Babcock, possibly***]

April 2: "This afternoon **Malone** called, then Angeline and I went to Kinny. **Cal** went to Valley Falls." ***[Samuel Malone Babcock*]**

April 3: "Staid in Angeline's room this afternoon. **Delos Babcock** called this morning."

Saturday, April 4: "… Elbert and Villa called this afternoon." [***Elbert Langworthy and Arvilla Johnson Langworthy]***

1892

Sampling of names of callers and those called upon in 1892: **Clarina Stillman**, **Uncle Dave Stillman**, **Agnes Burdick**, **Stella Burdick**, **Addie Stillman**, **May Stillman**, **Addie Maxson**, **Florence Babcock**, **Elder Babcock**, Dr. **Maxson**, Mrs. **Hill**, Mrs. **Parrott**, **Muncy** family, **Alice Muncy, Annie Muncy**, **Murphy** family, **Hummel,** Mrs. **Marsh**, **Scott Johnson**, **Carrie Chill,**

April 15: "Went to the annual Library meeting and was appointed assistant librarian."

May 4: "Prof. **Ellsworth** and his boys called with their May baskets."

May 5: "Last night lightning came down the chimney and gave us a close call. Cleaned up soot this forenoon."

Nov. 9: This evening went to the WCTU convention. [*Women's Christian Temperance Union, which objected to the excess and dangers of alcohol and strove for women's right to vote. This county convention was in Valley Falls*.]

Nov. 10: This afternoon went to Convention, a local union was organized and I was adopted as president. Mrs. **Brown** [*Ella of Holton*] spoke again. [*The Farmers' Vindicator newspaper reported other Jefferson County officers as Mrs. B.C.* ***Zimmerman,*** *Mrs.* ***J.B. Brown*** *and Mrs.* ***Knapp****.]*

1893

May 1: "This afternoon went to **Ed. Hummel**'s to five o'clock tea. Met Miss **Belknap** and Charley H. and wife.

May 7: "Went to Aunt **Mary Stillman's** funeral with Osman – Calls from Eld. **O U Whitford**, Mrs. **Marsh**, Mrs. **Murphy**, Baby and Lee."

May 8: "This evening a farewell reception for **Mrs. Clark Crandall** was here…"

May 20: "Mrs. **Griffin** called this morning. Mrs. **Davis** also…"

July 9: "**Dell Stillman** and family were poisoned by eating canned salmon. Was there quite a portion of the day."

Aug. 15: "**Will Curry** and **Juliet Titsworth** were married this noon. The bridal party were here. We took dinner at Mr. **Curry**'s… "

Sept. 5: "…Took Lizzie to Monrovia for the day… I visited at Mr. **Murphy**'s. We went over the school buildlings. The horse was afraid of the little spotted mule."

Sept. 18: "… **Ralph and Edna Titsworth** were here this evening…

Sept. 30: "Went to Mrs. **Goddard** this morning to send a dispatch. Kinny Crandall spent most of the day here."

Nov. 1: "Mrs. **Grant Kenyon** called while waiting for her mother in the office…"

Nov. 15: "**Fern Griffey** and **Mrs. Randolph called."**

Dec. 31: …"This evening we went to **Herb Burdick** to a reception for **Mrs. Hammond** and **Stella**."

~

A Memory of the Crooked Creekers

From *The Valley Falls New Era,* Thursday, 24 August, 1916
[Crooked Creek settlement was near Nortonville]

"Pioneer Days of Jefferson Township

The first settlers on Crooked Creek were Berry Crobarger 1854 [*Francis Asbury Crobarger*], Thomas Lamar and Alpha Simmons 1855. Barney and Henry Orrence, young men, also came in 1855. Father came later. Around Hull's grove then settled, Isaac and Simeon Hull, Wm. Pitcher and his brothers , Morgan, Miles and Tom with Wm. Haskell. All were from Platte County, Missouri, except the Orrence family and Simmons who came from Iowa. All came with ox teams with which they plowed the ground and hauled produce to Leavenworth, twenty-four miles away. Two days were usually spent in making this trip and if they had to go to Missouri for their supplies three or four days hardly sufficed. The pioneers had plenty of time though and nothing was thought of such experiences.

Whole families rode to church or went visiting in ox wagons, enjoying themselves in so going fully as much as their grandchildren now enjoy buggies and autos. On one occasion, Sam Swoyer (who settled south of Hull's Grove in 1857) with Bill Hull and several others were riding in a wagon and coming to the top of a long hill. Sam bet a dollar he couldn't hit a stump near the bottom of the hill. As there was no brake the oxen took the grade at a trot and guided by Bill hit the stump. The

shock unloaded the bunch. They hilariously righted up the oxen and wagon and went on carrying only a few minor bruises and scratches. Pioneers were tough and hardy.

Henry Taylor, afterwards a banker of Oskaloosa, plowed corn with an ox hitched single, to an old single shovel plow. He even rode the ox to and from the fields.

Not much time was spent building houses. All hands turned out with teams, went to the woods, cut and hauled logs to the chosen site. Next day as a rule, they met and with an expert at each corner to notch and saddle the ends, the house was raised and then covered with long boards 2 to 4 feet, riven from the best splitting black or burr oak logs. Each took his own time to chink and daub the cracks with mud. All had fire places and as few had cook stoves they were used for preparing meals and often to read and study by.

Logs split in halves, dressed and matched with an axe made a substantial, but not a tight floor. In such abodes people were happy as could be and with the latch string always hanging out they bade the whole world good cheer.

Provisions brought from the old homes sustained life until hogs, fattened on nuts and acorns, made the finest bacon, and grass made beef that was very good, thank you.

Corn and wheat had to be taken to Missouri to mill until the Valley Falls water power was utilized. There were some old fashioned tread mills but they soon gave way to steam and water. Millers took toll and the customer received back usually 5-6 of flour, meal, bran and shorts. Millers were generally considered dishonest and one who had a reputation for unalloyed honesty was considered the rarest of God's works.

Store clothes were a rarity. Sheep were common though and some cotton was raised to make thread. Wool was taken at first to Missouri to carding machines that strung it out into small rolls about the size of 3.8 inch rope and 2 to 4 feet long. Mothers and daughters spun these on wheels into long threads, wound on spools called broaches. These were afterwards woven into different weights and colors for under or outer wear for men, women and children. They made good clothes, too. Two kinds of heavy cloth were made for men, brown jeans and blue mixed. The brown had the name of "Butternut" from being colored with black walnut ooze and happening to be much worn in the south, it came to be called "Secesh," [*for Secessionist, as those who supported slave-holding states seceding from the Union*] so prudence on the part of some and prejudice on the part of others said leave it off, and its manufacture practically ceased, although it was just as good as blue mixed and cheaper.

Spartan Rhea northeast of Easton in Leavenworth County, carded the first wool in this part of Kansas. Piazzek at Valley Falls next. Valley Falls was then called Grasshopper Falls.

The first school house was a little log school house on the farm now owned by Henry Puthoff. The first teacher was named Penny. Only the three R's were taught but they sufficed to make some good men and women, who have done much to make Kansas a good place to live in.

Steve Stiers, an eccentric pioneer M.E. [*Methodist Episcopal*] preacher often ,preached in the little school house, generally to a full house. (It didn't take many to fill it.) He once got Bible history mixed in that he put David in the lion's den. The local class leader, however, set him right by correcting him on the spot. Stiers afterward quit preaching and by farming and carpentry became wealthy. Always maintaining a good reputation for truthfulness and candid honesty he became the victim in an unfortunate marriage that embittered the last half of his life. He died a few years ago at the home of Daniel Webb in Nortonville.

Berry Crobarger had odd ways, and notions. A staunch Presbyterian, he always kept whisky about his house, asserting it to be a blessing of god to be enjoyed as other blessings. No one ever saw him intoxicated. Temperate and industrious he was a prosperous farmer. The first cabin he built happened to be burned down in his absence. He remarked when told of it that it lacked ¾ of an inch of being square anyhow and he didn't care if it did burn. The Crobarger memorial library at Nortonville was bequeathed by the only child and (??)

Morgan Pitcher was a crank on profanity. It was common saying that a man could not drive oxen without "cussin." Morg asserted that it could be done and gave his own record in proof. That he had driven oxen to California and back and never "cussed" once. One day he was lauding himself thus when his wife quietly remarked that that was all true, but when a cow put her foot into a bucket of milk and kicked it all over you, you "cussed." Morg joined in the laugh that went round, but kept quiet afterward.

The wife, a noble woman, died a year or two ago at Tacoma, Wash. The old pioneer husband still survives but will soon be called to a homestead on the other side where his faithful companion awaits him. They were North Methodists and Democrats, the rarest combination of religion and politics I ever knew. Thomas Lamar was the only slave holder in the settlement, bringing with him an old black Mammy of the kind that southern people never speak of except in benediction, and who must have loved her master and mistress and the little tots with her whole heart, for when Kansas was admitted as a free state she was told that now she was a free woman and could go when and where she pleased or could stay, as one of the family, she seems to have been more than satisfied to stay, as she stayed until she died in the winter of 1863, and her body lies in the Lamar cemetery among those that she loved so well.**

So far as known none of the children or grandchildren occupy any part of the old homesteads, except Sam, son of Thomas Lamar, and Ed Rogers, grandson, neither of whom is married.

Miss Lou Lamar, a noble and attractive young woman, never married, but remained at home after the death of her parents to care for her brother and orphaned nephew, Ed Rogers. She died a few years ago, loved and respected by all that knew her.

Ella Simmons, the first white child born in the township in 1855, grew to be a fine and popular young woman, married John Plaisted and moved to near Meriden where she died some years ago.

This is all from the north side of Jefferson Township as now located. Formerly it was central, as Jefferson Township included Norton.

Have not been able to get much of Winchester or other parts, but will try again for next year.

There were some stirring events, that the pioneers didn't want me to tell and their wishes being from my viewpoint right and proper, I close.

R. C. Young"

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Additional information gathered by members of the Jefferson County Genealogical Society appears to confirm Mr. Young's reference to a slave of **Thomas Lamar** (also LaMar), who Mr. Young said was buried alongside the Lamar family she worked for.

The 1860 U.S. Census shows **Thomas LaMar,** age 57 and born in Tennessee, in Jefferson Township, living with his wife, Eliza, and four children, Louisa, John, Samuel and Napoleon. In addition, a 38-year-old black woman named **Maria LaMar** is listed in the household, also from Tennessee. She is not listed in the 1865 state census with the LaMars; Mr. Young's story said she died in 1863.

Some Lamar family members are buried in the tiny Lamar-Rogers Cemetery (also known as Crooked Creek cemetery) on private land between Winchester and Nortonville.

JCGS and Find-A-Grave cross-checked listings include these graves, with headstones

Lucy A. Bradford
Mary E. Bradford
Catherine *Lamar* Bradshaw
John Bradshaw
Lewis Bradshaw
Lassel Cain
Susan Cain
George W. Fields
Sarah V. Hall
Joseph E. Haskell
John Clinton Lamar
Louise Catherine Lamar
Samuel Taylor Lamar
Eliza *McKinney* Lamar
Thomas Lamar
Edwin Wilburn Rogers
Julia A Rogers
May Scott

Without headstones

Lorenzo Hall
William Henry Bradshaw
Maria Lamar
William Rogers
Mrs. William Rogers
Russell B. Rogers
Martha J. Cain

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The article below was part of the "Hometown Teams" Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street traveling exhibition about sports and community in the United States. Perry Pride tied the national exhibit to its companion exhibit, "The Evolution of Team Sports Along the Kaw. Together We Are Stronger," in August and September, 2015. This article is from *The Perry Mirror* on January 18, 1951.

Do You Remember…
Yesteryear's "Bloomer Girls"

In looking back over the years it is easy to see how a lot of things have changed. This is particularly true when one has in mind the trend of girls' basketball at the Perry Rural high school. It is not the quality of the game played but how it was played and especially in the manner of dress for the game.

Many Opposed

Although there was some basketball played by the girls before 1924 the game did not come into its own until that year. Facilities for playing the game in the old school building that stood near the east edge of town was not the best and then, too, there were a lot of people who were, and some still are, opposed to girls taking part in any kind of athletics. They base their theory that athletics are only for men and boys and girls should not debase themselves by taking part in them.

Then there were those, and some still feel the same way, who thought the girls were built too delicately to play basketball. They seemed to really take to heart that women are the "weaker sex" and bitterly opposed girls taking part in any athletics for fear they would ruin their health.

Those same people, though, were not opposed to girls working in the fields in a pinch or have them slave in a hot kitchen all day or labor over a wash tub and board.

It was just an old "fogy" idea that has more or less disappeared through the years, and now the game for girls is an accepted fact in most schools, although there are still a few states in which they are not permitted to play inter-school games but limit it to the physical education classes.

It was not until 1924 that the Perry Rural high school has a team that made anything like a record of which to be proud.

Pictures in "Hall of Fame"

Hanging in the "Hall of Fame" in the vestibule of the fieldhouse at the Perry high school are a number of pictures of championship teams, both boys and girls. It is interesting to see these pictures and they bring back a lot of memories to a lot of people.

In this sketch we shall deal only with the girls basketball teams, leaving the boys to another time.

The most significant fact of interest in these pictures is the radical change in uniforms or suits worn by the girls. The teams of those early days were garbed in knee length bloomers that bagged like the pants of a Turkish nobleman, full waists, some with sailor collars, long stockings to above the knee and high laced-top shoes. The weight of the shoes alone and the cumbersomeness of the suits were enough to slow up the game, and the scores of some of those games are indicative of that fact.

From the looks of the suits there was enough material in one girl's outfit to make enough suits for a whole team these days.

Changes in Rules

There were six girls on a team and the court was divided into three sections, with two girls playing in each court or section. Besides the two forwards and two guards, there were two centers, one known as the jumping center and the other as the running center. A girl, at least in the early '20s, could try for a goal after she had dribbled or bounced the ball. As in the boys' game, the ball was put into play at center with the centers jumping for the ball, after each goal, field or free throw.

In the early days a girl could dribble or bounce the ball only once.

Champions in 1924 and 1926

The first championship girls' team in 1924 was coached by Supt. Jesse E. Bowers, who was with the Perry school for some five years. The team in 1926 was coached by Miss Coral Dowin.

This first championship team was made up of the following girls: Cecil Dick (Mrs. Roy Grindol); Katie Matthias (Mrs. Carl Moore); Dorothy McNerny (Mrs. Morris Plummer); Mabel Reynolds; Esther Jennings (Mrs. John Kuns): and Cleta Michaels (Mrs. Bud Wolfe).

The second championship team, in 1926, was made up of the following girls: Nona Michaels (Mrs. Chester Hunter); Pauline Schlegel (Mrs. Vance Welter); Ruth McCoy (Mrs. Frank Lanning); Helen Gordon (Mrs. Red Taylor) and Leona Goepfert (Mrs. Charles Brown). Cecil Dick was also a member of this team.

An Ardent Fan

Mrs. Roy Grindol, who is an ardent fan of Perry school teams, in commenting on the games as played in 1924 and 1926, said, "The suits we had were the first in the county and we were certainly proud of them. There is quite a difference in the way the game is played now and then." She went on to say that they played one tie game with the Oskaloosa girls in which the score was 22 to 22. In those days if the score was tied at the end of regular play there was no over-time. (It is different today in that the girls may play over-time in case of a tie). Also during that time a rule was in effect that a goal shot

with one hand counted only one point and the Perry team had one girl, Mabel Reynolds, who was a dead shot with one hand. This rule helped keep down scores in the games. None of the games of those days had such high scores as has been seen this year in the girls games.

Another ruling during those days was that before a "held ball" could be declared both girls had to have both hands on it at the same time. Also, in guarding, a girl had to keep her arms perpendicular to her body, not even the fingers could be curved over the opponent's. In the game today, the girl can bounce or dribble the ball twice and shoot for a goal but in the early days a girl could bounce or dribble the ball only once and was not allowed to shoot for a goal.

Champions in 1936

The next championship team was in 1936 with Miss Sheldon as coach. Several of the girls on this team also played the following two years as shown by the numbers after their names: Katherine Schaake, '36, '37, '38 , was physical education director at Baldwin for a few years, b ut is now in New York City completing her work on her Master's Degree; Doris Marker, '36, '37 (Mrs. Burbin, living in Texas); Regina Quinlan, '36, '37, '38 (Mrs. Bob Lemon, Topeka); Pat Bell, '36, '37, '38 (Mrs. John Burch, Los Angeles, California); Demaris Goepfert, '36 (Mrs. Lewis Schlegel); Betty Rose, '36 (Mrs. Omer Johnson, Topeka); Jeannette White, '36, '37, (Mrs. John Kindred, Kansas City, Mo.); Irene Meeks, '36, '37, '38 (Mrs. Alden Waldeen, Estherville, Iowa); Katheryn Ingenthron, (Mrs. Phillips); and Mary Brown, '37 (Mrs. Courtney, in Indiana); Katherine Frisbie, '37, '38 (Mrs. Phillip Everetts, Oskaloosa): Hazel Rose, '37, '38, '39, '40 (Mrs. Redfield, Lawrence); and Maxine Shirley, '37.

It was not until 1940 that another championship team was developed under the coaching of Miss Meta Brown. Members of the team were: Margaret Brown (Mrs. Roger Hodson); Katheryn Ingenthron; Barbara Quinlan; Sylvian Meeks (Mrs. John Ingenthron, Topeka); Leona Jones (Mrs. Wilbur R Rohr, Topeka); Doris Marker; Ruth Rose; Mrs. Carlson, Lawrence; Margaret Reavis (Mrs. Lloyd Black, Valley Center); Alice Jean Stallard (Mrs. Leonel Krall, Davenport, Iowa); Ruby Pearson (Mrs. Keith Stanwix).

In 1941, the girls on the team were Ruth Stallard (deceased); Anita Mae Robinson (Mrs. Don Worthington); Esther May (Mrs. Orville Thompson); Esther Hupe (Mrs. Craig Evans); Mary Jane Gordon (Mrs. John Rose); Mr. Rose is a navy flier stationed in Florida; Velma May (Mrs. Kenneth McGarity, Topeka); Ella Mae Nails (Mrs. Eldon Savage, Charlton, West Virginia).

Champions in 1944, 1948, 1949

In 1944 the team was made of the following girls under the coaching of Miss Lyle: Ann Frisbie (Mrs. Charles Tyron, Grantville); Sheila Quinlan (Mrs. Joe Domme, Topeka -- her husband is head of the Domme dancing school in Topeka); Theresa Quinlan, now

associated with the Domme school of dancing in Topeka; Pat Cameron (Mrs. Pat Mast, Topeka); Betty White (Mrs. Skinner, California) was a marine during the late war; Donna Matthias (Mrs. Gilbert White, Topeka); Helen Cool, Grantville, a student at K-State; Patty Doman (Mrs. Henry Seivess, Balatsey, Mississippi).

Another championship team appeared on the basketball horizon in 1948 and 1949 with Frank Matthias as coach. The girls on this team were: Gwendolyn Carder, Marite Wolfe (daughter of Mrs. Cleta Wolfe, member of the teams in 1926 and 1928); Donna LeGer, Loretta Hurd, Lucille Wallace, Connie Weltmer, Belva Rice, Helen Quinland, Mildred Wales, Carolyn Roser, Emily Enos, Anita Harding, Carol Good, Theo Grindol, Betty Worthington, May Brown and Doris Worland. Several of these girls are playing on the squad this season.

All in all, girls' basketball has held a place in the sports' spotlight many times since 1924 and with the cooperation of the patrons of the school it has a bright future.

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Buffalo Bill Cody and his Family's Jefferson County Ties

Two fascinating books published last fall offer fresh, and in a way local, looks into Bleeding Kansas in Territorial days and into the earliest days of the Civil War. It should be well known in Jefferson County that William Frederick Cody, Buffalo Bill, came to Kansas Territory in the 1850s and that his father, an uncle and other relatives lived for varying periods in and around what was then Grasshopper Falls (now Valley Falls). But the two new books provide a better picture of dramatic histories of Cody's family, especially that of his father, Isaac Cody, stabbed by pro-slavers for his free-state beliefs, and Buffalo Bill's uncle, Joseph A. Cody, who would join a largely unheralded military guard for the newly elected President Abraham Lincoln, the Frontier Guard.

The 116: The True Story of Abraham Lincoln's Lost Guard, by James P. Muehlberger, is "the definitive account of the Frontier Guard who defended President Lincoln from a kidnapping and assassination plot in the opening days of the Civil War. Based on original sources discovered at the Library of Congress, *The 116* delves into the lives of these 116 men and their charismatic leader—Kansas "free state" advocate and lawyer Jim Lane. It paints a provocative portrait of the 'civil war' between Free-State and Pro-Slavery forces that tore Missouri and the Kansas Territory apart in the 1850s, and gives a vivid picture of the legal battles pertaining to the protection and abolition of slavery that riled Congress on both a federal and state level, eventually leading to the eruption of war in 1861," according to the book's description. Jim Muehlberger is a Kansas City-based lawyer and author of the popular book, *The Lost Cause: The Trials of Frank and Jesse James.*

Muehlberger's book is remarkably researched and unearths long-forgotten information about the Kansas men who went to Washington D.C. to protect Lincoln in April 1861. Names of <u>some</u> of the 116 had been known, but Muehlberger found the complete roster and papers of Lane's Frontier Guard. Many of the men guarding Lincoln in his national emergency knew how to fight from their days defending themselves and battling pro-

slavery proponents during the Bleeding Kansas days of the 1850s. Among the 116 was Joseph A. Cody, younger brother of Buffalo Bill's father Isaac Cody. He briefly edited a free-state newspaper, The Grasshopper, at Grasshopper Falls (now Valley Falls) and was the only Jefferson Countian in the guard. Joseph lived at Valley Falls at least 18 years, based upon U.S. and state census data from 1857 through 1875.

A description of the Frontier Guard in its first night in the White House from Muehlberger's book goes like this, "The Kansans slept that night with their heads to the walls, touching elbows on the carpet of the East Room, under gaslight from three enormous chandeliers, their rifles stacked down the center of the room. Many of the rifles had been fitted with saber bayonets: broadly curving steel blades that could, in an instant, turn a gun into a spear. Two long rows of Kansas Jayhawks slept on their bedrolls on each side of the rifles on the carpet while guards made their rounds around the room and protected the entrances to the White House and its grounds."

The Boy Who Became Buffalo Bill: Growing Up Billy Cody in Bleeding Kansas, by Andrea Warren, is aimed at 9-14 year-old readers but is informative and entertaining for anyone. The book's description says this about the book: "The greatest entertainer of his era, Buffalo Bill was the founder and star of the legendary show that featured cowboys, Indians, trick riding, and sharpshooters. But long before stardom, Buffalo Bill—born Billy Cody—had to grow up fast. While homesteading in Kansas just before the Civil War, his family was caught up in the conflict with neighboring Missouri over whether Kansas would enter the Union as a free or slave state. To support his family after a pro-slaver killed his father, Billy—then eleven—herded cattle, worked on wagon trains, and rode the Pony Express. As the violence in Bleeding Kansas escalated, he joined the infamous Jayhawkers, seeking revenge on Missourians, and then became a soldier, scout, and spy in the Civil War—all by age seventeen." [Cody's father was stabbed in the lung, a wound that eventually led to his death from pneumonia three years later in 1857.]

The Codys moved to Kansas from Iowa in 1854, Isaac Cody and his wife, Mary Ann, and young William Frederick Cody and his siblings. They settled in Leavenworth County in the Salt Creek Valley, but soon Isaac set up a mill at what would be Grasshopper Falls (Valley Falls) in Jefferson County. He stayed there to prevent luring his pro-slavery enemies to his family in the Salt Creek Valley. He also served in an early legislature, representing Jefferson County.

Warren's book describes young Billy Cody racing to warn his father of approaching pro-slavers. Cody was sick with the flu when a family friend came to the Cody home in Leavenworth County to warn that men were on their way to Grasshopper Falls "to kill Isaac."

"Billy threw on his clothes, determined to warn his father. His mother tried to stop him. It was a thirty-mile ride, she said, and Billy was far too ill to make it. But nine-year-old Billy refused to listen and was soon on his way. Though he was feverish, light-headed, and so sick to his stomach that he vomited on Prince [his pony], he was also determined. When he reached the halfway point at Stranger Creek, he saw some men ahead of him who had stopped to water their horses. He figured they must be the gang. Giving them wide berth, Billy stayed behind the trees and inched Prince forward as quietly as possible until he would be able to pass them. Then one of the men shouted, 'That's Cody's boy!'" The men pursued and fired warning shots, but Billy kept on, holding tight. "I led my pursuers on a lovely chase for four or five miles; finally, when they saw they could not catch me, they [stopped]. I kept straight on to Grasshopper Falls, arriving these in ample time to inform father of the approach of his old enemies."