

## Bypaths of Kansas History

### THE INDIAN AND HIS SQUAW

From the *White Cloud Kansas Chief*, October 15, 1857.

We must not neglect to say something about our dusky neighbors occasionally. We notice that many of them are beginning to dress more after the style of civilized life than heretofore. One came to town last week, doffed his blanket and leggings, and purchased a suit of store clothes and a fur cap. He could not get the hang of them rightly, but straddled about like a three year old sonny with his first pair of breeches on!

We also learn that some of the warriors are becoming more polite towards the squaws. They used to ride and make the women walk. But now, when a man wants to sell a pony, he will put his wife on its back, and mount a horse himself, and come to town. When he starts home again, he will place his squaw on the remaining horse, tie the extra saddle behind her, and walk by her side. But as soon as he gets out of sight of town, he kindly makes her dismount, and lug the saddle home on her back, while he rides!

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### THE GOOD OLD DAYS?

Schedule 3 of the U. S. census of 1860 is a report on persons who died during the year ending June 1, 1860. At the bottom of the page for Verdigris township, Woodson county, Kansas, the assistant U. S. marshal wrote:

John Coleman was taken from his house & Shot by a company of Robbers Common in Southern Kansas Ann Extraordinary Drouth Nothing Growing and many Many People Leaveing the Country

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### WHEN WICHITA WAS LESS CROWDED

From the *Kansas Weekly Tribune*, Lawrence, October 22, 1868.

#### FROM THE VOLUNTEERS.

CAMP CRAWFORD, WICHITA CITY  
October 1st, 1868.

ED. TRIBUNE: We have reached this point, our destination, at last, all right, with the exception of a few sorefooted animals. Our winter quarters are built on the banks of the Little Arkansas, about a half-mile from Wichita City.

This town was laid out but recently, and without counting the soldiers, has about two hundred inhabitants. Of these fifty are single young ladies, and seventy-five children under ten years of age. The rest are hunters, scouts, &c. It has one hotel and two saloons, and one trading house and the post sutler's establishment. Our sutler, Durfee, is from Leavenworth. The buildings generally are constructed of hewn logs.

We have a dance about once a week, and are now organizing a minstrel company, for the good of the country.

In addition to our command, one company of the 5th U. S. Infantry is stationed here, commanded by Captain Barr, who is also commandant of the post.

We have had but one scare since arriving here, which was caused by a squad of horse thieves attempting to steal our horses, before daylight on last Thursday morning. The guard discovered them at work and fired on them, which aroused the camp, and in less than no time the boys were out. As they were retreating about forty shots were fired at them, but with what effect is not known. All that could be found the next morning on their trail was a large jack, wounded in four places.

We are well provided with everything necessary at present, except corn for our horses, having had none since leaving Council Grove.

We are all enjoying excellent health, and are anxious for active service. Our company numbers sixty men, all told, having lost five by desertion at Burlingame, and replaced them with five others, who enlisted since we came here. The deserters, I am sorry to say, are from Douglas county.

Groceries and provisions are plentiful at reasonable prices. Flour is worth \$6 per sack, bacon 27½¢ per pound, and fresh beef 9¢.

As the mail is closing, so will I, but will write you again soon, and in the meantime,

I remain, yours,

WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

P. S. All letters to members of our company should be directed to "Co. A, 19th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, care of Capt. S. J. Jennings, Salina, Kas."

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#### CHEWING IN THE SCHOOLROOMS

From the *Caldwell Commercial*, September 21, 1882.

There is a rule, we mean in school, that has been in vogue as far back as we can remember. And it is prohibiting the chewing of gum during school hours. Now we can find no fault with that, or the enforcement of the same, but it is not very likely that scholars will quit the foolish habit of chewing gum so long as the teacher tells them it is against the rule, and at the same time has a wad of tobacco in his mouth that makes it necessary for him to run to the window every minute to spit. Teachers should set examples for children that will enoble and elevate them, but this will not. . . .

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#### A PREDICTION THAT CAME TRUE

From the *El Dorado Daily Republican*, August 15, 1887.

Will A. White, who has been attached to this paper as local scribe for the past two months leaves for Lawrence Saturday next to resume his collegiate course. He is a good writer and will some day be a bright and shining light in the editorial fraternity. The *Republican* will miss him, and his place will be very difficult to fill.